

THE VOICE

A PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILLMAR



First Presbyterian Church is a caring and compassionate community of God's children in the heart of the city, welcoming all people and striving to work together to be Christ's hands and feet, spreading the good news of God's love throughout the world.

PASTORS NOTE



"So welcome each other, in the same way
that Christ also welcomed you, for God's glory."
Romans 15:7

Dear Friends,

Will you join me in extending a welcome to Minnesota Valleys Presbytery? This month they are moving in!

How did we arrive at this decision? The Holy Spirit moves us. Even in the midst of a pandemic. And the Spirit moved us to realize that we have a large property that is largely underutilized. When we need all this space, we need it. But we don't need this much of it very often. Meanwhile, those at the Presbytery were learning that their employees are able to effectively carry out their ministry remotely and there are benefits to holding meetings online and sharing documents digitally. They recognized that the large property they were maintaining was unnecessary. The shared desire to be faithful stewards brought us together.

Minnesota Valleys Presbytery will be occupying space in rooms formerly known as the *Library* and the *Board Room*, and they will be sharing meeting and gathering spaces with us. We are excited to have them here! Their rental of these spaces will provide them with a home base from which to operate, although they will not be present here for regular office hours. And it will provide us with a source of income to invest in the upkeep and remodeling of our property.

We are looking forward to this partnership. As Presbyterians, we understand ourselves as a connectional church. We pray for God's blessing on this connection.

In Peace,
Pastor Leanne



7/1 Mia Goldenstein
7/5 Karson Drexler
7/5 Kooper Drexler
7/7 Elaine Engle
7/8 Barb Little
7/10 Mickala Elliot
7/12 Jody Fernholz
7/20 Troy Bulthuis
7/21 Dorothy Kienholz
7/21 MaQuelah Schueler
7/23 Lauren Berghuis
7/23 Mathew Eddy
7/25 Greg Spartz
7/25 Katie Kullhem
7/27 Sue Schiro
7/27 Layla Schroeder
7/28 Jackie Johnson
7/29 Terry Holmquist
7/31 Jill Baker
7/31 Hanne Tebben

Church Prayer Requests

Prayers for Healing & Comfort:

- Jill Berglund (Mary Berglund's Daughter)
- Pam Quimby
- Ried Arnold
- Mark Chamberlain
- Lyle Avant (Christie Avant's Husband)
- Vicki Carver
- Rita Phillips
- Norm and Diann Tempel
- Chuck Stern

Prayers for Those Grieving:

- Jane Moeller (Pat Clark's Sister-in-law)
- The Family of David Engwall (Dorothy Caine's Brother)

Prayers for the Church Here and Abroad:

- Clearwater Forest Camp
- The People of Occidente Presbytery, Guatemala;
- Minnesota Valleys Presbytery– Union Presbyterian Church, St. Peter, MN;
- Bdecan Presbyterian Church, Spirit Lake Reservation, ND.

Take a moment & pray for these as well:

- Prayers for all the essential people working on the front lines.
- Prayers for our leaders to guide our country through this pandemic.
- Pray for our nation that peace will prevail and healing will be possible.

MISSION OF THE MONTH



Our Mission of the month for July is Family Promise of Kandiyohi County

From Kelsey Vosika – Family Promise of Kandiyohi County Director:
As many of you are aware, First Presbyterian Church of Willmar has been a constant support to the mission of helping the homeless since the seeds were planted more than seven years ago. We are happy to announce that in the year 2020 Family

Promise of Kandiyohi County has served our highest number of families in our history.

Of course the most recent challenge has been meeting the needs of the families of Family Promise in the time of the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as the social upheaval. But we have carried on our carefully planned rotation of churches and had to change to keep the Covid-19 virus from affecting everyone. First Presbyterian Church has been the home of the families of Family Promise since this all started. The rotation churches have continued to provide the meals and snacks in a very safe, no contact delivery plan to protect volunteers and guests.

