



First Presbyterian Church of Bismarck, North Dakota

# Here and NOW!

December 2009      Volume 56 Number 12

## Table of Contents

Page 2	Here and Now Changing for 2010 Meals on Wheels Christmas Worship Schedule
Page 3	Tree of Love Adult Faith Formation Church Windows Cards
Page 4	Winter Mission Trip Messiah Performance Hospitality Notes
Page 5	Sunday Sale Fine Arts Festival 2010 "I was sick and no one visited me" Pill Bottles and Calendars
Page 6	October Statement of Activities Women's Circles December Acolytes
Page 7	Munch and Mingle Home Communion Family News
Insert	December Calendar
Website: <a href="http://www.fpcbismarck.com">www.fpcbismarck.com</a>	



## "Forgive Us Our Christmases"

Jacob L. Kincaid, Minister

The hustle and bustle of Christmas shopping. The addressing and mailing of Christmas cards. The hurried preparations for the dinners and parties of the season. Wrapping of packages. All of it makes for rather tired bodies and frayed nerves, I'm afraid.

The experience of one little girl seems to illustrate the case with all us. The day before Christmas apparently, as they are in many households, has been a particularly hectic one. Her mother ran nervously all day long, impatient of any interruptions from her daughter. The father was equally harried by a list of little duties and had no time for child. She was just in everybody's way all day, until she was at last ushered upstairs to bed. All the excitement had taken its toll on her too. When she knelt by her bed to pray the Lord's Prayer, she was so confused and distraught that she actually prayed: "Forgive us our Christmases as we forgive those who Christmas against us."

I sometimes think that Christmas is something we do to each other and to ourselves, robbing ourselves of all the joy and peace it portends, and that we really ought to ask to be forgiven. Again and again, we let the hustle and bustle crowd out the real purpose and meaning of Christmas. Maybe we should slow down and give Christmas the chance to just happen to us.

## Here and Now Changing for 2010

The *December Here and Now* will be the last issue that we mail out bulk mail. Starting January 2010, we will be publishing the Here and Now online only! Please visit our website at:

<http://www.fpcbismarck.com>

Please look for the **Here and Now link** on the home page along with the **Church Calendar link**. We will have the most current issues available.

*Don't have a computer?* We will still have hard copies available for you to pick up on Sundays in the Narthex.

We still ask that you submit any publication requests for the Here and Now no later than the 15th of each month to [janellr@fpcbismarck.com](mailto:janellr@fpcbismarck.com).



## Meals on Wheels

First Presbyterian is scheduled again this year to deliver Meals on Wheels for the month of December. These meals are delivered Monday through Friday during the noon hour. We need 3 volunteers each day at noon to make this possible. Please sign up on the church bulletin board for the days you can help!

## Christmas Worship Schedule

### 3rd Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 13, 2009  
10:00 a.m. Worship  
Children's Musical

### 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 20, 2009  
10:00 a.m. Worship  
Chancel Choir Presentation

### Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24, 2009  
5:30 p.m. Family Service  
11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service  
and Communion

### First Sunday after Christmas

Sunday, December 27, 2009  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service



*As we enter the Christmas season, please consider inviting your friends and family members to the special services and events at our church. Many of them would want to be included during this special time as we prepare for the birth of our Lord.*

## Tree of Love

The Tree of Love will be up and decorated by Sunday, November 29. You are invited to take an ornament and purchase the gift item on that ornament. Please bring the gift to the church by **December 13**, and place it under the tree with the attached ornament. Please check the ornament for wrapping instructions.

The gifts will be given to families chosen by BECEP, Neighbors Network, Charles Hall Youth Services, and Child Care Center. Gift certificates and gifts of money may be placed in the gift box under the tree.

Please make all checks payable to First Presbyterian Church.



*Let your heart be filled with the wonder of Jesus Christ this Christmas!*

## Adult Faith Formation News

### *Rejoice! Reflections on Four Seasonal Hymns*

Whether it's memories of caroling, Christmas pageants, or Christmas Eve services, the hymns of Christmas are some of the most evocative parts of the season for many of us. They refocus our spirits and remind us of the holiness and mystery of God's incarnation.

This month, the Adult Faith Formation offering will explain the history behind and encounter the rich wording of four of our favorite carols.

The four hymns that will be examined in the study are: *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*, *"Silent Night, Holy Night"*, *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*, and *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*.

We will end each session with a brief carol sing-a-long. Join us at 9:00 a.m. in Ramstad Hall November 29 and December 6, 13, and 20.

### Church Windows Cards

Church Windows Cards will be for sale on Sunday, December 6 and Sunday, December 13. These cards are ideal for the Christmas Season. They are \$3.00 each. All proceeds will go to the First Presbyterian Child Care Center.

