

## IN THE LIFE OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Please join us as we begin the month of April by celebrating our Lord's triumphant arrival into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday followed by the darkened days of Holy Week.

### **Palm Sunday – April 2**

Will be celebrated this glorious day with our own procession lead by our children and choir; palms will be waving! Read Matthew

21:1-11 to prepare for this day.

**Maundy Thursday – April 6, beginning at 5:30pm** we will come together for a potluck meal in the Covenant Center. Due to Covid, we have missed this opportunity to fellowship together, share conversations, and enjoy a wide variety of food. The Lord's Supper will be shared this evening around our tables. Read John 13:1-17, 31b-35 and 1Corinthians 11:23-26. ***Please call the church office to reserve your spot.***

## GOOD FRIDAY: SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST



On Friday, April 7, at 7pm the combined choirs of First Presbyterian Church and Spirit of Peace UCC will present the sacred choral work: *The Seven Last Words of Christ* by Theodore Dubois.

This beloved oratorio gives a dramatic retelling of the passion story through song. The work

features a variety of soloists that are interspersed throughout and represent different characters from the passion story. The choir plays an important role as they accompany the soloists and also represent the angry crowd at Jesus' trial and execution. This piece is perfectly representative of an oratorio as it retells the story of Jesus' passion through choral music, but without movement or costumes.

### **Good Friday worship service, April 7, at 7:00pm.**

This holy day will be marked by a service of music. The combined choirs of First Presbyterian Church and Spirit of Peace will present "The Seven Last Words of Christ" by Theodore Dubois. This evening of sacred music will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra and soloists. This service will be livestreamed; look for the link on the FPC website.

### **Easter Sunday, April 9, at 9:30am.**

After the darkness and contemplation of Lent, it is such a joy to rise on Easter Sunday and proclaim with all God's people, "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!" With those words we affirm that all was not lost, that death did not win, because death never wins! We need to hear these words "Christ is risen!" We need to affirm to ourselves and to each other and to the world that there is hope . . . there is always hope! Read Matthew 28:1-10.

On this journey with you!

**Pastor Pat**

It is a medium that has its origins in works such as Handel's *Messiah* and Haden's *Creation* - a truly wonderful and profound way to take in a story, especially the story of Jesus's death and crucifixion.

*The Seven Last Words of Christ* will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra. The instruments include a string quartet, harp, keyboard, and flute. *The Seven Last Words* is actually considered to be a feature piece for the harp and gives the listener a unique opportunity to hear the harp as it accompanies the choir and soloists.

The choirs have been working very hard in preparation for this worship service. We hope that you will attend and bring a friend to take in an evening of worship and beautiful music!

**Dan Graber**  
**Director of Traditional Music**

## MARCH SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor Pat led a discussion about transition planning. She plans to use the next four to six months to help FPC determine the optimal staffing size needed to match the scope of the activities and ministries being carried out by the Church. The alignment of staffing level and activity, along with the clarity of FPC's mission, should make it relatively straightforward for a subsequent Pastor Nominating Committee to articulate our unique opportunity to prospective candidates.

Session approved the hiring of Kate Hruby as part-time Youth Ministry Director and Jana Phelps as part-time Congregational Care Coordinator, with both positions running through the end of August. The idea with both these positions is to provide short-term support while maintaining long-term flexibility. Session thanks Jana and Kate for filling these roles.

In addition, Session approved the expansion of Noah Amundson-Reiter's hours to full time. This change will provide custodial coverage for evening and weekend hours, which is increasingly necessary as the Church is used by more external groups.

Three actions were taken regarding security: First, a safety plan outlining responses to various situations that could occur was adopted. Second, in conjunction with the new security system, a new key policy was approved. Finally, an entry door locking and unlocking policy was

discussed and approved. More details below. Session asks for understanding and patience as we all adapt to these necessary changes.

Session reviewed financial reports. Seven months into the fiscal year, income is ahead of expenses by approximately \$5,000. The engagement agreement with Eide Bailly was recently reviewed and updated. As a result, Eide Bailly will have a representative at the Church for a half-day each Tuesday beginning March 28. Along with this more uniform schedule, accounts payable work will be done weekly instead of biweekly. This change will provide teams with more up-to-date reports. Now that the Eide Bailly has been in place for a few months, Session established a working group to determine the appropriate mechanism for periodic outside examination of Eide Bailly's work.

An expenditure from the Egger Fund to purchase a new floor scrubber was authorized.

Pastor Pat reported that while she has decided not to take a sabbatical in 2023, she is planning vacation and study leave for all of June, a notion that the Session heartily supported. Rev. Carolyn Visser will moderate the June Session meeting.

