

The First Epistle



First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead • Established 1872

May 2018

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The Session:

Moderator: Robert Drake

Clerk of Session: LuAnn Buehre

Treasurer: Chris Swee

Tim Nelson, Ineke Justitz, Frank Kratky, Scott Dobovsky, Walt Worman, Kathy McKaig, Peggy Johnson, Kim Kelsh, Mary Larson, Chris Swee

The Deacons

Moderator: Elizabeth Swee

Pegi Ecker, Jim Gale, Kathy Giddings, Patti Kratky, Joni Lordeman, Arlene Munighan, John Ortez, Helen Pemble, Jane Tandberg, Kathleen Wilkinson, Barb Worman

Emergency Pastoral Care

Team Leader for May:

Jim Gale

Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, May 13.

Moorhead Presbyterian Is Making A Difference

Due to the generosity of the Memorial Committee, Moorhead Presbyterian will offer 40 children a summer camp experience right here, literally, in our backyard.

Camp-in-a-Van is an outreach program from our favorite Presbyterian camp, Clearwater Forest Camp. Its goal is to bring summer camp to kids who might not normally be able to attend camp. By introducing kids to summer camp fun, we hope that they will be excited about summer camp, and eventually become campers at the actual Clearwater Forest Camp.



Of the 40 camper slots, Moorhead Presbyterian is reserving 5 slots for children connected to Churches United for the Homeless, 10 slots for children living in the apartments immediately adjacent to our church, and 5 slots for children of the Hispanic community. Additional slots will be filled with children connected to Moorhead Presbyterian and other Presbyterian churches. The remaining slots will be filled through extensive marketing in the high-growth areas of West Fargo, Fargo, Moorhead.

If you know of a specific child or children of other community groups, please pick up a registration form from Scott Dobovsky or Pastor Robert. Hurry, these 40 slots will fill quickly. Camp-in-a-Van runs from Monday, June 25 through Thursday, June 28. Read more about Camp-in-a-Van in Scott's article on page 7 of the newsletter.

Concordia Music Connection

Have you noticed the new music in worship? For all of 2018, Concordia music students will provide special music once per month. Our next guest will provide music on May 6th in honor of our newest Moorhead Presbyterian members. If you would like to support this special music program, please contact Pastor Robert.



The First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead

Worship: 10:30 am

2900 Fifth Street South, Moorhead, MN 56560

www.firstpresmhd.org

218.233.1192

E-mail Addresses:

Rev. Robert Drake robert@firstpresmhd.org
Church: admin@firstpresmhd.org
Newsletter Articles: nadineswee@yahoo.com

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/firstpresmhd

Our mission is to be a caring community of God's people who live by Christ's teachings, reach out to others to share the love of God, and celebrate the good news of Jesus Christ through worship, prayer, thought, and action.



May BIRTHDAYS

Patricia Pemble	May 3
Khamboun Phonethep	May 4
Scott Ecker	May 6
Eden Massie	May 7
Ayesha Pemble	May 10
Greta Larson	May 12
Kim Kelsh	May 13
Sandra Gronhovd	May 15
Frank Kratky	May 19
Justin Conrad	May 23
Terry Nelson	May 23
Adam Massie	May 23
Patti Kratky	May 25
Jay Erickson	May 27
Bonnie Erickson	May 27
Allison Ausmus	May 30
Nicole Hestbeck	May 31
Jerald Munighan	May 31

Three New Members Join

Please welcome our three newest members of Moorhead Presbyterian:

Dave Lanpher

Brady and Mallory Dickelman

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

The Family of Joan Piepkorn	Theresa Samuels
Vern Bancroft	Laura Hagemann
Milt Wilkinson	Donald and Marion DeJong
Jane Lobitz	Josh Peterson
Jeanne Walker	Mabel Schneider
Raymond Austin	

April / May / June Hospitality Team:

Ineke Justitz	Mary Skalet
Holly Martin	Kathy Giddings
Hal & Pegi Ecker	Robert & Mary Long
Gerald & Janet VanAmburg	Adam & Joni Massie
Scott Ecker & Monika Browne-Ecker	Rich & Helen Pemble** <i>** Group Leaders</i>

The duties of the hospitality group are to Greet, Usher/Record Attendance, Collect Offering, and Prepare/Serve/Cleanup Coffee in Fellowship Hall following the church service.



Baptism Sunday

Join us on Sunday, May 6 for the baptism of Gus Martin Dickelman, son of Brady and Mallory Dickelman.





