

## Chip's Chatter



The other day I heard someone make a comment to me that began with: "Life is like....." Being part of the "Forrest Gump" generation, I immediately thought in my head "Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get." But that is not what this person actually said. Instead it was "life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes." I went back to my computer and discovered it was the Late Andy Rooney who made that statement.

Most of us would agree the older we get, the faster time goes by. I fooled around with some basic math and discovered why. It relates to the total number of days we have lived and what just one day means to the total. For example, if you are 70 years old you have lived 25,550 days. If you are 50, total days are 18,250. If you can remember back to when you were 10, you had lived thus far in your life, 3,650 days. When you consider just one day in relation to total days lived you can clearly see each day represents a smaller percentage. Smaller percentages go by faster. At 70 years old, each day represents .00391% of your life. At age ten, it represents .0273% of your life. Maybe I have way too much time on my hands to think about things like this.

But, it is true life speeds up as we get older, just like the example given by Andy Rooney. Of course, the simpler explanation is the decreasing circumference of Rooney's example. The trouble is, when life speeds up, some things get thrown off. We no longer can run up and down

stairs like we used to. We return from errands more tired than years before. As life speeds up, we tend to compensate by slowing down. Some slowing down may be good for us and prolong our healthy years. But, as we also know, inactivity can become a sedentary life-style. No more walking, just stay at home and watch TV. Sedentary life-style can be life threatening if carried out for too long. I see this as an outcome to intentionally staying home for any reason at all.

We have to be careful, as the years go by, that our slowing down does not happen to our church attendance and, of course, our relationship with God. We are blessed with many kind members that can provide assistance in getting to and from church. The amazing thing is life is still a beautiful thing. God's creation still inspires us. Our hearts are still moved with a familiar hymn and the gospel message contained in it. Our church friendships comfort us. Yes, some slowing down is important for spiritual growth and spiritual balance.

There was another movie made several years ago that has become somewhat of a "teenager classic." It is entitled "Ferris Bueller's Day Off." It is the story of 3 teenagers who decide to skip high school for a day. The lead character, Ferris Bueller frequently looks directly into the camera as if to address the audience. Listen to this advice to justify skipping school: "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once

## A peek into your congregation.

in a while, you could miss it.” I wonder if Ferris would follow his own advice when he is 70!

The fact is, however, we should always stop and look around at life; no matter our age. Yes, our activities may change but many new things come and go into our lives that give us joy. Work is replaced by doing volunteer work. Ask anyone who drives for “Meals on Wheels” or works with the community food shelf. Activities such as these give joy to both the giver and the receiver.

As I reflect further on Ferris Bueller’s advice, I can’t help but wonder if this idea came from the bible!! Yes, the Ten Commandments direct us to “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it Holy.” This means no work but rather rest. Time to “look around” and enjoy all that life has to offer. Many of us can remember the “Sunday Closing” laws. Stores were not open, gas stations were closed, grocery stores were closed, lumber yards and hardware stores were closed. I sometimes miss those days. But, you know, it doesn’t take much effort on our part to preserve Sundays as they used to be. We can discipline ourselves to make Sundays a special day with friends and family. All it takes is a little discipline and a little denial. In the end, I believe it is all worthwhile. Try it.

I will close with a modification to Ferris Bueler’s advice: “Life moves pretty fast. If you don’t stop and look around **on Sundays**, you could miss it.” See you in church!

Chip



**The Seekers are BACK. Every Wednesday, at 12:00 noon in the conference room . We will be studying Romans Chapter 8. All are invited to come!**

### **Elizabeth (Betty) Boughton Hanson**

Actually I married my pen pal. An army buddy of my brother, Tom had been sent to England in time to land on Utah Beach on D-Day as a combat photographer. We meet in person during my first exam week at the U of M. He enrolled there that spring. We lived at separate dorms but were engaged until we married at the Presbyterian church in Red Lake Falls. With one quarter remaining we spent the summer bicycling in Europe then graduated together Dec.1950. I received my Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism with minors in art and home ec. After working in journalism research at the U and later as editor of the trucking newspaper for the state industry we quit our jobs to travel for 4 months in Europe. We returned to start our own business moving from Bayport to Bagley to Bemidji as Hansons Lakeside Photography.

Mom met my dad when he studied at the St Paul William Mitchell College of Law. They were married at Central Presbyterian Church where my brother and I were baptized. Over the years I have been an election judge, a crew leader for census, on the board of Bagley school district, Kitchi and Bemidji Public library, Minnesota Professional Photographers Assoc, Adventured in Lifelong Learning. Besides singing in our church and Eastern Star choirs I sang in our two church musicals, 2 community theater musicals (\*besides acting in 6 plays), and played hand bells.