The March Session meeting ended without need for executive session.

## ENTRY DOOR LOCKING AND UNLOCKING POLICY

This policy is to ensure the safety and security of everyone entering First Presbyterian Church.

- During normal business hours of the church, door A or the "main entrance" shall be unlocked when there are at least two staff members on site.
- Staff members and Session members are the only ones allowed to unlock and lock entry doors.
- If a group, renter, or member requires entry doors to be unlocked other than the main entryway during normal business hours, they will be required to have a representative of their party present to identify individuals coming into the building.
- To ensure building security after normal business hours, there shall be no entry door unlocked unless a staff member or a Session member is present. This person is responsible for securing the facility and knowing who is coming and going.
- If a group, renter, or member requires an entry door to be open during off hours for their event, they shall arrange for a staff member or session member to be present at their own cost.

Thank you for your patience as we work together to adjust to our new policy.



## CHURCH KEYS

As a part of the overall security and safety upgrades, the church will be rekeying the entire building. If you currently have an exterior door key, you will need to get it replaced. See Chandra in the front office or Jacob Forstein, Director of Facilities A.S.A.P.

**PRAISE IN WORSHIP**

**Palm Sunday, April 2**

PreK and Kindergarten will sing "Praise Ye the Lord, Halleluia" and "I've Got Peace Like a River"

*(Kids meet in back of sanctuary at 9:20am to get palm branches and line up. Bring OGHs fish offering banks too.)*



**KINGDOM KIDS**



**Play  
Learn  
Grow..**

First Presbyterian Church is proud to support Kingdom Kids, a program that specializes in teaching toddlers.

We are now taking applications for the upcoming school year for one-and two-year-olds.

Orientation will held on Thursday, September 7th at 6pm for ONE-year-olds and 6:45pm for TWO-year-olds.

Classes will run from the week of September 11, 2023 to the week of May 13, 2024. Students may join at any time during the year.

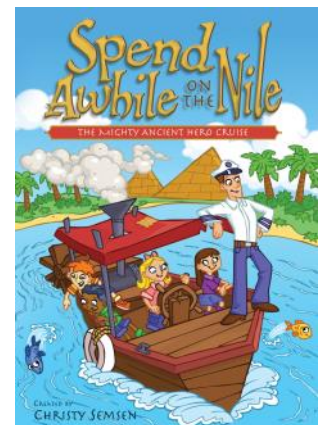
**EASTER: PETER'S STORY**

Pictured above are the elementary Sunday School students who made banana boats with disciples onboard! Peter and the disciples were fishing when Jesus said to them to cast their nets on the other side of the boat!

**SAVE THE DATES**

**Summer Music Camp  
Spend Awhile on the Nile**  
(completed grades 3-8)  
June 5-9

**Vacation Bible School**  
(3-years-old through completed 5th grade)  
July 10-14 from 9-noon



## DEACON'S DOINGS

**Congregational Care Team:** Lenten devotional and hot cross bun deliveries went well. A “Young and the Rest of Us” activity was held on Sunday 3/19/23. CCT will again be sending out cards to college students; signing of the cards took place the Sundays of 3/12/23 and 3/19/23. NCT and CCT will be helping with the potluck set up for Maundy Thursday on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The Way and Korean church members will be invited to the potluck. CCT has decided to table starting Coffee Fellowship back up for the time being.

**Neighborhood Care Team:** NCT shared that Feeding SD has reached out to us and asked if our monthly Saturday distribution could be moved to a Monday or Thursday evening. Emily Hutchinson will be talking to Feeding SD with more specific questions but the majority felt that Mondays would be the best. NCT approved up to \$2500.00 for the summer reading program at Laura Wilder. NCT was also made aware of a new project through the Pine Ridge Reservation

called “Auntie is Coming to Visit.” The program will be educating girls on puberty changes and will also provide feminine hygiene products. NCT approved up to \$500 for products for this project. NCT was made aware that the youth recently served at Banquet West. NCT is helping with the \$500 food donation that was originally paid by the youth....NCT is reimbursing the youth for this cost.

**Open Discussion:** John Boerigter updated everyone on SF Thrive and the Eat Well grant. This group is working to have a mobile grocery store go to some of the food desert areas in town. A member of First Presbyterian Church will be on this advisory board. The city is currently checking into several things related to the mobile grocery store.



## MAUNDY THURSDAY

The Deacons will be hosting the Maundy Thursday Potluck on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. Attendees are encouraged to bring a food item of their choice to share. Feel free to invite friends, and please RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, April 4.

