

The First Epistle



First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead

Established in 1872

June 2009



Summer is finally here and with it a host of activities at First Church of Moorhead. Mark your calendar, call your friends, and don't miss out on the fun.

- June 12, Wednesday Noon
Beginning of Small Study Group
"Reformed Faith"
- June 17, Noon
PW Spring Luncheon
- June 20, Saturday – 5:30 Card Club
Jim and Marlys Winter
- June 27, Saturday
Mini Sewing/ Quilting Group
- July 12, Sunday – Clay County Fair
Praise Band – 4:00 pm
- July 16, Thursday – Trollwood
The Wiz
- August 6, Thursday
The Red Hawks - Baseball
- August 25 – Church Picnic
Gooseberry Park 6:00 pm

Yarn group meets every Thursday

See page 3 for Details of Activities

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Summer Worship Service
10:30pm



The First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead

2900 Fifth Street South, Moorhead MN 56560

<http://www.firstpresmhd.org>

218 233-1192

E-mail addresses

Church - fpresbyterian@integraonline.com

Pastor Nancy - nancy68emerson@hotmail.com

Pat Matthys - fpresbyterian@integraonline.com

Barb Worman - BGMW54@aol.com

Newsletter articles - firstepistle@gomoorhead.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.



Activities for Everyone This summer

Study Group “Reformed Faith”

June 12

Are you interested in participating in a summer small group study? A twelve week opportunity is planned for Wednesdays at noon beginning June 24th. The course material is available through

<http://www.openingdoorstodiscipleship.com> and is titled Reformed Faith. You will need a passcode to log on to the website the first time. Please call Pat Matthys at the church for this passcode (publishing restrictions do not allow us to print the code in our newsletter). We have also invited our friends in the area Presbyterian churches to join us.

Card Club

June 20, Saturday 5:30

One of the more active informal groups in our church is the Card Club. Meeting once a month in a members home, the only requirements are that you bring a potluck dish to share and can distinguish red cards from black cards (the rest they would be happy to teach you). The group will meet at Jim and Marlys Winters home. For directions give Jim or Marlys a call.

Sewing/Quilting Mini Retreat

June 27, Saturday

Members will gather to make bags for the alternative market. Dagne Forbes will be there with material and instructions. Volunteers can either bring their machine and sew them there, or pick up material and instructions to take home. Any donations of thread would be appreciated also! Come join the fun.....

If you are not into sewing/quilting, you can also bring your scrapbooking and join the comraderie...bring your family and friends!

For additional information contact Mary Skalet, Barb Worman, or Dagne Forbes.

Clay County Fair

Presbyterian Praise Band

July 12, Sunday 4:00 pm

Everyone enjoys a county fair. Spend an afternoon at the Clay county fair in Barnesville and top it off with the praise band performing in the gazebo at 4:00 pm.

Trollwood Theater – The Wiz

July 16, Thursday

Be part of Moorhead history. We will be attending the Trollwood Performing Arts School located in south Moorhead first production in the new theater. This will be their inaugurating theatrical production. We have the opportunity to purchase group tickets. In order to receive group rates at reduced prices we have to order before June 20. Ticket information is posted in fellowship hall and tickets may be ordered by calling the church office or contacting Erik Swee

The Red Hawks

August 6, Thursday

A night for the whole family. Invite your friend to join with us for an evening at the Ballpark. For additional information or to order tickets Contact Mary Skalet

Church Picnic

August 25. Thursday 6:00 pm

Fix your favorite potluck offering and join us at Gooseberry Park. Further information will be in the July Newsletter.

Thursday’s Yarn Group

Do you enjoy working with yarn in any way? Knitting, crocheting, or otherwise? Join us at noon on Thursdays. Odd Thursdays (the 1st, 3rd, and 5th) we will meet at the church. Even Thursdays (the 2nd and 4th) we will meet at Caribou Coffee on 25th Street in Fargo.

News of the Congregation

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women will hold its final lesson of "Jubilee!" Bible study on Wednesday, June 17 at noon in Fellowship Hall. Pastor Nancy Emerson will lead all circles and study groups. Snapdragon will serve a buffet for \$8, including fortune cookies. Please register your intent to attend with the church office or by calling Elizabeth Swee 236-9346 or 701-446-7479. If you are a woman, whether you have been active in the lesson study or not, you are welcome. If you are a man and enjoy Chinese cooking and fellowship, you are welcome.

Congregation Applies for FEMA/SBA Support

During the flood fight of 2009 the church accumulated nearly \$1700 of expenses for such things as supporting sandbag volunteers, additional phone charges while staying connected with congregation members, sump pumps and supplies, and plumbing services for stopping up all the drains in the church as well as returning them to working order. These expenses were obviously not budgeted for the year.

