



First Presbyterian Church, Fargo, ND

The Messenger

JANUARY 2024

Message from Pastor Sarah

The Magi traveled a great distance for the honor of bringing precious gifts to the newborn King. As we begin a new year, we are reminded of how great it is to give to the world what God has given to us, gifts of mercy, love, and compassion. Let's recommit to facing uncertainty by trusting in God's providence and seeking God's guidance in all we do.

I pray that this year will be a time of spiritual growth and renewal for each and every one of you. May the light of Christ shine brightly in your hearts and illuminate your path throughout the coming year. Wishing you a blessed and joy-filled New Year, filled with the peace and grace that only our Lord can provide.

Yours In Christ,

Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood

CHILI COOK OFF

January 21 after worship



Sign up on the Volunteer Opportunities Board or by scanning the QR code!

Perfect your chili today!



Sign-Up Here

The 2024 Chili Cook off is January 21st following worship! If you would like to participate, sign up on the Volunteer Opportunities board or online. Don't wait—perfect your chili today!

Serving at Micah's Mission

The sign-up sheets for January through April are posted on the Volunteer Opportunities Board. Micah's Mission is the shelter in the Churches United organization. We provide four volunteers to prepare the meal from 3-5pm and four volunteers to serve the meal from 5-7pm every second Thursday of the month. For January and February we need a few more preparers, and March and April need both preparers and servers. Come and be a part of this longstanding mission! If you wish to participate, but are unable to prepare or serve, consider making a donation to cover the cost of lasagna. One lasagna is about \$25; an entire meal is between \$200-\$250, depending on how many guests we expect to serve. Thank you for your generosity of time and resources!

wonder with us

second SUNDAY

Don't forget! Jan. 14
Breakfast starts at
8:45 in the Social Hall

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

preach, teach, heal, & serve

Pillows for the YWCA

Our thanks to Presbyterian Women (PW) and all those in the congregation who donated pillows for the women and children at the YWCA this past year. With your help we donated 463 pillows! Residents take their pillows with them when they leave the shelter. You may participate by purchasing new pillows and putting them in the west foyer coat room, or make a financial contribution, clearly marked on a check, or through the giving portal on the church website. Wishing “sweet dreams” to all who receive these pillows.

Health Fair, February 4th!

The Health Fair is back! It will take place in the Social Hall on Sunday, February 4 after our worship service. This event will include blood pressure screenings, private mental health counseling, vaccines, and information on strokes, heart attacks, and diabetes. Learn about sustainable eating! We will have toothbrushes and proper brushing education, health information for veterans, games with prizes for the kids, hobbies such as fishing, woodworking, knitting, hiking and beekeeping, lots of door prizes... AND CORGIS! We are hoping you'll attend and have some fun improving your health IQ.

Men's Bible Study

The men's Bible study meets again on Tuesday, January 9th at 6:45 a.m. in the Jennie Roberts Room. Egg bake, pastries, and coffee will be served again this winter. Intended to help men understand what the Bible says in relation to what is expected of a Christian man, the study this year examines the Book of Genesis. A copy of the study guide can be obtained from Bruce Maylath. No advance preparation is required for each month's study.

Presbyterian Women News

Board Meeting: On January 9th a board meeting will be held in the Jennie Roberts Room at 10:00am.

Bible Study Leaders: On Jan. 10 Pastor Mary Holtey will present the Bible Study on Lesson 5: *A Person with Leprosy Encounters Jesus* in the office conference room at 10:00am.

Circles: Circles will meet Jan. 16 in the Jennie Roberts Room; Naomi/Ruth Circles will meet at 9:30am and the Rachel Circle will meet at 1:00pm. The Leah Circle will meet at 10:00am on Jan. 20th via Zoom. All women of the church are invited to attend. If you are interested or have any questions, please call Paula Christensen at 701-219-5795.

FPC Financial Summary November 2023 — General Fund Only

	YTD <u>Actual</u>	YTD <u>Budget</u>	Increase/ <u>Decrease</u>	Annual <u>Budget</u>
Income	\$784,247	\$650,318	\$133,929	\$774,800
Expense	884,569	883,541	\$1,027	974,153
Net/ Shortfall	-\$100,322	-\$233,223	\$152,901	-\$199,353

Join Us!



POVERTY SIMULATION

Hosted by First Presbyterian Church

650 2nd Ave N, Fargo

Wednesday, March 20 | 1-3:15 p.m.

This event is free to attend.



Scan to Register

Join us for a unique opportunity to experience and understand what it might be like to live in a typical low-income family, working hard to survive month to month and succeed.

Gain a new perspective on the realities faced by low-income households and learn more about what United Way of Cass-Clay is doing to support those in need, as well as ways you can help.

unitedwaycassclay.org

Milestones

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

Weddings: Matthew Connelly & Joycelin Steidl,
October 7

Deaths: Doug Harnisch, November 27, service on January 20th @ 11am in the Sanctuary
Ed Anderson, December 6
Char Sailors, December 22, service on January 6th @ 1pm in the Sanctuary

January Music Notes from Pam

Thank you to our many church musicians that shared extra time and talent with us throughout Advent! You are appreciated very much!

