



Easter Blessings!!

*Come
and
Worship With Us!!!*

LET'S CELEBRATE
TOGETHER

EASTER BREAKFAST

APRIL 17, 2022
9:00 AM - 9:55 AM
In the Fellowship Hall

*He is
Risen*



*Easter Sunday
Worship Service
10am
Pastor Peter Dembroski*

First Light Newsletter

A Monthly Newsletter Publication of the First Presbyterian Church of Fairbanks Alaska

547 7th Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Office No.: 907-452-2406 | Fax No.: 907-452-7205
fairbanksfirstpres.com

~~~ A Message from the Pastor ~~~

My name is Barabbas. My story is a strange one. You see, I was a prisoner in Israel and was under the sentence of death due to my insurrectionist activities. I awaited the carrying out of my sentence with boldness. I was guilty of the crimes for which I was being punished. My goal was to bring the downfall of the oppressive Roman government, and I was willing to do whatever was required in the attempt. Murder was just one of the many crimes that were necessary to bring about the greater good for which I would give my life. I would gladly die for my cause, and many would come behind me to take up the banner after I was gone from this world. And now it seemed that time would come swiftly.

While pondering thoughts of the afterlife, I was approached without explanation by two guards who silently unchained me from my shackles and roughly escorted me from my cell and deposited me in a back alley in the light of day. Without a word of explanation, I was expelled and thrust back into the world of the living, feeling as a baby might after it is birthed: shocked, confused, exhilarated. As I began to stumble forward, I was drawn by the throng of a great crowd.

To my astonishment, I, Barabbas, was greeted by this crowd. One who had been condemned to die, one who had been labeled a violent terrorist, was now being embraced as some sort of hero. What had changed? What had I done to win the admiration of this people? They would have run from me in fear just a few short days ago. Upsetting the delicate balance they worked so hard to maintain was my life's goal! What did they want with me? One old man, sensing my confusion, turned my face in the direction of a courtyard in which stood the high priest and another condemned prisoner. This prisoner was bloody from torture and clearly exhausted from a long night's trial. What has he done? I asked. He, like you, was stirring up trouble for us with the Roman government. We feared his growing following among the people. But he looks so weak?

Am I expected to believe that this man would lead a revolution, leaving dead bodies in his wake as I was prepared to do? No. In fact, his message was one of love, not hate; of respect for authority, not rebellion. With miracles and wonders he has healed, fed and satisfied the peoples' longing. And for this he is condemned to die? Not for this, but for his claim that his revolution is a spiritual one. And of this new kingdom, he is King!

The crowd's interest in me was short lived, and they were soon riveted on the would-be king, who was now wearing a crown of thorns and a mock regal robe. I shook free of the last grasping hands and walked away in amazement. How could anyone dream of leading a revolution with love? Why would he give his life for such a cause? What difference could that possibly make in this evil world? But the question that lingers and nags at me is this: How could I, Barabbas, a man who was guilty of murder, be set free because he was condemned?

(Thanks to my wife, Cynthia, for sharing her Easter thoughts). **Christ is Risen!!**





HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

1	Bill Satterberg
5	Ivory Huffaker
5	Melissa Logan
6	Paul Bonnell
8	Pastor Peter Dembroski
12	Anglea Thies
12	Cora Wietgreffe
13	Jerry Cleworth
19	Marty Foster
19	Sean Williams
20	Robert Askelin
23	Stephanie Rozell
26	Patricia Fink
29	Merle Fortune III
30	Rosario Sheets

SUNDAY, April 3



“and when he had given thanks, He broke it, and said, “This is My body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.” 1 Corinthians 11:24

Easter Eggstravaganza

Saturday, April 9

10AM - 12PM

First Presbyterian Church
547 7th Ave, Fairbanks, AK 99709