Tom and I had a cub scout den but after his early death in 1981. I had a Brownie group then & was a Girl Scout ass’t leader culminating with our troop going to the Chalet in Switzerland. I skied in various mountains over 45 years. Traveling: I have been to over 45 countries, all 50 states. all the continents except the Antarctic. After marrying Professor of Economics Eldon Lehman we moved to Akita, Japan where he taught at Minnesota State University Akita and I wrote a weekly column for the Bemidji Pioneer publishing them in a book later. I have also published a book for children; Kudos for Kids and a newspaper story of a kidnapping, “Two Rivers”. We also studied 5 weeks at Oxford, England with Eurospring. Eldon died in 2006.

I have served 3 terms as an Elder. I am blessed to have 2 wonderful children and in laws, Tom and Lori; Beth and Josh, 3 grandchildren.

# A peek into your congregation.

## **Bill Beck**

I arrived at the California hospital in Los Angeles in 1928, after all the usual experiences with WW2, rationing, Pearl Harbor.

I graduated in '45. When I was 16 I joined the navy and after boot camp was sent to electronic school. I was now an electronic tech 3rd class and reported to the USS Skaget, a large cargo ship and off to China we sailed. All the radio's, radar, loran, etc. was mine to maintain. Leaving China with war cargo we went to Guam and then back to China and then San Diego where I was discharged.

Next was 2 years of TV service in LA. Got tired of the crowds and smog and drove to Minnesota where I had relatives and found TV service jobs in the cities. Then I met Audrey, a hospital medical tech. On 9/30/1950 we were married in Huron, SD Audrey's home.

Next we went to California slowly as most of the trip was new to us. In 1953 we visited in MN and went north to Bemidji. Neither of us had ever been north of the cities. We knew nothing about resorts or fishing but we purchased a resort on Turtle River Lake. We thought we would make it work, & went back to CA to quit my job at Hughes Aircraft and we became resort owners! Built a new house, modernized the cabins, added new boats etc. Moved to the cities for the winter where I could find electronic jobs.

Along the way we had 3 children and it became clear the resort income was less than what we needed. I then found out I was qualified to teach in a vocational school so I got a job in Austin MN. We thought we could run the resort in the summer and teach the rest of the time, wrong. In 1963 we sold the resort in one day and moved back to Austin. In 1965 Susan became our 2nd girl. Three of the children have graduated from the U of M and I joined them while I was teaching and retired in 1985.

We joined First Presbyterian about 1988. After 65 years together Audrey passed away.

## **Dianne Roholt**

I am a Minnesota native, born in Fosston. My dad was an Air Force Physician and we moved often. I spent my childhood in & around Fosston and/or Rye, New York, where 4 of my siblings were born. My three sisters, two brothers and I loved being near the water; fishing with our parents, camping and participating in water sports such as swimming, boating, skiing, sailing, snorkeling and diving. We always have lived near water; 5 blocks from the ocean in New York, a quick ride to Lengby, Popple or other lakes when in Fosston, nearly out our front door after settling in Bemidji, where I graduated high school with honors, and now 6 blocks from my home in Bemidji. My first summer job was scooping ice cream at Bridgeman's, and enjoying their many flavors. Then I began at BSU, and met my husband, Timothy Paul Sliney (now MacSleyne), a woods product manufacturer. He has been deceased for 15 years. Together we have 1 son, Cory Micah MacSleyne, an entrepreneur who designs camping/leisure gear.

After graduating from U of M in Psychology, I taught in the Bemidji system for 10 yrs largely as a Remedial Reading Instructor. With encouragement, I resumed studies at BSU, earning Magna Cum Laude status, and received a Masters of Science as Guidance Counselor in 1983. I also studied dance, with a concentration in school art education.

Many years were spent traveling across the state of MN with a repertoire of my works of art, to festivals and fairs. Now & then my paintings, drawings and work in other media may be seen in local venues such as The Watermark Art Center, Headwaters School of Music & Arts, and Lois Dale's The Old Schoolhouse, where I taught The History & Techniques of Perspective Drawing.

As a semi-retired self employed artist & health professional in the private sector, I keep fit with yoga, walking, Silver Stretchers & gardening. I love to sing and have done performances & design work at Bemidji Community Theater, which are some of my most cherished and personally rewarding activities.

