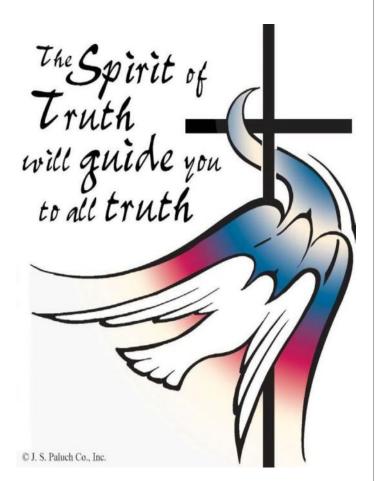
First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan

The Good News

June 2023



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Mission Support

Please join us in welcoming back Rev. Mark Adams and Miriam Maldonado Escobar for an authentic Mexican meal on June 10th at 6 pm. FPC continues to support these incredible mission co-workers from Frontera de Cristo. Mark and Miriam will prepare the meal for us and share what a mission trip to Frontera de Cristo in 2024 might look like for members of our congregation. Mark will also preach at both services on Sunday, June 11th.

On Saturday July 1 you can kick back and enjoy a lunch barbeque and meet another incredible mission co-worker, Pam, who serves in the Middle East.

FPC Mission Committee will be cooking up burgers on the grills, and ask those attending to bring a side dish or dessert if you are able.

This will be a great time to talk with Pam and learn how she is serving God in a struggling part of the world.

There will be an opportunity to support both missions financially through a special offering.

If you want to help in the preparation of these meals or have questions, please ask your Mission Committee members:

Tina Anderson (elder)
Rachel Mathews-Landis (elder)
Jan Leupold
Jerilea Phillips
Kendra Heimbuck
Rob Milne

Thank You

for being such a generous congregation!



><>FROM PASTOR KARL<><

Dear Ones,

You did not come to this space to read a television review. Nonetheless, I'm going to write something akin to one. I hope you'll see why by the end of the article. (Spoiler alert: if you do not know how Ted Lasso ends and do not want to know, you might skip this version of the pastor's newsletter article.)

This past week, one of my favorite shows wrapped up its third season and probably its run on AppleTV. That show is Ted Lasso. Ted is an American football coach who ends up out of his element coaching a soccer team in the prestigious English Premier League. Hilarity ensues as he wrestles to understand the game he is now coaching at the highest level and a culture which his own is tangential to but not perfectly similar.

As Ted learns the game and makes some blunders over the first two seasons, it comes through that his prowess as a coach is not as a tactician but as someone who can draw the best out of people. Early in the series he even notes, "Success is not about the wins and losses. It's about helping these young fellas be the best versions of themselves on and off the field." There is a predictable tension at times in the series between this sentiment and the reality of needing and desiring to win as a professional sports team, but it is the theme of being the best version of yourself that carries through and is doubled down on in the final episode.

The belief that you can be the best version of yourself each day and grow into a better you tomorrow is a theme that draws me to this show. But what the show hits on so well and differently is that the best version of yourself might not be found where everything is going right for you. By the end of the third season, Ted's team is near the top of the standings, he understands the game, he has won over a difficult fan base, and has proved to be one of the best managers in the league. But he walks away from it. Ted's escape to England in the first place was partially inspired by a separation from his wife. However, the needed miles between the two of them meant the same distance between Ted and his son. By the end of last week's episode, Ted has realized that the best version of himself is with his son even if that means walking away from the success he has worked diligently to achieve.

Ted Lasso does not pretend to be a show about faith, but as a pastor, I think its theme of striving to be our best selves is something similar to what Jesus asks of us and God's grace makes possible for us. That is, to be our most faithful selves each day and trusting we can grow while doing so. This means you can put others before yourself while working on yourself so that this isn't unhealthy (as Ted does). This means caring more about each other's lives than wins or losses (or wealth or politics or whatever else gets in the way of seeing each other's humanity and the love of God for one another). It means following God's lead to the place that might not be where you are most successful or held in the highest esteem but where your faith is sustained and nurtured so that you can sustain and nurture others. Lastly, it looks like being grounded in common purpose. In Ted Lasso, this is being on a soccer team. For people of our faith, it is worshiping together.

