

The First Epistle

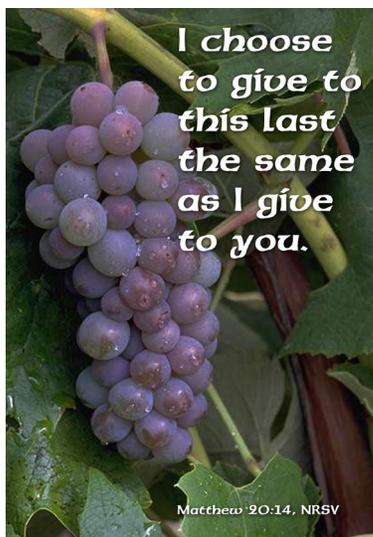


First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead • Established 1872

September 2017

ON THE INSIDE:

Prayers	2
Birthdays	2
Pastor Reflections	3
News & Events	4-5



Vendor Fair

Join us for the Vendor Fair on Saturday, September 23rd from 10-4pm in Fellowship Hall. Vendors will include Tastefully Simple, Pampered Chef, Tupperware, and many more! To reserve a booth contact Kathy McKaig. Booth rentals will be \$25 for the day. There will be a lunch counter run by the Youth Group, and also a bake sale.



Fall Talent Auction

Mark your calendars: Friday, November 3, 2017.

Do you remember last year's talent auction? We had a fun time, with lots of laughter, while raising funds for wonderful causes. We raised over \$3,000, which we distributed as follows: 45% to our community garden, The Grateful Garden; 45% to the Youth Group for a community outreach project; and 5% each to the Dorothy Day House and Churches United for the Homeless. Some of you invited friends and family to join in the fun, and we hope you'll bring them along again. The more the merrier!

During that auction, we enjoyed delicious apple crisp and bid on the gifts your wonderful talents generated, such as pots of soup, fancy meals, gourmet food baskets, a private piano recital, lake cabins for a weekend, a plane ride over Minnesota lake country, garden rototilling, movies for a year, sock monkeys, worship music by the Korean praise band, FM Symphony tickets, antique snowshoes, and much, much more.

Won't you start thinking about donating your talents to this year's auction? Whether you have a treasure in search of a good home, time to assist others, or the talent of baking or knitting, share your gifts with us. And don't hesitate to ask your friends and family members to donate their talents. The funds we raise will serve the greater good of the Church.

From last year, you may remember that the word "talent" originally was a unit of weight, such as a talent-weight of gold or silver. In the parable of the talents, a talent or a bag of gold was about the equivalent of 20 years of wages for a laborer. Over time, the word "talent" took on the additional meanings of gift or skill or ability. This is apparent also in Matthew 25:14-30, when the man who goes on a journey gives each servant talents according to his (or her) ability.

If you would like to join the Talent Auction Planning Team, send an email to Kathy Shark, our office manager, at admin@firstpresmhd.org. Additional details will be forthcoming.

Ineke Justitz



"...how often should I forgive?"
 "Not **SEVEN** times,
 but, I tell you,
SEVENTY-SEVEN
 times."

Matthew 18:21-22, NRSV

The First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead

Worship: 10:30 am

2900 Fifth Street South, Moorhead, MN 56560

www.firstpresmhd.org

218.233.1192

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

E-mail Addresses:

Church: admin@firstpresmhd.org

Newsletter Articles: nadineswee@yahoo.com

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.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead:

Moderator: Paul Campbell, CRE

Clerk of Session: LuAnn Buehre

Treasurer: Chris Swee

Scott Dobovsky, Peggy Johnson, Ineke Justitz, Kim Kelsh, Frank Kratky, Jane Lobitz, Kathy McKaig, Tim Nelson, Erik Swee, Walt Worman

The Deacons

Moderator: Elizabeth Swee

Pegi Ecker, Bonnie Erickson, Jim Gale, Nicole Hestbeck, Patty Kratky, Arlene Munighan, Helen Pemble, Jane Tandberg, Kathleen Wilkinson, Marilyn Woods, Barb Worman

Remembering Austyn

Austyn Louise Halter, whom our congregation has held in prayer for the past two years, died in the loving arms of her parents at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN on Friday, August 4, 2017.

Born January 20, 2013, Austyn was the answer to her parents', Joshua and Sarah, prayers. During her short time on earth she touched thousands of hearts with her unwavering strength, bravery and contagious smile.

