

The First Epistle



First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead • Established 1872

July 2022

The Session:

Moderator: Robert Drake

Clerk of Session: Kim Kelsh

Peggy Johnson, Kim Kelsh, Mary Larson, George O'Neill, Mary Skalet, Megan Wheeler, and Diane Wray-Williams.

The Deacons

Moderator: Barb Worman

Kathy Giddings, Nikki Hestbeck, Cassidy Johnson, Joni Lordeman, John Ortez, Helen Pemble, Elizabeth Swee

Like us on Facebook:

[facebook.com/firstpresmhd](https://www.facebook.com/firstpresmhd)

Visit our Website:

www.firstpresmhd.org

JULY WORSHIP LEADERS



July 3: Joni Lordeman



July 17: Tim Ortez



July 24: George O'Neill



July 10: Axel Xiong and family



July 31: Nadine Swee



Coupon Project Needs New Leader

Do you know how to make a simple spread sheet on the computer? Are you willing to learn now? That and a desire to help others is all you need to save Caring for Neighbors in Need from an untimely ending.

Due to personal circumstances, the prior leader found it necessary to conclude her leadership. You won't be starting over, and you won't be alone. If you'd like more details, Pastor Robert will be excited to hear from you.

The First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead

Worship: 10:30 am

2900 Fifth Street South, Moorhead, MN 56560

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/firstpresmhd

218.233.1192

E-mail Addresses:

Rev. Robert Drake robert@firstpresmhd.org

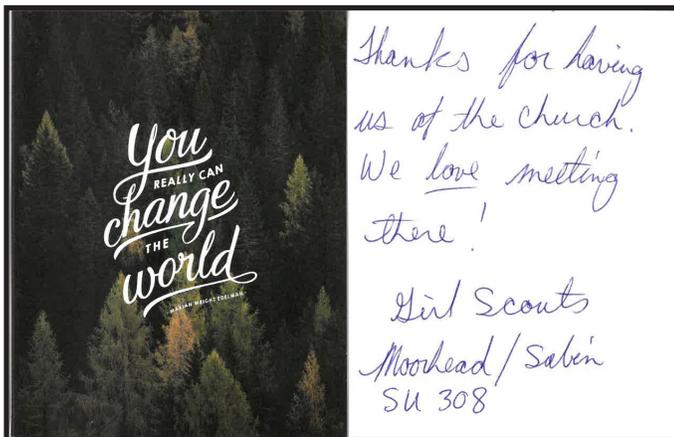
Church: admin@firstpresmhd.org

Newsletter Articles: nadineswee@gmail.com

Our mission is to be a caring community of God's people who live by Christ's teachings, reach out to others to share the love of God, and celebrate the good news of Jesus Christ through worship, prayer, thought, and action.

2022 OGHS Update

Thanks to generous additional giving from many of you our church sent \$608.45 to the Presbyterian Mission Agency to support programs in the areas of disaster relief, combating hunger and providing grants for self-development and empowerment. Your support of One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference! All together we can do a lot!



WHO'S IN CHARGE DURING JULY???

Pastoral emergencies (hospitalization, counseling, funerals): Barb Worman 701-367-9498

Building issues: Mary Skalet 218-329-1633

Renter issues: Kim Kelsh 701-866-0428

General church issues (that can't wait until Pastor Robert gets back on July 27:

Kathy McKaig 701-212-3789

Mail and phone messages: Megan Wheeler

May 31st, 2022
Carra Holubok
Recovery Engaged Communities (REC)
2900 5th St. S, Moorhead, Mn 56560

Dear Moorhead Presbyterian Church,

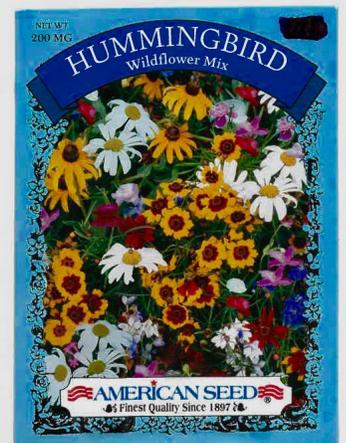
Thank you for your donation of the fellowship hall, church space, and continuous relationship with Recovery Engaged Communities (REC). Your support was integral in making our Grand Opening celebration a wonderful success.

Thanks to your contribution, REC has been able to start building connections within the community. Your donation provided the foundation to form trusting relationships as we create a collaborative recovery ecosystem.