In addition, our already fragile parking lot was further damaged by the weight of semis using the parking lot for a staging area as they delivered sandbags for this particular neighborhood. The expenses reflected above do not include any costs related to the parking lot. The Session has asked Buildings and Grounds to make an application with FEMA/SBA and if we are eligible we may be able to receive a low-interest loan to help with these costs. An application will also be made through the Presbytery with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. In the meantime, all of the \$1700 has been paid from General Operating Funds of the church.

From the Chogoria Partnership Ministry Team of the Presbytery of Northern Plains

Famine Relief: In response to the efforts of our partners to meet the needs of those suffering famine from the effects of the continuing drought in Kenya, we encourage you to raise money for Famine Relief. The need is immediate and so this campaign is being undertaken now. We invite you to donate to the

Chogoria Famine Relief Fund. Simply make a check payable to the church and designate for famine relief.

Dorothy Day Food Pantry

Due to the request of the DDFPantry, our church will be volunteering on Monday evenings instead of on Thursdays. For the month of June, please consider donating some time on either June 22 or June 29 beginning at 6:30 p.m. It is only necessary to have a total of six volunteers at a time so if we divide our volunteers in to a couple of days that will be very helpful to them.

Summer time is a very busy time for the F-M shelters and DDFPantry. So our help is as important as ever. Please consider helping us out one day a month, if possible.

Our dates for July will be July 6 and July 27, so mark those dates as well. However, I will keep you abreast of upcoming dates in the next newsletter.

If you have any questions, please give Lisa Mark a call at 588-4380. Thank you very much.

Action Ministry

Memorials

We express our Christian sympathy to the family of Tenie Peet who passed away on May 5th. Tenie's funeral service was held here at the church on May 10th.

GreenDisk Technotrash Recycling Services

Helping the Church De-clutter without Cluttering the Earth

What exactly is technotrash?

Technotrash is a relatively new waste stream which includes all the spent supplies and obsolete accessories associated with your computer. This waste includes all those computer-related materials which you no longer need such as CD's, hard drives, zip disks, floppy disks, obsolete cell phones, rechargeable batteries, empty printer cartridges, and all the cables, cords, chips or boards that came with this once important equipment – this is all technotrash. We all have this stuff, but most of us just don't know how to properly dispose of it.

Why should I recycle my technotrash?

Recycling keeps your electronic waste, some of which contains hazardous material, out of landfills (or your garage). As we move farther into the information age, the volume of obsolete computer equipment and supplies is becoming a serious problem that needs to be dealt with responsibly. Today, over 90% of technotrash is not being recycled. Some is thrown away, but most remains unused sitting on desks or taking up storage space.

What happens to the technotrash recycled through GreenDisk?

According to their website, GreenDisk uses a network of non-profit organizations to process the material. They refurbish what they can and recycle the rest. Inkjet cartridges get remanufactured and, when possible, cell phones and some computers get refurbished. Material that has no further operating life is broken down to its smallest components (metals, plastics, etc.) and used in the manufacturing of new products. Unlike some recycling companies, all of the material that GreenDisk collects is reused or recycled. No hazardous materials or obsolete components go overseas to be processed or disposed of.

How can I participate?

- 1) Go to greendisk.com to order a technotrashcan or to investigate prices for recycling a computer, printer, or other technotrash.
- 2) Recycle at church...If you have a small amount of CD's, videocassettes, zip drives, misc. power cords, game cartridges, printer cartridges, old cell phones, or obsolete rechargeable batteries; bring them to the church and place them in our technotrashcan in the Fellowship Hall. There is also an envelope attached to the trashcan for contributions to help with further recycling. The cost of one technotrashcan including all shipping is \$29.
- 3) Not interested in GreenDisk? Check out other recycling opportunities in the community or on the web.



MN Foodshare raises 12,020,197 total for 2009

Thanks to the generosity of Minnesota congregations, corporations and individuals the Minnesota FoodShare's 2009 March Campaign raised a total of 12,020,197 (in food and dollars) for food shelves around the state. Thank you! [Minnesota FoodShare](http://MinnesotaFoodShare.org) is a program of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches, co-sponsored by the Minnesota Council of Churches.

THE REV. DR. STEVE MINNEMA, INTERIM EXECUTIVE PRESBYTERY

By: Cheryl Biller, Chair of Interim EP Search Committee

Rev. Dr. Steve Minnema has been called to work with the Presbytery of the Northern Plains beginning June 1 as Interim Executive Presbyter.

Steve grew up in the suburbs of Grand Rapids, Michigan. His grandparents lived on a farm where he spent much time as a child; and so he has appreciation for our presbytery's rural and urban mix of populations. He remained in Michigan for his undergraduate work, studying at the Univ. of Michigan. From there he earned his Masters in Divinity from Harvard and later a Doctor of Ministry from Garret Evangelical Theological Seminary on the campus of Northwestern in Illinois. In the midst of all that formal education, Steve spent time in Haiti and Cuba on peacemaking tours, studied the theological writings of Douglas John Hall through the Pastors Theologian Program at Princeton and with Walter Bruggeman at Boston College, and trained in church conflict mediation through the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center.

