



First Presbyterian Church of Bismarck, North Dakota

Here and NOW!

March 2009 Volume 56 Number 3

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www.fpcbismarck.com

The Ultimate Choice

Jacob L. Kincaid, Minister

We make many choices in the courses of our lives: what to wear, where to eat, whom to marry, what job to take. The significance of these choices, of course, varies. Some are of little consequence; some are life-changing.

But the most important choice each of us makes is how to live this life. Ironically, it often receives less consideration than any of the other choices we make. What is the good life and what are the qualities of those who lead it? Aristotle argued is the most essential of all human questions. What we stand up for and are willingly to sacrifice to achieve are at stake.

Here is the ultimate choice. The choice really worth thought. If character is destiny, then the fates of our lives depend upon our answers.

First Presbyterian Fine Arts Festival

Celebrating Creation on the Prairie

We need your help! Your Fine Arts Festival committee is hard at work planning the affair slated for September 10-13. Our plans include some of the former familiar Religious Arts Festival events as well as some exciting new additions. And all of this takes man and woman power as well as some serious financial

support to make this the biggest, best arts event in the area. We know our church and its membership are capable of great things and the First Presbyterian Fine Arts Festival—*Celebrating Creation on the Prairie* will be the perfect catalyst to broadcast our talents as well as those of artists from the surrounding area.

We are currently planning a mailing to potential participants, finding committee chairs, and planning special events. This is where you come in. Please come forward with your elbow grease and financial contributions. There are several categories if you wish your contribution so designated but any amount will be greatly appreciated. Possible dollar designations are Cash Awards selected by the judges, Purchase Awards given and selected by the donors who agree to purchase a work of art and cash gifts to be used where needed to support the festival.

In the days and weeks ahead we will be calling on many of you to chair and man committees but please don't hesitate to volunteer without our call. You may also volunteer on the festival sign-up sheets on the narthex bulletin board or contact any committee member.



Per Capita Information

One of the most confusing aspects of how the Presbyterian Church functions is the “per capita assessment. Each governing body above our local congregation has staff members and expenses that support the work of our church. These are the people who prepare the curriculum that is used in our church school, coordinate mission projects in our country and throughout the world, provide resources for worship, and support the church’s activities for all ages. Unlike the local church, the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly have no local congregations to

support their ministry. Every Presbyterian Church in the country is required to pay a certain amount for each active

member on its roll. The per capita assessment for 2009 is \$41.95 for each confirmed member. Of that amount, \$6.15 goes to the General Assembly, \$4.80 to the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, and the rest to the Presbytery of the Northern Plains.

The per capita assessment for 2009 is \$41.95 for each confirmed member on the church roll.

Please strongly consider making a contribution toward the Per Capita fund on behalf of your household so First Presbyterian Church can carry out its mission to the larger church without affecting our own operating budget. Please indicate “Per Capita Fund” on the memo line of your check for proper accounting.

Thank you for your consideration.
First Presbyterian Stewardship Committee

Celebrate Gifts of Women

Sunday March 8th is designated as Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday— Celebrating Women during this year of Calvin's Jubilee (500th Birthday.) This day honors the women who contribute their talents to the church. The date was selected to embrace the worldwide celebration of International Women's Day, March 8, which this year falls exactly on that second Sunday.

Presbyterian Women in the Congregation (PWC) will lead the worship service that morning. Pastor Vicki Rucker is assisting Lynne Bigwood, PWC Moderator, with planning the service. Mary Magnusson has recruited women from our congregation to usher, serve coffee and punch, read and sing. Joyful Voices will be singing. Lynne will preach. Three Honorary Life Memberships will be presented that morning. All of the women in our congregation who have received Honorary Life Memberships, please wear your HLM pins. Everyone, wear bright colored clothes for this celebration!

All the members of our congregation: Please consider this a special invitation to bring your family and friends and celebrate with us.

Hospitality Notes

A warm welcome is an important part of the pre-evangelism work necessary in a church's mission to help people find faith in Christ.
(Evangelism Coach International)

Jamestown College Concert Choir



The Jamestown College Concert Choir, under the direction of Aaron McDermid, will be performing and sharing worship with us on March 1, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. A special offering will be received to help defray tour costs. Please make plans to attend, invite a friend to share in their gift of song and fellowship.

