

# The First Epistle



First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead • Established 1872

May 2022

## The Session:

Moderator: Robert Drake

Clerk of Session: Kim Kelsh

Peggy Johnson, Kim Kelsh, Mary Larson, Chris Swee, 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

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[www.firstpresmhd.org](http://www.firstpresmhd.org)

## BLESSING BAGS FOR BRIGHT SKY

Sunday school kids delivered 60 Blessing Bags to the 60 kids at Bright Sky Apartments. Bright Sky is a transitional apartment community assisting families get out of homelessness. The bags were filled with kid-friendly food and snacks. Plus, each bag had a handwritten note.

If you're a regular reader of the online Forum newspaper, then you may have seen an amazing story in the section, "On the Minds of Moms," written by Danielle Teigen. If not, you can find the article by Google searching: "On the Minds of Moms local Sunday school children". The article will pop right up.

Thank you to everyone who donated food and money to help with this project. Our church performs an important role in the FM area community, helping in every way we can, and having fun doing it. Leander Wheeler sums it up best, when he said, "Because people care for other people."

Simple words with a big impact!

In the photo, we see Graem, Leander, and Kayden helping deliver the heavy bags.

*"Because people care for other people," Leander Wheeler*

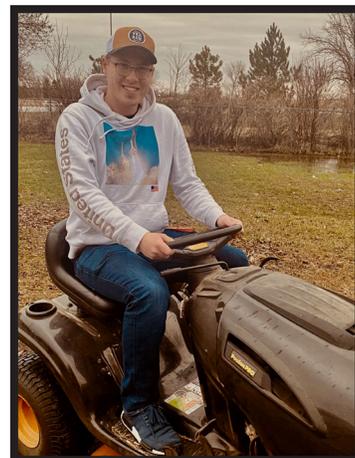


## SPRING IS HERE AND SO IS LAWN MOWING!

We are looking for more volunteers to help with lawn mowing this year!

If you can help or have questions please call:

Mary Skalet - 218-329-1633 TIA!



# 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](http://www.facebook.com/firstpresmhd)*

218.233.1192

## **E-mail Addresses:**

Rev. Robert Drake      [robert@firstpresmhd.org](mailto:robert@firstpresmhd.org)

Church:                      [admin@firstpresmhd.org](mailto:admin@firstpresmhd.org)

Newsletter Articles:      [nadineswee@gmail.com](mailto: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.*

## **CHURCH GETTING ALL NEW KEYS**

The church is getting a total “re-key.” That doesn’t mean we’re just changing a few locks. It means the entire building—every door inside and out—is getting a new lock and is getting assigned a new key system chart.

It’s been many, many years since the church has been totally re-keyed, and as the owner of Curt’s Lock and Key Service told us, “a building needs to be re-keyed every so often, just as a matter of routine security.”

The impetus to do the total re-key now is, of course, coming because of the security needs of Lotus/REC (see April and March newsletters). “We keep confidential files in our offices, and so security will be very important,” according to Sarah Opitz, Lotus’ Executive Director.

“This has been A TON of work,” reports Pastor Robert. “When Todd (owner of Curt’s Lock and Key) first visited us, way back in the beginning of March, he spent almost two hours with us, going over the entire building, every door, and asking who uses it and when they use it. It was really more of a security review than just a key review. Todd took the time to give us recommendations for safety and security.”

“That’s right,” say B&G moderator, Mary Skalet, “Todd gave us recommendations for lots of stuff, not just keys. But one thing he did say about keys is that we should try and reduce the number of keys out there.”

So, what does this mean for you? Many of the people who have keys now will be given a new key when the re-key process is complete. However, in an effort to reduce the total number of keys out there, we have come up with a list of critical key holders, including 17 church members, 7 staff/seasonal staff, 9 outside groups/renters, and Lotus/REC staff.

