

There are
525,600
minutes in a year.



How will you
spend yours?



Ministry Catalog
2011-12

First Presbyterian Church, Fargo
www.firstpresfargo.org
2nd Avenue North & Seventh Street
Downtown Fargo

Wednesday and Sunday schedules at a glance

Many of our opportunities happen on Wednesdays and Sundays. Here are a quick-reference listing of those activities and worship services and a reference to their corresponding information in the catalog.

Wednesday	What	Where	Catalog Description
11:00am	<i>Collegiate Lunch</i> 11:00-1:00pm	West Foyer	Page 5
5:00pm	<i>Wed@First Dinner</i> 5:00-6:30	Social Hall	Page 6
5:15 pm			
5:30 pm	<i>Grade 3-6 Bells</i> 5:30-6:10 <i>Genesis Ringers</i> 5:30-6:10 <i>St. Andrews Brass</i> 5:30-6:30	Classroom 7 Sanctuary Jennie Roberts Room	Page 7 Page 7 Page 7
5:45 pm			
6:00 pm	<i>Grades K—2 choir</i> 6:15-7:00 <i>Grades 3—6 choir</i> 6:15-7:00 <i>Grades 7—12 choir</i> 6:15-7:00	Classroom 5 Classroom 2 Choir Room	Page 6 Page 6 Page 6
6:15 pm			
6:30 pm	<i>StoryLine</i> 6:30-7:30	Social Hall	Page 8
6:45 pm	<i>Westminster Ringers</i> 6:45-7:45	Sanctuary	Page 7

Sunday	What	Where	Catalog Description
9:00 am	<i>Sanctuary Worship</i> 9:00-9:45	Sanctuary	Page 6
9:15 am	<i>Adult Choir Rehearsal</i> 9:15-10:30	Choir Room	Page 7
9:30 am			
9:50 am	<i>Quest for Kids</i> 9:50-10:50 <i>Adult Ed</i> 9:50-10:50 <i>Confirmation</i>	Upstairs classrooms Announced weekly Youth Wing	Page 8 Page 9-10 Page 9
10:00 am			
10:15 am			
10:30 am			
10:45 am			
11:00 am	<i>Legacy Worship</i> 11:00-12:00	Sanctuary	Page 6

As the body of Christ, we gather in... Fellowship

YOUTH

Youth Groups

Students grade 6 to 12 are mentored, nurtured, and encouraged to participate in and originate a variety of mission fellowship projects. This year, in addition the projects they dream up and implement, they will:

- * go on a Hay Ride in late September/early October
- * participate in the local Homeless and Hungry awareness and fundraising project
- * take a ski trip
- * go shopping for gifts for the Christmas Giving Tree mission
- * raise money in support of Souper Bowl of Caring to fight hunger
- * conduct the annual Cookie Walk fundraiser
- * celebrate with a Christmas Party

The philosophy with our youth fellowship programming is to foster a climate that encourages students to follow their hearts as they discern how God is leading them. We seek to train "learning leaders," who are gaining a strong foundation in their faith and enable them to know, develop, and implement the gifts they discover they have been given.

The Middle School Youth, grade 6—8, will attend a fall Youth Retreat at Presbyterian Clearwater Forest (PCF) October 14-16.

The Senior High Youth, grade 9—12, will also go to PCF for a Sr High Youth Retreat October 28—30. Not to fear, they will be back for the annual Trunk or Treat Halloween Festival!

EVERYONE



September 18th

After the change of routine over the summer, we are ready to kickoff a new season of fun, ministry, and fabulous programming and ministry. Come September 18th ready to

register for Sunday School, find out about midweek worship/education (StoryLine), our fall Mission BreakOUT.

Come ready to reconnect with all your friends and teammates, make new connections to people you haven't known, and see what amazing things are happening here at First Pres.

Annual Book Fair—October 2nd



Readers of all sizes and shapes are invited to browse the tables in the Gathering Space on October 2nd, between services. If you have books you are done with, donate them to the fair—just drop them off in one of the boxes, either in the office or the library. And come ready to take new (gently used or already broken in!) books home with you!

U R Needed—October 16th

Ch __ ch. What's missing? U R! Check out all the ways you can engage in the mission of First Presbyterian on October 16th. The Jennie Roberts Room and Gathering Space will be filled with tables and booths with information of all kinds on how you can participate in the life of this congregation. Come check it out, find out a thing or two you didn't know, and maybe you'll be the lucky recipient of a prize!

Trunk or Treat—October 30th

Big day for goblins and ghouls and fun costumes! Dress up as your favorite character in history, your favorite cartoon character, or the zaniest super hero you know! Or dream up your own amazing creation, come to the west parking lot, and celebrate Halloween! Dress your trunk up with your own special creation, grab a treat and join us for the fun.



Advent Church Decorating Party—November 20th

After worship on Sunday afternoon, we will decorate the church for the advent season. There are trees to put together and decorate, greenery to hang, and much fun to be had. Come join your First Pres teammates in getting our church home ready for this special season.

Cookie Walk—December 11th

Let the youth take care of your holiday baking! All morning, the Gathering Space will be filled with delectable baked goods, just waiting to fill your box.



