

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

650 2nd Ave. N., PO Box 327
Fargo, ND 58017
(701)293-6311

Return Service Requested



January 2010

Soul Space Worship

First Presbyterian continues worship on Wednesday. With Soul Space, First Presbyterian offers more choices for worship, on Wednesday evenings as well as Sunday mornings! Work schedules, school calendars, and myriad other important things in our lives can make Sunday morning a difficult choice for worship. Soul Space is one response to that cultural shift. But Soul Space is also oriented differently in cultural and musical format as well.

While the Legacy and Sanctuary worship use more classical means as the foundation of the music helping us express our adoration, gratitude, and love for God and God's presence in our lives, Soul Space seeks to express that same adoration, gratitude, and love with music

that sounds like today. The format of the worship flow in Soul Space is less liturgically oriented and more experientially oriented; that is, the components of the service vary from week to week as the content varies so that participants will engage with the content in ways that make it authentic. To be sure, all of the worship at First Presbyterian derives its content base from scripture. Soul Space will experiment with proclaiming the word relying not only on pastoral message delivery but also lay led messaging. The creative worship planning team is working now on developing readings, videos, and interactive audiovisual messages for this Lenten season.

There is an intentional shift in the feel, sound, and look of Soul Space,

but it at its heart it is still worship - the response of God's people to God present in the world and in their lives. It is a place to be transformed and renewed, and equipped as God calls us to be of service in the world. Soul Space is an ongoing expression of worship, seeking to respond to changes in language, music, and cultural expression in our community. Soul Space enhances the mission of First Presbyterian in that God's people have even more opportunities to joyfully celebrate and renew ourselves to reach our potential as creatures of a living God.



Volume 1

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



Fargo, North Dakota

Upcoming Events:

January 10

Potluck

January 14

**Serving at Churches
United**

January 16-23

**Gulf Coast Mission
Trip**

January 17

New Members Class

January 30

Leadership Retreat

January 31

**FMSO Chamber
Orchestra Concert**

February 7

Youth Sunday

THE MESSENGER

A Publication of First Presbyterian Church, Fargo, North Dakota ~ www.firstpresfargo.org

Going Missional: Impacting Locally

Last summer the staff of First Presbyterian Church set out on a mission to discern areas of great need in our community. We spoke with local leaders in many areas—including education, mental health, and youth needs—and we asked them, “What could a church do to help this community?” The answers all had a common theme: our community needs individuals who will go out into the need and work to meet it.

The Wednesday collegiate luncheons were begun in response to the needs that we heard from area institutions of higher ed. After speaking with public school leaders, the staff has begun working with an Adopt-a-School program at McKinley Elementary, individually volunteering during the work week.

In January and February, our focus in worship will be “Impacting Locally.” We will focus on awareness of and practical ways to help the needs of our community.

January 17: “Impacting Locally: Mental and Family Health”

January 24: “Impacting Locally: Addiction”

January 31: “Impacting Locally: Homeless and Hungry”

February 7: “Impacting Locally: Youth Issues”

February 14: “Impacting Locally: Older Adults”



Green Mail

First Presbyterian Church needs your help in being good stewards of our resources... of our finances and of our environment! This month during worship, you are asked to please provide the church office with your current e-mail address. Note cards will be available in the bulletin. Please write down your e-mail address even if you believe the office already has it.

Also, we will soon be providing more church communications in electronic format. Please let us know if you would prefer to receive the Messenger, the seasonal brochure, your contribution statements, and other church publications in your e-mail inbox. Electronic communications reduce postage, paper and printing costs and cut down on waste. Go green!

SEE INSIDE for these articles, and more!

- *Welcome Carolyn Hensrud, Interim Organist*
- *Potluck January 10th*
- *New Adult Education class offerings*
- *Gulf Coast Mission Trip*
- *Youth Ski Trip Recap*

Worship in January

For the first two Sundays in January, we will focus on the lectionary text and follow the theme of the church year.

January 3rd “Keep the Light in Your Eyes”

Ephesians 1:3-14 Steve Shive, preaching

January 10th “Who are We?”

Luke 3:15-17 & 21-22 Steve Shive, preaching

Then for the last three Sundays of the month, we expand our vision as we explore in a real practical and exciting our Vision Statement. It says,

“By impacting locally and reaching globally, we will create a center for people to connect with God and to discover their passion while building faith, family and community.”

This fall, we explored a lot of the ideas of this future shaping statement. In January and early February, our focus will be on “*impacting locally*.” This fall, the staff made strategic connections with a wide variety of community leaders and asked them one question, “What are concerns that you see in our community?” Most all of them remarked that they had never been asked that question, especially by a church group. The staff shifted through the ones noted and have focused our worship are five of them:

January 17th “**Impacting Locally**” **Mental Health-Stress/Depression**”

Steve Kisslinger, preaching

Steve is a licensed psychologist with MeritCare.

