

First Presbyterian Church of Fairbanks

First Light

A Monthly Newsletter Publication
May 2022



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, May 1

for the purposes of
electing Church Officers,
a Nominating Committee
and the Pastor Search
Committee

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Congratulations to Class of 2022!

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For I know the
Plans

I have for you,
declares the *Lord*,
plans to *Prosper* you
and not to harm you
Plans to give you a
Hope and a *Future*.

Jeremiah 29:11

*Hello
Spring!*



Not too long ago, I did some research about the origin of Mother's Day and found that it was started by a woman named Anna M. Jarvis, who first suggested the national observance of an annual day honoring all mothers because she had loved her own mother so dearly. At a memorial service for her mother on May 10, 1908, Ms. Jarvis gave a carnation (her mother's favorite flower) to each person who attended. Within the next few years, the idea of a day to honor mothers gained popularity, and Mother's Day was observed in a number of large cities in the U.S. On May 9, 1914, by an act of Congress, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. He established the day as a time for "public expression of our love and reverence for mothers of our country."

Not only do I want to commemorate Mother's Day, but I also want to celebrate all women on this special day. In my studies for my dissertation I found out, historical and present-day, stories of women who have experienced terrible sufferings placed on them by their culture.

There are appalling stories of women who have been treated as second-class citizens and as property.

But what comforts and encourages me is in God's Word, and church women have been highly valued as equal partners with men in marriage and ministry. In God's word, Jesus reminds us that marriage is male and female, husband-and-wife becoming one in a covenant given to us by God (Matthew 19). In the upcoming sermon series, we have a sermon called "*The Holy Spirit*" in which we will be focusing on the Book of Acts and we will learn that God our Father and His Son Jesus Christ gave us the Holy Spirit to be poured out on His daughters and sons. I thank God for this.

Blessed Mothers and Woman's Day.

Joel 2:28, And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, NIV

Pastor Peter Dembroski



Happy Spring!

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Because of your financial giving and outpouring of prayer, the Youth Mission Trip to Pennsylvania is nearly fully funded! We have one last big fundraiser, a Silent Auction that will be held at church from May 15-22. We are accepting donations of items, gift cards, and services from local businesses as well as baked goodies. Please contact David McConnell-Booher or Maggie Demers if you would like to make a donation. The Mission Trip will be June 23-July 3. Please continue to pray for our youth and our adult leaders as we prepare for this important season of service and ministry. We cannot wait to share all that God does in us and through us and for us after we return home!

Mark your calendar, June 12 - as Amie Duke and Katie Harris will be Baptized in the Chena River after making public declarations of faith during the normal worship schedule. Join us at the Graehl Landing Riverside Park after church as we celebrate Amie and Katie receiving the sacrament and entering into full membership in our church family!

David McConnell-Booher
Youth Ministry





First Presbyterian Church Baby Shower

Save the Date: June 11th, 2022

10am to 12pm

Bring a potluck item to share

Honoring six new babies

More information to follow



1	Stephanie Brewer	20	John Prusak
2	Jonah Brown	22	Harrison Riggs
5	Ed Washburn	25	Logan Foster
9	Joel Gibson	25	Deborah Sirevaag
13	Ashley Morris	26	Robert Boswell
14	Charles Gray	27	Brandon VanHatten
19	Christine Lundberg	28	Denise Wallace
19	Caden Davis		

**NOTE: In Recognition of Memorial Day Holiday, the Front Office
Will be Closed Monday, May 30**

Hi Terry,

This is Chip Pusey. I want to touch base with you and just say that I'm so grateful for all the wonderful meals that the folks from your church provided for me during my stay in Fairbanks. The meals were great, the kindness that was shown to me was completely unexpected. Having no contacts in the area and the fact that all of you went out of your way to help a complete stranger has not only touched me but all my family and everyone that we have mentioned this to.

I was brought home to Tok late this past Wednesday afternoon. My father is here from Florida and is helping me out around here. My Dr's orders for the next month were the same as when I was up there. I'm pretty much confined to either bed or a recliner and keeping my leg elevated and bearing no weight on it all.

I'm still quite sore for the time being but I'm getting my strength back more by the day. I feel pretty good about the long term prognosis.

So in closing please let everyone that are keeping me in prayer and all who provided me meals know that you all are a blessing in my life and that my words can never begin to describe my gratitude for the love and kindness that was shown to me. I'll never forget having that experience. If there is ever anything I'm able to do to for any of you in my area please let me know and I'll do what I can to be of any assistance.

Chip Pusey

Sermon Series

How to Explain the Good News to a Non-Believer

May 1-29

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we live the Gospel every day. It is like the breath we take. It is a part of our new nature and life and it sustains us on our journey in this world. The problem for most of us is that we cannot explain it to a non-believer. This sermon series will help you to know how to explain this life-giving force called the Good News of Jesus Christ.