In addition to changing locks on every door in the church, Todd assisted us in creating zones for which keys work where. There will be 7 key zones:

- Church office
- Church common (church lobby doors, church meeting rooms, excludes CE wing door)
- Church Sunday school rooms (rooms 9 and 10)
- Worship tech closet
- Boiler room
- Lotus/REC (Lotus/REC entrance door and offices)
- Catholic Church office door

As part of this new key system, and to reflect the new arrangements with Lotus/REC, church keys will allow you to enter through the church lobby doors, but not through the CE wing doors. The same is true for Lotus/REC; their main entrance will be the CE wing doors, and so their keys will only open those doors.



We have one more major change to let you know about. Todd was concerned about the large numbers of exterior doors with key access from the outside. Numerous times he mentioned that modern building safety guidelines recommend having one or two keyed entrances to a building. Most new buildings are designed to have one primary entrance. You may even notice that when an older church gets remodeled, they create one primary entrance. All the other doors are exit-only doors; you can exit them, but you cannot enter the building through them.

While we cannot do that without extensive remodeling, we are following Todd's recommendation by creating only three entrances to the church building: the two lobby doors and the CE wing door. Church members will enter the building through one of the two lobby doors, either from the south parking lot or the north parking lot. All outside groups will also only use these two doors for entrance. Lotus/REC will only use their door in the CE wing.

What this means is that the back door by the kitchen will no longer be accessible from the outside. You will still be able to unload and load from this door, but you will not be able to use your key to enter this door.

"I really want to stress that this is one of the main things we heard from Todd," says Pastor Robert, "He was very concerned about that door. He said it the most secluded door in the church, nobody can see what happens there, it is hidden from the street. In addition, this is the door that is most frequently left accidentally unlocked. I can't tell you how many times I come in the morning and that door is unlocked."

In an effort to improve safety, we are asking all church members to stop using the back door to enter the building. Please do not unlock the door, allowing others to enter through it. Instead, please enter through one of the two lobby doors and if you have stuff to load/unload you may of course unlock that door and do your work, but then close the door as soon as you are done.

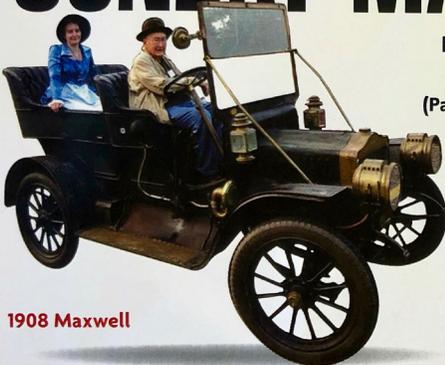
These are exciting times for us. We have new renters, new Catholic Church friends, new missions, new families attending, and new neighbors coming soon (when the new Enclave apartments open). Our new key system is just one way we move into the future.

Oh, and one last thing. If you were wondering why not go with an electronic key card system or fob system. Todd said it would cost a minimum of \$10,000 per double door to install an electronic system on the church lobby doors. We'll save that for another day in our future.

The 48th Art Olson Hosted by  
 Fargo-Red River Valley Regional Group, HCCA 

# SWAP MEET & CAR SHOW

## SUNDAY MAY 15, 2022



1908 Maxwell

Bob Long's  
Maxwells  
(Passed Fall 2021)



1911 Maxwell

\*NORTH DAKOTA'S EARLIEST AND LARGEST SWAP MEET\*

## RED RIVER VALLEY FAIRGROUNDS

1805 West Main Avenue • West Fargo, North Dakota 58078

**PASTOR ROBERT AWARDED SCHOLARSHIP**

Pastor Robert was recently awarded a scholarship to attend a three-week theology program at Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Germany. The highly-competitive scholarship, covering tuition, most of the airfare, and board, was awarded through the German Academic Exchange Service.

“It took me a couple weeks to get all the papers for my application in order, including academic references, grades from seminary, a letter of intent stating my interest and qualifications,” comments Pastor Robert. “It was a lot. When the email popped into my inbox, I waited an entire day to open it, because I did not want to be bummed out at work if it was a rejection email.”

