



First Presbyterian Church of Bismarck, North Dakota

# Here and NOW!

May 2009      Volume 56 Number 5

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## Roadblocks

Jacob L. Kincaid, Minister

None of us likes impediments to progress. Obstacles that delay or divert us along the way in any project are seldom viewed well, but are despised and resisted.

But roadblocks may at least sometimes, help, preventing us from plunging headlong into disaster. Instead of assuming we should not be impeded, perhaps, we would do well to ask when something slows our pace or diverts our efforts if we should not slow down or take another course all together to advance.

A thirteenth century archbishop once prayed Holy Spirit,  
...guide what goes off the road.

Maybe, at least sometimes, there is guidance at work in what sends us off course, if we only look.

## ***Fine Arts First Festival Preview***

### ***Taking Tea on September 12***

We all need times of beauty, charm, and grace in our lives. Now you may have the elegant experience of having afternoon tea in an enchanting atmosphere.

Tiny tea sandwiches, cakes, tarts, or some other delicious treats will be called upon to offer both flavor and beauty. In addition you will be tempted with tea breads, scones, a dazzling selection of sweets, and a quartet or more of mouth watering savories in irresistible decadent chocolate all served with tea, of course, on fine antique china!



There will be two presentations: 2-3 p.m. and 4-5 p.m. (We will need an hour between to scurry.)

Tickets will be sold in advance. Maybe you would like to gather friends and or family and buy a table of 7.

Sweet temptations, special music, and other thoughtful surprises will be deeply imbedded in your memories. The elaborate attention lavished on every detail combined with each mouth watering flavor will truly augment your welcome.

See you at the ticket table at a later date. (\$10 per person)

Pinkie Larson,  
Fine Arts Festival Steering Committee

## **North Dakota Flowers**

Photography by David Nix

The Child Care Center is offering a set of cards depicting the flowers of North Dakota. These four stunning photo cards with envelopes will be sold **ONLY** as a set for \$15; net proceeds donated to the CCC. You can see these new cards and purchase a set on Sunday May 17. Only 49 sets will be available and your purchase will be limited to one set. Each card is numbered and signed, and they are suitable for framing. A second printing of the church window cards will be available at the Fine Arts Festival this September.

## **Recommended Books**

A result of the Quality Enhancement Project (QEP), recently completed at the First Presbyterian Child Care Center, was a strong recommendation to purchase books that meet specific guidelines for children served in care centers. Books designed for early childhood centers such as ours need to be special ordered and cannot be purchased locally. The book genres deal with real people and objects. Providing the Child Care Center with the recommended books will not only enhance the well-being of the infants and toddlers, it will assist the Center in meeting QEP standard



There will be a special Mothers' Day offering on Sunday, May 10 to raise funds to purchase the books. Contributions can be put in the special offering envelopes.

## Church School News



Celebration  
Sunday  
May 17,  
9:00 a.m.

The last day of church school is May 17. Join us for Celebration Sunday in Ramstad Hall. There will be activities and a special puppet show.

## Thank You

A special thank you to our wonderful volunteers who led a workshop, taught a class, or helped in another way. We thank you for giving your time and talent to nurture the children, youth and adults of First Presbyterian Church. Because of your contribution we had a wonderful year of discussion, exploration, and learning. We couldn't have done this without you!



The Christian Education Committee

***First Fact:***  
***It takes 64 volunteers to lead***  
***church school***  
***for a year.***

*Bread for the World's*

## Lazarus Musical

May 17, 2009

10:00 AM

Sunday, May 17 the Chancel Choir will present *Bread for the World's LAZARUS*, the biblical story of the beggar Lazarus and the rich man. "LAZARUS" is a contemporary, upbeat musical that brings Luke's story to the modern world - a place where extreme wealth and poverty exist side by side.

In addition to Lazarus and Dives (the rich man), characters include Dives' extended family, poor people, hungry children and their parents, Abraham and a troubadour who serves as narrator. Numerous soloists from the Chancel Choir will join youth from our congregation and guest troubadour Joel Frank. Instrumentalists will also join the choir. Songs will be performed in a variety of musical genres including folk, blues, ragtime, contemporary chorale, and gospel styles.

In the original narrative (Luke 16: 19-31) the ending is somber, but our "LAZARUS" allows us to consider what might have happened if Dives had been given a second chance. With Dives, the congregation is given an opportunity to respond to the issue of hunger.

# Adult Faith Formation News

## Guest Speaker

Sunday, May 3, 2009  
Ramstad Hall 9:00 a.m.

Clayton Daughenbaugh is the Midwest Field Organizer for the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance. He is a United Methodist lay person and has written about wilderness protection from the perspective of his faith.

