



First Presbyterian Church October 2021

World Communion Sunday

Communion will be served during worship on October 3. The congregants will come forward to receive bread and juice, using distanced stations for each communion element. We remind you to leave space between people as they come forward, to make it easier to remove or lift masks as we receive communion. Those of you who are joining us online, please have your bread and juice ready before worship.

Peace & Global Witness

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. **This offering will be received on World Communion Sunday, October 3.**

All Saints Day

All Saints Day this year will be observed on **October 31**. We will remember with great fondness and respect our church members who have died this past year. There will be an opportunity for family members to come forward to the chancel area to light a candle in remembrance of loved ones. All are invited to participate in this meaningful time to remember recent losses or saints who have gone before us.

Wish to join the Prayer Chain?

Periodically, during the course of any given year, prayer requests are made and given to the prayer chain for their additional prayer. If you wish to be part of the prayer chain, contact Pastor Mary to add your name to the chain. Confidential prayer requests will be given to you via email. Come and be part of this gentle and vital ministry.

A Letter from Stewardship

Fall brings us many anticipated and welcome events... back to school...football...changing of the leaves... cooler evenings...and, of course...our Fall Stewardship Campaign. This is a time when we ask all of you to think back on why First Presbyterian has such a special place in the lives of both you and your family, and to count your blessing for being part of a thriving and nurturing church community. We should all be grateful to spread the good news and continue the good work in the name of the Lord.

We chose for our theme this year, "Because You Gave," in an effort to highlight all the different ways that your generosity has empowered the ministries of First Presbyterian and has enhanced our mission. Whether it's the centerpiece of our church life, Worship and Spiritual Growth, or our numerous Outreach programs helping people in our community and around the world, or Christian Education for all ages, or maintaining our beautiful building through the work of Buildings and Grounds, your generosity is critical in not only maintaining but growing our ministries in helping to glorify God.

Our church is blessed to have you as a member and to have an entire congregation that values our work in the name of the Lord. We ask that you prayerfully consider completing an Estimate of Giving card by **Stewardship Sunday, October 24**, so that our work will be enhanced... "Because You Gave." - Stewardship Team

PNC Update

The Pastor Nominating Committee wants to provide occasional updates to reassure you that the search for our next Pastor/Head of Staff is active and ongoing. We began our work 11 months ago now by creating a 14-page Ministry Information Form, which was submitted to the Church Leadership Connection, the internet-based matching and referral system of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We also published ads in The Presbyterian Outlook.

To date we have:

- Reviewed Pastor Information Forms, viewed sermons, and discussed 43 matched candidates.
- Spent many hours individually reviewing candidates, and we've held 20 meetings—typically 2-hour ZOOM meetings—discussing our findings.
- Conducted interviews with 3 candidates and second interviews with 2 candidates.
- Committed to prayerfully seeking the person God is calling to serve our church.

The PNC consists of 9 members with a variety of skills and perspectives. The group works very well together—sometimes in full agreement and sometimes respectfully disagreeing. All of us are confident that our work is effective and will bear fruit in good time. We appreciate your patience and your ongoing prayers.

It's Time for Nominations!

Do you know someone who might be called to serve as a Deacon or Elder of First Presbyterian? Do you feel the call yourself? If you would like to suggest a name for consideration, please let Pastor Mary know and she will anonymously pass the name along to the nominating committee for consideration.

Milestones

We list FPC's births, baptisms, weddings and deaths, hoping to stay better connected with one another.

Baptisms: We celebrate the baptism of Taylor Nicole Wilkens, daughter of Allen & Ashley Wilkens, on September 26.

Deaths: We mourn the death of Rita Miller on September 12.



Holy Buckets

For the month of October, Holy Buckets will support our youth's participation in the Homeless and Hungry Project. We will collect the following: laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, paper towels, toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shaving cream, new/gently used winter wear, new/gently used shoes/boots, children's books. Some of the winter wear will also be shared with the children of Bdecan Presbyterian Church. You may place your donations in the green buckets in the foyer.

Hosted Concert

The Fargo Moorhead Area Music Club's free October concert will be at **1:00 pm in the Sanctuary on Monday, October 11**. It is a federal holiday, so parking should be easy! There will be performances from several area music scholarship recipients. Cookies will be served "to-go" afterwards. All are welcome.