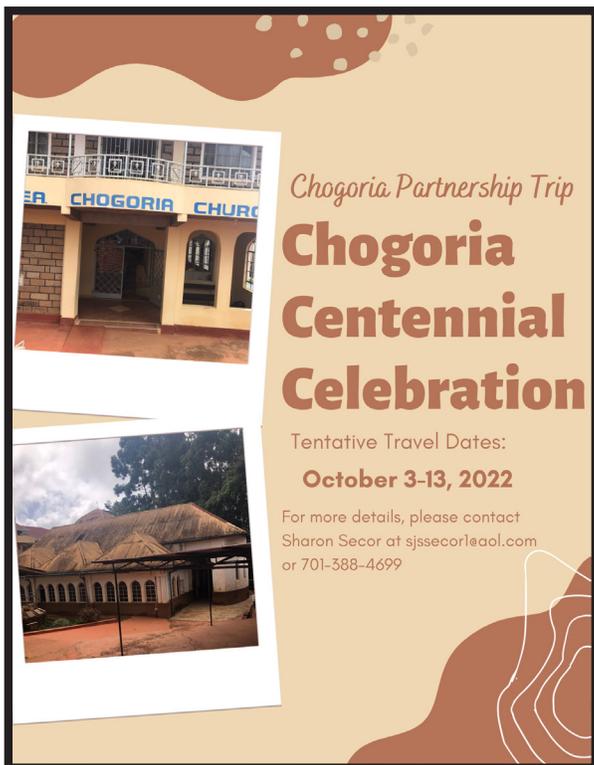
REC is creating healthy and whole communities that support recovery efforts for all. We intend to continue providing events and services that bring people together to show the importance of recovery and collaboration. Recovery pathways are different for everyone which is why REC will provide a space for people to have an opportunity in the community to come together and cheer each other on toward recovery, regardless of the pathway. In addition to events, REC provides programming, support groups, activities, recreation, and person-centered peer support services, all focused on creating a supportive healthy community for all.

REC's mission and vision could not be fulfilled without your support so again, thank you genuinely for your contribution.

Sincerely,
Carra Holubok
Peer Recovery Specialist
218-284-1811
connect@mnrec.net



Our presbytery has a decades-long partnership with Chogoria, Kenya. Every year a group of people from Presbyterian churches in Minnesota and North Dakota go for mission work and cultural exchange. The 2023 Youth Trip is the first of its kind. If you have a kid interested in going or if you would like to chaperone or go on the October trip, talk with Pastor Robert, and he will get you in touch with the organizer.



Chogoria Partnership Trip
Chogoria Centennial Celebration

Tentative Travel Dates:
October 3-13, 2022

For more details, please contact Sharon Secor at sjssecor@aol.com or 701-388-4699



PNP YOUTH TRIP
to Kenya

JULY 27-AUG 11, 2023

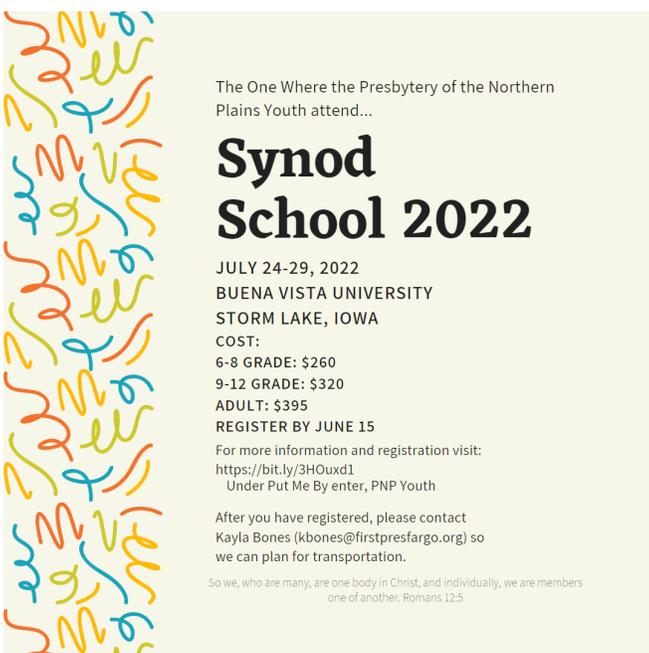
PNP Youth in 6th-12th grade are invited! If you are under 16, you will need a parent/guardian to travel with you.

Activities will include: meeting our partners, attending worship, service projects, and going on safari.

Approximately **\$4000** Per Person
Price does not include cost of passport or visa.