In the book of Genesis, God asks that we take care of creation. Protecting wild places is a way of honoring god and creation. These places are also important to our relationship with our creator. The connection between nature, wilderness, and spirituality is undeniable with the Christian tradition.

## Life is a Treasure

May 10 and May 17, 9:00 a.m.

Every part of our life is a treasure, given by God. How can we best use those treasures in celebration of God's gracious bounty? That is a question, among others, which will generate discussion during the 9:00 a.m. adult faith education hour on May 10 and May 17.

Led by Jim Skaret, the discussion on May 10 will focus on the environment, and the discussion on May 17 will focus on institutions. As an introduction to both discussions, clips from the stewardship DVD series will be shown. Those who saw the *Stewardship of Finance* DVD clip on Stewardship Sunday, and those who attended the earlier adult faith gatherings, which used other portions of the stewardship

DVD series, know that these DVD clips are high quality products, successfully designed to generate thought and discussion.

Please join us in the large classroom at the bottom of the east stairway on these dates. Come to talk, or come to listen, but, above all, come to grow in faith.

## PresbyReaders

Summer is a great time to read or listen to a book. The PresbyReaders is a monthly gathering to discuss a book that brings words and faith together. We gather on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Mr. Delicious. (On 3<sup>rd</sup> across the street from the church). Join us for one session or all sessions. Books are available from Barnes & Noble or online at Amazon.com.

The schedule for this summer:

May 27	<i>Home</i> by Marilynne Robinson
June 24	<i>The Shack</i> by William R. Young
July 22	<i>Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace. . . One School at a Time</i> by Greg Mortenson
August 26	<i>Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy</i> by Donald B. Kraybill, Steven M. Nolt, and David L. Weaver-Zercher

Check out our website, [www.fpcbismarck.com](http://www.fpcbismarck.com) for more information on each book.

## The Quest for Meaning

Who hasn't wondered Why am I here? What is my purpose in life? Where am I going? Is there a God? What will happen when I die?

Of all living beings humankind alone has the capacity and challenge of making meaning out of life. The task is almost never easy or quick.

The Quest for Meaning is an eight week exploration of the topic in its many dimensions, from the problem of meaninglessness, to traditional solutions, from the experience of alienation to the search for belonging, from quick answers to the life-long search for purpose. Each session will last fifty minutes and will include a video presentation and discussion.

Sessions will be held each Monday at noon in Ramstad Hall, beginning June 15 and continuing each Monday through August 3. A light lunch will be provided. Members of the community are invited. The class is taught by Jake Kincaid. To register call First Presbyterian church at 223.6091 or register on line at [www.fpcbismarck.com](http://www.fpcbismarck.com).

## Mother's Day Cards Support Malaria Prevention

Sunday April 19 through May 10 Presbyterian Women will be offering everyone an opportunity to buy a special Mother's Day card as they give \$10 to support the Presbyterian Church's special malaria prevention effort in Ethiopia and Sudan.

These cards provided by the NetWorkers Project give Presbyterians an opportunity to support malaria prevention activities in Africa as we honor our mothers in a simple and meaningful way on Mother's Day. Last year Presbyterians gave over 32,000 NetWorkers Mother's Day cards and donated more than \$200,000 to provide mosquito nets and Christ-centered malaria prevention education through PC, USA, partner churches overseas.

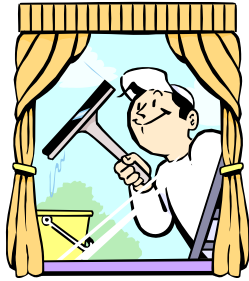
Honor your mom with a special card and, at the same time, help African moms keep their families safe from malaria.



Thank you FPC Brass for adding to the beautiful music Easter Sunday!  
Jim Rambo, Elizabeth Schneider, Nathaniel Blake, Lisa McEvers, Jim Skaret

## Spring Clean Up Assistance

Are you in need of some help with spring cleaning around your home? The Deacons are willing to assist with small clean up jobs in preparation for the summer season. They will be available weekends through May. If you are interested or have any questions please contact Dustin Bitz at 751-3648.



## Herberger's Fundraiser

On behalf of the Christian Education Committee and Presbyteens, we would like to thank our congregation for their support and generosity in supporting our teens with the Herberger's fundraiser held both at church and at Herberger's Community Days sale! Your contributions are appreciated. The total amount raised was \$705.00.

## Parking Problems?

Some have reported problems finding parking on Sundays. In addition to parking in the east and west church lots, parking is also available in the US Bank deck on Thayer and the city lot at the corner of Third and Rosser. Street parking is also available. Parking for the handicapped is reserved in the west church lot.



## Attention Book And Music Lovers

The Outreach Committee will be hosting a used book and CD sale on Sunday, June 14, as a fund raiser for the fall mission trip to New Orleans. As you complete your spring cleaning this year, consider donating your used books and CD's to the church for this fun and worthwhile event.