Wednesday Rehearsal Schedule

Wednesday rehearsals resume for the church's music ensembles on Wednesday, January 10. All singing groups are open to additional members at any time. Please contact the directors of each group for further information, noting that our own, Tammy Olson, will be directing Genesis Ringers while Sally is away. For general questions regarding the music ministry, please contact coordinator, Pam Burns. Below is the regular Wednesday rehearsal schedule:

Meeting Time	Group	Location	Contact Info.
5:30 – 6:10 pm	Genesis Ringers	Sanctuary	tamjean@gmail.com
5:30 – 6:30 pm	St. Andrew's Brass	Jennie Roberts Room	jillkath@aol.com
6:15 – 7:00 pm	K-2 Choir	Classroom 5	emtorpey@gmail.com
6:15 – 7:00 pm	3-6 Choir	Classroom 4	pburns@firstpresfargo.org
6:15 – 7:00 pm	7-12 Choir	Choir Room	sneisen@firstpresfargo.org
6:30 – 7:30 pm	Westminster Ringers	Sanctuary	jillkath@aol.com
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir	Choir Room	sneisen@firstpresfargo.org

Remember Your Nametag!

*** Please contact Casey in the office if you would like to order a nametag.**

*** If you ordered a nametag, please pick it up in the office.**

*** If you need to replace your nametag, it is \$10.**

Guest Organists

Sally Harmon will be on vacation in January, February, and March. In her absence, please welcome Russell Romine and Terri Diers to the organ bench.



Russell comes from Butte Montana, where he has served in church music ministries as a flutist, cantor, pianist, and organist for the last several years. He is currently a sophomore at Concordia College, pursuing a degree in Piano Performance.

Terri serves as a piano accompanist and a substitute organist in the FM community. She has been an active supporter of youth arts for the past 12 years. Prior to that, she was an organist and music coordinator in Michigan, where she had an active piano studio for students of all ages. Terri studied music at Bowling Green State University in her home state of Ohio. Now with an empty nest, she is looking forward to returning to a more active role in church music and the FM music community.



Sunday 1/7	Sanctuary Choir (9:30 Call Time); Kathleen Thomas, Violinist; Russell Romine, Organ
Sunday 1/14	Shawn Neisen & the Second Sunday Band; Saint Andrew's Brass Ensemble
Sunday 1/21	Sanctuary Choir; Andy Froelich, Pianist; Russell Romine, Organ
Sunday 1/28	Sanctuary Choir; Westminster Bells; Terri Diers, Organ
Sunday 2/4	Sanctuary Choir; Genesis Bells; Russell Romine, Organ



First Presbyterian Church, Fargo

650 2nd Ave N

Fargo, ND 58102

Phone: (701) 293-6311

www.firstpresfargo.org

Dates to Remember

Jan. 7 — Communion

Jan. 10 — Music Ensemble Rehearsals Resume

Jan. 11 — Serving at Micah's Mission

Jan. 14 — Second Sunday & Baptism

Jan. 21 — Chili Cook-Off

Date	Elder on Duty	Deacon on Duty	Usher Team	Reader
Jan. 7	Tetteh Dottey	Candy Shultz		
Jan. 14	Jody Hudson	Karen Rivers		
Jan. 21	Bruce Maylath	Toby Christensen		
Jan. 28	Abi Carlson	Beatrice Janaka		

January 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Activity Key: (L) - Livestreamed (H) - Hybrid (Z) - Zoom Only	1 Office Closed	2 5:00pm - Personnel Task Force Meeting 5:30pm - Mission Committee Meeting 5:30pm - Worship Committee Meeting (H) 5:30pm - Building & Grounds Meeting 6:30pm - Personnel Committee Meeting	3 * No Rehearsals *	4	5	6 1:00pm - Charlotte Sailors Memorial Service
7 10:30am - Worship Service & Communion (L) 11:30am - Fellowship	8 5:30pm - EduCon Committee Meeting	9 6:45am - Men's Bible Study 10:00am - PW Board Meeting 5:00pm - Sacred Places Grant Meeting 5:30pm - Board of Deacons Meeting	10 10:00am - PW Bible Study Leaders 12:00pm - M&F Committee Meeting (Z) 5:00pm - Wednesday Activities Dinner * Wednesday Evening Activities 6:00pm - Health Fair Committee Meeting	11 3:00pm - Preparing at Micah's Mission 5:00pm - Serving at Micah's Mission	12 6:00pm - Barta / Lee Wedding Rehearsal	13 1:30pm - Barta / Lee Wedding
14 8:45am - Second Sunday Activities 10:30am - Worship Service (L) 11:30am - Fellowship 11:45am - Congregational Informational Meeting	15 6:30pm - Session Meeting	16 9:30am - PW Circles 1:00pm - PW Circle	17 5:00pm - Wednesday Activities Dinner * Wednesday Evening Activities	18	19	20 10:00am - PW Leah Circle (H) 11:00am - Douglas Harnisch Memorial Service
21 10:30am - Worship Service (L) 11:30am - Fellowship & Chili Cook-Off!	22 5:00pm - Stewardship Committee Meeting	23 12:00pm - Messenger Article Deadline	24 5:00pm - Wednesday Activities Dinner * Wednesday Evening Activities	25	26	27
28 10:30am - Worship Service (L) 11:30am - Fellowship	29	30	31 5:00pm - Wednesday Activities Dinner * Wednesday Evening Activities	<u>* Wednesday Evening Activities:</u> 5:30pm - St. Andrew's Brass 5:30pm - Genesis Ringers 6:15pm - Children / Youth Choirs 6:30pm - Westminster Ringers 7:00pm - Youth Group 7:30pm - Sanctuary Choir		