Apply Now for a College Scholarship

The Scholarship committee of First Presbyterian Church is pleased to announce the availability of a limited number of college scholarships for members of our church. To be eligible for consideration a student must be an active member or have been an active participant in the life of the church for at least three years. The awards are given for students at any level of study beyond high school. Four years would be the maximum for receiving scholarships, these need not be consecutive years. Graduate school students can apply providing they are within the 4 year maximum.

Applications may be found in the narthex or online at www.fpcbismarck.com Complete and return your applications and other materials now to beat the May rush. Your Fall 2008 transcripts are sufficient.

Adult Faith Formation

The Last Week Sundays, 9:00 a.m.

During Lent (March 2- April 5) we are reading and discussing the book, *The Last Week*. Using the gospel of Mark as its guide, this book takes a day-by-day look at the last week of Jesus' life. *The Last Week* by Marcus Borg and Dominic Crossan is available at Barnes & Noble or Amazon.com



Clearwater Forest Camp

It's time to register for Summer Camp at Clearwater. Information has been mailed about summer camp opportunities for the week of **July 12 – 18** for children and youth entering grades 3 thru 12 this fall. We will pay ½ of the registration fee for one camp for members and children of members. Applications may be found in the narthex. For more information call the church office or visit www.clearwaterforest.org.

Presbyterian Coffee Project

**Over \$5,000 was raised for
the Small Farmers Green Planet
Fund!**

For every 12-ounce bag of Organic Love Buzz coffee purchased April 22 through December 31, 2008, 20 cents went to the Presbyterian Coffee Project's Small Farmer's Green Plant Fund for farmer's environmental conservation work. So, each time you purchased Love Buzz coffee you helped—Presbyterian Church, USA—raise over \$5,000 for this worthwhile purpose.

CROP WALK Report

Overall donations to the 2008 Bismarck-Mandan CROP WALK for Hunger totaled \$14,520.74. A \$750 match from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans contributed to the success of this year's walk. Walkers from your congregation collected \$943.00.

Twenty-five percent of this year's earnings will be returned to the Bismarck and Mandan communities: Abused Adult Resource Center, AID Inc. Self Help Center of Mandan, The Bismarck Emergency Food Pantry and Ruth Meiers Hospitality House. God bless your generosity in fulfilling Christ's call to give food, drink and care to those who are hungry, thirsty and sick.

Welcome Newest Members

Joe and Carol Clark, 1906 Xavier Street, Bismarck, ND 58501, 255-7437, were received by certificate of transfer from Bismarck United Church of Christ, April 22, 2008.

Nancy Mann, 3221 Montreal St. #9, Bismarck, ND 58503, 426-5086, was received by certificate of transfer from United Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, September 23, 2008.



Gwyn Marback Jensen, 210 Juniper Drive, Bismarck, ND 58503, 202-0942, was received by affirmation of faith, September 23, 2008. Also welcome Gwyn's daughter Mary Marback.

Michael and Cindy Brodock, 1930 Valley Drive, Bismarck, ND 58503, 426-9186, were received by affirmation of faith, December 7, 2008.

David and Yvonne Schneider, and their children Joey, Elizabeth and Noelle Schneider, 3309 Overlook Drive, Bismarck, ND 58503, 527-0495, were received by affirmation of faith, December 7, 2008.



Edward Wos, 3421 Hackberry St., Bismarck, ND 58503, 221-6983, was received by certificate of transfer from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, February 15, 2009.



Jessica Meyer, 404 Apollo Ave. Apt 206, Bismarck ND 58503, 751-0559, was received by certificate of transfer from Memorial Presbyterian Church, Pollock, SD, February 15, 2009.

Alice Zerr, 414 Edmonton, Bismarck, ND 58503, 391-9715, was received by affirmation of faith, February 24, 2009.