Bring a grown-up, a basket, and have some eggstreme fun filling it with candy and crafts!

For preschool to 6th grade

Holy



Week

Sunday, April 10

Palm Sunday

They took palm branches and
went out to meet him, shouting,

"Hosanna!"

*Worship Service
10am*

Thursday, April 14



*Maundy Thursday Services
Soup/Supper, 6pm
Worship/Communion
7pm*

Because He Lives.....

I can face tomorrow

Because He lives

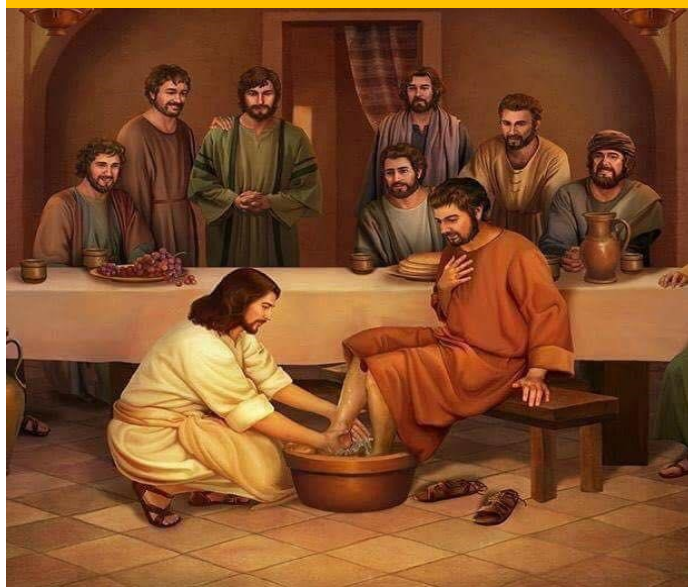
All fear is gone

Because I know

He holds the future

And life is worth the living

Just because He lives.....



Session Meeting

What follows is a short summary of the decisions and actions of the Session, at the March 22, 2022 Session Meeting. The minutes of the meeting will contain a more complete record.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church met in the Conference Room at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, March 22nd.

Because the regularly scheduled Session Meeting fell during Spring Break, the meeting was rescheduled for the 22nd.

The meeting was called to order by Moderator, TE Peter Dembroski, with prayer.

Pastor Peter provided a devotion based on Matthew 5:43-48, "Loving Your Enemies".

Minutes from the last Stated Session meeting, a Special Session Meeting to examine new members and vital statistics from the last month were reviewed and approved.

Correspondence was received from the Board of Deacons, outlining new procedures for Memorial Services. Also received was information from Presbytery on the May Presbytery Meeting in Shedd Oregon, and the General Assembly meeting in Detroit Michigan, this coming June

Consent Calendar items that were approved included the review of the Deacons January Meeting and approval of vacation time for Pastor Peter from April 18th through April 26th.

A motion from the January session meeting to amend a proposed revision of the Session's Conflict of Interest Policy and place it under a new section was again discussed. The motion to amend and place the new line, **"The spouse or family member of an employee may not serve on the Personnel Committee, Session, or the Pastor Search Committee"** was passed and the statement was adopted.

It was **moved** and **seconded** and **passed**, that **"an annual baby shower and meal train for new babies be the responsibility of the Deacons and Congregational Care committee"**.

After a discussion of the plans for the upcoming Youth Mission Trip, it was , **moved**, **seconded** and **passed** that session demonstrate their support for the 2022 Summer Youth Mission Trip, so that the youth ministry team can communicate to parents their COVID contingency plans, knowing that the youth trip has the backing of the entire leadership of FPC.

Session reviewed procedures recommended by the Board of Deacons, which will be followed when the church facility is used for a Memorial Service. It was **moved**, **seconded** and **passed** to postpone a decision on approval until the April Meeting, after further discussion of the procedures.

It was **moved**, **seconded** and **passed** to have the nomination of church officers added to all future agendas for future Congregational Meetings.

(Continued on next page)

It was **moved, seconded** and **passed** to call a Special Session Meeting on March 30, 2022. From 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, to discuss the Pastor Search Committee, the Church Administrator position, and the structure of Church Leadership.

Upcoming meetings of the Presbytery and General Assembly were announced and Elders are considering attending. The Clerk of Session was directed to notify all Elders, not just those on Session, that they are also eligible to attend as Commissioners to Presbytery and General Assembly. Those who are interested should contact the Clerk, Dave Dreydoppel for further information.

It was **moved, seconded** and **passed** to extend the meeting until 9:30 pm.

Written and verbal ministry team reports were received.

Elders spent time in prayer. After making prayer requests known, and elders praying for those needs, Moderator Dembroski then adjourned the meeting in prayer.