Try to be the most faithful version of yourself today. Then, try again tomorrow. And if you feel you weren't the most faithful or compassionate or caring or whatever you tried to be on a particular day, do as Ted says, "Be a goldfish" because a goldfish only has a ten-second memory. Or, for us, be a goldfish because God's grace means that slip up won't affect our trying again to be the most faithful person we can be the next day because God still loves us and is still as faithful as only God can be.

Believe.

My mom moved in with us when Eli was about 15 months old. Several well-meaning people commented about how great it will be to have a built-in babysitter, how brave Craig was taking in his mother-in-law, and more comments along that line. Craig and I never really thought about those things. Instead, we thought about how the kids would have a relationship with my mom and all the insights she could teach them. She stayed with us for twelve years. The relationship that my kids have with their grandmother is something extraordinary. All the inside jokes and teasing they do back and forth are incredible, as are their deep conversations.

In the church, words like multi-generational and intergenerational labels are tossed around. Their meanings can get murky. The multi-generational church is generations gathered in one place with meaningful interaction. There are offerings for all ages, but there is no overlap. The intergenerational church is one means more than one generation is together but is actively engaging and involved in a give-and-take situation. It can look like all ages together in a Bible class, doing a service project, sharing a meal, or attending an event together.

We met a retired couple when we lived in Wahpeton. They were a fabulous couple. The first time my family met Jerry, he was making faces at the kids from across the room. After that, the kids just gravitated toward him. His wife Sonya was a kind, soft-spoken, gentle soul. She and Eli hit it off. Over the next few months, they made a point to talk to us, not just the kids. They would ask if we would like to sit with them, then it transitioned to the kids could sit next to them. The relationship just bloomed from there. They would invite the kids over to watch cartoons, and later, to my surprise, they would also make a Dairy Queen run. We are still in touch. Jerry doesn't live that far from where Izabel is going to school. They have had her over for dinner several times. So my kids have someone else in their corner to help and answer any questions. Several people in that church interacted with all the youth in similar manners. The people made a conscientious effort to be where the child was; youth group, confirmation classes and dinner, and Vacation Bible school. This church also did a fundraiser where they made and sold homemade donuts. I am talking thousands of donuts. The people organizing the event included the youth in their event. They would assign them age-appropriate jobs. One year, they asked Eli if he could come color one of their signs they had. Everyone felt included.

The church we attended in North Dakota had many aspects of an intergenerational congregation. They were very intentional with their interactions.

There are so many opportunities to have intergenerational opportunities here at FPC. It doesn't have to wait until Bible studies or The Bridge is back in session. There are monthly family fellowship events. Everyone is a member of God's family and is welcome. These are opportunities for people of all ages to get to know each other. These gatherings allow the participants to interact. To get to know each other better. It might be that hook you connect with someone you didn't think you had something in common and have the time to explore that connection. It is getting people of all experience levels in the same place to share the knowledge they have gained. It doesn't have to be church-related. I have a little experience in life, but there are still things that happen to me that I would love to have someone else's insight on, and maybe there might be someone who would want mine.

God gifted us the church to be in a community with each other, not just the adults with the adults, but the adults of all ages with babies, kids, and youth. Just because they may look a little different than you doesn't mean you can't have a relationship with them. In the movie *Encanto*, the opening song is The Family Madrigal. It is a song about the family, but there are lines in the music that goes, "This is my family, A perfect constellation, So many stars, and everybody gets to shine" We are stars in God's constellation. We burn bright, but we form the whole picture when we connect, and in the connections is our chance to shine.





Presbyterian Women!

Praying for God to Help Us Bloom Where We Are Planted in 2023!

Our Purpose

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit we commit ourselves:

- To nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study
- To support the mission of the church worldwide
- To work for justice and peace, and
- To build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the Promise of God's kingdom.

All women of the church are Presbyterian Women. You are welcome to visit PW meetings, gatherings and Circles to see what it is like – you are always invited! Pray about it and see what the Lord reveals to you. If you can only attend sporadically – don't let that stop you – you are always welcome!

The Circles (small groups) gather on the 3rd Wednesday of the month during the school year September through May.

Circle 1 gathers at 10:00 am in the Parlor

Circle 2 gathers at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall

Circle 3 gathers at noon in the Fellowship Hall (bring your own lunch)

The Presbyterian Women Horizons Bible Study for 2022-2023 is "Celebrating Sabbath" by Carol Bechtel. In our fast paced lives, do we forget to rest, turn from seeking our own pleasure and Celebrate the Sabbath. Consider visiting one of our Circle studies to find out more.