There are no visitors permitted to the day center as we need to limit the possibility of exposure of our guests and our own congregation. However, the support of each and every one is needed. We are also always in need of partners that are able to provide alternate housing space to accommodate an increased need as well as financial support as a Friend of Family Promise. Friends of Family Promise are those that contribute a monthly contribution to keep the service running, no matter how large or small your support makes a large difference. You will find the information at the newly updated Family Promise Kandiyohi County website or call the Director.

The current guest count is five adults and seven children, Mom with kids, Mom and Dad with one child. Single female. Most of the adults are working and are getting close to their own housing. Please join in and offer your help and support as you are able. We are not able to solve the issue of poverty, but we are able to ensure that poverty does not take away the opportunities for children to have a bright future!

At Family Promise of Kandiyohi County the mission is to help homeless families. They unite the faith communities of the area to help families find new homes and maintain their dignity. The Family Promise program is more than a shelter. It helps families cope with their housing crisis to teach life skills that will enable them to return to independent living and self-sufficiency. Typically the families are in our program two to three months.

Family Promise greatly appreciates your support, there are many ways you can offer your support and provide donations. For more information can be found on our website:
<https://www.familypromiseofkc.org/>

1. Financial gifts – you can donate online at this website
<https://www.familypromiseofkc.org/donation/> or through the First Presbyterian Church mission committee where 100% of your donation is passed along to Family Promise of Kandiyohi County
2. Your time and talents are always needed
 - a. Volunteers are needed from October 3rd and onward for the following
 - b. Help at the day center in meeting guest needs depending on time of volunteering.
3. Donations are also needed but we only have a limited amount of storage
 - a. Contact Family Promise by calling 320-444-2458 before dropping off donations
 - b. Some donations needed are:
 - i. General hygiene products (such as shampoo, conditioner, tooth brushes, tooth paste, female hygiene items)
 - ii. Diapers
 - iii. Gas cards for those starting work
 - iv. Housing goods such as kitchen products, small appliances etc.

Matthew 25: 45 I assure you that when you have not done it for one of the least of these, you have not done it for me.

TREASURER/BUDGET AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

During May we continued with in person worship, with pandemic protocols in place. We continue to reach out with Facebook streaming of worship and services but are happy to see people returning to worship together, as they feel comfortable. In June as state mandates have been lifted and positive Covid numbers are encouraging a return to normal, our worship and church activities are also returning to normal. Some meetings will continue on Zoom, others will in person. We are a creative people, seeking ways to serve safely and with joy in one another's company. And we are joyful as more opportunities to be together as the family of God are happening. First fellowship coffee was served June 13. Isn't it great to find joy in the small things and to appreciate those opportunistic and blessings!

The Per Capita for 2021 is \$43 per confirmed member. Our total obligation of \$10,148 toward the operation of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly has been paid. We continue to encourage confirmed members who have not yet paid their per capita to do so when able.

Extra giving to date is \$476. Extra giving helps to reduce the end of year deficit so that we can minimize our end of year appeal for help in balancing the budget.

Please take time to look at the numbers in the sidebar. We are going into the summer with a deficit that is of concern to the Budget and Stewardship committee. We are anticipating that the numbers will improve as we are able to welcome people back to in person worship. Remember, as you return to other activities to bring (or send) your tithes and offerings and consider the bounty of blessings we have.

ABOVE ALL, STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY.

PER CAPITA

2021 Per Capita is \$43, please pay as you are able. We will pay per capita to the Presbytery as it is given, through March with the balance paid in May. We appreciate your payment whenever you are able, but the sooner the better for the church cash flow.