Pastor Reflections - What an amazing experience!

I am writing this newsletter article shortly after returning from Concordia's Interfaith Expo. I met so many—and I mean so very, very many—students and faculty who are excited about Moorhead Presbyterian.

Working with Tim Ortez and Cassidy Johnson, we told people about our inclusive theology, social outreach, historical roots, energetic worship, and fun Sunday School programs. People were excited to hear about this church.

Ever since I got here, I've been excited too. I was cautiously hopeful that growth was possible for Moorhead Presbyterian, due to the continual growth in the Fargo/Moorhead/West Fargo tri-city area. According to Fargo-Moorhead Metro COG, our area is expected to grow between 42-47% by 2045.

That means a projected population of 330,000 to 342,000 in the next 27 years.

Despite these growth projections, I was hesitant. Even if the area grew, could we grow? I kept searching for the right combination of energy, hope, and realistic expectation. I kept searching for the sign that Moorhead Presbyterian will grow.

I saw those signs at Concordia.

I met a student who expressed interest in guest preaching. I met a student ecstatic about our Taizé service. I met queer students relieved that we are openly inclusive of all people. I met religion faculty who asked if we might be interested in providing space for practicum hours.

Next week, I have two separate coffee meetings with students from that night who want to learn more about this church. Two weeks from now, I'll have coffee with a music professor specializing in sacred music. We'll explore creating a pipeline between Concordia and her students for practical experience in leading worship music.

I accepted the call to serve as your pastor at Moorhead Presbyterian because I was hopeful about growth. Today, I saw signs that such growth is realistically on the horizon.

- Pastor Robert

What Side Do You Park On?

Recently, Pastor Robert requested that we try to park and enter the church from the South parking lot and not park in the north lot. Of course, if you're unloading a lot of stuff please continue to use the back "kitchen" door. By having our cars in the large south parking lot it will demonstrate that there is a lot of activity at our church throughout the week and especially on Sunday morning.

To make it easier to enter the south narthex (lobby door) and the south CE entry door, the locks have been re-keyed to accept the key that opens the back "kitchen" door. All Session members should have this key. If not, see Frank Kratky for a key. A lot goes on at our church every week, and we want everyone to see us!



Presbyterian Trivia

If you are the first person to answer the Presbyterian Trivia question by calling the church office at 218-233-1192 you will receive a gift. The answer and winner from this month and a new question will appear in the June Newsletter.

Congrats to Kathleen Wilkinson for answering the April Trivia question correctly:

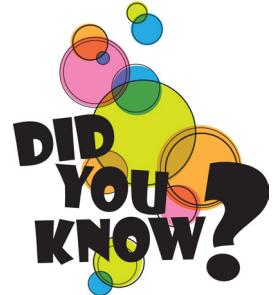
April Question:

How many US presidents were of Presbyterian faith?

April Answer:

10 out of the 45 US presidents have been Presbyterian. Some presidents never specified their religious preferences. Not all of the presidents were Presbyterian while they were in office, but all to the following had ties to the church at some point in their lifetime. Read on for more details...

1. Andrew Jackson – Presbyterian
2. James Buchanan – Presbyterian
3. Rutherford B. Hayes – Unspecified Protestant
4. Grover Cleveland – Presbyterian
5. Benjamin Harrison – Presbyterian
6. Theodore Roosevelt – Dutch Reformed
 - His mother was Presbyterian and as a child he attended Presbyterian churches with her.
7. Woodrow Wilson – Presbyterian
8. Dwight D. Eisenhower – Presbyterian
9. Ronald Reagan – Presbyterian
10. Donald Trump - Presbyterian
 - Trump said in 2015 that he attends Reformed Marble Collegiate Church in Manhattan, where he married his first wife Ivana in 1977, although the church says he's not an "active member". He is also loosely affiliated with Lakeside Presbyterian Church in West Palm Beach, Florida, near his Mar-a-Lago estate.
(Source: Wikipedia)



May Question:

How many Presbyterian Synods are there in the USA?

Church Gets New Lawnmower

The B&G committee would like to recognize Doug and LuAnn Buehre for their generous gift of a brand new Poulan riding mower. Our previous riding mower was in a serious state of disrepair and the Buehres surprised the church with this gift. We are eternally grateful!

Speaking of cutting grass, the 2018 Lawn Care volunteer list will be out soon. If you've never volunteered before and would like to help out this season, please let a member of the B&G team know. With our new lawn mower, it will be fast and furious.