Save the Date

Our plan is to have two services on **Sunday, November 21, at 9:00 am and 11:00 am**. There will not be a dancing demonstration between services. With Covid space limitations, tickets will be required for each service. Please watch your email for information about that process. The service will also be live streamed for convenience of anyone who prefers to watch from home. In the event that community spread of Covid makes it necessary to close the sanctuary to the congregation, we will still have the service, but it will be live streamed only.

Office Hours

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 8:30am-4pm

PW News

Our YWCA Shelter representative has asked all who are able to help the PW with the urgent needs of our YWCA shelter. We will be collecting shampoo and/or conditioner from **September 26-October 19**. These items can be placed in the YWCA bin in the West Coat Room. Of course, we are happy to receive anything on their "urgent needs" list.

PW Mission recipient, The New Life Center, will host a Dessert Social at the Delta Hotel on **September 28, at 6:30pm**. It will feature Mike Williams, a Christian Comedian.

On Friday, **October 1, at 2:00 pm**, Church Women United will meet at St. John's Lutheran Church on 5th St. in South Fargo.

The **PW Board will meet on Tuesday, October 12, at 11:00 am**. There is no general meeting this month.

Circles will meet on Tuesday, October 19, at 2:00 pm, for Lesson 2 of our Bible Study for 2021-22, *What My Grandmothers Taught Me*. Pastor Mary Holtey will lead us through this lesson. **Esther Circle will meet at 9:30am the same day**, at the home of Jan Carlsen (1012 Park Drive S. 58102).

ManUP

ManUP, a men's Bible study, kicks off its monthly sessions on **October 12 at 6:45 am via ZOOM**. The group meets on the second Tuesday of each month, October-May. Intended to help men understand what the Bible says in relation to what is expected of a Christian man, the study this year examines the Epistle to the Hebrews. A copy of the study guide can be obtained at [Hebrews: An Open Door to God | Presbyterian Mission Agency](#) or you can request a copy and ask for a Zoom invitation from Bruce Maylath at ring4linguist@yahoo.com. No advance preparation is required for each month's study.

FPC Financial Summary

August 2021 - General Fund Only

| | <u>YTD Actual</u> | <u>YTD Budget</u> | <u>Increase/Decrease</u> | <u>Annual Budget</u> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Income | \$542,493 | \$498,407 | \$44,086 | \$779,600 |
| Expense | 490,283 | 528,542 | -\$38,259 | 798,774 |
| Net/Shortfall | \$52,210 | -\$30,135 | \$5,827 | -\$19,174 |
| Net Ins. Proceeds/Repairs | 0 | | | |
| Grand Total | \$52,210 | | | |

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|--|------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Sunday Schedule 9:15 Sunday School for All 9:45 Sanctuary Choir Warmup 10:30 Worship Service (L) 11:30 Outdoor Fellowship / + ZOOM Coffee Hour 12:00 Confirmation (L) Livestreaming Option (H) Hybrid (Z) ZOOM | Wednesday Schedule 5:30 St. Andrew's Brass / + Genesis Ringers 6:15 Children/Youth Choirs 6:30 Westminister Ringers 7:00 Youth Group 7:30 Sanctuary Choir | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY Sunday Schedule | 4 5:30 Personnel Cmt. (H) +B&G Cmt. | 5 8:30 Bulletin Deadline 12:00 S&E Board 1:00 M&F (Z) 5:30 Worship Cmt. (H) 7:00 Mission Cmt. | 6 Wednesday Schedule 6:30 Pilgrimage Guides | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Sunday Schedule | 11 1:00 Music Club Program 5:30 EduCon Cmt. (H) | 12 6:45 ManUP (Z) 8:30 Bulletin Deadline 10:00 PW Board (Z) 1:00 Staff 5:30 Board of Deacons | 13 1:00 Library Cmt. Wednesday Schedule 6:30 Compass #4 (Z) | 14 6:00 Compass #5 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Sunday Schedule | 18 6:30 Session (H) | 19 8:30 Bulletin Deadline 9:30 Esther Circle (off site) 1:00 Staff 2:00 PW Circles (Z) | 20 Wednesday Schedule | 21 1:30 Compass #2 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 STEWARDSHIP SUN. Sunday Schedule No Confirmation Sunday Schedule | 25 8:30 Messenger Deadline 5:00 Stewardship Cmt. | 26 8:30 Bulletin Deadline 1:00 Staff | 27 1:00 Library Cmt. Wednesday Schedule | 28 | 29 | 30 |



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