Easter Sunday Youth Breakfast—April 8th

The youth will cook up an amazing breakfast, serve it up with style, and we hope you'll be here to celebrate the beginning of Holy Week with us! Invite a friend and eat well!

Dinners for Nine

Feast and Fellowship! You can have both, starting this fall. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know some new people in the congregation, to introduce new people to our congregation, and to become re-acquainted with old friends. When you sign up—you will be assigned to a group of 6-9 people who will gather once each month in October, November, and January. Fellowship groups will not meet in December, and will be shuffled into new groups that will meet together monthly February through April.

Hosts will be selected from among those who sign up. They will determine the specific dinner format (elect to prepare the whole meal or assign dishes around the group). They may also designate how many people, between 6 and 9, who will be part of the fellowship group.

Sign up sheets will be available on the web page and on the Opportunities Board to participate in Dinners for 9. Check it out if you think you might like an opportunity to get to know each other in a more personal setting.

Town Hall Schedule

This lecture series is a ministry of enlightenment, entertainment, and education coordinated by Fargo First Presbyterian Church Women. All programs begin at 10:30 at the Holiday Inn in Fargo. For ticket information, please contact Jan Harrison (jharr25@aol.com, 701.293.6130).

~~~October 4, 2011: Anne Thompson

Thompson is the NBC News' Chief Environmental Affairs correspondent, and her reporting includes Hurricane Katrina, increased cost of health care, alternative fuel vehicles, and the politics of the credit card industry.

~~~November 1, 2011: Randy Cohen

Cohen is a contributor to NPR's All Things Considered and writes the weekly column, "The Ethicist," for the *New York Times* magazine. His most recent publication, *The Good, The Bad and the Difference*, seeks to differentiate between ethical behavior and illegal activity.


~~~April 10, 2012: Lisa Kivirist

Kivirist, a social and business entrepreneur and author, has a compelling story of her family's journey from urban jungle to an organic farm and a bed and breakfast that incorporates renewable energy, green design, land stewardship, and a lifestyle focusing on meaningful "right livelihood," simplicity, and frugality.

~~~May 1, 2012: LaDonna Gatlin

Gatlin, sister to the famous Gatlin Brothers, has a unique ability to make audiences laugh, cry, sing, and think through her common sense wisdom for everyday living.

MEN

This men's group meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:45 am  starting in October. The topic of the Bible study will be *1 Samuel: Fathers, Brothers, Friends, and Others A Study of Male Relationships*. The bible study can be found at: www.pcusa.org/media/uploads/men/pdf/087013.pdf. Alternatively, you can request it by emailing Bud Bowlin at budbowlin@cableone.net.

Men's Bible Study Retreat

All men of the church are invited to a men's bible study retreat scheduled for September 16-17, 2011 at the Country Inn in Detroit Lakes, MN. The retreat begins with dinner on the evening of Friday, September 16, and continues until approximately 3:30 pm on Saturday, September 17. The retreat will be led by Dr. Stephen Reed, Head of the Religion Department at Jamestown College. He will lead a study of Paul's letters to the Corinthians and what the letters mean to Christian men.

A room at the Country Inn is \$85 + tax. Let Bud Bowlin (bud.bowlin@cableone.net or 364.9575) or the church office know of your interest in attending. Attendees at past retreats have thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Join us to get to know your fellow men of the church better and learn more about what God expects of Christian men.

Monday Morning Breakfast Group

This men's group meets every Monday morning at the Fryin' Pan for breakfast, study, and fellowship. All men are welcome to participate, and it is structured so that you can come when you are able. No need to prepare study materials before you arrive, they will be provided for you as needed. For questions, Contact Robert Brummond at 701.235.4607.

WOMEN

Presbyterian Women (PW)



PW offers women in the church meaningful ways to live out their faith in the midst of a caring community of women. For more than 200 years PW groups have strengthened the Presbyterian Church and played a major role in sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and witnessing to the promise of God's kingdom.

PW PURPOSE

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

- to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
- to support the mission of the church worldwide,
- to work for justice and peace,
- and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

PW Circles

The women of the church meet monthly in circles, and for occasional luncheon and the dinner gatherings. Any woman in the church is invited to participate in these events. Circles meet the third Tuesday of each month and there are a variety of meeting times to provide options. Contact: Paula Christensen at 218.233.5350 or paulaandtoby@msn.com

These events include:

September 13, 2011—Salad Supper featuring Gospel Singers, In God We Trust. Dinner at 5:30, with a short program and entertainment to follow.

October 11, 2011—Luncheon at 12:00 at the YWCA Shelter, followed by a program including dedication of the Thank Offering.

December 13, 2011—Christmas Tea featuring the Fargo North Carolers, beginning at 1:00.

April 10th, 2012—Luncheon at 12:00, featuring church member Sharon Secor speaking on the many missions of the church that we support. Musical entertainment will be provided by David Fandrich. We will also dedicate the Least Coin offering.

May 8, 2012—Luncheon at 12:00, featuring Dr. Dawn Duncan portraying Clara Dillon Darrow, a pioneering woman. Entertainment will be provided by Sally Harmon and Krista Johnson. We will also dedicate the Birthday offering and have the installation of officers.