Visitor Sunday Huge Success

If you were here on Visitor Sunday, April 22, you already know! Visitor Sunday Spring 2018 was a HUGE success. Topping out at slightly more than 100 people, the energy was high, the music was jubilant, and the sermon series part 4 was captivating as usual.

For those of you not able to be there, not only did you miss a fun morning, you also missed special guest musicians from Concordia. Lexi Brouillard accompanied the choir on flute. Andrew Swartchick provided his rich, tenor voice for our confession meditation.

Thank you to everyone who made Visitor Sunday a success!

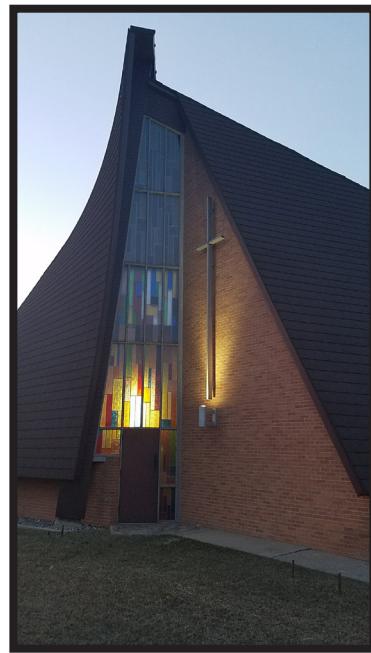
Senior Connections

This month's Senior Connection is Delores Johnson. Although not her regular Deacon visitor, Patty Kratky came to visit Delores on this particular day, bringing a beautiful bouquet of flowers. In return, Delores provided three different kinds of treats and ginger tea. Delores' favorite topic of conversation is her family. With 4 kids, 8 grandkids, and 4 great-grandkids, Delores has hours of conversation ready to go. In fact, two of her kids are still members of Moorhead Presbyterian. You may have noticed that the Johnson family takes up one entire pew! The next time you see Delores at church, ask her how many angels she has in her living room. When we were there, we counted at least 87.



Beautiful Stained Glass

In an effort to support Pastor Robert's initiative to make the church more visible in the neighborhood, B&G has been experimenting with lighting the stained glass windows on the north and south sides of the Sanctuary. We were surprised by how visible each window is with the single florescent light on each. Our stained glass windows are the epitome of mid-mod, 1960s, architecture, and we want to show them off. As such, we have been looking into cost-effective ways to improve the lighting on each window to maximize visibility in the neighborhood. Stay tuned!



May Nursery Schedule

	<u>9:15 AM</u>	<u>10:15 AM</u>
May 6	Maggie Sambo	Kathy McKaig
May 13	Mary Larson	Holly Martin
May 20	Monica Browne-Ecker	Nicole Hestbeck
May 27	Adam/Joni Massie	Kim Kelsh



Did you miss the sermon? Want to hear it again? It's on the church website. Look under "resources."

- PIANO AVAILABLE
 - The "Kohler & Campbell" spinet piano, currently housed in the preschool room, is available for the asking. Please speak to Walt Woman or Diane Williams if you would like to arrange a new home for it.

A screenshot of the First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead website. The header features a stylized logo with red and blue flame-like shapes above the letters 'FPC'. A navigation bar below the logo includes links for HOME, ABOUT US, PROGRAMS, RESOURCES (with dropdown options for BULLETINS, SERMONS, and NEWSLETTER), EVENTS, and GIVING. A large red arrow points from the RESOURCES dropdown menu to the SERMONS link. The main content area displays a sermon titled "Saved by Jesus Christ! But For What?" by Rev. Robert Drake, dated Sunday, April 1, 2018. Below the sermon title, there is a video thumbnail for a "Scripture Reading: Mark 16:14-16". The footer contains the church's name, address (1002 1st Street NW, Moorhead, MN 56560), phone number (218-235-2222), email (info@fpcmoorhead.org), and a link to their Facebook page. The footer also includes a small digital clock showing "10:02".

Rummage Sale Is Taking a Break

There will be no rummage sale in 2018. Scheduling, space, and volunteer needs led Session to rethink this popular fundraiser. We want to thank the many people who have helped support this popular fundraiser.

Health Care Directives

A Health Care Directive is a document YOU write in ADVANCE of an illness to express your personal wishes for medical treatments. It gives DIRECTION to your family and medical providers about decisions YOU would want made when you are not able to communicate for yourself. It is important to put a copy of this directive in your medical file.

