
The First Epistle



First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead • Established in 1872 • June 2011

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Pentecost Offering

Pentecost is such an important time in the church year because it's when we celebrate the birthday of the Christian church and the coming of the Holy Spirit as a bringer of new life. The Spirit's presence in our lives empowers us, purifies us, reveals the power and presence of God and unifies us for service in Christ's name. That's why the Pentecost Offering, which is one of the four annual churchwide special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), is so special and meaningful: through the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives, the Pentecost Offering provides a tangible way to bring God's transforming love to children at risk, guide and nurture the faith of young people, and call forth a new generation of church leadership through the PC(USA) Young Adult Volunteer program.



Since 1998, Presbyterians of all ages have raised more than \$8 million for important ministries that help younger members of God's family through the Pentecost Offering, and your congrega-

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*Father's Day
June 19*

Congratulations to our Graduates!

Congratulations to these youth of our church who completed high school this year:

Brian Anderson, son of John and Lorraine Anderson - Oak Grove High School

Kevin Phonetep, son of Khamboun Phonetep - Moorhead High School

Garrett Hawkins, son of Brad & Audrey Hawkins - Moorhead High School

Justin Conrad, son of Russ & Patty Conrad - West Fargo High School

Laura Christianson, granddaughter of Vern & Elizabeth Bancroft, will graduate from Bismarck High School.

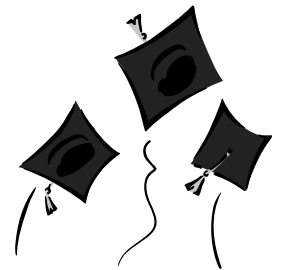
Other graduates include:

Courtney Covey, granddaughter of Ken & Grace Covey, graduated May 13th from MSUM with a Masters in Nursing.

Jeremiah Givers, son of Juneve & Dave Givers, graduated from Cornish Conservatory for the Arts in Seattle on May 4th, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree.

Bill Lenarz graduated from NDSU on May 14th with a Masters of Education in Higher Education Leadership.

If there are graduates we have missed, please notify the church office at 233-1192 so we can include them in the July newsletter.



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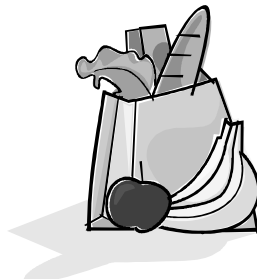
bugandtim@msn.com

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.

Dorothy Day Food Pantry

We will serve Monday, June 27 at 6:15 p.m. Please consider serving the 4th Monday of each month with your church congregation. It is great fellowship and helps out the pantry in a very important mission. We cannot do it without you!

If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Woods at 236-9917.



Happy Birthday

Milton Wilkinson	June 1
Beverly Biever	June 2
Tim Nelson	June 2
Jane Lobitz	June 3
Ethan Duysen	June 6
Lynette Nelson	June 6
Mathias Larson	June 8
Madison Seibel	June 9
Garritt Ledeboer	June 12
Amanda Ghauri	June 13
Katherine McKaig	June 13
Cody Turner	June 16
Allison Lobitz	June 17
Halleigh Terwilliger	June 17
Matthew Cole	June 18
Michael Burns	June 19
Jamal Ghauri	June 20
Margaret Worman	June 20
Martha Wheeler	June 21
Richard From	June 22
Don Martin	June 23
James Winter	June 23
Evan Knoll	June 24
Julie Munsey	June 24
Lisa Mark	June 25
Samuel Engebretson	June 27
Arlene Munighan	June 28
Ashley Kerbaugh	June 30
David Wheeler	June 30

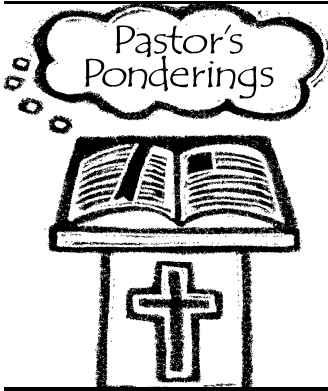
Pentecost Offering Continued from page 1

tion has probably done its part to contribute generously.