The next Stated Session Meeting will be held on April 19, 2022 at 6:00 pm, in the Church Conference Room.

Spicy Mustard Youth News!

No Foolin', the Youth are Headed to
Pennsylvania!

Thank to your support, we are halfway to our fundraising goal for the Mission Trip! The youth will be hosting a silent auction the two Sundays after Easter in the Narthex, so please consider if you have any items or services to donate toward that silent auction, please contact David McConnell-Booher ASAP.

Many of our Youth will be making a public affirmation of their Baptism, their Christian faith, and entering the church as full members on April 10th at the worship service. Be sure to join us for worship and celebrate with our young sisters and brothers in Christ!



*The Front Office Will Be Closed
Monday, April 18*



Men-In-Action
Mondays, 11:45am

Prayer Time
Tuesdays, 12:15pm

Food Box Distributions
Wednesday, beginning 10am

The WELL
Wednesdays, Hot Meals
6-7pm

Spicy Mustard Youth Group
Wednesdays from 4-7pm

AI-Anon Meetings
FPC Library,
Mon, Wed, Fri, 12:30-2PM

Stone Soup (AA) Meetings
FPC Conference Room
Mon-Fri, 12:15-1:30PM

LOVE AND CANDY

This April in Children's Ministry we look forward serving the families of Fairbanks!



Egg-stravaganza: April 9, 10am-12pm

Eggstravaganza is a major outreach to Fairbanks families—please invite your neighbors! We plan to see 150 children and their grownups pass through our doors. We'll be making crafts, running, jumping, painting faces, and filling baskets with chocolate. Kids (toddler through 6th grade) should bring their Easter basket, parents should plan to stay with them.

Easter Sunday Services: April 17

We have plans to welcome kids to church with our friendliest smiles and a chance to process the gift that is grace on their own level. We'll be sharing a special activity book based on The Garden, the Curtain and the Cross,

by Carl Laferton. I encourage you to read one of the copies of this beautiful book, available in the children's book display at the back of the sanctuary



Vacation Bible School: July 17-21

Plans are well underway for our summertime week of adventures! This year we will focus on the story of Joseph and his family, and we'll learn about desert life through a southwestern theme.

Watch for announcements that tell about your chance to be a VBS team member!



♥ Please pray for Jesus to be glorified at well organized and well-attended events ♥

Certificate of Appreciation

AWARDED TO

First Presbyterian Church

For bringing joy to needy children around the world by sending

60 shoebox gifts in 2021

Every shoebox gift you pack enables us to reach children worldwide with the good news of God's love and the true meaning of Christmas.

You sent 18 in 2020, 44 in 2019, and 52 in 2018.



Ellen Leetch

Ellen Leetch, Area Coordinator
Interior and Northern Alaska Area Team

I will make you as a
light for the nations,
that my salvation may
reach to the end of the
earth. Is. 49:6b

Fairbanks
Upcoming
Events:



children's

TOMORROW!

EARTH DAY 2022 EVENTS

Weeklong

April 16 – May 1

Poetry + Art Walk

Creamer's Field &
Chena Riverwalk

April 16 – 23

Earth Day Kids Activities

The Children's Museum

Thursday, April 21

6 pm – 7pm

Renewable Energy Info Session

presented by Fairbanks Climate Action Coalition

Zoom, or
TBA Location
(RSVP online)

Friday, April 22

Noon

Howl at Noon!

raise a RUCKUS
for the Earth & all wild things!

Wherever you are,
step outside & howl!

7 PM

"Youth V Gov"
film showing

Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Fairbanks, or
Zoom

Saturday, April 23

9 am – 10:30 am

Guided Birdwatching
Interior Alaska Land Trust

Peat Ponds

11 am – Noon

Earth Day Sidewalk Parade
costumes, masks, floats made of
wagons, garden carts, & wheel barrows!

Pioneer Park

Noon – 4 pm

Earth Day Fair
children's activities, information tables,
live music, & food trucks

Pioneer Park

Noon – 4 pm

Guided Birdwatching
Arctic Audubon

Creamer's Field

For more details on Earth Week Events, please visit:

bit.ly/FBXearthday

masks required for indoor events & recommended for outdoor events!

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