A Health Care Directive is a legal document

This legal document tells your family and healthcare provider who you want to make decisions for you if you are unable to speak for yourself. But you DO NOT need a lawyer to write a Health Care Directive. The document provides you with an opportunity to tell others what treatments you may or may not want. A Health Care Directive helps protect your wishes. It is best to complete a Health Care Directive before a health crisis. You can revoke or revise your Health Care Directive at any time if your wishes change.

Documenting Your Wishes is Free

Attend a free seminar to discuss Healthcare Directives. Learn everything you need to know to express your wishes in a Healthcare Directive. Join our featured speaker, Jean Pladson, RN, Advance Care Planning Facilitator, as she shares valuable information about Healthcare Directives. The seminar is free, but registration is encouraged. Register with Kathy McKaig.

When: Sunday, May 6

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 after church

Location: classroom 5



Join Americans across the country in making their future health care decisions known to family, friends, and health care providers. Share your wishes and complete your advance directive, because your decisions matter.

[Learn about health care directives](#)

When:

Where:

Cost: Free

Call [\(800\) 392-0992](#) to learn more.

The logo for Sanford Health, featuring the word "SANFORD" in a bold, serif font above the word "HEALTH" in a smaller, sans-serif font.



“Clean Sweep Week”

It's time for all hands on deck to give our church some polish and shine!

May 7 through May 10th—Inside areas--Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, OR Thursday from 6:30-9:00 pm

May 14 through May 17—Outdoor areas--Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, OR Thursday from 6:30-9:00 pm

Call Kathy McKaig with questions: 701-212-3789.

AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) Training

Now that the AED is here, now what?

Throughout the month of April there have been training sessions on how to use the AED in the event a person in the church building or on the grounds has a cardiac arrest. The intent of the training sessions are to familiarize yourself with how the device works, how to start the CPR process and how you can assist in case of such an event. AEDs are in the community and knowing how to use them can be useful where ever you are and when ever there is an AED available. The types of places you will find AEDs are shopping malls, airports, schools, event venues, etc. Seconds count in these situations and CAN save a person's life.

If you were unable to attend one of the 4 sessions offered this past month and are interested in learning more about the AED, speak with Kathy McKaig and we can set up additional training sessions.

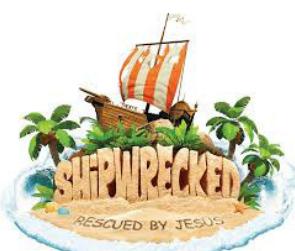
Camp-in-a-Van

Campfires are great for songs, skits, roasting marshmallows and interesting conversations. June 25-28 our friends from Presbyterian Clearwater Forest camp will be leading us in a week long camp as we light the fire. Come spend the week with us as we experience camp in Moorhead. From 9:00 am to 3:00 pm we will experience Clearwater camp at our church. A free lunch will be provided each day and in fact the whole camp is free. Starting and ending each day with awesome worship and packing in Bible quest time, games, crafts, camper's choice it will be fun to see how much we experience each day. Friends from the neighborhood and possibly other churches will be campers as well. Please let Scott know if you are planning to join us, transportation to and from camp can be arranged if needed.



Children and Communion

Engaging children in worship continues with a special class about Communion during Sunday school on May 6. The following Sunday May 13 the kids will help bake the bread and fill the juice cups before they carry the elements into the sanctuary.



Shipwrecked in Fargo!

What would happen if you were shipwrecked, stranded on an island? How would Jesus respond? Come find out June 4-7 at First Presbyterian Church of Fargo as we join our friends in a week of great VBS fun. Each night we will start with a free meal at 5:30 pm and finish adventures in science, games, stories, videos and music by 8:00 pm. The week is free, so simply sign up with Scott to let us know you are coming.

First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead
2900 Fifth Street South
Moorhead, MN 56560

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



News from Action Ministry

Our neighborhood gardening ministry begins in May!

We've hired a garden coordinator, Alyssa Athman. Alyssa is a graduate student at NDSU studying public health. She has an undergraduate degree in nutrition and dietetics from NDSU and is from Little Falls, MN. When you see Alyssa around the church, please greet her.

Gardening efforts will take place each Wednesday beginning May 2 from 6-8pm. Please park in the south parking lot and meet in Fellowship Hall.

We're Busy On Facebook

There's so much going on at Moorhead Presbyterian that we're posting almost daily on Facebook. Make sure to like us, and make sure to check out our page to see what's going on, what's new, and what's fun.