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS



### THANK YOU, KATE!

**Kate Hruby** has served in several roles and positions at First Presbyterian Church and returns to us as our **Youth Program Coordinator**, a position she has been filling since last fall on a volunteer basis. She has been a great leader for our **PresbYouth** and we are so glad to have her back as one of our staff!

Email: [youthdirector@fpcsiouxfalls.org](mailto:youthdirector@fpcsiouxfalls.org)

### Rummage Sale - POSTPONED -until NEXT Spring 2024!

This is a great fundraiser for our youth but without a full-time youth director or person to head up this time-consuming event, the Youth Ministry Team has decided to hold off this year. We are NOT collecting or storing rummage at the church. We will be creating other small fundraising events to help keep funds in the youth mission and activity accounts.

**The Book Sale will continue as scheduled on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>.**



For God so loved the world that He gave His Only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

John 3:17 follows arguably the most famous verse of the Bible.

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. John 3:17

We are the Easter people. Thanks be to God.

Easter Blessings to you from

**Judy Rops and the Membership Ministry Team**

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT-JEREMY & HEIDI DYKSTRA

Jeremy and Heidi Dykstra met 14 years ago. Jeremy was a life-long resident of Sioux Falls. Heidi was raised in Hull, Iowa, and moved to Sioux Falls to attend the University of Sioux Falls. Meeting through a friend, they have been married 10 years.

Growing up Heidi said, “My faith foundation came from Sunday school, youth group, and Catechism each week, as well as my Grandpa Kenny.”

Jeremy and Heidi began attending First Presbyterian Church after Heidi received an invitation from Andrea Boerigter to a women’s day program at the church that Andrea was presenting. Heidi remembers Pastor Pat closing the event and from then on “I was hooked on FPC.” We began to regularly attend in the fall of 2017 and Jeremy and I became members soon thereafter. “FPC feels like extended family now.”

Jeremy works at Midwestern Mechanical and Heidi is in her 6<sup>th</sup> year of teaching at Lincoln High School. She had taught 10 years previously at Roosevelt. She teaches high school math, algebra 1 and 2. “I love how every day is different when you work with teenagers.” She and Jeremy have two children. Kayden is nine and into anything sports and Kolbie is five and blossoming into her own little self.

Their favorite thing they like about FPC is how intergenerational it is and how important it makes their kids feel. The letters to their kids during COVID, the excitement of children’s offering, Kathie’s children’s messages, and Sunday School are all the things that make their kids feel valued here. They want to come to church!

Heidi is involved in the Youth Ministry Team, Nomination Committee, and is the Director of the Youth Ministries search. She is also teaching the high school/middle school Sunday school class this year. Heidi says, “I might not hear the entire sermon because I am busy quieting my children, but the feeling of relief and belonging that I feel when I walk into church on Sunday mornings gets me through the week. The emphasis on being the visible face of Christ has

brought new perspectives in the way I interact with the people and students I meet each day and encourages me to look for opportunities to serve others.”

Jeremy, amongst other things, plays softball for the church.

The Dykstras are a family you may want to get to know better. They became involved at FPC when an invitation was extended.

During this Easter season, there are many opportunities to do likewise: invite a friend or family to the potluck/ Communion Service on Maundy Thursday; invite a friend or family to the choir presentation of *The Seven Last Words of Christ* on Good Friday; invite a friend or family to the worship service on Easter morning.

May each and every one who enters our church feel truly welcome.

**Judy Rops,  
Membership Ministry Team**



## ADAMS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Presbyterian Women of FPC is now accepting applications for the Adams Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded each spring to men and women who are pursuing roles in Christian Service—ministry, mission work, church music, etc. Initial consideration is given to FPC members and thereafter to outside applicants.

The Adams Scholarship originated in 1966 to honor Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Adams. Dr. Adams was senior pastor at FPC from 1939-1966. Presbyterian Women created the scholarship in 1966 and have continued to support it through annual fundraising events. Memorials, bequests, and individual contributions are also welcomed as ongoing

opportunities to support our future Christian leaders. Checks or donations can be directed to PW—Adams Scholarship.

Scholarship forms are available on the FPC website [www.fpcsiouxfalls.org](http://www.fpcsiouxfalls.org). Go to Quick Link and click on forms. Applications are also available in the church office. Completed applications are due April 30<sup>th</sup>. Any questions may be directed to Mary Tidwell [mtidwell@sio.midco.net](mailto:mtidwell@sio.midco.net).