2012 Churchwide Gathering of PW

This event will bring together thousands of women (and a few men) for worship, education, community-building, and much more. This event is scheduled for July 18-22, 2012. For more information on this, check out the link on the church website: www.firstpresfargo.org.

MINISTRY FELLOWSHIP

Green Team

Interested in how our actions impact the environment? Do you like to recycle, reuse, and reduce? Then this is for you! We are forming a team who will explore ways that we, as a congregation, can make a positive impact (and uphold our core value of being good stewards of creation). We will explore a covenantal commitment to being an Earth Care Congregation where we could affirm a pledge to integrate environmental practices and thinking into all facets of congregational life including worship, education, facilities and outreach. And we'll have fun and learn together! If you are interested, call the office (701.293.6311) or email Cheryl (cbiller@firstpresfargo.org).



Mission Sewing

Anyone interested in sewing, quilting, knitting, and other fiber crafts is welcome to join the Mission Sewing group which meets monthly, beginning August 23rd at 9 am in the Social Hall. Generally, there is always someone working on patchwork quilts for the YWCA, Fraser, and Youthworks; simple dresses for girls in Africa; and knitting projects such as baby caps and teddy bears for Teddies for Tragedies. The contact person for this group is Polly Drayton: 701.235.2888.



Mission BreakOUT

There are two BreakOUT Sundays scheduled for this year. The Fall Mission BreakOUT will be September 25th (and the spring 2012 date will be determined when we have a sense of flood issues). We'll meet at church for a brief worship at 10:00 am, then BreakOUT of the church in response to God's great love, to go into our community and serve. Stay tuned to bulletins and the website for all the great projects available that will need nothing more than YOU to be a success!

Collegiate Lunch

Two years ago, First Pres began exploring ways to be in a partnership ministry with our NDSU neighbors, primarily the student population. This led to a partnership with United Campus Ministries (UCM Downtown) and what emerged as a starting point is the SeeYouWednesday Collegiate Lunch.

When first launched, it was hoped that at least a dozen would show up. The first year, the average Wednesday attendance was around 85. This past school year, up to 97 students and faculty/staff attended the lunch every week. At the last lunch of the school year, many students stated, "This is our favorite meal of the week! We never miss a Wednesday!"

Also this past year, a Wednesday Lenten Worship was added during the lunch. It was a quiet and meditative worship opportunity that included projected images, scripture readings and gentle music that cycled continuously. There were 15 students who worshiped during these opportunities. It was a helpful way for them to worship and meditate in the midst of their busy school schedule.

Another outgrowth of this ministry has been some integration of the student lunch crowd into the life of this congregation. Five students who regularly attended SeeYouWednesday volunteered at Churches United for the Homeless on behalf of First Presbyterian one week, stating they wanted to give back and support a church who has supported and welcomed them every week.

If you'd like to be a part of this effort, please contact Collegiate Ministry's staff coordinator Ashley Rosser (Ashley.rosser@gmail.com or 951.640.3866) or Bruce Maylath at ring4linguist@yahoo.com or 701-866-2626. Host training is Wednesday August 24th at 11am, and the first lunch is Wednesday August 31st from 11-1:30!

As the body of Christ, we gather for ... Worship

Worshipping Together on Sundays

Being a part of a family implies spending time with that family. It is in worship that we connect with God and with one another. In other words, worshipping together is a step towards being a closer, welcoming family and developing a thriving community.

Sanctuary Worship at 9:00

Join us for a 45-minute service in the Sanctuary—a traditional worship experience, featuring scripture, preaching and hymns.

Legacy Worship at 11:00

This one hour service is blended traditional, featuring old and new hymns and spiritual songs. This service features our many vocal and instrumental ensembles.

Worshipping Together Midweek

StoryLine: Wednesdays at 6:30

Casual and structured, non age-segregated worship and education, **StoryLine** focuses on the interconnection of the stories of faith and our own personal stories. Led by the StoryLine band, we'll utilize a projected media curriculum from [Faith Inkubators](#) called BibleSong. Further learning happens through activities planned to explore the teaching themes employing art, media, and drama.



www.storylinefirstpres.blogspot.com

In the body of Christ, we worship with Music

There are many opportunities for people of all ages and gifts to share in the musical and worship life of our church.

Wednesdays@ First offers a meal each week to help families be free to be involved at the dinner hour. This is a great way to instill the practice of church participation in our youth, while fostering and celebrating their musical skills.

Vocal Music

Children's and Youth Choirs

Our three children's and youth choirs meet simultaneously from 6:00-6:45 on Wednesday nights.

Kindergarten through Grade 2 Choir
Contact Lanah Olson: lanah.olson@gmail.com

Grades 3 through 6 Choir
Contact Pam Burns: pcapuch@msn.com

Grades 7-12 and transitioning voices
Contact Shelley Zietz: sthoch4@cablone.net

Adult Choir

Weekly choir rehearsal for adults and singing for worship takes place on Sunday morning exclusively. Rehearsal begins at 9:15 on Sundays in the Choir Room, and we sing at 11:00 worship. We hope that moving rehearsals to Sunday, eliminating a midweek commitment, will make this singing opportunity more accessible to more people.

