

First Church News

Volume 1 issue 6

June, 2024

Chip's Chatter



THANK YOU

June 3, 2024 marks the sixth anniversary of my joining First Presbyterian Church as your CRE Lay Pastor. The time has just flown by!!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of you for making the last 6 years so special. They have been some of the best years of my life. I have greatly appreciated the care and support you have given me as we navigated some "interesting" times during those years. We have enjoyed many "highlights" and only a couple of "other-lights."

By far and away, our biggest hurdle came as a result of the COVID pandemic. We pulled together and found ways, within the government guidelines to re-open as fast as possible. We were one of the first local churches to return to in-person worship. We were smart and practical in how we approached our return. Do you realize we lost no one to the pandemic. Yes, a few of us came down with COVID, but we handled it with reasonable precautions.

I can emphatically state COVID is OVER. The pandemic has disappeared, like the setting of the sun, and has no real impact left. As a result, the Session is establishing some new ideas for Outreach into our community

and some of the ministries we support. We are currently working with "Meals-on-Wheels" and "The Bemidji Food Shelf" as well as financially supporting several ministries.

Many things have returned to "normal" including weekly Coffee Fellowship and quarterly "Table Fellowship" meaning a quarterly pot luck meal following services. In addition, the Hand Bell Choir has returned under the leadership of Darlinda Coe.

If you have been absent for some time, there are plenty of opportunities to plug back into the life of the church. If you feel so inclined, please contact me directly and together we can find what your interests are and where you might be interested in "plugin in." Please feel free to call me directly at the church or on my cell phone at 651-353-0029.

One of the first tasks in Outreach was to let the public know we are still active. Our new marquee has added much to the process of informing the public. We had some growing pains with the new system and we are nearly complete with this tremendous endeavor. It really looks terrific and provides us a quick means to advertise upcoming events.

On the immediate horizon are three projects: First, we will be having an open house that coincides with the Bemidji Dragon Boat races.

Saturday is the big race day and people park and walk past our church. We will offer free cold water, possibly fruit or some other food from about 10:30 until 2:30. We will invite people to come inside and see what the first church in Bemidji looks like. Darlinda will play the organ if so requested. We will also hand out a brochure telling the story of our church.

Next, for the first time in a very long time, we will be an active participant in the Bemidji Area Church Musicians Summer Concerts. In the past we have offered our church as a venue. This time our own organist, Darlinda Coe, will be performing for the concert followed by a meal in the Fellowship Hall. We anticipate 80 people staying for lunch.

Again, during Advent, we will host the community wide Christmas Carol Sing-a-long. Once we are anticipating Darlinda and Wayne Hoff playing duets on the piano and organ. We had a tremendous turnout for this "First Annual Christmas Carol Sing-a-long." We received positive feedback for many weeks following the event. Based on the excitement from last year's event, we anticipate well over 100 folks to attend.

None of this would be possible if without your tremendous support and enthusiasm. Your enthusiasm is what keeps me going and it is this enthusiasm that makes me appreciate all of you even more. If you have been gone for some time, please consider returning and becoming part of this enthusiastic group.

Thanks again for six of the most incredible years of my life.

Chip

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Kitchen Fellowship: Libby reported that the next Table Fellowship will be July 7th. The church will provide a main entrée such as sloppy joes.

Please bring an a dish to accompany the sloppy joes.



There is a lot of information you may not know about your pastor!

An article was written about him in the Grand Forks Herald.

You can read the article that is posted downstairs on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

Benevolence for June, BS Troop 25

Mission



The Mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law. To support Boy Scouts of America, visit www.give2bsa.org.

Ever wondered what it takes to become an Eagle Scout?

We've all had to start somewhere!

Join our Scout troop! We're located in a rural area of Northern Minnesota. Blessed with great access to many wonderful outdoor opportunities, we camp outdoors most months of the year - even in the heart of winter!!

Don't think you can hack it? Not to worry! We help each other learn important outdoor skills while working on our own leadership and mentoring abilities. We believe in putting the "outing" in "Scouting" and practice "Leave No Trace" methods in all of our activities.

Sound fun? Drop by on a Monday night to see how Scouting works and meet our troop!

It's back!

After a 3-year hiatus, Scout Troop 25 hosted its Annual Community Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 2nd at First Presbyterian Church. Breakfast .Funds raised through this event will go towards summer camp – a Scout's favorite activity of the year!

Currently for **Fall/Winter 2021** we are working on Law Merit Badge - and gearing up for some awesome cold-weather camping expeditions!

Our troop is part of Voyageurs Area Council, which is headquartered in Duluth, MN.

For more information about Troop 4025, please contact the Scoutmaster:

Greg Roberts - groberts2@hotmail.com

FINANCIAL REPORT—Month Ending 4/30/2024

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

Total Income	10,452.70
Total Expenses	16,262.59
Net Income	-5809.89

Thank you for supporting our church

Sunday Worship Attendance

April 28	20
May 5	27
May 12	23
May 19	
May 26	



June Birthdays

10	Barb McGregor
17	Mary Lou Miller

Head Usher: Cheryl Hiltz

	Liturgist	Greeter
June 2	Mary Hayes	Gini Sande
June 9	Linda Wagner	Linnea Mostad
June 16	Dianne Roholt	Carol Waughtal
June 23	Betty Hanson-Lehman	Barbara McGregor
June 30	Libby Underhill	Beverly Novak

Communion: Nancy Weber—Set up Serve Palmer Berg and Ken Paulson
 Kitchen: Brenda Miller with Helpers: Morris Damp, Judy Damp and Ken Paulson

Supper Club 5:30

Jakes Pizza

12486 71 Connection

Bemidji, MN 56601



Please call Dianne Roholt directly at 218-444-2859 for your reservations!