March Acolytes	
10:00 AM	
1	Emily Ehrens
8	Isaac Blake
15	Olivia Bachmeier
22	Riley Quick
29	Mark Jensen

Statement of Activities

January 2009

Description	2009 YTD Actual	2009 YTD budget	2009 Annual Budget
Income			
Offerings	30,369	37,339	448,071
Other Income	4,731	1,812	21,740
Transfers	6,947	8,631	103,575
Total Income	42,047	47,782	573,386
Expense			
Personnel	25,550	28,044	336,520
Administrative	2,349	2,579	30,950
Per Capita Assessment	2,447	2,447	29,365
Missions	5,971	5,971	71,650
Food & Kitchen	542	275	3,300
Session Expense	10	21	1,650
Christian Education	887	2,225	26,700
Membership	871	1,067	12,805
Outreach	250	571	6,850
Property & Equipment	9,520	6,875	82,500
Stewardship	0	208	2,500
Worship & Music	654	492	5,900
Total Expense	49,051	50,893	610,690
Income Less Expense	(\$7,003)	(\$3,111)	(37,304)

First Presbyterian Child Care Center

New Paint and Carpet

Over the course of the next few months, the Child Care Center will be getting a fresh look by repainting rooms and laying new carpet in the infant and reception areas. This opportunity has been made possible through a cooperative effort involving the First Children's Finance Business Grant, Property and Equipment and the Child Care Center. The plan is to have the work done by beginning summer.

Quality Enhancement Project

The Center currently has three of its four rooms participating in a Quality Enhancement Project (QEP) through Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R). The QEP involves having CCR&R staff assess participating rooms in order to guide staff in a plan to further improve the quality of care for the infants and toddlers. Some of the changes are cost-free, such as having staff be more descriptive when talking to the children during routine cares and to ask parents more specific questions regarding the child's previous night and morning experiences. Many changes will include purchasing equipment and materials for each room. While there is grant money available to purchase some of the suggested items, we need help from someone that is handy at putting together the equipment (cribs, shelving, and tables). If this sounds like a job for you, please call Shawn at the Child Care Center, 258-7490.

Circle Meetings

Circle 1 will meet Thursday, March 5, in the church parlor beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Circle 2 will meet Thursday, March 5, in Ramstad Hall, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Circle 5 will meet Thursday, March 5, in the church parlor at 1:30 p.m.

Circle 3 will meet Saturday, March 7, 8:30 a.m., in the church conference room.

Home Communion

The congregation will celebrate the Lord's Supper, March 22. The pastors, elders or deacons will be glad to serve communion at home, hospital, or nursing home to anyone who is unable to worship with the congregation. Please call Pastor Kincaid to schedule a time, 223-6091 ext. 11.

Munch 'n Mingle

Munch 'n Mingle is an adult fellowship group for singles and couples in the senior adult age range. Join the group on Wednesday, March 11, 2009, at noon, in the Ramkota Dining Room. Meet new friends or catch up with longtime friends. No reservations required.



Family News

Deaths

Our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of those who have died:

Leland Gray, brother of Leila Bender, February 2008

New Baby

Aodhan Andrew Murphy, son of Sarah Nix and Colin Murphy, 1245 Massachusetts Ave, North Adams, MA 01247, was born February 17, 2009. Grandparents are Dave and Alice Nix.

New Address

Tim Kingstad, 225 Juniper Drive, Bismarck, ND 58503-0293

Jennie Moum, 255 Texas St. Apt J222, Rapid City, SD 57701-7320

Sheila Hoberg, 5900 Puerto Plata NW, Bemidji, MN 56601

If you would like to share family news with the congregation, please submit the information to the church office by the 16th of each month. You may e-mail to fpresby@btinet.net attn: Beth, or call 223-6091, ext. 10.

First Presbyterian Church of Bismarck
214 E. Thayer Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501-3887

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First Presbyterian Church

214 E. Thayer Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58501
Phone 223-6091, Fax 255-7344
E-mail: fpresby@btinet.net
www.fpcbismarck.com

Sunday Worship Schedule

Regular Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Education Hour: 9:00 a.m.

Office Hours Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon & 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Our Staff

Pastor-Head of Staff	Rev. Dr. Jacob L. Kincaid
Associate Pastor for Program	Rev. Vicki J. Rucker
Administrative Assistant	Beth Lipp
Secretary	Vickie Haas
Organist	Jan Candee
Choir Director	Debi Rogers
Bell Choir Director	Lael Hoerauf
Custodian	Lloyd Fischer
Child Care Center Director	Shawn Stettner
Parish Nurse	JuLann Wiseman
Membership Services	Judy Lentz
	Barb Schulz

Here and Now!

For the Latest News
www.fpcbismarck.com

Mission Statement First Presbyterian Church

We are a community called to love God
Through worship and prayer,

Receiving and serving our neighbors
With the compassion of Christ,

Open to new beginnings
And the spiritual growth
Of children, youth and adults.