We had a wonderful luncheon May 3rd. Kathy Lundberg shared her slides and stories from her trip to Israel last September. It was lovely! She said that on the Sea of Galilee she felt very moved thinking of Peter getting out of the boat and walking on water to meet Jesus. She had some wonderful stories and I think everyone learned something new. Thank you Kathy! The Hawaiian themed food was great! The fellowship was priceless!

The next PW luncheon is on September 6th. Put on your thinking caps about programs you want to see at our PW luncheons. Or, do you not want programs? Your opinion matters. We will have a survey instead of a program.

We have the author of "Celebrating Sabbath" Carol Bechtel as our guest speaker at the PW Camp Story Women's Retreat being held June 2-4. Carol Bechtel is an Old Testament Professor at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan. Carol is also a Pastor and will be our facilitator at Camp Story. Pray for the weekend.

Thanks to all who helped with Camp Story clean-up!

Love and blessings from your sisters in Christ,

Helen 673-1710 and Rhea 683-2362



FPC in Action!



Welcome New FPC Members!

Arlene Herrboldt

James, Melony & Zooey Douglas

Jerrod & Rockie Sadler

Barb Finch (not pictured)



Celebrating Our High School
Graduates
Zach and Carter



Family Fellowship Gathering "Plant and blossom with creativity"

FPC in Action!





SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The monthly Session meeting for May was held on Tuesday the 16th at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. News of Interest --

- For the first time this year there was a monthly net income. April was the first month that income exceeded expenses.
- Six new members were approved by the Session to be added to the rolls. They are Jerrod and Rockie Sadler, James and Melony Douglas, Barb Finch, and Arlene Herrboldt. Please make them feel welcome.
- The Properties Committee said that the sewer line upgrade on May 8 was canceled at the recommendation of the plumber.
- The CE Committee's next event is a movie night on June 11.
- The Worship Committee gave a look ahead at upcoming Sunday services:
 - -- May 28 is Pentecost with Bob Miller in the pulpit.
- --June 11- the coffee mission folks from Frontero de Christo will preach.
- --June 18- Pastor Karl will be away and Doug Goodwin will be in the pulpit.
- --June 25- Rachel Mathews-Landis will conduct the service.
- The Christian Education Committee announced that Vacation Bible School is planned for Tuesday, August 1 Thursday, August 3. VBS will be held at the United Methodist and St. Peter's Episcopal churches.
- The Congregational Care Committee requested that Rebecca Koehn be removed from the rolls as she entered the Church Triumphant on February 2, 2023.
- To close our Session meeting, Pastor Karl gave a prayer for Amy Turpin and her family as they will be moving to Laramie next month.
- Please support Camp Story with donations of time and/or money.

Gary Joy, Clerk of Session

Lunch Together

FPC is hosting Lunch Together

Monday—Thursday, June 12—15.

Contact Denise Mueller at 828-712-9500 if you are able to prepare food or help serve on any day that week.

Thank You!







Financial Summary for 2023 through the end of April

Giving:

Actual Giving	\$ 132,726
Budgeted Giving	\$ 127,967
Difference	\$ 4,759

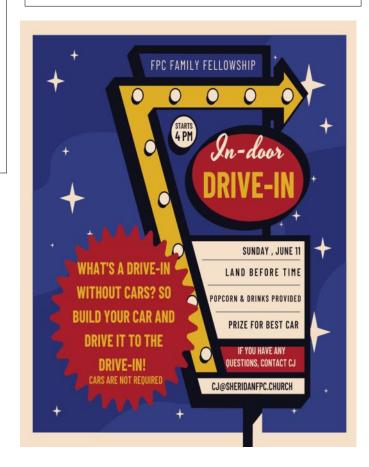
Expenses:

Actual Expenses	\$ 123,225
Budgeted Expenses	\$ 136,117
Difference	\$ -12,892

Net:

Actual Giving	\$ 132,726
Actual Expenses	\$ 123,225
Difference	\$ 9,501

These numbers reflect that a few large annual donations received early in the year are divided by the remaining months in the year and then added to each months actual giving.



For their service to the church during the month of May, the Worship Committee would like to thank these faithful servants...