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

All are welcome!

Around our Community



We are trying to upgrade our Shepherding List.

When someone from our congregation is hospitalized, the hospital does not let us know, so it is up to you to let the office know for visitations.

Also, when you move, we need the new address for you as we keep cards for all our members..

The same goes for new phone numbers.



The Bemidji Area Church Musicians

THE 2024 SUMMER RECITAL SERIES

OUR 37TH SEASON

LUNCHEON SERVED FOLLOWING EACH RECITAL

Aug 21: Darlinda Coe, organ, Aaron Coe, viola, Lee Coe, rattlebones, Linda Wagner, soprano



Saturday, August 3

Open House

10:30 to 2:30

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

Your session at work

First Presbyterian Church

APPROVED AS CORRECTED: 5-14-24

Bemidji, MN

April 16, 2024

The monthly stated meeting of the session of First Presbyterian Church was held in the Conference Room on April 16, 2024, at 1:00 pm. The meeting was opened with prayer by Moderator, Pastor Chip Holt.

ELDERS PRESENT CONSTITUTING A

QUORUM: Cheryl Hiltz, Terri Murray, Bev Novak, Gloria Phelps, and Libby Underhill.

QUORUM DECLARED

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - MSP to approve

MEETING MINUTES - MSP to approve the minutes from the March Session meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

CLERK'S REPORT

First Presbyterian Church, Bemidji, MN,
Clerk's Report - April 16, 2024

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: April 7, 2024: 20 served

Membership as of April 16, 2024: 64

March 24th: **31** March 31st: **28**

April 7th: **20** April 14th: **23**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration/Personnel: Chairperson: Bev Novak; no report.

Buildings & Grounds: Chairperson: Terri Murray; **MSP** to approve Guardian Pest Solutions to spray for insects and

monitor rodent control. The Memorial Fund was used to upgrade the outdoor marquee for sunlight and temperature control. Terri will continue investigating obtaining an AED for the church and the best location for it. She will also obtain estimates for cleaning the sanctuary carpet.

Finance Report & Stewardship: Chairperson: Cheryl Hiltz; Financial reports for February and March were reviewed. The following resolutions were presented:

to remove the following people from access to the church's Raymond James Investment accounts – Bill Beck and Donna Dickinson

to grant the following people access to the church's Raymond James Investment accounts – Duane Hayes, Cheryl Hiltz, Bev Novak

MSP to approve these resolutions.

Adult & Christian Education: Chairperson: Linnea Mostad; Chip reported that the last Seekers for this session was April 4th. **May 15th**

Outreach: Chairperson: Linnea Mostad; First Presbyterians will serve at the Bemidji Food Shelf on April 26th. Meals on Wheels were served the week of

April 8th. Discussion continued regarding possible Outreach ideas for the upcoming summer.

Kitchen Fellowship: Libby reported that the next Table Fellowship will be July 7th. The church will provide a main entrée such as sloppy joes.

Worship & Music: Chairperson: Gloria

Phelps; Nancy Weber is to be commended for the great job she did in Gloria's absence. Darlinda has requested training on the organ to better learn the recording mechanics. An arrangement will be made with Muff to provide this training.

OTHER BUSINESS

Libby provided an update on the church's new website.

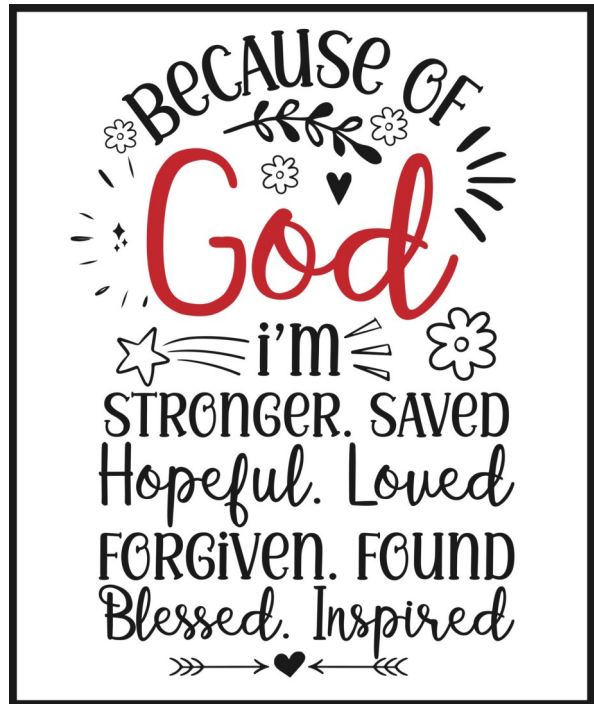
NEW BUSINESS

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 1:00 pm. in the conference room. Chip will moderate.

MSP to adjourn with prayer at 2:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Libby Underhill
Clerk of Session



Sundays
10:00 am
Worship
11:00am
Fellowship



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Pastor Chip Communion Fellowship	3 Scouts 7	4	5	6	7	8
9 Pastor Chip Fellowship	10 Scouts 7	<u>11</u>		13	14	15
16 Fathers Day Pastor Chip Fellowship	17 Scouts 7	18 Session 1pm	5	20 5:30 Supper Club Jakes Pizza	21	22
23 Pastor Chip Fellowship	24 Scouts 7	25	5	27	28	29
30 Pulpit Supply Randy McGuire						



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