DEPOSIT SCHEDULE:
 First Deposit due October 15, 2022: \$500 (secures place on trip)
 Second Deposit due January 15, 2023: \$1500 (deadline to register)
 Third Deposit due May 15, 2023: \$2000
Due to advance purchases and contracts, refunds cannot be made after January 15, 2023.

If you would like to register or have any questions, please contact Kayla Bones at kbones@firstpresfargo.org or 701-293-6311.



The One Where the Presbytery of the Northern Plains Youth attend...

Synod School 2022

JULY 24-29, 2022
 BUENA VISTA UNIVERSITY
 STORM LAKE, IOWA

COST:
 6-8 GRADE: \$260
 9-12 GRADE: \$320
 ADULT: \$395

REGISTER BY JUNE 15

For more information and registration visit:
<https://bit.ly/3HOuxd1>
 Under Put Me By enter, PNP Youth

After you have registered, please contact Kayla Bones (kbones@firstpresfargo.org) so we can plan for transportation.

So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually, we are members one of another. Romans 12:5



CITY GARDEN LOOKING GREAT
 It's only once or twice a month if you want to help. Call Mary Skalet (218-329-1633)

For more information, talk to Diane Wray-Williams or Pastor Robert

WE FOUND THE EXACT RIGHT PIANO (ALMOST)

That's right! We think we found the exact right piano, well... almost.

After two years of searching and waiting patiently for the right piano, it seems we may have found it. It is a Kawai RX2, that is only 13 years old (which is quite new for a piano), and it's right here in Fargo at Schmitt Music.

"I've had four different piano stores throughout Minnesota looking for us," says Pastor Robert, "and to find the exact piano that suits our needs right here in Fargo is a relief. Joni won't have to drive to Minneapolis or Grand Forks or Wisconsin to try it out."

A woman here in Fargo is trading in her Kawai for a Steinway O model, and the salesman at Schmitt immediately called Pastor Robert last week to let him know.

"This is the piano you've been holding out for, it's the right size, and it's been well-maintained, I sold her this piano, so I know it's a good piano," said Dan.

So, why is it "almost" the exact right one?

"Because it is so new and in good shape, they are asking \$16,900, which is \$6,900 more than we raised" admits Pastor Robert. "Dan had another Kawai at their Omaha, Nebraska, store, but that one was firm at \$19,000, plus it was 3" longer, so potentially too large for our space. When he called about this one, right here in Fargo, I was really excited. But at the same time, I know that money is really tight for us. In addition, we have some other projects, like the stained-glass windows, that we might want to raise money for."

What do you think? Is this the piano for us? Should we try and raise \$6,900 for this instrument? Should we wait for something less expensive? Please let session know your thoughts.

In order to hold this piano, Pastor Robert delivered a refundable deposit check to Schmitt Music on Monday, June 27. This is refundable if we decide to pass on it.

One person has already pledged \$3000 towards the additional cost to purchase this piano. If you would like contribute money big or small for this piano, please contact any member of session (their names on the front of the newsletter). We only need \$3,900 more.



WHAT TO DO WITH OUR HISTORIC STAINED-GLASS WINDOWS

These windows—and pieces of these windows—are from our 1910 church building, that was located across from the current Moorhead library and kitty-corner from the post office (our 1950s CE wing is still standing and is now an office suite). But in the mid 1960s the church's foundation became unstable, prompting us to re-build our current church home.

After 53 years of storing them, it is time to ask ourselves, "What should we do with this part of our history?"

Some say we need to keep all of them. Some say we should just get rid of them. Some say we could re-purpose them. Some say we can sell them. Some say we can just store them for another 53 years.

Our decision comes down to a balance between practicality, historical preservation, artistic beauty, and money.

"I reached out to Michael Orchard Stained Glass Studio in downtown Fargo," reports Pastor Robert. "He does both restoration work and new commissions all around the Midwest. He came by back in June to examine these and offer some guidance."

Michael said these remaining three windows are in excellent condition, but that the market for re-sale is limited. It's possible, though it will take a special buyer. He guessed that we could maybe sell each window for around \$1000.

Who would buy it? Well, it could be a church doing a remodel, or an art studio, or interior design stores looking for unique backdrops. Advertising them will be hard part; Michael said to try Craigslist. While Michael has thousands of pieces of stained-glass in storage, he said he would be willing to take these, dismantle the glass, and save for restoration projects. But he said he would not be able to pay us for them.