Pastor Robert will be in class from July 4 through July 22, and he will be studying how influential Germany history and culture is to the world of Protestant Christianity.



“Of course, we’ll be looking at Martin Luther, but we’ll also be reading a lot about 19th and 20th century theologians like Adolf von Harnack, Friedrich Schleiermacher, Karl Barth, and Dietrich Bonhoeffer, among others,” reports Robert. “The program requires only a ‘familiarity’ with German, but I am taking private German language lessons in an effort to get the most of the program.”

At it’s April meeting, session voted to grant Pastor Robert the study leave time to attend, and they offered him \$350 towards food and other expenses. He will also apply for an education grant from the presbytery for an equal amount.

Stay tuned for additional details in upcoming Monday Messages and the June newsletter.



*Megan with her sister MacKenzie and fiance Justin, and their kids Kayden and Remy.*



*Megan and her boyfriend, Adam Gerner*

**BABY SHOWER FOR TWINS**

Meagan Jackson-Metcalf, sister of church member MacKenzie Jackson, held her baby shower at the church last month.

# Investing in our greatest resource ...

## help youth begin life with a solid foundation of faith

The Pentecost Offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA) helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. Sixty percent of our gifts will be used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to support child advocacy, youth ministries (including Triennium), and young adult church volunteers. Since the Pentecost Offering started in 1998, Presbyterians have raised more than \$15 million for ministries that benefit the younger members of God's family.



Our church will retain 40% of this offering to support youth and children in our local community. The 2021 local portion (\$174) was given to the Great Plains Food Bank for their Backpack Food program that provides food for the days that the kids are off from school. Specific plans for this year will be shared with you in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your gifts on Pentecost Sunday, June 5, that will support the next generation of the church. When you make your gift, please note "Pentecost Offering" on your check or use a designated Pentecost offering envelope.

Let us celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit by guiding our young people toward a brighter, faith-filled future.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women's Bible Study will meet via Zoom on May 11, 2022, at 1:30. Pastor Robert will send the link on Wednesday morning to all participants. If you want to join us, please contact Pastor Robert and he will add your email address.

All are welcome to join our final lesson, which summarizes what the grandmothers of our Faith have taught us and imagines what they may have taught Jesus. Through the stories of outsiders and marginalized people we see the Kingdom of God, in which The Last are Made First. The scripture reading for Lesson number nine is Matthew 1.

*Remember:* All are welcome to join our last grandmother lesson. If you are interested or have questions, please call Marilynn Woods at 218-236-9917.

#### **BOOK REFLECTION PAPERS** Formative Reading

**How should I read?** Much of the reading we do is for acquiring *information*. We read the newspaper to learn about current events, stock prices, or sports' scores. Often, we read books this way, too...even the Bible. We read to know who did what, when, and why. While reading for *information* is important, we ask you to read for *formation*. Formative spiritual reading is an essential discipline in the Christian life.

Try following these steps:

1. Set aside a portion of uninterrupted time.
2. Find a private and comfortable space.
3. Begin by prayer asking God to make this time and space sacred.
4. Linger for a few minutes in quietness.
5. Pray to God asking that the Holy Spirit would guide your reading.
6. Begin reading and pay special attention, not only to the details or thematic content, but to "holy intuitive nudges."
7. When something inside "clicks" or causes you to have an "ah-ha" moment, stop reading...at least for now.
8. In a notebook or journal briefly write down what thoughts or feelings arise. Wonder how God might be using these words or this book to shape or form your life.
9. Return to your reading, continuing the same prayerful process.
10. End your reading with prayer.

This discipline of spiritual reading is not only *formative* but is also *transformative* in your life and spiritual journey. **How should I share?** After you complete each book, look back over your notations and prayerful insights. Gather these insights into a ONE-PAGE REFLECTION PAPER

#### **Conclusion**

Formative reading may be a new discipline for you. Be gentle with yourself as you learn a new way to listen for God. May God meet you in your seeking.



