



First Light

Volume 27, Issue 5 August 2018

*For everything there is
a season, and a time for
every matter under
heaven...*

Eccl. 3.1

As I get older, I'm pretty convinced the only constant in life is change. This is certainly true for FPC. We're in a new season of life, a time of transition and opportunity, a time to gratefully reflect upon the past- taking great courage and hope at God's faithfulness to us for 115yrs, but just as importantly to look forward with fresh eyes and anticipation to the next season of life.

Transitions can be anxious times— no one likes change. But, they are also times to do some metaphorical house-cleaning- to look at ourselves anew with an eye to the future. But sometimes we need others to help us see ourselves and the way forward. Vital Church Ministries is just such a group. Here are some important dates for you to mark in your calendars.

August 3-19: Anonymous online survey, 75-90 questions. There will be paper copies if you're more comfortable with pen and ink. We will also have a computer set up at the church, if you wish to do the survey there and you think you might need some help.

Sept 26-30: Onsite Interviews: A team from Vital Church Ministries, having analyzed the data gathered from the survey, will come to Fairbanks to interview

members of the congregation, officers and staff.

Sept. 30: A member of the Vital Church Ministries team will preach along the themes which have emerged from the survey and interviews. After worship there will be a Town Hall meeting, where the VCM team will present their insights with a time for questions and answers.

Nov. 9: We will be given a final written report which will serve as a mirror and map giving session insights into how to pray and lead in this transitional period frame.

At some point a transitional pastor will be hired by session to serve the changes being implemented. The timing of this is unclear but session will keep the congregation in the loop. If you have questions, please ask. If we know the answers, we'll tell you. If we don't, we'll tell you that too!

In the meantime- let me tell you some exciting changes that have already been made!

- New Children's Sunday School material and format is coming this Fall. We have a children's ministry coach with 40 years of experience working with us to develop a deliberate, simple, effective and inexpensive curriculum with training for teachers. This will set us up well for finding and calling a new full time Children's Minister. Even if you don't have kids, you'll be seeing these changes- and if you do have kids, well- be prepared to learn along with! Please pray for and support the Children's

Ministry Team- and remember Heidi Van Harper and Stephanie Rozell in your prayers as they give leadership to the Children's Ministry Team.

- Marta Conner has joined Staff as our Office Administrator. Marta is a sourdough. She and her husband Kenneth have lived in Fairbanks for 32yrs. She has worked for the University and FNSB. She loves the Lord who died and rose for her. We're all grateful to our God for his providence in Marta. She is a great addition to the ministry of FPC.

So, have a great rest of the Summer! And even though, as Bob Dylan says, "Times, they are a changin'" - remember you serve a timeless savior, who is Lord of all. You can trust him in the journey, he's there with you. You have nothing to fear!

Grace & Peace in Christ
Pastor Dave

First Light

A Monthly Newsletter Publication of the First Presbyterian Church

Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 20th of each month.

Submission may be dropped off at the church office, mailed, faxed or emailed to

Marta.Conner@fpcfairbanks.com



Serving God by Serving Others

Happy August First Presbyterian Church! Blessings to all of you from your faithful "Sneakin' Deacons!" I would like to introduce you to this awesome group of adults that are honored to serve you, the congregation of First Presbyterian Church.

My name is Barbara Nore and I serve as the Moderator of our deacons. I am the liaison between the session and staff and the main point of contact. Nancy Dreydoppel serves as our secretary and Keith Nore is our treasurer. The rest of the deacons include Sarah Curtis, Debby and Logan Foster, Lonny Marney, Darlene Lundberg, Kathi Stevens, Kathy Rahmandar Halfhill and our newest deacons are Debra Lynn Bush, Joan and Ted Riggs. Each deacon usually serves for a 2-3 year term of office with the option of accepting a second term of office, too. Recently we had to bid farewell to long time dedicated deacons Michelle VanHatten and Michele Marney.

Your deacons are here to serve you and receive requests for services through the pastor, session, and the church office. We meet monthly on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Each of us has a name badge and we try to greet new members and visitors at both services each Sunday.