Visit the choir blog for the most current schedule and helpful rehearsal resources at:

www.firstpresfargochoir.blogspot.com



Contact David Fandrich: dfandrich@firstpresfargo.org

Instrumental Music

Children's and Youth Handbell Choirs

Grade 3-6 Bells, Wednesdays at 5:30-6:10.

Contact Tammy Olson: sekala717@aol.com

Genesis Ringers

Grade 6 up to 96 years old on Wednesdays at 5:30-6:10

This is a mixed age handbell group open to anyone who would like to learn handbell ringing. This energetic group is directed by Sally Harmon, and they play regularly in worship throughout the program year.

Contact Sally Harmon: sharmon@firstpresfargo.org

Westminster Ringers Handbell Choir

Adults, Wednesday, 6:45 pm

Handbell choirs are truly founded on teamwork, and this group in particular thrives with players who read music.

Contact Jill Post: jillkath@aol.com

St Andrew's Brass Ensemble

High School and Adults, Wednesdays at 5:30

Contact Jill Post: jillkath@aol.com

All-Church Orchestra

Grade 8 through adult, periodically

This group includes players of a string, brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. They play periodically throughout the year. Whether you are learning to play your instrument or have set it aside for a number of years, you are welcome and wanted.

Contact Sally Harmon: sharmon@firstpresfargo.org

Solos and Small Groups

We form small singing and instrumental ensembles throughout the year. If you have a musical talent and want to share it occasionally, we will provide a time for you to do so. Additionally, we can connect you with others for collaborative musical opportunities.

Contact David Fandrich: dfandrich@firstpresfargo.org

StoryLine Band

Do you have experience playing acoustic or electric guitar, electric bass, drum set, or keyboard? This, coupled with the ability to improvise and to read music chord symbols, would make you ideally suited for the band that plays at StoryLine on Wednesdays at 6:30.

Contact David Fandrich: dfandrich@firstpresfargo.org

In the body of Christ, leadership in worship takes many forms

Worship Assistants

USHERS

Particularly suited to families or groups of friends, anyone with a smiling face can make a fine usher. They are needed for 9:00 and 10:45 worship.

Contact David Fandrich: dfandrich@firstpresfargo.org

SCRIPTURE READERS

A love of words and reading aloud equips anyone to assist in the reading of God's Word. Youth and adults are encouraged to participate.

Contact Jane Roggensack:
jane.roggensack@sanfordhealth.org

Sound Technicians

People with a love of electronics and technology can contribute to worship by operating the sound system at each Sunday service.

Contact Joe Cusher: jcusher@ideaone.net

In the body of Christ, we glorify God in a variety of ways

Concert and Worship Events



November 6 at 9:00 and 11:00 will feature the blessing of the Scottish tartans at a festival worship service. This year our focus will be a Resurrection celebration, included a Service of Remembrance in celebration of All Saints Sunday. Bagpipers, dancers, orchestra, and choirs make this day truly celebratory.

Carols by Candlelight

Join us on Sunday evening, December 18 at 6:30 pm. This distinctive musical event will feature all of our church's and instrumental ensembles, as well as congregational carol-singing in a celebration of word and seasonal music. Our Quest for Kid's Christmas Program is incorporated into this event.

FMSO Chamber Series

First Presbyterian Church is again host to the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra Chamber Series.

Performance dates:

- October 2nd
- December 4th
- March 11th.

Our church provides ushers for these concerts. Please contact director of music David Fandrich in you are able to help in this way.

A limited number of free tickets are available for our church family. There are two ways to get reserve tickets:

1. Call the church office on the week of the event: 293.6311, or
2. Email David Fandrich on the week of the event: dfandrich@firstpresfargo.org

As the body of Christ, we continue to seek new ways to learn about, honor, and praise God

StoryLine

A new hour of worship and education incorporating music and American sign language to teach and experience Bible stories, this non-traditional worship service will begin September 14th at 6:30 pm. StoryLine is a visually rich, engaging learning experience for all ages to explore God's word together—perfect for families who want to spend more time together and who are looking for ways to talk about how to live in and respond to God's love throughout the week.

StoryLine is also a great place to invite your friends who may not have a church home already or who may not appreciate traditional worship. It can be a great option for families engaged in sports and other activities that take them out of town on the weekends. It is for anyone who appreciates active learning, young and old alike, singles and families.

Everyone is welcome to this new worship and education opportunity. Come for dinner between 5-6:30, and join us for the worship and learning of StoryLine.

As the body of Christ, we continue to study and learn about God through...

Education

CHILDREN

Quest for Kids

The Sunday morning education hour for children is **9:50 to 10:50**. We welcome your children, ages 3 to grade 5, to participate in our leveled program where children will have a home room and a team of education leaders that will stay with them throughout the year as we discover Bible stories through various activities and lots of interaction.

Quest for Kids groups—according to current school grade:

- Pre K and Kindergarten: ages 4 & 5 (by Sept. 1)
- Grades 1 and 2
- Grade 3
- Grades 4 and 5

Programs for Younger Children

3-year olds: This group meets downstairs in the nursery suite in their own self-contained space Preschoolers will

hear Bible stories, and participate in music, games and crafts related to the stories. Preschoolers do not participate in the curriculum rotation of Quest, but have their own fun-filled morning with the Bible!