# May 2022

FH=Fellowship Hall

sanct=sanctuary

lib=library

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sunday School 9:30 Rm 1-3, 5 Moorhead Pres 10:30 Korean Pres 1:00 ANCC 5:00pm	2 Moms Demand Action 7pm FH Bagpipe 7pm Rm 9-10	3 Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH Silver Sneakers Line Dance Noon-1:00 FH	4 Girl Scout 30718 6pm-7:30 FH NA Group FH 8:00-9:00	5 Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH	6 Koreans 7pm-8 Sanct.	7
8 Sunday School 9:30 Rm 1-3, 5 Moorhead Pres 10:30 Korean Pres 1:00 ANCC 5:00pm	9 Bagpipe 7pm Rm 9-10	10 Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH Silver Sneakers Line Dance Noon-1:00 FH	11 NA Group FH 8:00-9:00	12 Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH	13 Koreans 7pm-8 Sanct.	14 Writers Group 2-4:00 FH
15 Sunday School 9:30 Rm 1-3, 5 Moorhead Pres 10:30 Korean Pres 1:00 ANCC 5:00pm	16 Girl Scout Adult organizers 7pm-9 Rm 9-10 Bagpipes 7pm FH	17 Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH Silver Sneakers Line Dance Noon-1:00 FH Beekeepers 6pm-8:30 FH	18 Girl Scout 30718 6pm-7:30 FH NA Group FH 8:00-9:00	19 Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH Bagpipes 7pm FH	20 Koreans 7pm-8 Sanct.	21
22 LAST DAY SUNDAY SCHOOL Moorhead Pres 10:30 Korean Pres 1:00 ANCC 5:00pm	23 Bagpipes 7pm FH	24 Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH Silver Sneakers Line Dance Noon-1:00 FH	25 Session 7pm Rm 9-10 NA Group FH 8:00-9:00	26 Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH Bagpipes 7pm FH	27 Koreans 7pm-8 Sanct.	28
29 Moorhead Pres 10:30 Korean Pres 1:00 ANCC 5:00pm	30 MEMORIAL DAY Veterans Peace 7pm-9 FH Bagpipes 7pm sanct or RM6-10	31 Silver Sneakers 11-noon FH Silver Sneakers Line Dance Noon-1:00 FH				

**PASTOR ROBERT PODCAST GUEST**

Pastor Robert was an invited guest on the Red River Scripture Circles monthly podcast. He joined Pastor Jennifer Schillinger, of Heartland Community Church, and Rabbi Noah in a conversation about King Solomon.



To listen to the educated, hilarious, informative, and rambunctious conversation, go to RRSC's website ([www.scripturecircles.com](http://www.scripturecircles.com)) and click "podcasts." Their podcast is the most recent and will be at the top of the list.

**PHOTOS FROM HOLI CELEBRATION LAST MONTH**

"On behalf of the Indo-American Association of the Great Plains, I want to say thank you for renting your church to us. It means so much for our families to feel like a piece of home," Dr. Parth Vyas, president IAAGP



Andy, senior, and sophomore Logan, pictured holding their academic achievement awards at Sheyenne High School on April 20, 2022. They are the sons of Brad and Amity Cook, grandsons of Juneve Givers.

Logan plays trumpet in band and especially likes jazz band.

Besides doing well in academics, Andy, a defense starter, played in all of the Sheyenne Mustangs football games, culminating in their winning the 2021 ND 11AA State Championship game last fall.

Graduation Day for Andy is May 29, with his party on Saturday, May 28th 1-4pm.

Please consider yourselves invited.

The First Epistle

April 2022

# Grateful Garden 2022

Welcome to another exciting gardening season at Grateful Garden! Our gardening season starts in May and runs through mid-October. As in previous years, volunteer gardeners will meet on Wednesdays at 6pm. Denise Quick has graciously agreed to continue her role as Garden Coordinator and can answer any garden question you may have.

Contact Information:  
denisekq@gmail.com  
802-859-0228



A café dedicated to serving local, healthy, delicious meals to everyone in our community with dignity and respect with pay what you can afford pricing.