Much of his employed career has been spent in our synod. Steve's first call was to a yoked parish in Houston and Rushford, MN. He served as a redevelopment pastor near Madison, WI, and spent much of the 1990.s in Mankato, MN. For about 6 years, he served a church in the Chicago suburbs that grew from 250 to 400 during his leadership. Most recently, he has served a congregation in Madison, WI, in which he initiated a co-pastor model. He brings experiences gained serving congregations that seem to be as diverse as those within our presbytery. Out of all this experience, he has discerned that his gifts will be best used in a place where the people have as their highest priority following Christ. He has also stated that he wishes to have good conversation around questions like: how is our identity distinct from the identity we acquire from culture; how do we discern Christ's call to ministry in this world with its many crises; what gifts have we been given for this service and how are we equipped to use them faithfully; and last, do we realize how much we need reciprocal relationships with others if we are to discover our identity, discern our call, and develop our gifts?

Steve told the search committee that he's had a fascination with scripture from childhood. He read the entire Bible through twice before he was 10! He still considers the Bible the foundation for a teaching and preaching ministry. The committee found in him a person who could skillfully articulate his own positions on theological issues and why he held those positions, but who is respectful, and in fact eager, to engage people of diverse opinions in conversation. His references consistently told us he was intelligent and honest, hardworking and faithful. We found in him the person we were seeking: one who had clear understanding of his own theological beliefs and one who could successfully create space where diverse and opposing ideas were welcome, encouraged, and respected. In all this, we hope he will help us build bridges of understanding and common ground in an overarching desire to be engaged in mission.

Steve expressed his love of reading, and his sermons underscore this with references to all types of literature. As soon as we extended a call to him, he began reading Kathleen Norris's books! He is a weaver and brings his loom with him so perhaps we can look forward to seeing what the plains of our presbytery inspire from his hands and his threads. He tells us he enjoys most all food but spice is good. Thai and Mexican are two of his favorites. He is not without pet peeves, and one of them includes church leaders who look at diminishing budgets and choose to increase evangelism efforts. Scent of a Woman, Dead Poets Society, and the Dream Team are movies he appreciates. By way of rounding out his interests, he regularly plays basketball and tennis.

On June 1st, Stephen Minnema will begin a short tenure with this presbytery charged with helping us: to understand what it could look like to live into our vision statement to be a vibrant, informed Presbyterian community which nourishes ministry and joins in Christ's mission; to better understand and strengthen our committee on ministry; and to consider how to staff our presbytery so we can be the presence for God we hope to be on the northern plains. I am deeply humbled and honored to be offered the opportunity to be your interim executive presbyter. I am looking forward to meeting people and beginning important conversations through which. I hope and pray. the Spirit of God will show us the way toward a bright future of mutual love and service.. Rev. Dr. Steve Minnema

A Thought

Do not depend on the hope of results. You may have to face the fact that your work will be apparently worthless and even achieve no result at all, if not perhaps results opposite to what you expect. As you get used to this idea, you start more and more to concentrate not on the results, but on the value, the rightness, the truth of the work itself. You gradually struggle less and less for an idea and more and more for specific people. In the end, it is the reality of personal relationship that saves everything.

- Thomas Merton

National Presbyterian College Scholarship Awarded to Margo Worman

We are excited to announce that Margo Worman has been selected as a Macalester College recipient of the National Presbyterian College Scholarship. Members of the PC(USA) are invited to apply for the scholarship if they are attending or will attend a Presbyterian affiliated college. This is a competitive program recognizing both academic achievement as well as community and congregational involvement. Congratulations, Margo! Our prayers go with you as you enter Macalester College this Fall.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

Justin Lordeman	1
Milton Wilkinson	1
Beverly Beaver	2
Tim Nelson	2
Jane Lobitz	3
Helen Wolf	4
Ethan Duysen	6
Lynette Nelson	6
Erin McLean	7
Mathias Larson	8
Garritt Ledeboer	12
Amanda Ghauri	13
Katherine McKaig	13
Kay Finley	15
Joshua Kley	16
Cody Turner	16
Allison Lobitz	17
Halleigh Terwilliger	17
Jamal Ghauri	20

Margo Warman	20
Martha Wheeler	21
Richard From	22
Don Martin	23
James Winter	23
Evan Knoll	24
Lisa Mark	25
Arlene Munighan	28
Ashley Kerbaugh	30
David Wheeler	30

Anniversaries

James and Beth Postema	3
Richard and Jacqueline From	6
Henry and Marie Danielson	7
Hal and Pegi Ecker	9
Richard and Helen Pemble	12
Martha and David Wheeler	18
Terry and LaRae McGillivray	21
George and Helen Wolfe	26

Lost

A hand strung bracelet with silver beads and one larger blue stone. This was a gift to Marilynn Wood from her mother and was lost at church. If found please contact Marilynn.