Newborn-3: The nursery is available for children ages infant to three years old while parents attend Worship and/or Adult Education. Our N-3 rooms have age-appropriate books, music and toys. Children get to know themselves and how to treat others. They learn that God loves them, their teachers love them and how to love each other.

You can be part of our growing education program! Contact Penny if you are willing to share your gifts: 293.6311 or pandrist@firstpresfargo.org.

If kids matter to you, we would love to find a place for you to help in one or more of the following ways:

Supervise children in the nursery.

Be on an education team – each home room will have a team of leaders who will divide responsibilities any way you'd like. You decide among your team members who will do what, and when.

Be a substitute teacher – let us know if you could fill in once in awhile.

Help gather supplies and materials.

Help prepare materials and samples.

Help prepare for special events.

Special Programming

Sunday morning **November 27, December 4 and 11**

The education hour for all groups will be held in the Social Hall with intergenerational programming. All are welcome to participate. For this month only, do not drop your children off upstairs – go downstairs and go to Sunday School with them!

The Quest kids will be learning songs and participating in the in Carols and Candlelight Christmas program on Sunday, **December 18** at 7:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday, April 1, is another intergenerational experience, with all groups meeting in the Social Hall together to create something beautiful!

On **Easter Sunday**, April 8, there is no Quest for Kids. Instead, please support our church youth and enjoy the breakfast they make and serve with your family.

Twice a year we support our community with our **Mission BreakOUT** Sundays. This year we will work side by side with our neighbors on September 25th, and again in the spring.

Children's Ministry Coordinator, Penny Andrist, is the contact for all of these opportunities. She can be reached at 701.293.6311 or pandrist@firstpresfargo.org.

StoryLine on Wednesdays

Be sure to check out the information on pages 6 and 8 about an exciting new program for intergenerational learning and worship on Wednesday evenings. Please note – if your children participate in musical groups that rehearse on Wednesdays, you may not be able to participate in StoryLine.

YOUTH

Middle School

Grade 6—8, 9:50 am, Youth rooms downstairs

This age group is using a curriculum called *Habits of the Heart*, uses a learn-by-doing method to lay a foundation for philanthropy and service.

Senior High

Grade 10—12, 9:50 am Youth Room Downstairs

This age group will experience Christian education through project oriented and student led events. They will engage in hands-on, active learning .

Confirmation

Grade 9, Sundays 9:50 am

This class will be using *Choosing Pilgrimage, an Adventure in Spiritual Formation for the Next Generation* as their study guide, and they plan to have a ton of fun!

There is a parent and student meeting on September 11th at 9 am to get this adventure started, and confirmation classes begin September 18th.

Youth Ministries Coordinator Gail Benson, is the contact for all the Youth programming. She can be reached at 293.6311, ext. 17 or gbenson@firstpresfargo.org.

ADULTS

Sunday, starting October 2, 9:55 am

Last spring we began a weekly study on Don McKim's book, *More Presbyterian Questions, More Presbyterian Answers*. We did not finish our study so this fall we will pick up where we left off!

Questions yet to be discussed include:

- Are all sins equal?
- What is atonement?
- What is faith?
- What is the lectionary?
- Why do we need to repent?

Come and join us as we discuss these and other questions. If you need a copy of the book, you may order it online (barnesandnoble.com, Amazon.com).

Sunday, October 30, 9:55 am

Ben Zietz, Financial Associate with Dawson Insurance, will lead the class on an adventure through finances including health care issues. We are blessed to have people with current and relevant expertise who are graciously willing to share that knowledge and experience with us.

Sunday, November 6, 10:00 am

This is Kirkin' Sunday, and during this class time, we will take time to join everyone in celebrating the Scottish heritage of the Presbyterian denomination through the strength, grace, and beauty of Scottish dance. Young women trained in this special dancing will perform for us in the Social Hall.

Sundays in Advent ~ Nov. 27, Dec. 4, 11, 18, 9:55 am

During these four weeks before Christmas we will pause and reflect on the meaning of Advent. It's more than getting ready for Christmas; it's getting ready for Christ's return!

Sundays in Lent ~ Feb. 26, Mar. 4-Apr. 1, 9:55 am Seven Days to Glory

The last week of Jesus' life encompassed some of Christianity's most significant events. Based on the Gospel of Mark, this study looks at each of these days to describe the importance of Jesus' actions at the time, and what they mean for Christian living today.

"Ordinary" Sundays ~ Jan. 8-Feb. 19; Apr. 15-May 20, 9:55 am

We want to hear from you! Be watching for a survey of possible studies we can do this year and tell us which ones you'd like. Among the list: the Three Abrahamic Religions, the New Form of Government, Seeing Jesus in John's Gospel, Worship as Evangelism, How Much is Enough? Living Generously.

Mondays (2nd and 4th beginning Oct. 10) 7:00pm

Cheryl Biller will facilitate a current topics class. We'll listen to podcasts, read segments of news or journal articles, and watch you-tube videos as the foundation for a discussion

of where we see God at work in the world and how we can strengthen our understanding of our own role, and our collective roles in bringing about God's kingdom. There are no pre-requisites or books to buy, materials will be provided.