## THIS SUMMERS GARDEN ACTIVITIES:

- Gardening at Grateful Garden
- Heart n" Soul Café
- Moorhead Farmers Market



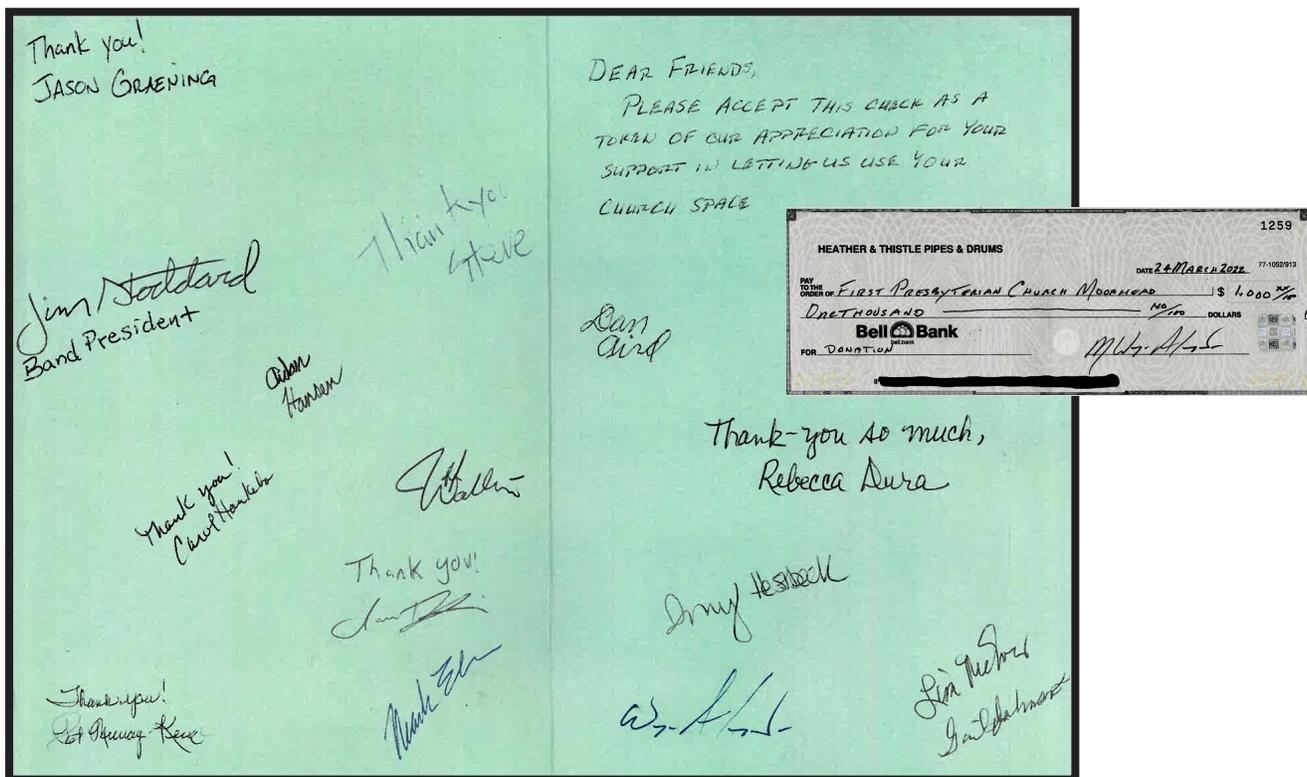
We are happy to announce the addition of a community favorite that is partnering with our garden this year. Fargo's Heart n Soul Mobile Café is a local non-profit eatery that uses fresh produce to address food insecurity in the FM area. Their "pay what you can" model allows food access to all and helps build resilience in our communities.

Heart n Soul Mobile Café will host a monthly meal where everyone is welcome and everyone is valued.

"This is a supper, not a service"

Location: 2900 5th St. S., Moorhead  
Time: The fourth Wednesday of every month, 4:30-6pm.