Austyn's great-grandmother, Helen Ann Olson, who lives in TX, is a dear friend of Joan Piepkorn. Helen Ann has worshipped here with us when visiting Joan and it has meant so much to her to have our congregation praying for her great-granddaughter, Austyn.



IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Ruth Matthews

Theresa Samuels

Kathleen Wilkinson

Laura Hagemann

Jeanne Walker

Donald and Marion DeJong

Vernon Bancroft, Jr.

Josh Peterson

Raymond Austin

Mabel Schneider



John Ortez	Sept 1	Ehrin McKaig	Sept 17
Patrick Ausmus	Sept 9	Dorothy Nelson	Sept 18
Landon Johnson	Sept 10	Ryne Ortez	Sept 19
Joan Lordeman	Sept 11	Jeanne Walker	Sept 19
David Miller	Sept 11	Farrell Turner	Sept 26
Douglas Buehre	Sept 13	Jerzy Browne	Sept 26
Dana Erickson	Sept 16	Elizabeth Bancroft	Sept 27



Pastor Reflections

Hebrews 10:24-25 “And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day approaching.”

In last month’s reflections I talked about church growth. I looked through the Bible for passages and this one touched me. With all of the things that have happened in the world of hate, this is a counter message of love which we need to carry to the world. Coming from Hebrews it also coincides with the “Circle One” Bible study on Hebrews for the coming year.

I attended a Church Growth Conference several years ago. One of the presenters talked about “Touch Points”. That is anywhere we as a church member have a contact with someone else. It could be in our community garden, at the picnic tables with neighbors during the “Night to Unite”, or anytime we serve on a mission project in the community. Those are all touch points. They become not only a place for us to show love but also to let the community know about First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead.

As we get ready to start the new school year, this is a time for us to seek those touch points. The Wednesday night #simplechurch worship service will move to the fellowship hall on September 13th. We will continue to have the wonderful prepared meals as previous years. Community clean-up afterwards will be added and then we will gather in the east end of the hall for worship. Over the summer we have explored different things and have gotten suggestions from you. We will continue to have this be a time of intergenerational worship and activities.

For the first worship on the 13th we will be doing prayer stations. These will be actions and not just sitting in silence. We are called to pray and worship with all our senses. So mark it on your calendar and plan to attend.

The time for the meal is set at 6:00 PM, with worship going from 6:45 to 7:30. This will allow the music ministry to meet after worship at 7:30. Along the idea of touch points, this is a wonderful opportunity for members to come and join the music ministries of the church. They are always seeking new people to sing, rings hand chimes, or just give them support.

In the coming month there will also be opportunities to go into the community. There are two fund raiser walks which are important areas of sharing love.

The first is the Suicide Prevention Walk “Out of Darkness”, which will be held September 10th at 2:00 PM. The start location is Sanford Health Athletic Complex, 1300 17th Avenue North, Fargo, ND. There is further information in the newsletter and on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

On October 1st is the Church World Services CROP walk, for hunger-related immediate relief and long-term development around the world. One-fourth of funds raised is distributed among seven local agencies. This year's walk is set for Sunday, October 1, 1:30 p.m., starting at First Congregational UCC, Moorhead (406 8th St S). This is an ecumenical and interfaith event, and people from the all religious and secular communities are welcome to participate.

Consider walking yourself or supporting a walker from our church this year at either of these events. They are wonderful touch points for us to share the love of Christ in the community.

Remember, growth comes in unexpected places. Growth does not always mean numbers and balanced accounting sheets. We should focus on the spiritual growth and sharing of the love Christ has shown us.

Let the Grace of God transform our lives.

- Pastor Paul

News & Events

Session News from August

- PNC reported on the progress of the Pastoral search. The Terms of Call for a new pastor were modified. The medical benefits were changed to meet Presbytery and the Board of Pension guidelines. PNC continues to review Personal Information Forms (PIF) of prospective pastoral candidates.
- From the Church Treasurer: Things to Celebrate! Our bills are paid, we can make payroll, we have made a commitment to hire a 70% time Pastor, and we have enough funds to get us through the lean months of summer!
- Personnel reported that a staff luncheon was held in August. Thanks to our dedicated staff! Personnel continues to research the possibilities of grants that may cover the cost of a defibrillator for the church. The Vendor Fair has been scheduled for September 23.
- Building & Grounds reported that the tree that came down in a June storm has been removed. Thanks to Garrick Larson for removing the tree. The Grateful Garden is going well. Harvesting is underway.
- CE is gearing up for Rally Sunday on September 10. Church school begins, with outdoor worship on the church lawn that day and a picnic to follow.
- Stewardship & Finance reported that the 2018 Budget process will begin in September. The Talent Auction will be November 3. Do you have a talent you wish to donate?
- Congregation meeting has been scheduled for Sunday September 17 following worship to elect a congregation member to the Nominating Committee.