Bring your items to the church between May 3 and June 7. (A box will be available in the narthex.) Then, mark your calendars for Sunday, June 14, and join us to pick out some cast away treasures. The sale will be held outdoors in the church parking lot (weather permitting). All books and CD's will be sold for a dollar or less. Proceeds will help defray the expenses of the Louisiana mission trip scheduled for next October.

## Home Communion

The congregation will celebrate the Lord's Supper, May 17th. 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.



# Parish Nursing



JuLann Wiseman, R.N.

## AIN'T

He was just a little boy,  
On a week's first day.  
Wandering home from Bible school,  
And dawdling on the way.

He scuffed his shoes into the grass;  
He even found a caterpillar.  
He found a fluffy milkweed pod,  
And blew out all the 'filler.'

A bird's nest in a tree overhead,  
So wisely placed up so high.  
Was just another wonder,  
That caught his eager eye.

A neighbor watched his zig zag course,  
And hailed him from the lawn;  
Asked him where he'd been that day  
And what was going on.

'I've been to Bible School ,'  
He said and turned a piece of sod.  
He picked up a wiggly worm replying,  
'I've learned a lot about God.'

'M'm very fine way,' the neighbor said,  
'for a boy to spend his time.'  
'If you'll tell me where God is,  
I'll give you a brand new dime.'

Quick as a flash the answer came!  
Nor were his accents faint.  
'I'll give you a dollar, Mister,  
If you can tell me where God ain't.'

## New Orleans Mission Trip 2009

October 3 - 10

*It's Not about Raising Walls,  
it's about Raising Hope*

Make a difference in the life of someone who is still without a home four years after Katrina. Join us as we go back to New Orleans to help rebuild homes. No construction experience necessary, just a willingness to learn. There is an onsite construction coordinator to help.

Housing is in an air conditioned church that has been converted to host work groups.

### The itinerary:

- Leave Bismarck, Saturday, October 3
- Tour flood damaged and rebuilt areas in New Orleans Sunday
- Work Monday through Friday (We will receive more information concerning the work two weeks before the trip.)
- Leave New Orleans for Bismarck, Saturday, October 10

### The cost:

\$625\* per person which includes: plane ticket, transportation in New Orleans, housing, and most meals. Each person is responsible for meals while traveling and sightseeing in New Orleans.

\*Some scholarship help is available.

To participate in this trip, fill out the registration form (copies of the form are available in the church office) and return it to the church office with a \$100 deposit by May 31.

If you have questions, please contact Vicki Rucker at 223-6091.

## Sunday Sale

The Sunday Sale of fair trade merchandise will be held, May 17, in the parlor.



Remember, if you need this excellent coffee, tea, chocolate or dish cloths between the monthly Sunday Sales, they are all available whenever the church office is open.

The following article from Equal Exchange – Fairly Traded, “A Taste of Justice” newsletter gives some insight into the work that you are helping facilitate in Nicaragua.

### Presbyterian Delegation Learns About **Women's Initiatives in Nicaragua**

*by Susan Sklar, Interfaith Program Manager*

This past January nine members of the Presbyterian Church (USA) traveled on a delegation to Nicaragua, accompanied by four leaders of PC(USA) and Equal Exchange. The group traveled to the Boaco region to visit an organic coffee and honey co-operative named Tierra Nueva, where they met with farmers, picked coffee, and heard about the co-op's new initiatives for women. Tierra Nueva, composed of 600 small farms, is helping its female members to become active participants on the farms, where the coffee has traditionally been grown by men.

## Deacon Ministries

Deacons at First Presbyterian Church send cards and visit our members who are homebound, limited in their ability to get out, or live in a nursing home. They also host a monthly gathering for our members and friends who are residents at the Waterford. Other deacons deliver recordings of the Sunday Service to those who can't attend but still enjoy listening to the service.

Since January, the deacons have added several people to the visitation list and matched them with deacon visitors. They would appreciate your help finding anyone that may have been missed. If you would like to have a deacon visit you or you know a church member who might appreciate visits, please contact Lynne Bigwood, 258-6750, Adele Koenig, 258-6168, or Dustin Bitz, 471-3647. If you would like to receive a recording of the Sunday service please call Dennis Rosenkranz, 222-1792.

## Need a Ride?

Deacons also organize Sunday morning transportation. To receive information about Sunday morning rides to and from church call the church office, 223-6091, extension 10.



First Presbyterian  
Church  
hosts

**Eva Claire  
and  
Michael Land**

**In Concert**

**May 17, 2009**

**4 PM**



Eva Claire Gilliland, violin, and Michael Land, piano, will perform music for violin and piano by Brahms, Franck, Janacek, Telemann, and a special piece by Charlie Chaplin. Both of these artists are Century High School graduates now living in St. Louis. They travel to Bismarck as part of their spring tour.