**FINANCIAL REPORT—Month Ending 7-31-2021**

**Monthly requirement to meet our budget \$10,705.00**

Total Income	\$ 6,558.90
Total Expenses	\$ 8,508.60
Net Income	\$ -1,949.70

**Thank you** for supporting our church

**Sunday Worship Attendance**

August 29	31
September 5	25
September 12	34
September 19	30
September 26	28



- 1 Joyce Ackerman
- 5 Naomi Lowth
- 9 Dona Mae Naylor
- 15 Ken Paulson



**Head Usher Linnea Mostad**

**Liturgist**

**Greeter**

October 3	Dianne Roholt
October 10	Mary Hayes
October 17	Donna Enfield
October 24	Bill Beck
October 31	Libby Underhill

Brenda Strowbridge
Kathy Burger
Barb McGregor
Donna Dickinson
Ken Paulson

Message to the congregation:

I would like to include all members of the congregation in this “**Peek into the congregation**” and I need and would love your co-operation. Those of you that have computers and email, if you would please write a short version of the history of yourselves and then email to me here in the office at [presbji@paulbunyan.net](mailto:presbji@paulbunyan.net), or call me at 218-444-5016, and we can do this over the phone, or better yet, stop into the office. If you do not wish to be included in this project, please let me know. Thanks to all who have participated so far.

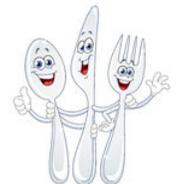
I have heard how much this is being enjoyed so I am hoping for full participation.

Thank you in advance, Shirlee Harold, church office

# Supper Club

**209 Bar**  
**207 Minnesota Ave**

*Supper Club will be meeting on Thursday, October 21 at 6:00pm*



Please call Dianne Roholt directly at 444-2859 for your reservations!

This is an evening full of joy, laughter and good food.

**All are welcome!**



## For October

### Bemidji Wolfe Center

A nighttime shelter for chronic homeless people struggling with chemical dependency. Able to house 16 people during the winter months. Serving single adults 18+ years old, male or female. Showers and laundry facilities are available on site. Clients CAN be intoxicated upon arrival. Hours of access: 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. 7 days a week.

The Wolfe has consistently offered shelter for more than 400 guests in the winter months.

The Wolfe is open in September through May.

"We were saying when we had enough money, we would stay open longer," Olson said. "Some months, can be cold and rainy. People can still succumb to hypothermia when it's above freezing. Our guests may already have compromised immune systems. So we've always wanted to stay open longer. Remember these are people who have fallen on hard times. They are our neighbors with stories, gifts and problems. Financial donations are also welcome. Checks can be made to Nameless Coalition for the Home-less, PO Box 353, Bemidji, MN 56619

### **Just in Case You May Not Have Known!**

At the TOP of THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT, ARE DISPLAYED TWO WORDS...

One detail that is seldom mentioned is that in Washington, D.C. there can never be a building of greater height than the Washington Monument. With all the uproar about removing the Ten Commandments, etc., this is worth a moment or two of our time.

On the aluminum cap, atop the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C., are displayed two words: Laus Deo.

No one can see these words. In fact, most visitors to the monument are totally unaware they are even there and for that matter, probably couldn't care less. Once you know Laus Deo's history, you will want to share this with everyone you know.

These words have been there for many years; they are 555 feet, 5.125 inches high, perched atop the monument, facing skyward to the Father of our nation, overlooking the 69 square miles which comprise the District of Columbia, capital of the United States of America.

Laus Deo! Two seemingly insignificant, unnoticed words. Out of sight and, one might think, out of mind, but very meaningfully placed at the highest point over what is the most powerful city in the most successful nation in the world.

So, what do those two words, in Latin, composed of just four syllables and only seven letters, possibly mean? Very simply, they say Praise be to God!

From atop this magnificent granite and marble structure, visitors may take in the beautiful panoramic view of the city with its division into four major segments. From that vantage point, one can also

easily see the original plan of the designer, Pierre Charles L'Enfant...a perfect cross imposed upon the landscape, with the White House to the north, The Jefferson Memorial is to the south, the Capitol to the east and the Lincoln Memorial to the west.

A cross you ask? Why a cross? What about separation of church and state? Yes, a cross; separation of church and state was NOT, is NOT, in the Constitution.

So read on.

How interesting and, no doubt, intended to carry a profound meaning for those who bother to notice. When the cornerstone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1848 deposited within it were many items including the Holy Bible presented by the Bible Society. Praise be to God! Such was the discipline, the moral direction, and the spiritual mood given by the founder and first President of our unique democracy "One Nation, Under God."