## Winter Mission Trip

Do you feel called by God to do something different? Do you long to be somewhere warm this winter? Do you enjoy the sound of power drills and generators?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above, the Outreach Committee encourages you to participate in another church mission trip to New Orleans to help Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) in the rebuilding of homes.

Preliminary plans are being made for late February/early March. The cost will be \$650-\$700 (per person) to cover air transportation, lodging, van rental, gasoline and most meals.

While the people of New Orleans have faced very tough circumstances over the past 4½ years due to hurricanes, the core of who they are is no different from any other family in this world. Those of you who have volunteered for mission in the past know how uplifting it is to help these families in need. Enjoy the hard work, make new friends and find renewal for your soul.

Prayerfully consider if this is an opportunity for you. If interested, please contact Kathy Wachter at 258-2498 or Vicki Rucker at 223-6091 by December 8.

*"And let us not grow weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart." Galatians 6:9 RSV*

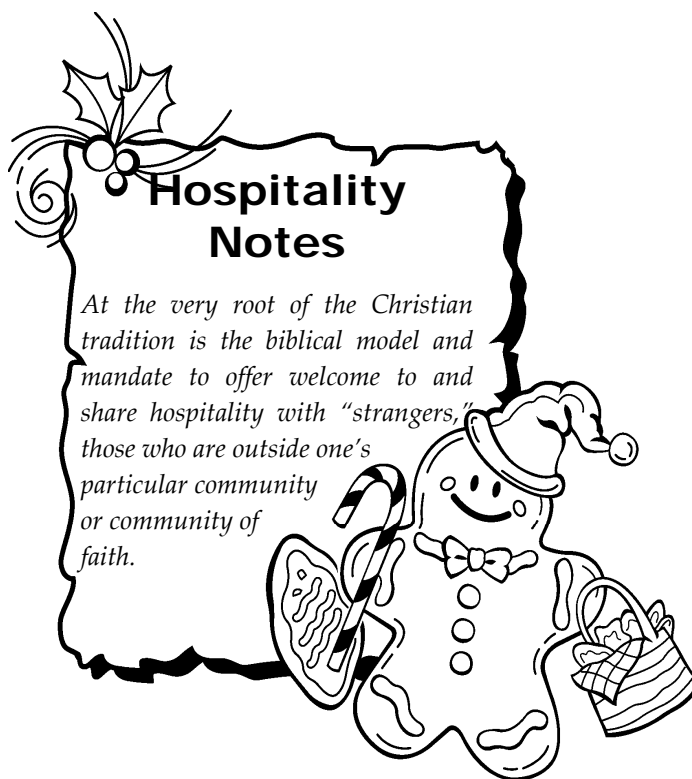


## Messiah Performance

Please join us on December 6, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. for the 80th Annual performance of G.F. Handel's Messiah at Trinity Lutheran Church. This performance is comprised of community vocalists and instrumentalists and is open to the public. The audience is sure to enjoy this special anniversary event with the *Hallelujah Chorus* being sung by all present. As a thank you to the community for years of support, the soloists are all local!

*The preconcert music performed by Westminster Chimes will begin at 7:00 p.m. Also from the First Presbyterian Church, the following people will be singing in the Messiah: Charlie Barber, Patti Koranda, Jim Rambo and Kathy Wachter.*

Tickets (\$6 adult and \$3 student) are available at Eckroth Music, Herbergers, and Trinity Lutheran Church.



## Sunday Sale

Presbyterian Women will be holding a Sunday Sale on December 20th. Coffee, Tea, chocolate, cooking and drinking cocoa and dish cloths will be available. All of these items are great for use in your own home and as special gifts for family and friends.

Some of the new projects that Equal Exchange has started recently are a fair trade banana revolution and a sugar cooperative. The bananas have red Equal Exchange logo stickers. We don't have the Fair Trade bananas in Bismarck but they are available in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic and parts of the Midwest. If you cannot find them in your local grocery store, be sure to request them and purchase them when they are available. When you do that, you will be taking stand against a long history of violence and oppression in the banana industry.

Equal Exchange's ability to initiate these projects is directly funded by your purchase of the fair trade merchandise available at our church.

## Fine Arts Festival 2010



Dates have been chosen for the 2010 edition of the First Presbyterian Fine Arts Festival. Next year's festival is tentatively scheduled for September 10-12, 2010 with a slightly shortened format. Gladys Cairns and Kathy Mayer will co-chair the event.

The 2009 committee recently completed festival business, declaring the event a financial success. Many individuals, both from the church and beyond, are to be thanked for their donations of time and talent to make this arts festival resurrection a huge success. Especially deserving of recognition are the men who spent many hours setting up and tearing down the galleries.

The festival committee will offer ongoing updates of new festival plans as they unfold.