Thank you to many of you who have continued to support FPC and the deacons in our requests for food at memorial services, new baby arrivals, family hardships, and of course the angel tree program. We are blessed and honored to serve in His great name.

Barbara Nore, Moderator

First Presbyterian Church Deacons

Save the Date: FALL COMMUNITY ORGAN CONCERT ***Guests from the Netherlands!***

It is with great excitement that Chuck Gray and Russ Vander Lugt announce a special visit from Gert and Marjolein van Hoef. Gert and Marj are a young, vibrant Christian couple from Holland who are enjoying increasing acclaim across Europe. Gert will play an organ concert (assisted by Marj) at First Presbyterian on Tuesday, October 9th, which will be free and open to the community. The following evening, they will perform a more formal concert at Davis Concert Hall on the University's pipe organ.

This announcement is being made far enough in advance so that music lovers can work the concert into their fall plans. Plan on supporting this exciting community event and meeting Gert and Marj! For

an early introduction, go to their website: <https://www.gertvanhoef.nl/>

The organ concert at our church will be somewhat less formal than the one at the University. You can expect to hear familiar classical music and popular music not often played on an organ, in addition to an opportunity to join in on a few lively church hymns. This concert continues a series of community concerts on our new organ initiated last year. We hope to see you all there!

-Chuck and Russ



Church Updates



*I will praise You
Lord with all my
heart.*

Psalm 138:1



Ordination of Deacons and Elders

Deacons

*Debra Lynn Bush
Sarah Curtis
Nancy Dreydoppel
Debby Foster
Logan Foster
Kathy Rahmandar
Darlene Lundberg
Lonny Marney
Barbara Nore
Keith Nore
Joan Riggs
Ted Riggs
Kathy Stevens*

Session

*Dave Dreydoppel
Donna Brewer
Terry Reichardt
June Champlin
Jim Williams
Michelle Harpole
Dawn Cogan
Mikki Holt
Mike Repasky
Jake Sirevaag
Russ Vander Lugt
Barb Page
Dave Moody
(Moderator)*

"FPC Saints-

Here is the online survey. Copy the following link into your web browser and it will take you to the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FairbanksAK>

We want your honest appraisal- your thoughts and opinions are important! The more responses we get the better the picture comes into focus. The survey will be open until Sunday, 19 August. Printed copies are available at the office. A computer kiosk is open at the church, if you wish to do the survey here. On Sunday, 30 Sept, Vital Church Ministries will give us a presentation on their findings, directly after second service. Thank you! God's blessings to you!"

Pastor Dave

youth ministry



As I write this, Stephanie and Brian Rozell and Barb Moody will be leaving at 6am tomorrow with ANOTHER dozen teenagers to travel to Anchorage for FUSION - a youth ministry event for all of Alaska that features excellent Christian bands, teachers, and speakers!

As these adventures turn to memories and reflections, our young people will be finishing summer jobs, preparing for another Fall semester at school, and returning to their school-year routines. I ask that as they do that, you would continue to pray for them, reach out to them on Sunday mornings, and let them know that they have a church family who loves them and rejoices in the continuing discipleship. Thank you all so much for all of your support for this vital ministry of our church, we couldn't possibly do any of this without you!

David Booher
Youth Ministry

Mom's Playdate

August 2

Goldstream Valley Lions Park.
Bring bike for the BMX track.
Directions: On Goldstream,
near Ivory Jacks

August 9

Snedden Park. Directions:
On Slater Drive, behind
Chowder House by the river.

Promote Your Youth
Group

Youth ministry is a vital part of growing and equipping the church

VBS

Thank You

Thank you for all the volunteers who helped this year's 2018 VBS! We had fun partnering with Harvest Church, and kids came away with an understanding how we are rescued by Jesus!