I am awed by George Washington's prayer for America...Have you ever read it? Well, now is your unique opportunity, so read on...

"Almighty God; We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large.

**What would you like to see in your newsletter?**



# Your session at work

## First Presbyterian Church

**Bemidji, MN**

**September 28, 2021**

The monthly stated meeting of the session of First Presbyterian Church was held in the conference room on September 28 at 1:00 pm. The meeting was opened with the reading of a Psalm by Moderator Pastor Chip Holt.

### **ELDERS PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM:**

Cheryl Hiltz, Gloria Phelps, Linnea Mostad, Donna Dickinson

**ELDERS ABSENT:** Libby Underhill, Palmer Berg

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Clerk of Session Mary Hayes

### **QUORUM DECLARED**

**ADOPTION OF AGENDAMSP approved to adopt the agenda.**

**MEETING MINUTESMSP to approve the minutes from the August session meeting.**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

**CLERK'S REPORT was reviewed.**

**First Presbyterian Church, Bemidji, MN,  
Clerk's Report September 28, 2021**

**Weddings:** none

**Baptisms:** none

**Deaths:** none.

**New Members:** none

**Return to Active Membership:** none

**Request Transfer of Membership:**

none

**Removed from Membership Roll:** none

**Communion: Sept. 5: 26 served**

**Membership as of Sept. 28, 2021:72**

**Sunday Worship Attendance August23-30; Au-**

**gust 29-31; Sept. 5- 25; Sept. 12-34;**

**Sept. 19-30;Sept. 26-30**

**FINANCIAL REPORT** Finances from August were reviewed.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Administration/Personnel** Chairperson: Donna

Dickinson No report

**Buildings & Grounds** Chairperson: Palmer Berg

Reported by Chip: A new motion detector for the back door has been installed. A security company did a walk through and will make a proposal. The boiler has been flushed.

**Finance & Stewardship** Chairperson: Cheryl Hiltz

No report

**Adult & Christian Education** Chairperson: Linnea

Mostad Seekers begins on September 29.

**Outreach** Chairperson: Libby Underhill No report

**Worship & Music** Chairperson: Gloria Phelps **Rec-**

**ommendation:** Purchase a new Advent Candelabrum with five oil candles at a cost of about \$682. **Approved** with the funds to come from the Memorial Fund. The church credit card will be used.

**Computer** Chairperson: Cheryl Hiltz No report

**Kitchen** Session Contact Person: Cheryl Hiltz No report

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

**MSP** to approve use of the church for the December 12 Bemidji Choral Christmas Concert at 3:00 pm.

**MSP** for Chip to purchase a replacement office chair for his office using the church credit card.

**Next Meeting:** October 19, 2021 at 1:00 pm. in the conference room. Chip will moderate.

**MSP** and **approved** to adjourn with the Lord's Prayer at 2:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Hayes, Clerk of Session

We are putting out a call to your churches for personal care items? We are in dire need of things like toilet paper, toothpaste and toothbrushes, shampoo, bar soap, laundry detergent and feminine hygiene products.

Whenever I send out emails like this, I feel like a general marshaling the troops- and I just know the wonderful people in your churches will faithfully answer that call.

What an amazing bunch you all are!

Thank you all so much!

Debbie Johnson

Volunteer Coordinator

**Bemidji Community Food Shelf**

For those of you that are thinking about bringing flowers for our church service, please contact Gloria at 308-1113. We truly appreciate you.

Many thanks, Gloria

**Sundays**  
**10:00 am**  
**Worship**  
**11:00am**  
**Fellowship**

# October



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Judy Rossi Memorial Service 2pm 1:00pm visi- tation
3 Pastor Chip Communion- Fellowship	4 Boy Scouts 7pm	5	6 12pm Seek- ers 7pm Calvary Chapel	7	8 5-6pm Rehearsal for wedding	9 3pm Jared & Kate Syrstad Wedding- Vow re- newal
10 Pastor Chip	11 Boy Scouts	12	13 12pm Seek- ers 7pm Calvary Chapel	14	15	16
17 Pastor Chip Fellowship	18 Boy Scouts 7pm	19 1:00pm Session Mtg	20 12pm Seek- ers 7pm Calvary Chapel	21 6:00pm-Supper Club @ the 209 Bar	22 FPC @ the Food Shelf	23
24 Pastor Chip	25 Boy Scouts 7pm	26	27 12pm Seek- ers 7pm Calvary Chapel	28	29	30
31 Pastor Rick Weinert						



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