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|--------|---|
| May 1 | The Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Theme: "The Basis for the Good News" |
| May 8 | The Father
Theme: "The Father: Life, Love and Longing" |
| May 15 | The Son
Theme: "The Son: With Us, For Us and Redeems Us" |
| May 22 | The Holy Spirit
Theme: "The Holy Spirit: Fills, Empowers and Transform." |
| May 29 | Go!
Theme: "Go, Make Disciples" |

BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Evenings

Paul and Terry Reichardt offers a Life Group Bible Study every Thursday at 7pm via ZOOM. Please make plans to join the group for fellowship and bible study as it studies *Using the First 15 Chapters of Acts in a Study of the Holy Spirit*.

For additional information, please contact Terry or Paul (907-455-6703) and/or paulreichardt@gmail.com), and a link will be sent to you.



THE WELL

is in need of plastic disposable grocery bags.

If you have bags to spare, please place them on the table in the fellowship hall. Thank you for your assistance.



He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! WE ARE BLESSED!

We are blessed to be a part of First Presbyterian Church. We are thankful to serve one another. We celebrate new life. The month of May is a time to blossom and grow.



We count our blessings for the return to gatherings like the Maundy Thursday Soup Dinner and the Easter Breakfast with fresh hot cross buns. Thank you to these faithful servants that provided delicious soup nourishment: Nancy Dreydoppel, Lonny Marney, Barbara Nore, Lindsey Dreydoppel, Kathi Stevens, Kathy Rahmandar Halfhill, June Champlin, Stephanie Rozell, Daniel Griggs, Sarah Curtis, Ellucia Boswell, and Kathleen Fagre.



We celebrate our older members, like Glenn Hackney, Evelyn Sites, and Chuck Gray, that continue to show us how to live a full Christian life of joy and love. We lift up our youth and young adults as they begin to search for their life's journey with trust in Jesus.

We continue to pray first every day for those that struggle with all kinds of obstacles and difficulties. We are blessed to offer and help others to the best of our ability.



"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Matthew 6:34

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4



In His service, Barbara Nore
Moderator of the FPC Deacons

YOU ARE INVITED

Join us for hors d'oeuvres, dessert, and non-alcoholic beverages as we celebrate a

FYNDOUT FREE

Art Experience Fundraiser

SATURDAY, MAY 7

5:00 PM—7:30 PM

At Journey Church

1201 Hoselton Road

Painting demonstrated by Special Guest

- **Artist Randall Compton!**
- **Guest Speaker Josh Brahm**

“Josh Brahm is one of the brightest, most articulate, and innovative people in the pro-life movement. His cutting edge work is helping people think more clearly, communicate more effectively, and most importantly-be better ambassadors for Christ.”

Please RSVP at

www.FYNDoutFree.com/2022-spring-fundraiser

FYNDout Free has a new location!

4474 Pikes Landing Road in Fairbanks

PO Box 60496, Fairbanks AK 99706



FYNDOUT FREE
**Spring
Fundraiser**

SATURDAY
MAY 7, 2022
5:00PM

O taste and see that the Lord is good!
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him! Psalm 34:8

FYNDout Free is an affiliate of Care Net Pregnancy, a nation-wide, faith-based, non-profit organization committed to assisting with empowering women and men during their reproductive journey, and this organization is supported by FPC. For additional information, please contact Cindy Aldrich (a long-term volunteer worker) and/or Marta Conner (board member)

Dear Friends,

I am **delighted** by the team effort that brought Eggstravaganza to pass! There were over 30 people who gave of their time to be there and welcome guests. There were even more of you who donated and prayed. When I look back on the event, I have some great numbers: 90 children attended, 124 guests all told. More importantly, I remember lots of conversations between guests and members, lots of happy kids and smiling parents. You all volunteered, and God showered us with those gifts. Thank you, thank you for serving with good humor and welcoming hearts. It absolutely showed. I am extremely grateful to have partners in the ministry of loving young families



“Monumental” Vacation Bible School

July 18-22

Now, we turn our efforts to an extra special outreach event, Vacation Bible School. VBS is an opportunity to create a fun, colorful, kid-centered environment, then introduce children to Jesus. We serve our own FPC kids—we entertain and we deepen their understanding of scripture. We promote healthy friendships with peers and with adults of the congregation. We also serve non-FPC kids who might not otherwise have this chance to learn about God’s love for them. If you would like to be a part of this event, please consider taking one of these positions:

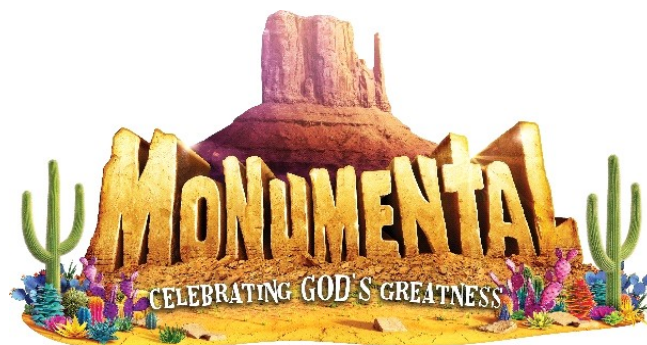
Small group chaperone: taking a small group of kids from station to station, getting to know them and pray with them.