January 24th “**Impacting Locally**” **Addiction**

January 31st “**Impacting Locally**”/Homeless and Hungry”

Steve Shive, preaching

Besides the message, each worship service will involve a practical and tangible way that you can be involved in Impacting Locally.

See our website for current happenings and resources!

<http://www.firstpresfargo.org>



Adult Education

Sunday Mornings

Beginning **January 3** we will resume our study of theologian John Calvin, the founder of the Reformed Tradition. This is a continuation of the book study, *John Calvin: Reformer for the 21st Century*. Please read chapter 8 for next Sunday.

Beginning **January 10** Dr. Bruce Maylath will be leading a study of the book, *The Narcissism Epidemic: Living in the Age of Entitlement*. This concludes a three book series that looks at the current generation as it moves into adulthood. Copies of the introduction and first chapter may be picked up at the welcome center. Books will be distributed on the 10th for a suggested donation of \$10.

Wednesday Evenings

Beginning **January 6** we will begin the series, *Discovering Your Practices and Path of Spiritual Growth*. Our individual lives are strengthened and built up by a variety of spiritual practices. This class will help you discover some of those practices that are uniquely fitted for you.

New Members Class

January 17th

When: 9:55am-2:00pm

*The class will break for worship at 10:45am and reconvene at 11:50am with a light lunch.

Where: Jennie Roberts Room

Who: All those interested in exploring being a member of this church

What: This class will explore what is unique about Presbyterians and about First Presbyterian Church, Fargo!

Attention Snowbirds and Lake People!

If you will be away from your address for an extended period of time during the winter summer, please notify the church office. The post office charges for any bulk mail sent addresses not currently receiving mail. Thank you for your consideration.



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For the Record in December

Baptisms: *Avelino Modi*, son of John Modi and Cizarina Hassel was baptized in the Sanctuary December 27.

Funerals: *Art Lamey*, December 3; *James Garvey*, December 16; *James Marsden*, December 28; *Erna Swisher*, January 4

November Financial Summary

	YTD 2009 Actual	YTD 2009 Budget
Income	\$659,254	\$702,082
Expenses	\$676,274	\$730,510
Net income (loss)	(\$17,020)	(\$ 28,428)

Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Stephen A. Shive	Pastor/Head of Staff
The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey	Associate Pastor for Congregational Nurture
The Rev. Dr. Steve Kisslinger	Parish Associate
The Rev. Emery Roy	Pastor Emeritus
Penny Andrist	Co-Coordinator of Children’s Ministry
Gail Benson	Co-Coordinator of Children’s Ministry
Ansley Cameron	Youth Director/UCM Downtown Coordinator
Laura Caroon	Communications Specialist
Dr. David Fandrich	Director of Music
Rick Fiebiger	Facility Manager
Carolyn Hensrud	Interim Organist
Julie Jensen	Part-time Custodian
Diana Peterson	Receptionist
John Smith	Part-time Custodian
Bonnie Stam	Nursery Staff
Mary Wittenberg	Business Manager

The Session

Marty Hoag, Personnel; **Candy Cox**, Fellowship & Events; **David Stastny**, Building & Grounds; **Mary Stahl & Jocie Iszler**, Management & Finance; **Greg Post & Vicki Laraway**, Worship; **Ray Bauske, Alexa Mazaheri** (youth) & **Shila Tobosa**, Spiritual Nurture & Education; **Jim Johnson & David Johnson**, Support & Endowment; **Mike Lochow**, Communications; **Mary Simle & Bruce Maylath**, Mission

Board of Deacons

Marion Anderson, Penny Andrist, Chad Backes, Dick Blaine, Sue Cacioppo, Anne Durbin, Kate Frappier, Nan Froelich, Patricia Gilbertson, Krista Johnson, Barb Kessel, Christine Kloubec, Jeff Olson, Kendrick Pifer (youth), **Georgia Resell, Joe Stanley, Phyllis Sunderland, Paula Thomas, Brad Zietz**

Gracia Fulwiler, Health Ministries Coordinator

Office Hours

Mon-Thu 8:30am-5pm
Fri 9am-1pm

Deadlines

Deadline for February Messenger article submission is Wednesday, January 20. Please e-mail articles to Laura Caroon: lcaroon@firstpresfargo.org

YOUTH @ First

Andes Ski Trip

The Youth went a Winter Retreat to Andes Tower Hills on Dec. 29th, 2009. It was such a great day. We were grateful to have volunteers drive us to the hills. Once we got there, we filled our bellies with delicious pizza and then hit the slopes. We had youth going skiing, tubing and snowboarding. After a great afternoon filled with lots of fun activity, we checked in our rented gear, ate some dinner and headed for home. The roads were great for travel and the cars will filled with some tired but happy skiers. Thanks for a great day!