Pastor Mary Holtey is the contact for Adult Education: mholtey@firstpresfargo.org or 701.293.6311.

As the body of Christ, we respond to God's grace in ... Mission

MISSION TRIPS

There are many ways to carry out mission in the Church, including trips to other places. Mission trips help to building relationships with others throughout the world and among those in the group. They demonstrate our care for others, as well as help to build mission-minded people. And traveling beyond the bounds of our church and community help us to understand and embrace the vastness and the diversity of God's Kingdom!

There are currently three trips being planned. Please note the contact people for each of these trips. If you're interested in presenting ideas for an additional trip, you may contact elders Bruce Maylath or Becky Henderson.

Minot ~ September 10, 2011

We have all seen pictures and heard stories about the devastation caused by the recent flood in Minot and surrounding areas. The Presbyterian Churches in our area are chartering a bus to bring upwards of 50 volunteers for a one day "Blitz Clean-up." The group leaves from Community Presbyterian Church in West Fargo at 4:30 a.m. and returns about midnight. The full itinerary and additional information may be found at the Welcome Center. Contact Pastor Mary Holtey with questions.

San Miguel Allende, Mexico, November, 2011



This is our third year participating in the [Casita Linda Project](#) of building adobe houses for needy families in Mexico. Two groups will be going in November. The first week's group is

full; the second week still has some openings. An informational meeting will be held on Sunday, September 11, after the 10 o'clock worship service. With additional questions contact Jean Hamblet at bjhamblet@gmail.com or 701.235.1816.

Chogoria, Kenya, late summer/early fall 2012

For 16 years our congregation has been in relationship with the people of Kikuyu and Chogoria, Kenya and the Presbyterian Church of East Africa. A trip is being planned to return to Kenya in about a year. The group will attend the dedication of the Dental Clinic in Chogoria and visit other Kenyan sites including Masai Mara game reserve. A second informational meeting will be held on Monday, September 12, 7:00 p.m. Trip leaders are Bill Hunter (whunter42@aol.com) and Sharon Secor (sjssecor1@aol.com).

CARRYING OUT OUR CHRISTIAN MISSION

Wondering how you can carry out Christ's mission in tangible ways? First Presbyterian Church is a leader in putting Christ's mission into action. You can do so locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. To that end, our congregation's Mission Committee is organizing several task forces, any one of which you can join.

The Local Task Forces are devoted to all sorts of mission projects right here in Fargo-Moorhead, such as serving meals at Churches United for the Homeless, collecting pillows for the YWCA shelter, preparing and distributing Thanksgiving dinners, volunteering for the Street Fair clean-up, welcoming and feeding students on Wednesdays through our United Campus Ministry—Downtown program, and many more.

The Regional/National Task Forces reach out across the Dakotas and the country. Examples include our missions to congregations in Dakota Presbytery, such as Bdecan Presbyterian at Spirit Lake and Mayasan Presbyterian at Lake Traverse, and the Blue Bayou Presbyterian Church in Houma, Louisiana.

The International Task Forces work in partnerships with several sites in Kenya, including dental clinics in Chogoria and Kikuyu, plus the Valley Reading Council, which promotes literacy in Kenya. Another ongoing partnership is with the Casita Linda Project in San Miguel, Mexico.

To find out more, including how to join, please contact Mission Committee co-chairs Bruce Maylath at 701.866.2616 or ring4linguist@yahoo.com; or Becky Henderson at 701.212.5000 or hendersonrr@yahoo.com.

LOCAL MISSION PROJECTS

Churches United for the Homeless (CUFH)

Every second Thursday of the month, we are scheduled to provide dinner at an ecumenically supported homeless shelter, CUFH. Various groups and teams in the congregation take turns fulfilling this mission project each month. If this sounds interesting to you, contact Pastor Mary Holtey at 293.6311 or mholtey@firstpresfargo.org.



Thanksgiving Dinner

Once again this year, we will provide over 400 meals for those in our community who might otherwise go without. We prepare these meals here in the church, and then they are delivered to people who have signed up to receive them.

For this meal to be successful we need dozens and dozens of volunteers ~ potato peelers, gravy makers, bread slicers, turkey carvers, potato mashers, salad and dessert preparers, and cleaner-uppers. What a great way to express genuine thanksgiving for all of God's blessings! To sign up to help with this project, there is a special volunteer sign up binder at the Welcome Desk. It will be out and available with all the information and helper slots by the end of October. If you have questions, please contact Becky Henderson at hendersonrr@yahoo.com or 237.30789.

Pillows, Pillow Pillows

For the year 2011, we are the YWCA's "pillow church." This means we supply pillows for every resident who stays at the shelter that they can take with them when they secure more permanent housing. Our goal is 1500 pillows are we are just about half way to that mark. You can drop pillow donations (for both women and children) in the big pillow box in the Foyer.