Registration/information leader: manning a table at VBS, making sure that children and parents have all the information they need.

Snacktime Host: prepare the fuel that keeps kids running all morning and welcome them with fun decorations and friendly faces.

Prayer Warrior: Lift up this outreach with prayers.

- ♥ for the right kids to get to VBS,
- ♥ for open hearts,
- ♥ for excellent teaching
- ♥ for Spirit-empowered love toward each kid.



With Gratitude and Hope, *Carina*

What follows is a short summary of the decisions and actions of the Session, at the April 19, 2022 Stated 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, April 19th.

- The meeting was called to order by Acting Moderator, RE Stephanie Rozell, with prayer by RE Terry Reichardt.
- RE Rozell provided a devotion based on Acts 1:1-10, "Easter Monday".
- Elders spent time in prayer. After making prayer requests known, elders prayed for those needs
- Minutes from the last Stated Session meeting and vital statistics from the last month were reviewed and approved.
- Correspondence was received from Pastor Peter, a Thank You Card – after Celebrating his birthday at the April 6th Special Session Meeting.
- Consent Calendar items that were approved included the review of the Deacons February Meeting.
- Church Treasurer Christy Repasky was in attendance to provide a review of the new format of the church Financial Report, which was presented.
- The Stewardship and Finance Chair, RE Barb Page presented her report, which included information on the need to update the process involved for awarding the Schlofeldt Educational Scholarship.
- It was **moved** and **seconded** and **passed**, to set up a sub-committee to review the Schlofeldt Scholarship Policy and the application process, and to report recommendations to Session. The sub-committee is to include Youth Director David McConnell-Booher, RE Maggie Demers, and RE Jim Aldrich.
- It was announced that a Special Session Meeting has been called by Presbytery, on May 13, 2022, for the purpose of an update on the PSC Process and an update with Presbytery Moderator.
- 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 approve the procedures, with a suggestion to add the Clerk of Session as a contact person when requesting participation by an Elder.
- The Clerk of Session was again 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.

(continued on next page)

- It was **moved, seconded** and **passed** that Session Elect RE Jim Aldrich as a Commissioner to General Assembly, which will be meeting in the Detroit area, this coming June.
- It was **moved, seconded** and **passed** that the church's credit card be used to arrange for airfare and lodging, when traveling to EPC Meetings, in order to earn the mileage.
- It was **moved, seconded** and **passed** to use the Church's Companion Fare for travel to this General Assembly, if practical.
- It was **moved, seconded** and **passed** to call a Congregational Meeting, after services on May 1, 2022 for the purpose of election of Church Officers, Nominating Committee and the Pastor Search Committee.
- An extensive cleaning of the church kitchen was done on the Saturday before Easter. It is requested that all those who use the kitchen, and all the church facilities in general, attempt to keep to a high standard of cleanliness.
- Ruling Elders, Deacons and staff members as reminder to please wear their nametags when attending church services.
- It was **moved, seconded** and **passed** to call a Special Session Meeting on Wednesday April 27, 2022, via zoom, to finalize the nominations for the Pastor Search Committee and to elect another Commissioner for General Assembly in June.
- A sub-committee of Session has been researching the possibility of hiring a Church Administrator. Three financial scenarios were presented. Elders will be taking time to prayerfully consider the options, and will bring their thoughts to the May Session Meeting.
- A sub-committee of Session has been researching possible changes to the organization of church leadership, mostly dealing with the size and organization of Session. Further research is in progress and more information will be brought to the May Session Meeting.
- It was **moved, seconded** and **passed** to extend the meeting until 9:30 pm.
- Written and verbal ministry team reports were received.
- It was **moved, seconded** and **passed** that Session approve a Silent Auction Fundraiser to be held in the Narthex after worship on two consecutive Sundays in May. This fundraiser will be hosted by the youth and all proceeds will go to the Youth Summer Mission Trip. The Mission Trip Team will be inviting non-FPC members to view and participate in the auction on the Sunday afternoons as well.
- It was **moved, seconded** and **passed** that Session approve a First Friday Paint Night Fundraiser to be held in the Fellowship Hall in May. This will be an event that is open to the public and will be advertised widely across First Friday community pages and other social media.
- It was **moved, seconded** and **passed** to due to the high quality of Carina's performance, Session approve a change to her employment from probationary to permanent.

The next Stated Session Meeting will be held on May 17, 2022 at 6:00 pm, in the Church Conference Room.