*Heidi Van Harper
Interim Children's Ministry
Administrator*



Partnering with Harvest Church

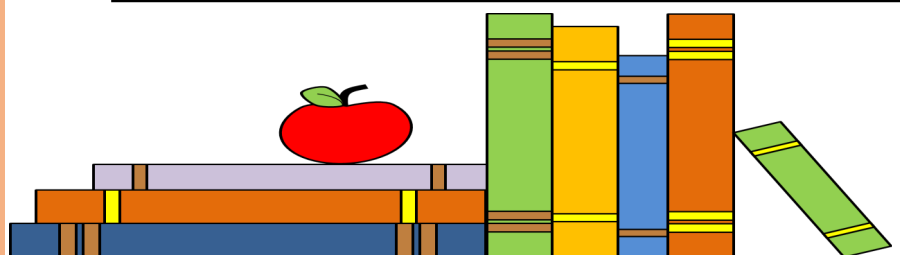


Back to School



Please pray for students, teachers, and the school district administration as they prepare to return to school on

August 16



Back To School

Ladies Sew Night



July 29 and August 5.

Making blankets for youth room,
4-8pm in Fellowship Hall. Point of
contact is Amy Logan and JoAnn
Mills.



First Presbyterian Church

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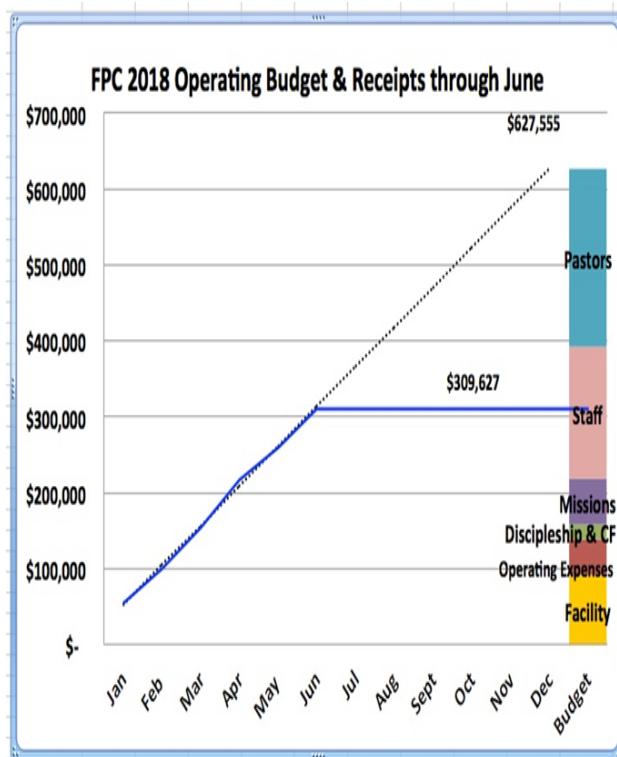


THROUGH MAY 2018

Total receipts	259,347
Total Expenditures	<u>229,869</u>
Net	<u>29,478</u>

THROUGH JUNE 2018

Total receipts	309,638
Total Expenditures	<u>307,193</u>
Net	<u>2,445</u>



1	Jim Adlrich	20	Siegfried Fink
	Ava Denton		Savannah Van Harper
	Andree Thies	22	Jim Williams
2	Joyce Gardella	23	Lauren Bouta
3	Angela Adams		Eli Brovold
	Nathan Vander Lugt	24	Amber Sunderland
4	Phillip Jones		Kathy Buckley
5	Blake Bunch	25	Wendy Cogley
6	Wally Burnett	26	Dan Brady
7	Greg Young		Toby Rozell
8	Nathan Vander Lugt	27	Isaac Mackey
9	Kelsey Per Nore		Janice Cleworth
	Karen Binkley	28	Karson Riggs
	Bryon Cogley	30	Marita Bunch
	Bryon Cogley	31	Barbara Nore
10	Linda Armstrong		Liesl Wietgreffe
11	Heather Young		Abigail Sirevaag
13	Mark Albert		Hunter Dudgeon
	Sena Gilbert		
15	Paul Reichardt		
16	Maggie Hess		
18	Peggy Nicholas		
20	Rick Wagner		
	Perry Schneider		

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happy
birthday
to you!

