



Moving into 2022 our church will continue to follow Public Health's guidelines of wearing masks indoors where groups of people are gathered. We are all growing weary of a pandemic that continues to slog on – I know I am! I reviewed our re-gathering policy adopted over a year ago. It reminds us that we “are grounded in a faith which calls us to love our neighbor as ourselves (Matthew 22:39), to clothe ourselves in compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience (Colossians 3:12), and to care for the least of these among us (Matthew 25:45).” I am asking you, personally, to please be patient as, together, we stay diligent and work to find the right paths forward.

## Special Church Closings

When severe weather, power failure or other circumstances require the church to close, the Pastor/Head of Staff will determine if worship services and/or programs will be cancelled or if the church office will be closed.

- WDAY- (TV/radio/Inforum website)
- KVELY- TV
- KFGO- AM radio

If Fargo school activities are cancelled, church activities will automatically be cancelled.

## 2021 Year End Giving

Please have all contributions intended for the 2021 giving year turned in **to the church office by Tuesday, January 4, 2022**. Any contributions received after that date will be recorded on your 2022 giving record. If you would like to know the balance of your 2021 pledge, please email [jlundgren@firstpresfargo.org](mailto:jlundgren@firstpresfargo.org).

## Photo Updates

Have an updated picture we can use for the directory? If so, please email a copy to [admin.assistant@firstpresfargo.org](mailto:admin.assistant@firstpresfargo.org), or mail a hard copy to the office to be scanned.

Please stay **following worship on Sunday, January 9** to help put away the Christmas trees, advent wreath, garlands, etc. that were used during the season. Members of the Worship Committee will be on hand to help direct volunteers. “Many hands make for light work!”

Baptism marks the beginning of the Christian life. The Baptism of our Lord marks the beginning of these days between the two great festivals of the Christian year. The shell at the tip of the banner reminds us of our own baptisms and points us to the church, represented by a boat. The seas are choppy and yet the church manages to stay afloat, spreading God's good story wherever it finds itself. The fish in the sea reminds us of Jesus' ministry and His call to others to become fishers of men and women, and of His miracle of the loaves and fishes. The dove near the top of the banner, hidden in the clouds, symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit.

The banner is in many hues of green symbolizing the growth of discipleship which comes after baptism, in the community called the church, and extends into all the world.

## The Pilgrimage

A new Pilgrimage class directed towards current participants and FPC worshippers interested in becoming part of The Pilgrimage ministry, will be held **February 6 & 13 from 2:00-4:00 pm** in the Social Hall. *Seeking God Together* is a 2-session class that will provide small group experience steeped in the contemplative Christian tradition. We will explore the concept of soul friendship to deepen connections with one another. We will also practice contemplative prayer, holy listening, and Lectio Divina in a group setting. Recommended reading for the class is, *The Pilgrim's Compass*, by Paul H. Lang, available in the church library. Contact Mike Wavra at [wavramw@aol.com](mailto:wavramw@aol.com) or Judy Rippentrop at [jirippen-trop@yahoo.com](mailto:jirippen-trop@yahoo.com) to indicate your interest.

# Congregational Fun Night

Mark your calendars for an evening of karaoke and bingo fun at First Pres, **January 22 from 6:00-8:30 pm**. Come put the “social” in Social Hall!

## Dates to Remember

- ★ **December 26:** No Sunday School or Confirmation
- ★ **December 27:** Office Closed
- ★ **December 29:** No Wednesday Night Activities
- ★ **January 2:** No Sunday School or Confirmation
- ★ **January 3:** Office Closed
- ★ **January 5:** No Wednesday Night Activities

## ManUP

ManUP, a men's Bible study, continues its monthly study on **January 11 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](mailto:ring4linguist@yahoo.com). No advance preparation is required for each month's study. #

## PW News



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

Happy New Year! PW's annual pledge drive has kicked off with letters sent to all women of the congregation. Because our funds are raised through pledges, we ask that you prayerfully consider supporting us as we support our Presbytery and local missions.

**PW Board meets via ZOOM on January 11 at 10:00 am.** There is no General Meeting this month.

Also, via **ZOOM**, the **PW Bible Study, held Tuesday, January 18 at 2:00 pm**, will focus on Lesson 5, "Ruth and Redemption," led by Pastor Holtey. Even though we'd like to meet in person, this is an excellent way to study and those who ZOOM in, enjoy the lesson.

Our YWCA representative has posted a sign on our bulletin board, listing the items we are focusing on each month. This month the focus will be Laundry/Dishwasher pods. These can be placed in the YWCA bin in the coat room. We welcome any item from the urgent needs list of the YWCA at any time, as well as pillows.

## Hosted Concert

The January program of the FM Area Music Club will be "Jazz in January" presented by the Michael Helm Trio. This **free program will be at 1:00 pm, Monday, January 17**, in the Jennie Roberts Room. All are welcome to attend!