**Adams Scholarship Committee**

**Mary Tidwell, Judy Regan, Ruth Metcalf**

## ADULT EDUCATION

**April 2 Palm Sunday** - No Adult Class. We will join the Youth for their stations set up in the Sanctuary

**April 9 Easter** - No Adult class today

**April 16** Final class for Amy Jill Levine's book "**Entering the Passion of Jesus.**"

**April 23 "Sustainable Farming"** - Dan Graber and his brother, Jonathan Graber, will give us a tour of their farming and ranching practices designed to meet the needs of current and future generations. You will hear of the surprising benefits of no till farming, crop rotation, and large animal management that maintains adequate yields and healthier soil/grazing land.

**April 30 "Hopes and Dreams"** - Join us as we share how First Presbyterian Church is the *Visible Face of Christ* for 2023 and beyond. The church, together with the Green Team, is working on projects that will move our campus toward sustainability. Bob Leech will be including information on legacy opportunities as we explore those dreams.

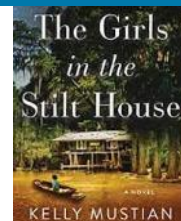
## THE RETURN OF COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

The Adult Education Team is coordinating a return of our "Coffee Fellowship Hour" following Worship Service. We all enjoyed the two Sundays of fellowship time a few weeks ago that it was decided to offer it in place of our Adult Class one Sunday every month. It will be held on the first Sunday of the month. We will need some volunteers to help us out each month. Our hope is to keep it "simple" enough that members will be willing to sign up to take a Sunday. We need 1 or 2 volunteers for each of these 12 Coffee Fellowship Hours, so please consider signing up for 1 or 2 Sundays a year. The set-up will be simple, and someone from the Adult Education Team will show you where the coffee supplies are kept and the easy routine of making the coffee and setting up in the Chapel. You can let Sally Kulm know by phone or email: #605-310-8652 or [sargar5@sio.midco.net](mailto:sargar5@sio.midco.net)

## FPC LIBRARY

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN READERS

April 13, 2023—"The Girls in the Stilt House" by Kelly Mustian  
Discussion Leader—Sue Endsley  
7pm in the lounge



## APRIL CHILDREN'S OFFERING

The Mission Team has designated the April Children's Offering for Meals on Wheels. The focus of Meals on Wheels is to provide a healthy meal, a vital social connection, and a watchful eye on the health and safety of the senior citizens they serve. First Presbyterian Church volunteers have been part of this vital program for more than forty years. The offering will be used for clients who are unable to make a donation for their meals and also for packaging products.



## MEALS ON WHEELS—VOLUNTEERS

First Presbyterian's Meals on Wheels Route 6 has a very long history and has had dozens of committed volunteers. The drivers and 'runners' commit to delivering meals on a specific day each month, year-round. We bring meals to homebound clients every weekday but holidays. As can happen in winter when 'snow days' and closures occur, there would be no deliveries.

Currently, FPC's team is made up of 30 volunteers. Each volunteer delivers the same day monthly, though several actually do it more than once a month. Many FPC volunteers have been delivering for many years and some are new to the program in recent years. Also, we are able to trade days with each other and find subs when we have occasional conflicts.

**This is an appeal for some of you to start thinking about doing this in the future. It would be so helpful to have a 'wait list' to call on, if and when someone needs to step away from delivering due to age, health, etc. You might be willing to drive and deliver alone as**

## LAUNDRY WITH LOVE

Recently with support from Deacon funding (and therefore from the FPC congregation) in the amount of \$200 we were able to provide 129 hygiene kits for our Laundry with Love and Church on the Street neighbors! We provided 129 bags, each holding a toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, conditioner and lotion.

We received the following from Harriet and the COTS team:

"Thank you so much for providing Laundry with Love with all the wonderful hygiene kits! The people we serve at the laundromat are so thankful when we can provide some of those basic needs. The kits will be a blessing to so many! Thank you and God's blessings to you!"

The next time FPC will provide laundry funding and a warm meal for our LWL neighbors will be Tuesday, June 27. We will look forward to the involvement of our congregation members!

**some of us do or be a two-person team with spouse, friend or co-worker. Since it only takes an hour or so of our time, some do it during their workday lunch hour. If you have an employer who might be flexible with your lunch hour, for instance, and is committed to community service, this is a perfect way for employees to do some volunteering. Route 6 covers an area south of downtown Sioux Falls, starting approximately at 26<sup>th</sup> Street and east of Minnesota Avenue.**

The Meals on Wheels homebound clients appreciate the meals brought to them and the volunteers who bring them with smiles and greetings. The blessings you bring with that hot meal come back multiplied as you realize the small effort it takes to provide such an importance service to others.

To find out more about how you can join FPC's MOW team in the future and get answers to your questions, please call Diane Helin 605-334-4562, FPC's MOW Coordinator.