May 25th, June 22nd, July 27th, August 24th, & September 28th.



Many thanks to Heather & Thistle Pipes and Drums Bagpipers! They gave us a \$1,000 donation for letting them use our building for practice. As you can imagine, you need a big space to practice bagpipes. They practice Mondays and Thursdays at 7:00pm if you're thinking of trying it out.



Frank Kratky, age 80, of Moorhead, MN, died Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at his home under the care of his loving wife Patricia and Hospice of the Red River Valley.

Frank Lanning Kratky was born on May 19, 1941, in Chicago IL to Frank and Marcella (Zmrhal) Kratky. He attended school at Oak Park & River Forest High School, Oak Park, IL, and graduated in 1959. He then attended the University of Michigan, graduating with a Bachelor of Architecture degree in 1964. He began his career with Perkins & Will Architect, Chicago.

In 1965 Frank joined the United States Peace Corp and served until 1967 in Shiraz, Iran. On August 4, 1966, he was united in marriage to Patricia L. Roach in Tehran, Iran. Following their Peace Corp service, they lived in Minneapolis and then Moorhead (1973 to present). Frank entered graduate school at the University of Minnesota School of Architecture. After graduating, Frank was employed at Ellerbe Architects, St. Paul, then at Foss Architecture, Fargo (1973-1986), and Lightowler Johnson Associates (1986-2004). He served as Adjunct Professor in the NDSU College of Architecture & Design program from 2004-2014.

Among many hobbies, Frank enjoyed wood carving, control line model airplane building & flying, landscaping, gardening, and singing solos and in church choirs. As a member of First Presbyterian Moorhead Frank sang in the choir, held the office of Elder, and diligently led the Building & Grounds Committee for many years.

Frank is survived by his wife Patricia, one sister Marcia Beth Kratky, Minneapolis, MN, and a cousin Cynthia Perrizo, Chicago. He was preceded in death by his parents, and his brother Steve Kratky.

Our church family will truly miss Frank's expertise, bright smile and beautiful singing.

*Preface: Spring is coming, and Bill Woods, long-time church member, is reminded about his first full-time summer job. Here is his story*

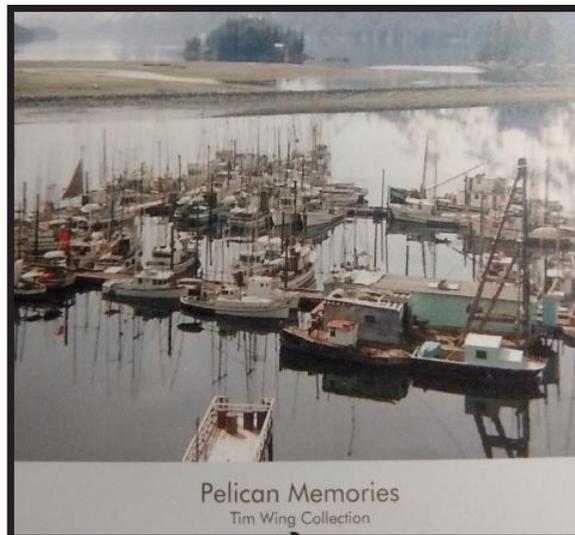
### **SISTER CALLS AND BILL WOODS SAYS YES**

When his older sister Betty called, Bill Woods was curious. Betty had moved to Seattle when she became pregnant leaving her husband John in Pelican, Alaska alone to work their 40 foot fishing trawler, Blythe Spirit. John needed help, and Betty requested that 14-year-old Billy go to Pelican during his summer vacation from school and help. Bill accepted the request which developed in to a most interesting young teenager's experience.

Betty had organized the segmented trip from Ellensburg, Washington to Seattle to Juneau, Alaska and on to Pelican. After a bus trip to Seattle, he was taken directly by Betty to one of the freighters owned by Alaskan Steamship Company. (The company ceased operations in 1971 after 77 years.) These freighters were not passenger tour ships, but did carry 8-10 passengers on each trip to Juneau. Bill said he had dinner with the captain each night, met crew members and other passengers and that the trip was made more enjoyable by striking up a friendship with a young gal from Indiana. This trip took approximately one week.