Congregation and community are invited.

A free will offering will be received.

## Hospitality Notes

Hospitality in the church is not just a duty and a responsibility, it is first of all a response of love and welcome for God's love and acceptance of us.

## No Vacancy

### An Event to End Hunger and Homelessness

Friday night, May 8, our youth will participate in Youthworks' No Vacancy event. They will pledge to spend a day being hungry and homeless (including sleeping in a cardboard box!) to raise awareness about local homelessness and raise funds for Youthwork's homeless programs.

We need your help! Sunday, May 3, youth will be collecting donations for the event. They will be in the parlor after worship. Please consider donating to this event. Thank you for your support!



## Statement of Activities

March 2009

Description	2009 YTD Actual	2009 YTD Budget	2009 Annual Budget
<b>Income</b>			
Offerings	111,701	113,643	448,071
Other Income	5,166	5,435	21,740
Transfers	20,634	23,894	103,575
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>137,501</b>	<b>142,972</b>	<b>573,386</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
Personnel	78,850	84,131	336,520
Administrative	7,143	7,738	30,950
Per Capita Assessment	7,341	7,341	29,365
Missions	17,547	17,913	71,650
Food & Kitchen	1,138	825	3,300
Session Expense	10	413	1,650
Christian Education	2,418	6,675	26,700
Membership	2,811	3,201	12,805
Outreach	806	1,713	6,850
Property & Equip- ment	23,122	20,625	82,500
Stewardship	0	625	2,500
Worship & Music	1,293	1,475	5,900
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>142,479</b>	<b>152,675</b>	<b>610,690</b>
<b>Income Less Expense</b>	<b>(4,978)</b>	<b>(9,703)</b>	<b>(37,304)</b>

## Yes, We Can!

The Stewardship and Mission Interpretation Committee want to take a moment to thank all of our congregational members that responded to the 2009 Special Stewardship Challenge. Because of the great response, the church has raised an additional \$15,118.05. The money raised, in addition to the \$15,000 grant, will give the church \$30,118.05 to offset loss of investment income for the year. This is a true example of Mark 10:27, "With God, all things are possible!" Again thank you to our grant provider as well as all of you that stepped up to the challenge and helped make this special stewardship challenge a success.

Valerie Sturlaugson, Chairperson  
Stewardship and Mission Interpretation

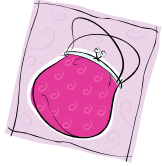
## Save the Dates

**Turkey Barbeque:** June 6, 2009, at Sertoma Park

**Vacation Bible School:** August 10–12, 2009, 5:45 to 8:00 pm

**Fine Arts Festival:** September 10–13, 2009

**Presbytery Meeting** at First Presbyterian Church, Bismarck: October 2–3, 2009



## PW Spring Gathering

Presbyterian Women will hold their Spring Gathering May 7th. A salad supper will be held at 6 p.m. in Ramstad Hall. Purses will be the program theme. Everyone is asked to bring a favorite or an unusual purse. If you can't decide, bring both!



Circle 2 will host the gathering. We will study the 9th lesson of Jubilee! Luke's *Gospel for the Poor*. If you need a Bible study book, there are several in the Presbyterian Women's drawer in the office.

We will also receive and dedicate the Least Coin and the Birthday Offerings. The Birthday Offering asks each woman to contribute the amount she can afford, from a dime to a dollar per year, to thank the Lord for the gift of her life.

Everyone is welcome. Please join us for a great meal, Bible study, and fun time with friends!

## Munch and Mingle



Munch and Mingle is an adult fellowship group for singles and couples in the senior adult age range. Join the group on Wednesday, May 13, 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:

Peggy Rosenkranz, Dennis Rosenkranz's sister, March 2009

Sylvia Monicken, Teresa Monicken's mother, April 2009

### New Babies

Connor Eugene Svihovec, son of Darin and Karmen Svihovec, was born March 17, 2009.

Cormac Satran Annan, son of Shelly Satran Annan and Kent Annan, was born March 21, 2009 in Florida. Grandparents are Winston and Barb Satran.

Sydney Rae Henriksen, daughter of Chris and Dawn Henriksen, was born April 4, 2009. Grandparents are Don and Kathy Henriksen.

### New Address

Ranae Ball, 762 San Angelo Drive, Bismarck, ND 58504-7440

Tom Jack, 1490 N Grandview Av, Dubuque, IA 52001

May Acolytes	
	10:00 AM
3	Olivia Bachmeier
10	Mark Jensen
17	Isaac Blake
24	Riley Quick
31	Emily Ehrens

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](mailto:fpresby@btinet.net)  
[www.fpcbismarck.com](http://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	Les Hornbacher
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](http://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.