## SEED SOWERS "THANK YOU"

A HUGE "THANK YOU" to the First Presbyterian Congregation and the Children of FPC for your exceptional response and support in January for the Seed Sowers 20th Anniversary month! The response for Seed Sowers was fantastic with continued contributions from the regulars as well as so many additional new participants! As we all know, FPC is a very loving, caring, and generous congregation! THANK YOU TO ALL! The final collection amounts for January were contributions of \$2,491 and the Children's Offering was \$1,208 for a total of \$3,699.

Richard Foster was thrilled and is excited to start processing new loans! Please remember that this on-going mission project is not just one month out of the year, but needs your continuing prayers and financial support for the entire year! Seed Sowers Mission Project is ready and eager to move forward into a third decade!

Again, many THANKS!



## WELCOME, JANA PHELPS



Jana Phelps has been a nurse for 32 years specializing in pediatrics, OB, NICU, PICU, ICU, geriatrics, forensic nursing, child abuse nursing, travel nursing, missionary nursing, and parish nursing. Jana has an extreme passion for God, all of God's

people, for nursing, and for holistic healing through the nurturing of the mind, body, soul, and spirit. Jana has served as a staff nurse in a variety of situations, from extremely remote and rural hospitals to a large university hospital, and as a disaster relief nurse with the American Red Cross throughout the US and internationally. Jana strives to see what God sees in each and every individual she meets. Jana has 5 children ages 28 (twins), 26yr, 22yr, 21yr, and a granddaughter who is 2yr, with a second one on the way in July. Jana enjoys spending her free time with

her husband Mark, camping, kayaking, scuba diving, traveling, & exploring the world, hanging in her hammock, writing, and reading an endless supply of books from her bookshelves. Jana loves to learn new things! Jana has been to Honduras 9 times with FPC and looks forward to her continued relationships with all her brothers and sisters in Christ in Honduras and here at First Presbyterian Church. Jana has been a member at FPC for the past 10 years.

She very much looks forward to her time here at First Presbyterian as the interim congregational care coordinator. Blessings and Peace to each of you this day and everyday!

**Jana Phelps**

### Office hours- Mon-Thurs 9:00-2:30

*3 John 2 (NIV). Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well-*

## WITH APPRECIATION

My thanks for the cards, prayers, and well-wishes to celebrate my 92<sup>nd</sup> year. God thinks you're wonderful!

**Blessings, Audrey Rinder**

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

|                   |       |                      |       |
|-------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| Kate Hruby        | 04/01 | Chris Hill           | 04/21 |
| Patricia Olson    | 04/02 | Eileen Wood          | 04/22 |
| Brent Kruse       | 04/03 | Pati Ellwein         | 04/23 |
| Margaret Dalthorp | 04/05 | Bill Kautz           | 04/23 |
| Douglas Raker     | 04/05 | Skip Mulock          | 04/24 |
| Harlan Pietz      | 04/06 | Tyson Thorson        | 04/24 |
| Kylie Jorgensen   | 04/07 | Candy Engelland      | 04/25 |
| Anja Hoekman      | 04/09 | Karel Vander Lugt    | 04/25 |
| Megan Gulden      | 04/10 | Gerald Weflen        | 04/25 |
| Hilda Bosch       | 04/12 | Jon Kolba            | 04/27 |
| Allen Rickenbaugh | 04/12 | Jacob Aman           | 04/28 |
| Donna Vaupel      | 04/14 | Barb Amundson-Reiter | 04/28 |
| Janice Hight      | 04/15 | Dan Haushild         | 04/28 |
| Misty Small       | 04/15 | Jeff Little          | 04/28 |
| Violet Griess     | 04/16 | Drake Lower          | 04/28 |
| Levi Haushild     | 04/16 | Linda Saloum         | 04/28 |
| Mia Reiter        | 04/16 | Heidi Kruse          | 04/29 |
| Michael Gross     | 04/17 | Christy Nicolaisen   | 04/29 |
| Mardella Koerner  | 04/18 | Lesleigh Sudenga     | 04/29 |
| John Stengel      | 04/18 | Tony Dwire           | 04/30 |
| Andrea Boerigter  | 04/20 | Terri Schuver        | 04/30 |
| Carrie Draeger    | 04/20 | Taylor Sudenga       | 04/30 |
| Marylou Schnabel  | 04/20 |                      |       |

## CONTACT INFORMATION & LINKS

### First Presbyterian Church

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Sioux Falls, SD 57105

### Email

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### Phone

[605-336-2886](tel:605-336-2886)

### Mailing List

[Sign up for mailing list](#)

### To Donate

<https://www.fpcsiouxfalls.org/give>