2021 Per Capita Expense

\$10,148

2021 Per Capita Received

\$6,706.00

General Fund through May 31, 2021

General Fund Revenue:

\$ 91,783.00

Per Capita Giving:

\$ 6,706.00

Total General Fund Receipts:

\$ 98,489 .00

Expenses:

\$93,523.00

Per Capita Payment:

\$10,148.00

Total General Fund Expenses:

\$103,671.00

Expenses in excess of Receipts:

\$5,181.00

Building and Remodeling Fund Balance:

\$41,973.00

MAY MISSION (Caring Hearts)

\$1,390.00

Youth and Children Announcements



Youth at Lulu Beans

Once again, the Jr. and Sr. High youth are invited to gather at LuLu Beans every 2nd Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. The **next gathering will be on July 10th**. Plans are to meet in the large room upstairs, social distanced and wearing masks (only when you're not sipping on your favorite cup of whatever). Be sure to connect with Jeff before placing your order to receive your LuLu Bucks. Contact Jeff Sieck or Rita Phillips if you have questions.

Beginning Monday, July 19 be on the lookout for the church to be transformed into a stunning piece of history as a Castle emerges for this year's "Knights of North Castle" Vacation Bible School! You'll see things like a Market Place, Castle rooms, dragons and pillars...and so much more. VBS takes place from Sunday, August 1st thru Wednesday, August 4th. Be sure to join us on Sunday, August 8th as the VBS children and volunteer youth and adults offer a glimpse of what the week looked like during the 10 a.m. worship service. Come and join us as we celebrate "Knight's of North Castle"!



So, after a year of not meeting in person, and holding weekly Youth Group gatherings by Zoom, we are ready for some summer fun! All Jr. & Sr. High youth (incoming 6th through 12th Graders) are invited to a day at Valley Fair in Shakopee on Monday, August 9th. Plans are to meet at the church at 8 a.m., load onto a Coach bus, travel to the park, and enjoy a full day of amusement park rides, games and delicious fair foods.

Each youth from First Presbyterian can invite one friend to join us. That person will be responsible for paying for their own ticket. FPC youth will pay ½ the ticket price, with the other half paid out of their youth fund, along with the cost of the bus rental fee. Chaperones are needed. Please contact Jill Boeyink to check availability.

Youth/Parents should RSVP to Jill no later than July 14th. Reach her by calling or texting her at 320.905.0608, or emailing her at jill.fpcwillmar@gmail.com. Be sure to include the name of your friend if bringing one.



CLEARWATER FOREST CAMP **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN AT CLEARWATER** **FOREST CAMP!**

Join us for this summer's theme:
"THIS IS OUR PRAYER"

**Deepening our spiritual connection and realizing blessings
through prayer.**

For some, prayer is simply speaking their thoughts and feelings to God. For others, it is clearing their minds and settling their hearts to make space for God. Some pray through music, art, or the movement of their body in dance or exercise. Some pray out loud, while others' prayers are whispers of the soul.

From Bible studies to creative worship, to community building games, to creative arts projects, "This is Our Prayer" will educate and empower your camper to find their own style of prayer and face the challenges as well as realize blessings in their everyday lives.

REMINDER: The First Presbyterian Church of Willmar contributes half of the camp fee to each member of the church!



"Knights of North Castle" Vacation Bible School 2021 is sure to be the highlight of the year, and we cannot wait to welcome your knight's into the castle doors!

If you have already turned in your child's registration form, thank you! If you haven't, there is still time Remember, there is NO FEE this year thanks to the CEYM Committee!

Below you'll find the information about this years' VBS. I have included the mission project info so that you can begin looking for good deals on pajamas 😊

Please contact me with any questions you might have.

Date:

August 1st-4th

Place:

First Presbyterian Church of Willmar

Address:

312 6th Street SW
Willmar, MN 56201

Time:

5:30pm (meal) -8:00pm

Ages:

Preschool-Grade 6

We are hosting a church-wide "Mighty Knighties" pajama drive as our mission project before and during the four days of VBS. We're so excited about this that **we are inviting the entire congregation to get in on the fun.** All of the pajamas collected will go to children and young adults placed in foster care within Kandiyohi county. For health and safety, pajamas must be new and a complete set – a top and bottom or an appropriate nightgown. We'll be collecting all sizes from birth to adult XL. Large boxes will be placed in the Narthex one week before our VBS kickoff, and will be moved to the sanctuary the week of. Be sure to look for the snowflakes!