Holy Buckets

These are the green buckets that collect supplies for various projects in which we engage in partnership with many helping agencies. Through September, we are finishing up contributions of school supplies for McKinley Elementary School. Please bring yellow highlighters, black sharpies, composition (non-spiral) notebooks, and children's sharp scissors. During the coming months, we will be collecting food items, toiletries, paper products, socks, etc. See the website and monthly Messengers for specifics. And thank you for your generosity! With each box of Mac 'n' Cheese, each notebook, each pair of clean and dry socks, God's love spills out into our community in very practical ways.

Festival of Trees

During Advent, the Mission Committee sponsors The Festival of the Trees. Each tree provides you with a way to respond to specific needs. These include The Giving Tree (gifts for needy children in the FM area); The Mitten Tree (gifts of mittens, scarves, hats, etc. for Nokomis Childcare Center); The Toothbrush Tree (gifts in support of our Kenyan ministries); and other needs as they emerge closer to the holiday season.

Adopt-A-School—McKinley

The staff have adopted a local elementary school (McKinley) through a program of the FM Area Foundation. Several of us go up on various days to listen to the children read, and help out in the classroom as teachers have need. This is about an hour a week of our time, but the rewards over the course of a year in the smiles on the faces of the children tell us that the return on our investment is HUGE!

We invite any of you who might want to take an hour of your time each week to participate to contact the office. We'll then find a teacher and a classroom who would love to welcome you back into the life of a grade school. Contact Penny Andrist: pandrist@firstpresfargo.org.

Presbyterian Special Offerings

Four times a year, we ask you to support with your financial resources, special offerings that are used so that the collective gifts of Presbyterians all over the country can make a significant impact in specific programs and ministries of our denomination. These are:

Peacemaking Offering, received on World Communion Sunday—October 2nd. The theme this year is “A Harvest of Justice is Sown in Peace” (James 3:18). The Peacemaking Offering was created to support the efforts of the PC(USA) to live out a deeper commitment to peacemaking as part of our faithfulness to God. Of this offering, 25% stays local for peacemaking endeavors in our own community.

Christmas Joy Offering, received during Advent. This year's theme: “From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much as been entrusted, even more will be demanded.” (Luke 12:48). Gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering will be distributed equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to support student scholarships at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

One Great Hour of Sharing, received Palm Sunday-April 1. Since 1949, Presbyterian have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Hunger Program, and Self Development of People.

Pentecost Offering, received Pentecost Sunday—May 27. This special offering provides a direct way to meet the needs of children at risk, youth, and young adults. We are encouraged to keep 40% of the offering to support ministry with children at risk in our communities.

CARING MINISTRIES

Pastor Mary Holtey is the Associate for Congregational Nurture. Her preferred, after-hours phone number is 701.219.9810. During the day, she can be reached here at church at 701.293.6311.

Prayer Ministries

There are prayer request cards in the pew racks and/or the Friendship Folders at the inside isle of the pews. If you have a prayer request, you are invited to fill out the card, checking all ministries that apply: You may wish for a prayer chain to be contacted; you may wish for your request to be lifted up in prayer during our Tuesday afternoon staff meetings; you may prefer to have just the pastors hold your request in prayer; you may wish to have your request put in the bulletin for the congregation to remember in prayer. If you have any additional prayer requests, please contact Pastor Holtey or Phyllis Sunderland from the Board of Deacons (701.293.5691 or sunderph@yahoo.com).

Transportation and CD Ministries

The Board of Deacons continues to provide van rides for 11:00 worship (10:00 during the summer) on Sunday mornings. If you would like a ride to worship, call the church office during the week or the Deacon on duty on Sunday an hour before the service (701.293.6311). If you would like a ride, but are unable to ride the van, please call Fraser Harrison (701.293.6130) or Pastor Holtey during the week to make those arrangements. If you are unable to attend worship and would like to receive a weekly CD and bulletin of the service, contact the church office. A CD player can be supplied also by the deacons if that is needed.

Hospital Visitation

If you or a family member is in the hospital and would like a personal visit, please call the church office or Pastor Holtey. With continually changing rules in regard to confidentiality, the church doesn't automatically know who is in the hospital. We would like to be a presence in your life during these difficult and transitional times. Hospitals are checked during the week by Pastor Mary and on the weekend by request. Help us to stay in touch with you!

The Board of Deacons' Emergency Relief Fund

The offerings collected on Christmas Eve and Maundy Thursday, (unless otherwise indicated on the check) will be given to the Board of Deacons. During the year these donations are used to help church members and friends who are in emergency situations—job loss, illness, natural disaster, etc. They have helped families and individuals with rent, utilities, food, clothing, prescriptions, etc. In addition to the two collections listed, you may contribute to this fund at any time during the year by contacting Dick Blaine (dickandcarolyn@ymail.com or 701.293.1053).

Lunch and Learn—Stress Management Workshop

October 9th at noon, there will be a 45 minutes workshop on stress management, brought to us by the Health Ministry Cabinet. The event will take place in the Social Hall, and reservations are required (to make sure everyone gets their free lunch!). All are welcome! If you wish to attend, contact Gracia or call the church office by October 5th.

Contact: Gracia Fulwiler on Wednesdays at 701.293.6311, or anytime at graciaclaire@hotmail.com.