Congregations are encouraged to keep 40 percent of the Pentecost Offering to support ministry with children at risk in their communities. For the 2011 Pentecost Offering our church has designated that the local 40% will be given to the YWCA Shelter. This shelter in south Fargo serves the needs of women and children in the region who are homeless and may be escaping a home that is no longer safe for them. This shelter is at, or near, capacity most every night. In addition to providing a safe place to live, the YWCA also supports families with a food pantry, job counseling, child care, transitional housing, and a variety of other support services. Thank you for your gift to the YWCA and for sharing your love with these children who are at-risk in our community!

Your giving really does make a difference!

-Courtesy of PCUSA



Many times in the Bible we see people called by God to carry out a project or deliver a message. Then we see resistance. Moses tried to get out of delivering the people from Egypt. Jeremiah also tried to back out of the job of speaking to Israel in a time of crisis. I don't blame them. It's natural to have fears, especially when we are doing God's work. But the words that are usually spoken by God when he calls someone are: "Do not be afraid, for I will be with you." I wish I remembered those words more often. We call it faith when we really believe that God is with us in the midst of our lives.

Deep faith in God brings a serenity, a sense of peace, even when we do fail. In fact, failure can be seen as learning when we trust that God is with us helping every experience to be meaningful. A very wise person once said that failure is only failure if one fails to learn. I read somewhere that it took Thomas Edison 50,000 tries until he got the light bulb just right. Someone said to him, "Wow, that's a lot of failings." Edison replied that not one single try was a failure. "I now know 49,999 ways that do not work," he said. We should never assume that someone's seeming failure reflects his or her lack of faith. It may just be that that person and God are on a learning adventure together.

God goes with us on the journey as we try new things, new ideas, new projects... Don't worry about failing. Every failing brings us one step closer to success if we learn along the way. And do not be afraid, for God will be with you.

Love,
Pastor John

Vacation Church School Donations Needed

As we organize our various projects for the Main Street VCS week in early June we are looking for donations of materials we can reuse/recycle:

- clear plastic bottles (16-20 oz. size - sport drink type with wide opening is best but we can use water/pop bottles as well)
- colorful buttons
- old nylons or panty hose
- narrow fabric ribbon
- sequins or other shiny decorations/jewels
- old jeans or denim fabric
- yarn with some texture or fuzziness
- T-shirts - larger kid or small adult sizes - in good enough condition to be re-made into a tote bag - limited designs on shirt are ok.
- small plastic cups/containers - plain or clear with no printing - individual pudding cups would be great!

Snack donations would also be appreciated. Here are some of the food items that will help with our menu service at the Main Street Bistro: lemonade mix, napkins, honey nut cheerios, raisins, M&M's, bagels (mini size), fish crackers, muffin mix, grapes, bananas, apples, oranges. Please sign up for a specific donation on the clipboard on the table outside the sanctuary or you may contact Cheri Martin.

Please leave any VCS donations on the counter in the Resource Room in the CE wing. If you have questions, contact Cheri Martin or Barb Worman. Thank you for your support of Vacation Church School!

Youth

Down on Main Street!

Where Jesus makes a difference every day!

Vacation Church School at First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead will be held Monday - Thursday, June 6 - 9 from 9:00 am until Noon. VCS is for children ages 4 years through grade 5. Join us for four mornings of re-discovering our topsy-turvy world from a new and unexpected perspective with Jesus as our example and guide. Our week will feature the everyday people in everyday situations as found in the parables that Christ told his followers. Invite a friend, neighbor, family member! And let Jesus make a difference in YOU! Registration forms are available elsewhere in this newsletter and on the table outside the sanctuary. Please return the registration forms to the church office by Wednesday, June 1st.

We are still in need of adult and youth volunteers to help on VCS mornings and to help prepare for VCS (during the weeks of May 13 and 30). These volunteers can help with crafts, snacks, storytelling or "shepherd" the children to their various activity stations. If you want to join the fun, please contact Cheri Martin (701-261-6360 or email her at clmartinemt@yahoo.com).

Due to a family commitment Barb Worman will be out of town during VCS this year. A HUGE thank you to Cheri for stepping up and leading VCS this year. And she will need many volunteers to make it a great week - VCS is truly a team sport!



Bible Presentation

On Sunday, May 15th our church presented gift Bibles (Contemporary English version) to Hannah Phonethep and Greta Larson.