Youth Sunday

January is a big month for the Middle School and Senior High Youth. In January, the youth spend a lot of time preparing for Youth Sunday. This year, Youth Sunday is February 7th. The youth will use their Wednesday Night Youth Group time and Sunday School to prepare the entire service for Youth Sunday. It is so important that we have good attendance so that we can formulate a great service utilizing everyone's input.

Check out the youth blog for the latest info:

<http://youthatfirstpres.blogspot.com>

Receptionist Volunteers

Would you be willing to serve as a substitute for the volunteer receptionist team? You could be asked to substitute when the regular volunteer is unable to be there. Hours are usually 1 – 4pm and training is provided. Contact Diana at the front desk if interested.

Balance the 2010 Budget

Thank you to those of you who have already contributed and/or increased your pledge toward this goal. It's not too late to join with other members in "Balancing the 2010 Budget." Additional contributions and/or pledges are still needed.

Lent & Easter Brochure Deadline

Articles about all ministry events from February 17- May 30 need to be submitted to Laura Caroon by Monday, January 11th. So—evaluate the needs in your ministry and make plans now!

Weather Cancellations

If inclement weather forces cancellations of services/events, the information will be posted on the following:

www.firstpresfargo.org

in-forum.com

WDAY - TV & radio

KVLY - TV

KFGO - radio

If Fargo Public Schools close or cancel activities because of weather, First Presbyterian Church will automatically follow their decision.

Mission

Mission Trip to Houma, Louisiana

A team of eight will travel to Louisiana on January 16 to join with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to help those still affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Please keep in your prayers the mission team and all the families continuing to recover from these disasters. Participants are Chad Backes, Dianne Backes, John Cacioppo, Mary Holtey, Lindsey Meyer, Craig Rise, Joe Stanley, and Ann Ulliman. They will return on January 23.

Serve at Churches United

We serve dinner at Churches United on Thursday, January 14. If you are able to serve or provide a large casserole, please sign up on the Volunteer Opportunities Board.

Holy Buckets

During the month of January we will be collecting disposable diapers for local children's agencies, primarily, Nokomis Childcare Center and the YWCA. All sizes of diapers, except newborn, are needed. There are green bins in the Gathering Space to receive your donations.

Pesos in Your Pocket?

When you return from a trip to Mexico with pesos in your pocket, bring them to the Peso Pot in the church office. All pesos will go to support ministries in San Miguel, Mexico.



Collegiate Ministry

What a fantastic fall for Collegiate Ministry. First Presbyterian has been welcoming and serving our neighboring collegiate students a delicious lunch. It has been so exciting to see students in our building and to see members of our great congregation coming together in the joy of serving others. January 13th will be our first Wednesday lunch for 2010. We are looking forward to seeing our new collegiate friends again. If you are interested in volunteering on a Wednesday anytime from 10:30-1:30, we would love your help! We are hoping to get more people from the church involved in this exciting mission. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Ansley Cameron. AnsleyCameron@gmail.com

Festival of Trees

Thank you all, so much for your participation in the Festival of Trees this year! We had 120 local children's names for the Giving Tree. Gifts were dispersed to families on December 16th. Thanks to Dale and Mona Shook for spearheading this year's gift drive. Thank you for the bags and bags of children's coats, boots, scarves, hats, mittens and gloves for the Bdecan Church. Jim and Mary Simle have brought all the items to Bdecan and the outerwear was received with great appreciation and joy. All of the food under the Food Tree will be brought to the Emergency Food Panty. The Mitten Tree was overwhelmed with hats, scarves and mittens for the children of Nokomis. Youthworks will be receiving lots of linens and Hornbacher's gift card. Our thanks to the Mission Sewing group for their generosity in donating several of their quilts. Several hundred dollars were received for the Kikuyu Dental Clinic and its Patient Subsidies Fund. What a wonderful success and demonstration of your generosity and good will!

Gift Cards Still Available

Gift Cards are still available as a fundraiser for the group going to Louisiana to help with hurricane rebuilding. Hornbacher's gift cards are available in a variety of denominations (\$25, 50, 100s) during Sunday and Wednesday events. Gift cards for other businesses can be ordered. Deadline for this month's order is January 24.

Music Ministries

FMSO Chamber Orchestra Concert in Our Sanctuary, January 31.

The Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra continues its chamber concert series in our Sanctuary on Sunday, January 31 at 2:00pm.

It will feature the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Woodwind Quintet presenting a varied program music from throughout the Americas, from African-flavored Cuban music to historically exotic New Orleans.

A limited number of complimentary tickets are available to anyone in our congregation. Please contact the church office by Thursday, January 28 for tickets. Members of First Presbyterian are needed as ushers for this event. Contact the church office to volunteer your services.

Sound Techs Needed

People with a love of electronics and technology are needed to contribute to worship by operating the sound system at each Sunday service. We have a particular need for help in this ministry. Training will be provided. Please contact Joe Cusher if you are able to assist in this way: jcusher@ideaone.net



Mary Beth Berg Resigns

On Monday, December 14th, the Session met and accepted the resignation of Mary Beth Berg as Organist/Assistant Director of Music of the church with regret. Mary Beth has been in this position at the church since October 2001. She has been an outstanding organist, cellist, accompanist, and director of various choirs and has coordinated much of our special music. She will be missed. It was her desire to communicate this news after Christmas and not before. Mary Beth's last Sunday as Organist/Assistant Director of Music was on January 3rd.

The Personnel Committee is developing an interim plan, which will include evaluating the position and determining our needs. I ask that you join the Session and Personnel Committee in prayer as we seek to transition in this time in our ministry. Be assured that the strong tradition of quality music will be maintained. Pray that we will still be able to join with the chorus of angels singing, "Glory to God in the highest."

If you have questions or concerns, please address them to Steve Shive by phone (293-6311) or e-mail (sshive@firstpresfargo.org).

Interim Organist

First Presbyterian is pleased to welcome Carolyn Hensrud as Interim Organist.

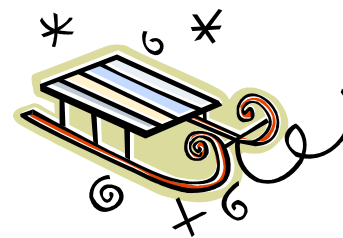
Carolyn Hensrud received her Bachelor of Music in Organ and Public School Music from Concordia College and her Master of Music in Organ from the University of Oklahoma as a student of Mildred Andrews. She has been a full and part-time service organist for over 30 years in the Fargo area. As a member of the Red River Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists she has served in various local and national capacities. She is currently a part-time employee of Boulger Funeral Home and assists in the operation of four Qdoba Mexican Grill restaurants with her husband Grant. Three beautiful children, 2 cats and a dog make her life even more complete.



Caring Ministries

Home Communion Volunteers

Elders and deacons, past and present, are being asked to consider helping to serve communion to those unable to attend worship. If you are able to help on a frequent or occasional basis, please sign up on the Volunteer Opportunities Board. Pastor Mary will train all interested officers. If you have already received communion training, please, sign up as well.



Photos from the Martha Circle Christmas Party



Nurse's Notes - The *Other* Bone Nutrient

Gracia Fulwiler, RN, Parish Nurse

Well, winter finally arrived in Fargo/Moorhead. A lot of us weren't prepared for the suddenness of the extreme cold and ice. And, we all know what happens when there is snow, ice and cold around....we rush to get out of the cold and don't watch where we are walking/running....Oops, there we go again. Bones get broken and sprains happen.

According to Prevention magazine, "Loading up on red- and orange-hued fruits and vegetables rich in protective pigments called carotenoids may keep your bones young, according to research published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. Findings from the 4-year study of nearly 900 older adults suggest that consuming more carotenoids—especially lycopene—may safeguard bone density in women. Those with the greatest intake of lycopene-rich foods had less hip and lumbar bone loss than women who consumed the least. Researchers say that carotenoids may halt bone loss by reducing harmful substances that damage cells. Include cooked tomatoes, watermelon, and pink and red grapefruit in your diets; they're the richest sources of lycopene."

So, words to the wise, slow down and watch out for the ice. A little fall may cause a bad break. We'd all rather visit you in church than in a hospital bed. Have a safe and healthy New Year 2010.

Fellowship

Potluck—Sunday, January 10th

Food feeds the body and the soul when we gather with others to share! A potluck meal—when everyone brings a dish to pass—certainly does that!

So, bring a dish of your favorite comfort food or something made from a new recipe and come to Celebration Hall after Legacy Worship.

Leadership Retreat

The Session and some of the staff will be meeting on Saturday, January 30th to develop some tools that will help us as a church.

Man Up

Man Up will meet Monday, January 11th at 6:45am in Celebration Hall. All men are invited to attend! Coffee and donuts will be served.