## Rehearsals Resume

The church's music ensembles will resume their regular rehearsal schedules **beginning on Wednesday, January 12**. All the singing groups are open to additional members at any time. Please contact the directors of each group for further information. The regular Wednesday rehearsal schedule is as follows:

5:30-6:10 pm	Genesis Ringers	Sanctuary	<a href="mailto:sharmon@firstpresfargo.org">sharmon@firstpresfargo.org</a>
5:30-6:30 pm	St. Andrew's Brass	JR Room	<a href="mailto:jillkath@aol.com">jillkath@aol.com</a>
6:15-7:00 pm	2-6 Choir	Classroom 4	<a href="mailto:pcapuch@msn.com">pcapuch@msn.com</a>
6:15-7:00 pm	7-12 Choir	Choir Room	<a href="mailto:bryan.poyzer@ndscs.edu">bryan.poyzer@ndscs.edu</a>
6:30-7:30 pm	Westminster Ringers	Sanctuary	<a href="mailto:jillkath@aol.com">jillkath@aol.com</a>
7:30-9:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir	Choir Room	<a href="mailto:bryan.poyzer@ndscs.edu">bryan.poyzer@ndscs.edu</a>

## FPC Financial Summary

### November 2021 - General Fund Only

	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
<b>Income</b>	\$707,773	\$695,396	\$12,377	\$779,600
<b>Expense</b>	684,979	730,672	-\$45,693	798,774
<b>Net/Shortfall</b>	\$22,794	-\$35,276	\$58,070	-\$19,174

## Milestones

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

**Weddings:** We celebrate with Haley Nudell and Matthew Nelson upon their wedding on Dec. 4, 2021.

## Welcome Christian Stromley & Susan Clambey



Sally Harmon will be on vacation during January and February, traveling to Gulf Shores, Alabama, to get out of the cold! In Sally's absence, please welcome Christian Stromley, who will be on the organ bench except for two Sundays. (He's getting married and honeymooning in January!) Christian Stromley grew up in Wisconsin, starting piano at 12, and has been playing in church since age 15. He studied Organ and Church Music at Concordia, St. Paul. Music has always been his love and it is his dream to pursue it professionally. You may recall that Christian recorded several gifts of music on our church's organ during 2020 while we were doing online worship and shared some of those recordings with us.

Susan Clambey will be the organist for January 9 and 16. Susan is celebrating 58 years as a pipe organist in the region. She is also a vocalist, piano teacher, and composer, making superb usage of her degree from Concordia College, Moorhead.

# Church Events Calendar for January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 COMMUNION <i>No Sunday School</i> 10:30 Worship Service (L) <i>No Confirmation</i>	3 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 5:30 Personnel Cmt. (Z)	4 <b>8:30 Bulletin Deadline</b> 1:00 Staff 5:30 Worship Cmt. (H) 7:00 Mission Cmt.	5 <i>No Wednesday Activities</i> 6:30 Pilgrimage Guides	6	7	1 NEW YEARS DAY  8
9 Sunday Schedule 11:30 Christmas Clean-up	10 5:30 EduCon Cmt. (H) +B&G Cmt.	11 6:45 ManUP (Z) <b>8:30 Bulletin Deadline</b> 10:00 PW Board (Z) 1:00 Staff 5:30 Board of Deacons	12 Wednesday Schedule 6:30 Compass #4	13 6:00 Compass #5	14	15
16 Sunday Schedule	17 1:00 Music Club Program 6:30 Session (Z)	18 <b>8:30 Bulletin Deadline</b> 9:30 Esther Circle (off site) 1:00 Staff 2:00 PW Circles (Z)	19 Wednesday Schedule	20 1:00 Compass #2	21	22 6:00 Congregation Fun Night!
23 Sunday Schedule	24 <b>8:30 Messenger Deadline</b> 5:00 Stewardship Cmt.	25 <b>8:30 Bulletin Deadline</b> 1:00 Staff	26 Wednesday Schedule	27	28	29
30 Sunday Schedule	31				<b>Sunday Schedule</b> 9:15 Sunday School for All 9:30 Sanctuary Choir Warmup 10:30 Worship Service (L) 11:30 ZOOM Coffee Hour 12:00 Confirmation (L) Livestreaming Option (H) Hybrid (Z) ZOOM	<b>Wednesday Schedule</b> 5:30 St. Andrew's Brass / + Genesis Ringers 6:15 Children/Youth Choirs 6:30 Westminster Ringers 7:00 Youth Group 7:30 Sanctuary Choir



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**PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH TRIENNIUM 2022**  
**July 24-27 • Indianapolis, IN**

Triennium 2022 takes place July 24-27, in Indianapolis, IN. This is a high school church conference for current 8-12th graders that is held every three years by the PCUSA. It's a great time for students to learn about God and meet other students from around the country and world who love God, too! The cost is \$600 before January 15. From January 16-February 15, the cost is \$675. If you have any questions or would like an application, please contact Kayla.