September Hospitality Team:

Doug & LuAnn Buehre**

Jim & Myrna Beattie

Barb Worman

Adam or Joni Massie

Tim & Elise Nelson

** Group Leaders

Here's the address for Mitchell McKaig Jr at Basic Training:

PVT McKaig, Mitchell A. Roster # 327

3rd PLT, Bravo Company, 2nd BN, 58th INF REGT

5480 Roush Dr., Bldg #3210

Fort Benning, GA 31905-5914.

Feel free to drop him a note. He cannot receive food items. (Much to his disappointment).

Stewardship / Finance Update

Finances are running in the green through July 31, 2017 and the church is current with all bills.

As of 7/31/2017	General Fund	Capital Fund
Income	\$ 59,126	\$ 4,400
Expenses	\$ 52,789	\$ 9,089*
Total	\$ 6,337	(\$ 4,689)

*Property Tax & Synod Loan for Roof, Parking Lot, Boiler.

2017 Giving	Budgeted	Remaining
	\$102,000	\$ 42,857 as of July 31

Fargo/Moorhead - Out of the Darkness Community Walk

Sunday, September 10th, 2017

Registration: 1:00pm - 1:50pm

Opening Ceremony: 2:00pm

Walk Begins: 2:30pm

Closing On The Lawn: 4:00pm

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will take the month of September off as Sundays this month are very busy. Look for the next Lunch Bunch on October 1, location TBA. Please put October 8 on your calendar as well, as there will be an outing to the Buffalo River Pumpkin Patch after worship. Have ideas for events you would like to see happen? Please let any member of New Life know or contact the church office.

News & Events



Rally Sunday

Rally Sunday September 10, 2017 - Please join the CE Committee in kicking off the Sunday School year September 10 at 9:15 am. This year for Rally Day, we will have preview videos for the various age groups in the Theater Room, a chance to look at the curriculum, and an activity/game for everyone. Following worship there will be a picnic lunch and games. Please bring meat to grill and a dish to share.

New Sunday School curriculum this year - In last month's newsletter, there was an announcement about the new curriculum we will be using, and here are the details. Sparkhouse, a publisher out of Minneapolis, has many great curriculum options; we will be using three of them this year. When the CE Committee was reviewing various curriculums, Sparkhouse rose to the top for a few reasons. All of Sparkhouse childrens' curriculums are very colorful and bright, with a series of characters who will guide the lesson each week via a short video. In addition, the weekly lessons are laid out in a way that will make preparing and teaching each week very simple. Once again, the three curriculum we are using this year are Frolic (birth -3), Whirl (pre-school – 2nd grade) and Connect (3rd-5th grade). Each of these was written for the specific age group and should be enjoyed by all.

Intergenerational Sunday school - This year on at least four Sundays we will have special Intergenerational Sunday School where all ages are welcome to join us for various activities beginning at 9:15am. The first one will be October 22 (MEA weekend). Watch for more information soon.

Updating Contact Information

Have you updated your email or phone lately? Planning a move? Would you like to review your giving information? You have access to all this information through ChurchTrac! Not only that, you are able to update it all with a few clicks of your mouse.

1. Go To: https://churchtraconline.com/member_access.php?church=%202182331192
2. Enter email address and click "I do not know my Passcode, or I do not have a Passcode".
3. If your email address is not recognized, then please email your address to gzlarsen@cord.edu.
4. At the next screen, type the 6-digit number that appears on YOUR SCREEN.
5. You will receive an email that includes a 7-character passcode.
6. From your email copy and paste the passcode into the box below your email. To save time in the future, save the passcode for future use.
7. Edit/Add any information you would like. Any changes will be automatically saved. You may edit your family member's information by clicking on their name at the bottom of the page. You can also see your "Giving History" (purple arrow).