"When I get back from Germany, I'm going to start the advertising process," says Pastor Robert. "If we sell them, that would be great, but if not, I will call Michael back and he can take them."

On the other hand, we also have an opportunity to create some meaningful shadow boxes out of our other stained-glass windows.

"We found this arch-top window behind the big windows," says Mary Skalet, "and this would make a great shadow box. If we have it done right, with the right lighting and right supports, this will look great."

How much would something like that cost?

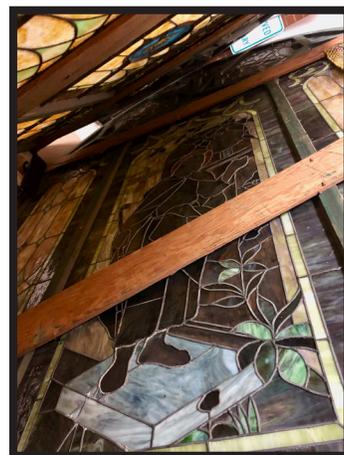
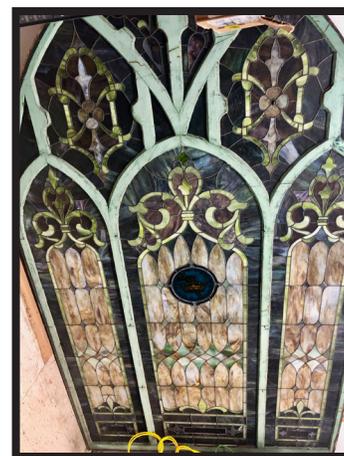
"This is just a ballpark guess," answers Michael, "but maybe the one with your name could be done for \$3000, I'm just guessing. I have a name I can give you if you're interested. This is in perfect condition, so it does not need any repairs."

And since we had the professional there, we also asked him to take a look at our stained-glass display in the Fellowship Hall. As you can see from the photos, it is in really bad condition. But there's good news! Michael has the exact, historical glass color and type in his warehouse (that's why he saves all those old windows!).

"Since this one needs extensive repairs, including the lead and the supports in the back, and it's already sagging really bad, I guess something around \$5000 to make this one like new and to build a nice, oak shadow box and properly light it from behind. Maybe \$6000, somewhere between \$5000-\$6000," Michael suggests.

So, there you have it. Those are our options. We can try selling the three windows that we stored for 53 years, but if we can't, then we could give them to Michael. We can create a beautiful shadow box to display our historic name for about \$3000. We can re-build our Jesus stained-glass display for \$5000 or so.

Please let the members of session know what your thoughts and opinions are about these options. If you would like to provide funds to help with these projects, please let them know that too. Once we have verbal commitments for 50% of these two projects, we will contact Michael to move forward.



Make a difference by knitting or crocheting or looming a blue hat for children or youth (5 to 18) as part of an anti-bullying campaign to open in October. As part of Anti-bullying Month, blue hats will be distributed to schools throughout the country to the children to stand up against bullying. You can mail in to a distribution site at hatnothate.org/drop-off-locations/ or by contacting Elizabeth Swee for pick up at church by July 15.



THE GOOD NEWS

REFLECTIONS IN CHURCH

NOT Holy Assurances,

NOT Pious Proclamations,

NOT Saved Soul or Converted Sinner,

for we sin no matter the conversion,

and our God welcomes no matter the sin.

The GOOD NEWS

is neighbor helping neighbor,

humans caring enough

to gather together

to build community

to cry out, stand up

and seek justice and renewal for earth—life.

The greedy, singularly absorbed self,

the deity of mindless, consumering self-interest must go!

Life—reverence & respect

for all beings

on our interdependent

infinitely small

and precious planet.

THIS is GOOD NEWS!

Dear friends, let us live it.

Tom Williams

12/92



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

August 2, 2022

Join us as we welcome our community together at this informal block party! We hope to have some city representatives, but you too can help spread the word!

Volunteer Opportunities: Cooking Hot Dogs, Serving Food, Bouncy House Supervisor, Games, Setup and Tear Down of Event Items, Distribute Flyers in the Neighborhood, Meet and Greet People

*Contact Erik Swee if you are willing to pitch in and help out!
701-388-2675 - bswee@midco.net*

OUR ACTIVE KIDS

Ryne Ortez travels the world and crushes it on the mound.

Ryne Ortez travelled to Paris, Arles, Florence, and Rome with the Latin Club in June (his dad, Tim, went too!). Ryne pitches for Post 400 Comets



Hestbeck and Mullins cousins busy this summer.



Jeremy earning a letter in track and field (and he got an academic letter!)