Summer Nursery

Child care for little ones during the 10:30 am worship service is an important part of our church's hospitality to families, members and visitors. Please consider taking a turn providing care for children in the nursery during the summer. Cheri Martin will be coordinating the staffing of the nursery for June. Caregivers should plan arrive at 10:15 am.

If you are able to help with this aspect of our church's ministry please sign-up on the bulletin board outside the nursery or contact Cheri at 701-261-6360 (or Barb Worman at 236-0889 or by email at bgmw54@aol.com). Thank you!

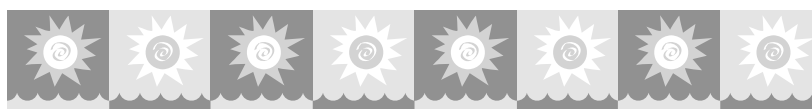
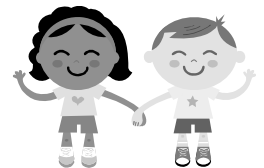
THANK YOU

We appreciate the care and commitment of the volunteers who have cared for the youngest ones in the nursery during church school and worship throughout the school year:

Kathy McKaig, Nicole Hestbeck, Jane Lobitz, Pegi Ecker, Margaret Sambo, Amity Cook, Bill & Jess Lenarz, Tim Nelson, Patty Conrad, Kim Kelsh.

And our thanks to those who volunteered as nursery substitutes: LaRae McGillivray, Audrey & Brad Hawkins, Dusty & Laurie Mjoen, Janet Van Amburg, Martha Wheeler, Kathy Eggiman.

Finally, thank you to others who helped out when needed: Molly Ecker, Mitch McKaig, Ehrin McKaig, Martha Anderson, Ayesha Pemble, Justin Conrad, Erik & Elizabeth Swee, Scott Ecker, and anyone else not named here.

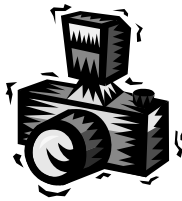


News and Events

June Community Outreach Course

On Sunday, June 26, local photographer Bruce Danuser will teach a digital camera class taught. The class will be held from 7:00-9:00 PM.

Please bring your cameras to the class. There will be instructions & suggestions, followed by a question & answer segment.



To register please call the church from 9:00-12:00 Monday-Friday or contact Loretta Wickie 218-233-0048.

From Ken and Grace Covey

Courtney Covey, daughter of Mark Covey & Debra Seaburg, is continuing a family medical tradition in recently graduating as a registered nurse from NDSU's nursing school. Grandparents, Ken & Grace Covey, are proud and happy that she is choosing to follow a service career in a most respected field. We are in good hands! Thank God.

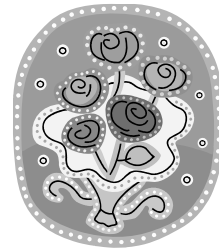
Rummage Sale Results

Over \$2000 was raised toward the goal of improving our south parking lot! Thank you to all of those who donated, sorted, priced and coordinated for this fundraiser. It was a huge success. At least one person commented that it was the best rummage sale in town.



Flowers for the Worship Service

You are invited to give flowers to brighten our worship. Choose a date to honor someone special, and sign up on the flower chart in the narthex or call the church office. For information or questions, call



Grace Covey (233-4691), Mary Skalet (236-5559), Marion DeJong (233-3041), Ruth Mathews (233-4469) or Elizabeth Swee (236-9346). Thank you!

We ask that more members of the Congregation please consider participating in the flower

program. It brightens our sanctuary and can be a very good way to honor your loved ones.

Way to Go!

Congratulations to Peter Sambo and his uncle Chris Swee for running in the Youth Run at the Fargo Marathon. Peter and Chris finished the entire course reportedly using a number of methods, piggy-back riding included.

Nice job!

Church Grounds Update

Plans to make improvements to the church grounds are off to a good start. On May 15, a group toured the grounds to brainstorm ideas. The group has



preliminary plans regarding where to put some of the plants people are willing to donate and will be setting up a time for people to bring shovels, tools and plants. Ron Johnson is checking on

cost of a truck load of peat moss to start the main bed on the south side by the front entrance.

Soon, volunteers will be sought to sign up for start-up work as well as for upkeep of the plants. Please consider helping us keep our church grounds beautiful.