HEALTH MINISTRY CABINET



This past year has been a time of reorganization and rededication for the Health Ministry. The important work of the Health Ministry Cabinet was reviewed and the agenda has become more focused. We are ever reminded of the need for healing of body, mind, and spirit

as the Great Healer, Jesus, did; and we hope to continue his work.

We are facing another year that will bring a lot of potential for projects that will be of interest to others. As we enter this year, we need participation and assistance to continue the work Jesus started. If anyone has an idea or desired to help work on some of these projects, please contact Gracia Fulwiler. Remember that "it takes a village" and in this case, a congregation to make these all a reality.

The scrapbooking will continue this year. Anyone who would like to get started or who already is an avid scrap booker is welcome to come. It is a wonderful time to be in community with your fellow church members. The calmness of a few hours of good company, good food and artful saving of memories is priceless. Part of this project time will be spent in preserving some of the many events that have been a part of First Presbyterian's history.

The **Health Fair**, tentatively scheduled for February, is an opportunity to find out about all kinds of health care topics, get reliable, current information, sign up to participate in health related events or to get newsletters, etc. If you have health care questions you'd like answers to, or ideas for relevant topics, please contact Gracia. Anything that makes the connection between mind, body, and spirit is a great possibility!

The **prayer shawl ministry** is still active. This is a crafting ministry that allows the shawl maker to pray over the shawl recipient while the shawl is being created, blessed, and finally given to that person. In the words of prayer shawl ministry co-founder Janet Bristow,

"Shawls...made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles..."

We have diversified this ministry, watch for details on how to be involved on the website.

Health Ministries is beginning to look for ways to be involved in **Eldercare**. This promises to be exciting and enriching, and if you are interested in planning and implementing eldercare ministries, contact Gracia.

If any of these ministry projects interests you—please consider joining the Health Ministry Cabinet. We meet once a month and usually not during the summer. We try to keep meetings to 1 hour (but creativity sometimes takes longer than that!). The completion of a project gives you that warm feeling all over.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

The congregation of First Presbyterian is jointly governed by the ruling elders who gather on the Session to provide leadership and direction and the teaching elders (clergy). The congregation is nurtured and cared for by members of the Board of Deacons. Both the ruling elders and the deacons are ordained, taking the same vows to uphold the church as the teaching elders. Clergy, elders, and deacons promise to:

trust Jesus,
be a friend among colleagues,
love each other, and you,
work for reconciliation,
further the peace, unity and purity of the church, and
serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

Session

Ray Bauske
Abi Christensen (youth)
Candy Cox
Steve Dawson
Becky Henderson
Marty Hoag
Jocie Iszler
Vicki Laraway
Michael Lochow
Bruce Maylath
Roberta Fair Mohagen
Carol Prafcke
Andrea Smith
David Stastny
Sherri Stern
Jane Wolff

Deacons

Marion Anderson
Dick Blaine
Sue Cacioppo
Nan Froelich
Patricia Gilbertson
Fraser Harrison
Barb Kessel
Lydia Kingsley (youth)
Christine Kloubec
Jeff Olson
Georgia Resell
Joyce Roth
Joe Stanley
Phyllis Sunderland
Ebot Tabe
Kevin Thomas
Sue Van Osdel
Ben Zietz

Staff—those people you hire to help you carry out the mission and ministry of this congregation

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Penny Andrist | Children's Ministry Coordinator |
| Suzanne Al-Kayali | Receptionist/Secretary |
| Gail Benson | Youth Ministry Coordinator |
| Cheryl Biller | Communications Specialist |
| Dr. David Fandrich | Director of Music |
| Rick Fiebiger | Facilities Manager |
| Sally Harmon | Organist and Instrumental Music Coordinator |
| Rev. Dr. Sam Hobson | Interim Pastor, head of staff |
| Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey | Associate Pastor for Congregational Nurture, Adult Education, and Mission |
| Michael Kourofsky | Part time custodian |
| Langston Johnson | Part time custodian |
| Lezlie Nichols | Nursery staff |
| Bonnie Stam | Nursery staff |
| Mary Wittenberg | Business manager |
| Gracia Fulwiler | Parish Nurse (volunteer) |
| Rev. Emery Roy | Pastor Emeritus (volunteer) |

About First Pres



The Mission of First Presbyterian is to proclaim the good news of God’s love in Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, education, and service.

The Vision of First Presbyterian is that impacting locally and reaching globally, we will create a vibrant center for people to connect to God and to discover their passion while building family, faith, and community.

At First Presbyterian, we are guided by these **Core Values** as we seek to carry out our mission and live into the vision of who we understand God calling us to be:

We try to be **Welcoming**— creating an inclusive community where all are invited, greeted, feel accepted and appreciated.

We try to **Build Community**—to nurture connections among people.

We find ways to **Live and Grow in Christ**—to cultivate ways for people to connect with God through worship, study, and outreach on their spiritual journey, guided by scripture and the confessions of the faith of the PCUSA.

We keep our **Focus on the Kingdom**—to do all we can do to inspire and reflect God’s love, peace, and justice in our communities; and to be good stewards of creation.

We try to **Serve Compassionately**—to tend to the holistic needs of people within and outside the congregation.