So friends, let's get ready to go on a quest for the King's Armor as we transform into Knights of North Castle!

Your VBS Director,
Jill Boeyink

"Youth Mini-Mission Project"

June 11, 2021



Church Announcements



Summer Special Music

Do you have a musical talent? Do you love to sing or play an instrument? Would you like to share that talent with the congregation? If so, contact the church office to sign up for a Sunday service of your choice starting June 6. Your talents are very much appreciated!!

Will You Lend Your Hands to Meaningful Service?

Can you bake a cake or a batch of cookies? Set a table? Help serve a simple lunch? Wash dishes and wipe down tables? Make phone calls to organize volunteers? Keep workers organized in the kitchen? If you can do any one of these simple tasks, then you can help provide an important ministry of compassion to grieving families in our church. We are reorganizing how we serve funeral meals, and we need your help. Whatever your schedule or ability, there is a way you can help! To find out more about where you can offer your hands to service, contact Bonnie Kluver (blkuver@tds.net). Many hands make for light service. Contact Bonnie today.



CALLING ALL WITH CROCHETING AND KNITTING TALENTS!!

We are looking for individuals that are skilled in crocheting and knitting. If that is you, we would love you to help us make our church pocket prayer shawls. All the details are in the PDF button!

Thank you in advance!!

[Pocket Prayer Shawls Instructional PDF](#)

REMINDER: We have an ONLINE giving option.

Go to our church website homepage at
www.fpchurchwillmar.org
and click on "GIVE NOW" or
click the "GIVE NOW" button to the right

GIVE NOW

You can still give in the traditional ways. This does not replace offerings by cash or check dropped in the offering plate or sent to the church.
If that is how you prefer to give, please continue to do so. This is simply another option.



***Worship Services are held in the Sanctuary and streamed on Facebook LIVE.**

1 Thursday

11:30am: Sally Packer Memorial Service at the church

4 Sunday

Happy 4th of July

10:00am: Worship with Communion

11:00am: Fellowship in JKH

5 Monday

4:30pm-6:30pm: Search Group in JKH

7:00pm: Book Study via Zoom

6 Tuesday

5:45pm: Personnel at the Pastors' home

7 Wednesday

7:00am: Women's Bible Study via Zoom

9:30am: Staff Meeting in the Admin Office

1:00pm: 150th Meeting in the Admin Office

10 Saturday

10:00am: Youth at LuLu Beans

11 Sunday

8:30am: Nurture and Fellowship in the Choir Room

10:00am: Worship

11:00am: Fellowship in JKH

12 Monday

4:30pm-6:30pm: Search Group in JKH

13 Tuesday

6:30pm: CEYM in the Friendship Room

14 Wednesday

9:30am: Staff Meeting

15 Thursday

VOICE DEADLINE

Committee Minutes Deadline

18 Sunday

10:00am: Worship

11:00am: Fellowship in JKH

19 Monday

4:30pm-6:30pm: Search Group in JKH

7:00pm: Book Study via Zoom

21 Wednesday

7:00am: Women's Bible Study via Zoom

9:30am: Staff Meeting

25 Sunday

10:00am: Worship

11:00am: Fellowship in JKH

26 Monday

4:30pm-6:30pm: Search Group in the Choir Room

7:00pm: Book Study via Zoom

30 Wednesday

7:00am: Women's Bible Study via Zoom

9:30am: Staff Meeting

29 Thursday

11:00am: Mike Bakke Funeral at the Funeral Home

July 12th-July 16th: Shara is on Vacation

July 26th-July 30th: Jill on Vacation

CHURCH CONTACTS

Rev. Scott Thompson
Co-Pastor

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Rev. Leanne Thompson
Co-Pastor

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Shara Goldenstein
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Jill Boeyink
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Music Team Director

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Custodians

Erica Boeyink
Nursery Supervisor

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