## "I was sick and no one visited me"



When parishioners face illnesses or injuries, recover from surgeries, or faced with difficult prognoses or chronic illnesses, pastors and congregations truly wish to be part of the return to health. Privacy regulations require more intentional communication than ever before. Unless parishioners consent for hospitals to disclose information, pastors do not know about their hospitalizations. Emergency room admissions are not generally reported to local pastors through online religious registries. Pastors cannot disclose information to congregations without the expressed written permission of parishioners. Oral and indirect disclosures by family and friends are not ordinarily sufficient. If you are sick or face hospitalization, please notify Pastor Jake, who has responsibility for visitation, directly. Under current privacy regulations, communication now is a shared responsibility. Pastors never want a parishioner to say, "I was sick and no one visited me." Please help them help you.

## Pill Bottles and Calendars



Please bring your empty pill bottles (all labels removed) and old calendars (with pictures) to the church office. These items will be delivered on a regular basis to the God's Child Project for their use.

Late member Rae Bloom was responsible for this task in the past and the Outreach Committee is pleased to continue this worthwhile ministry in her memory.

# Statement of Activities

October 2009

Description	2009 YTD Actual	2009 YTD Budget	2009 Annual Budget
<b>INCOME</b>			
Offerings	369,985	375,309	448,071
Other Income	19,622	16,573	21,740
Transfers	64,962	88,291	103,575
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>454,569</b>	<b>480,173</b>	<b>573,386</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
Personnel	260,150	280,433	336,520
Administrative	26,157	25,791	30,950
Per Capita Assessment	24,471	24,471	29,365
Missions	56,646	59,708	71,650
Food & Kitchen	2,921	2,750	3,300
Session Expense	690	1,375	1,650
Christian Education	10,749	23,583	26,700
Membership	6,948	10,670	12,805
Outreach	2,547	6,292	6,850
Property & Equipment	63,676	68,750	82,500
Stewardship	306	2,083	2,500
Worship & Music	2,615	4,916	5,900
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>457,876</b>	<b>510,822</b>	<b>610,690</b>
<b>Income Less Expense</b>	<b>(3,307)</b>	<b>(30,649)</b>	<b>(37,304)</b>



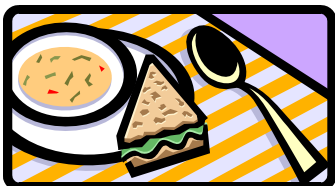
## Women's Circles

- Circle 1- Thursday, December 3, 9:30 a.m.
- Circle 2 – Thursday, December 3, 1:00 p.m.
- Circle 5 - Thursday, December 3, 1:30 p.m.  
**Christmas Luncheon, Ramkota**
- Circle 3 - Saturday, December 5, 8:30 a.m.

**Please note that Circle 1 will meet in the Church Parlor at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 3rd to continue the Bible Study on the Book of Joshua. Anyone is welcome to join us for this study!**

December Acolytes	
10:00 AM	
6	Olivia Bachmeier
13	Riley Quick
20	Emily Ehrens
27	Isaac Blake

## 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, December 9, at noon in the Ramkota dining room. Meet new friends or catch up with longtime friends. No reservations required.

## Home Communion

The congregation will celebrate the Lord's Supper, *Sunday, December 6th*. 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.



## Family News

### Deaths

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

Irvin Jordre passed away on November 5, 2009.

Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers during this time of great sorrow.

### Births

Dylan Joshua Huber was born on October 19, 2009 to Todd and Jesse Huber, Bismarck, ND.

## Military Addresses

Joe Bachmeier  
1726 Hamburg Dr.  
Bismarck, ND 58504

Dennis Beck  
3207 Arizona Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58503

Brian Ruzicka  
PSC 37, Box 4237  
APO, AE 09459

Christy Smith  
51 Lacey Oak Dr.  
Fort Stewart, GA 31315

Dan Hutchins  
2424 Timberlane Place  
Bismarck, ND 58504

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

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Permit No. 301  
Bismarck, ND 58501-3887

Address Service Requested

### First Presbyterian Church

214 E. Thayer Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58501  
Phone 223-6091, Fax 255-7344  
E-mail: [janellr@fpcbismarck.com](mailto:janellr@fpcbismarck.com)  
[www.fpcbismarck.com](http://www.fpcbismarck.com)

#### Sunday Worship Schedule

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

#### Office Hours Monday - Friday

8:00 a.m. - 12:00p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

#### Our Staff

Pastor-Head of Staff	Rev. Dr. Jacob L. Kincaid
Associate Pastor	Rev. Vicki J. Rucker
Administrative Assistant	Janell Rath
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
Membership Services	Elise Hocking

Here and Now!

For the Latest News  
[www.fpcbismarck.com](http://www.fpcbismarck.com)

First Presbyterian Church  
Bismarck, North Dakota

### A Vision

To be a welcoming, serving,  
worshipping, and nurturing community.