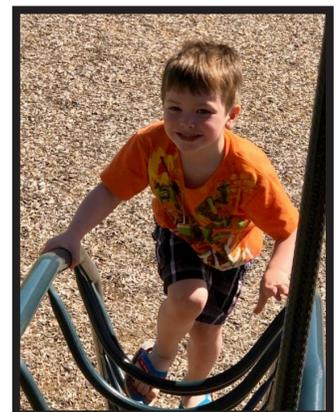
Erik Mullen and sons plus cousin Luke



Bella and dad, Eric Hestbeck



Bella at volleyball



Jaxson on slide





LaVonne Langord

Many of you will fondly remember our church’s former office administrator, LaVonne Langord. It with sadness that we report that LaVonne passed away on May 24th following a prolonged illness.

LaVonne Arlene Nylander was born March 29, 1951, in Detroit Lakes, MN, to Lester and Veronica (Dahlberg) Nylander. She graduated from Audubon (MN) High School in 1969. After high school she moved to Fargo and started working for Holsum Bread. On June 19, 1971, LaVonne was united in marriage to Richard Langord at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Lake Park, MN. The newlywed couple resided in Moorhead where LaVonne started working as a secretary for

AAA of North Dakota. After many years of dedication and hard work, LaVonne was named Sr. Vice President of AAA of ND Insurance and Travel division, retiring in 2010. After retirement she continued to teach continuing education classes for insurance agents. She also worked part time at Mutual of Omaha until she retired once again because of her declining health.

LaVonne adored each and every one of her nieces and nephews, always remembering their birthdays, attending every activity she could. This also continued with her great-nieces and nephews. Family meant the world to her.

She was a passionate Minnesota sports fan, especially cheering for the Twins, Vikings and Gophers and attending many games over the years. LaVonne enjoyed gardening and was known for her green thumb. She was an avid reader making many trips to the Moorhead Library even when her health was declining. Her Persian cats meant the world to her.

LaVonne is survived by her husband Rich of Moorhead, MN; her mother, brothers and sisters, 21 nieces and nephews, and 40 great nieces and nephews. A devoted wife, sister, aunt and friend, LaVonne’s example of love and friendship will be missed by all her family and those of lucky enough to have known her. A Celebration of Life was held on June 2 in the Korsmo Funeral Chapel.

OUR ACTIVE KIDS

Grandkids of Jane Lobitz. Wow! Are they active!!

PJ Smith, Kayden Smith, Lydia Homstad, Aubrey Smith, Stephen Homstad



July 2022

FH=Fellowship Hall

sanct=sanctuary

lib=library

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Moorhead Pres 10:30 (Nadine) Korean Pres 1:00 ANCC 5:00pm 31					Koreans 7pm-8 Sanct. 1	2
Moorhead Pres 10:30 (Joni) Korean Pres 1:00 ANCC 5:00pm 3	July 4th	Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH Silver Sneakers Line Dance Noon-1:00 FH 4		Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH 6	Koreans 7pm-8 Sanct. 7	8
Moorhead Pres 10:30 (Axel) Korean Pres 1:00 ANCC 5:00pm 10		Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH Silver Sneakers Line Dance Noon-1:00 FH 11	NA Group FH 8:00-9:00 12	NA Group FH 8:00-9:00 13	Koreans 7pm-8 Sanct. 14	15
Moorhead Pres 10:30 (Tim) Korean Pres 1:00 ANCC 5:00pm 17	Bagpipes 7pm FH 18	Watercolor 6:30pm-9:00 FH Silver Sneakers 11-noon sanct 19	NA Group FH 8:00-9:00 20	Bagpipes 7pm FH Silver Sneakers 11-noon sanct 21	Koreans 7pm-8 Sanct. 22	Hindu Satyanarayan Pooja 9:00-9:00 FH, kitchen, lib, nursery 23
Moorhead Pres 10:30 (George) Korean Pres 1:00 ANCC 5:00pm 24	Veterans Peace 7pm-9 FH Bagpipes 7pm FH 25	Beekeepers 6pm-8:30 FH Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH Silver Sneakers Line Dance Noon-1:00 FH 26	NA Group FH 8:00-9:00 27	Bagpipes 7pm FH 28	Koreans 7pm-8 Sanct. 29	Carra Holubok baby shower 9-5:00 FH, Kit, kitchen 30

First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead
2900 Fifth Street South
Moorhead, MN 56560

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Inside this Issue:



Who's leading worship?

Stained Glass Project