Musicians: Miriam Nance, Ryan Landis, Mary Apple, FPC Choir Members, Carter Steidley

Worship Leaders: Doug Moore, Becky Motsick, Kim Wells, Tracey Burke

Ushers: Tina Anderson, Jean Morgen, Dave & Catherine Engels, Nancy Cook, Mike Stoll, Gloria Dierking,

Kim Wells, Jason Szwec, Rob Milne, Gary & Jeri Joy, Scott Davis

Communion Prep: Su Rappleye-Jackson, Denise Mueller

Communion Servers: Dave Engels, Gloria Dierking, Gary & Jeri Joy, Scott Davis

Audio/Visual Systems Operators: Ted Knapp, CJ Clem, Gloria Dierking, Craig Clem, Eli Clem, Ryan &

Rachel Mathews-Landis

Coffee Sponsors: Mission Committee, Pastor Karl & Kendra Heimbuck, Mike Stoll & Tina Anderson,

Ryan, Rachel & Prakash Landis



The Budget/Finance committee wishes to thank everyone for the great response to the per capita appeal.

Keep them in your prayers



Ongoing Prayers: Margie Elkins, Karen Townsend, Darlene McNair, Kathleen Shafer, Jerry and Myrna Saunders, Leonard Hurst, and Robert Ruttinger.

Prayers for Peace & Healing: Howie Fitzpatrick, Julie Bugher, Jae Satterlee, Jeannette Ruttinger, Diana Miller, Carol & Roy Davis, Pam Moore, and Becky Motsick.

Prayers for Mission Partners: First Presbyterian (Greybull), Habitat for Humanity of the Eastern Big Horns, and Camp Story as they begin their camp season.

If you have prayer concerns that you would like shared, please call the church office at 672-1717.



Session Members and Committees

Budget & Finance

Scott Davis, Gary Laughton

Clerk of Session

Gary Joy

Christian Education

Amy Turpin, Rex Arney, Tori Milne

Fellowship

Kim Wells, Becky Motsick

Congregational Care

Bobbie Spahn, Jean Morgen, Larry Apple

Mission & Outreach

Tina Anderson, Rachel Mathews-Landis

Personnel

Shelley Cundiff, Nancy Cook

Properties

Dave Youngren, Kurt Smith

Worship

John Jackson, Beth Thurow

Tech

Gloria Dierking, Craig Clem

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 1—Lexi Gray

June 2—Jim Wilhelm

June 6—Dick Birkholz

June 7—Katie Turpin

June 14—Kenny Osborne, Lauren Roberts, Amy Turpin

June 16-Becky Bard

June 18—Claire Gerber, Darleen Douglas

June 19-Jenni Steidley

June 21—Dennis Heizer

June 22—Robert Ruttinger

June 23—Cynthia Smith

June 24—Alicia Ford, Pauline Stadick

June 26-Evan Groshart

June 28-Mitzi Knapp

June 30-Tracy Landeis







Happy Anniversary! June

June 1—Ted & Mitzi Knapp

June 5—Steve & Julie Kennedy

June 12—Todd & Jerilea Phillips, Craig & CJ Clem

June 19—Todd & Tomomi Browne, Loren & Bridgett Ruttinger

June 22—Jim & Phyllis Wilhelm, Jim & Diana Perry

June 23-Scott Davis & Mary Ludemann

June 25—Howie & Sandy Fitzpatrick, Tod & Marjorie Windsor, Jim & Margaret Litle

June 26—William & Laurie Graves



If you would like to have your loved-one in the military listed on this page, or if you would like to have their address printed in the newsletter, or their picture on our picture board, please give the information to the office.

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 PV	V Retreat
4 8 am Worship w/ Communion 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship w/Communion	5	6 11 am Properties Committee	7	8	9	6 pm Mexican Dinner
8 am Worship 10 am Fellowship Time 10:30 Worship 4 pm Family Fellowship	12	5:45 pm Mission Lunch To	14 10:15 am Congregational Care Committee	15	CJ/Yout	h Mission Trip
8 am Worship 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship	19		21 Youth Mission Trip Karl Out of Office	22	DEADLINE: Newsletter Articles	24
25 8 am Worship 10 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship	26	27 Pastor K	28 Carl Out of Office	29	30	—

First Presbyterian Church 2121 Colonial Drive Sheridan, WY 82801

Return Service Requested

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