Upon reaching Juneau, the ship's purser directed Bill "up" to the historic Alaskan Hotel (still operating) where Betty had made overnight reservations for him. The next morning, he made his way down to the "water" airport where he boarded a seaplane for the trip to Pelican. Upon arriving in Pelican, he was met by John who took Bill and his suitcase to the Blythe Spirit, showed him his bunk (with tight quarters) and said they would be departing in one hour.

John was a commercial fisherman. He would go out on the seas usually for 10 straight days. They would fish (trolling) most of the day, come back into the harbor, get ice to preserve fish freshness, sleep in the bunks, get up and go back out to sea. After the holds were filled with fish, they would be taken to market and sold. Then the next 10-day cycle would start again.



Bill learned how to throw out lines, how to retrieve fish off hooks, how to preserve fish value, and how to steer the boat, when necessary. He learned the value of different species. (King Salmon were most prized.) On the fifth day, he had his sea legs. Basically, Bill became a commercial fisherman that summer.

Bill and John went out on 3, 10-day trips. Before the 4<sup>th</sup> outing, John said he needed to go back to Seattle to be with Betty. John gave Bill the job of watching the ship and pumping out the bilge. John gave Bill money for the 2 weeks (breakfast and lunch) and made arrangements for a daily, good, evening meal with the Raatikainen family – descendants of the town's founders. After 2 weeks, John called to say he was staying an additional 2 weeks, and Bill was to continue with his chores. No extra money was asked for

and none sent. Bill ran out of money and approached a local cold storage business owner indicating he had some extra time and could use a job. Bill was 6'3" and looked healthy, so he was hired on, and Bill earned his extra money.

John eventually came back and the two of them worked at commercial fishing the rest of the summer, making good money to help with education expenses at the University of Washington for Bill.

Betty and John settled in Pelican building a nice house and raising their family. And, years later, Betty called again. A neighbor had a house for sale after a tragic family accident. Betty wanted Billy and Marilyn to buy the place to prevent an unwanted buyer. Bill and Marilyn bought the place and still have it. (Their daughter, Linnea, in Juneau now tends it.) As a result, Bill and Marilyn have their Moorhead house and their lake front property 1,796 miles away.

Bill said Pelican had (and still has) several religious denominations (including Presbyterian) that share one church building. Guest pastors were (and still are) frequently used and, in some cases, would (and will stay) at quarters in the church itself.

# DAKOTA FUSION

## 2022 NPSL SCHEDULE



Sat. 5/7 @ Sioux Falls Thunder



Sat. 5/14 @ Joy Athletic



Sat. 5/21 vs Med City FC



Fri. 5/27 @ Minneapolis City



Sat. 6/4 vs Joy Athletic



Weds. 6/8 vs Sioux Falls Thunder



Sat. 6/11 @ TwinStars



Sat. 6/18 @ Duluth FC



Weds. 6/22 @ Med City FC



Sat. 6/25 vs LC Aris FC



Weds. 6/29 vs Duluth FC



Weds. 7/6 vs Minneapolis City



Sat. 7/9 @ LC Aris FC



Fri. 7/15 vs TwinStars



# DAKOTA FUSION

## 2022 WPSL SCHEDULE



Fri. 6/3 @ Maplebrook Fury



Sun. 6/5 @ Minnesota Thunder



Sun. 6/12 @ Salvo SC



Fri. 6/17 vs Manitou FC



Sun. 6/19 @ Mankato United



Fri. 6/24 vs Joy Athletic Club



Sun. 6/26 vs Sioux Falls City FC



Fri. 7/1 vs Rochester United FC



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[www.dakotafusionfc.com](http://www.dakotafusionfc.com)

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# *Inside this Issue:*



*Where are your church keys?*

*Pentecostal Offering*