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Fargo - Moorhead CROP walk for hunger

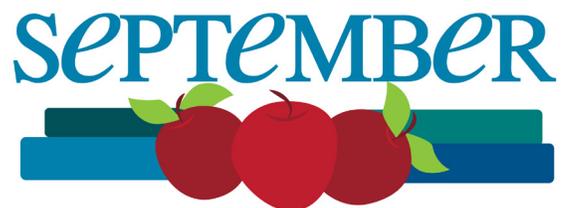
Through the CROP walk, money is gathered for hunger-related immediate relief and long-term development around the world, and one-fourth of what is raised is distributed among seven local agencies.

This year's walk is set for Sunday, October 1, at 1:30pm, starting at First Congregational UCC, Moorhead (406 8th St S). This is an ecumenical and interfaith event, and people from the non-religious community are welcomed as well.

If you're interested, email Rev. Kevin Cassidy-Maloney at mrmetta57@gmail.com, and he will get you a packet of materials.

It's ridiculously simple to participate: Find someone to coordinate (this sometimes difficult step can be skipped if necessary), hand out sponsor envelopes (it's also very easy to register and gather donations online), and plan to meet on October 1. CROP

Walk is especially fun for youth groups, but all ages are welcome! The route is 5 km (3.1 miles), and we have a symbolic around-the-block route as well.



September Worship Schedule

Sun. September 3rd - 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Moses – Burning Bushes and Sacred Ground

- Exodus 3: 1-15

Sun. September 10th - 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Conflict Reconciliation

- Matthew 18: 15-20

Sun. September 17th - 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Forgiving Others

- Romans 14:1-12

- Matthew 18:21-35

Sun. September 24th - 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Envy at a Generous God

- Matthew 20:1-16

September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6-10pm—Korean Church Worship	2
3 <i>13th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 10:30am—Worship 12:30-5pm—Korean Church	4 LABOR Day <i>Office Closed</i> 7-9pm—Heather & Thistle Pipes and Drums Beginners Class (HTPD)	5 11am—Silver Sneakers 6-9pm—Korean Church Bible Study 7pm—Deacons, Personnel, CE, B&G Committee meetings	6 6-8pm—Community Gardening 7pm—Wednesday Worship 7:30pm—New Life Committee Meeting, Music Ministry	7 11am—Silver Sneakers 7-9pm—HTPD Intermediate Class	8 6-10pm—Korean Church Worship	9
10 <i>14th Sunday after Pentecost</i> Rally Sunday 9:15am—Sunday School 10:30am—Outdoor Worship followed by Picnic 11:45am—Action Comm. 12:30-5pm—Korean Church	11 7-9pm—HTPD	12 11am—Silver Sneakers 6-9pm—Korean Church Bible Study 7pm—S&F, Worship Committee meetings	13 1pm—Circle One in Fellowship Hall 6-8pm—Com. Garden 6pm—Midweek Meal 6:45—Worship in FH 7:30pm—Music Ministry	14 11am—Silver Sneakers 7-9pm—HTPD	15 6-10pm—Korean Church Worship	16 6-10am—Korean Special Worship 5:30pm—Card Club 6-10pm—Korean Special Worship
17 <i>15th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:15am—Sunday School 10:30am—Worship followed by Congregational Meeting 12:30-5pm—Korean Church	9am-5pm—Craft Day in Fellowship Hall 7-9pm—HTPD	19 11am—Silver Sneakers 6-9pm—Korean Church Bible Study 7pm—Session Meeting	20 6-8pm—Community Gardening 6pm—Midweek Meal 6:45—Worship in FH 7:30pm—Music Ministry	21 11am—Silver Sneakers 7-9pm—HTPD	22 Newsletter Deadline  6-10pm—Korean Church Worship	23 10am-4pm—Vendor Fair in Fellowship Hall 
24 <i>16th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:15am—Sunday School 10:30am—Worship 12:30-5pm—Korean Church	25 6:15pm—Dorothy Day Food Pantry Volunteering 7-9pm—HTPD	26 9:30am—Newsletter Assembly Group 11am—Silver Sneakers 6-9pm—Korean Church Bible Study 7pm—Book Group	27 6-8pm—Community Gardening 6pm—Midweek Meal 6:45—Worship in FH 7:30pm—Music Ministry	28 11am—Silver Sneakers 7-9pm—HTPD	29 6-10pm—Korean Church Worship	30