

† PresbyNews †



Andrew Crandall, Pastor—pastorandrew@midco.net

Church Office: firstpc@midco.net

Phone 605-352-8789

www.fpchuron.com

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April

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Ever felt the sting of favoritism? A majority of hiring managers believe attractive candidates get hired more easily. Folks considered “too overweight” or “too old” also have a harder time getting work. Sometimes it seems like the coach’s kid gets *all* playing time, right? Our world is a world of judgment.

But God’s kingdom operates differently. James (James 2:1-17) says to us, “Brothers and sisters, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, do not show favoritism.” James is calling the church to be *just*. He gives an example: imagine two unknown men come to worship. One has shabby clothes, unshaved face, and smells a little “off.” The other guy is immaculate in his three-piece suit, glimmering shoes, and pocket square.

What assumptions would you have on meeting these men? Whom would you prefer in the pew next to you? While tempted to judge by externals, James says that church doesn’t play favorites.

Acts 6 gives an example from the very first church (Jerusalem, AD 33). They had a *help fund* for destitute members. What could go wrong? Well, the *Hebrew-speaking* members and *Greek-speaking* members got upset with each other. The Greek-speakers said, “Hey! We’re being overlooked; there’s unfair favoritism going on!” So the Apostles appointed seven new leaders (the very first Deacons) to oversee the help fund. Each of the new Deacons was themselves a *Greek-speaker*. Those folks had been overlooked, so the Apostles *made sure* they had a say in things going forward. That’s justice.

James also calls us to *mercy*, having compassion on those in need. He says we can wish a needy fellow Christian well without offering any physical help at all, our faith is probably on life-support (James 2:14-17).

Emily and Billy Lewis’ faith is certainly alive! When they were engaged, the COVID-19 pandemic put a damper on their plans for a large wedding meal. They settled for a small ceremony at city hall. But having canceled their venue, they were still committed to a \$5,000 catering deposit! Rather than suing for their money back, they asked the caterer for a special order: hundreds of Thanksgiving meals for clients of a local mental health center. That’s compassion.

Just and merciful. That’s like Christ for us, who in justice took the penalty of our sin that we might receive the mercy of God. And he says: *Come, follow me.*

Grace & Peace
Pastor Andrew

First Presbyterian Church

April, 2025

Dates to Remember—Meetings and Notices

April

- 02 Praise Team practice @ 5:15 PM
Youth Club/Supper @ 6:00 PM
- 04-06 **Youth Rally**
- 06 Men's Prayer Breakfast at The Plains @ 8:00 AM
Sunday School (All ages) @ 9:20 AM
Worship/Communion @ 10:30 AM
Choir practice @ 11:45 AM
Open Table – Choir hosting – after Worship
- 07 Home Communion @ Peaceful Pines @ 9:20 AM
Home Communion @ Avantara @ 10:00 AM
Home Communion @ Wellshire @ 10:30 AM
- 08 Administration Comm. in Fellowship Hall @ 12:30 PM
Christian Education Comm. @ 6:30 PM
Missions/Evangelism Comm. @ 6:30 PM
Church Life Comm. @ 6:30 PM
Administration Comm. @ 6:30 PM
Building/Grounds Comm. @ 7:00 PM
Worship/Music Comm. @ 7:00 PM
Session meeting @ 7:30 PM
- 09 Praise Team practice @ 5:15 PM
Youth Club/Supper & Carnival @ 6:00 PM
- 13 **Palm Sunday and Youth Sunday**
Sunday School (All ages) @ 9:20 AM
Worship @ 10:30 AM
Choir practice @ 11:45 AM
- 15 **Names, address, and treats for College Care packages due to the Office!**
- 16 Praise Team practice @ 5:15 AM
Youth Club/Supper & Awards @ 6:00 PM
- 17 **Maundy Thursday Service @ 6:30 PM**
Ministerial Food Give Away @ People's Transit-11 AM–1PM
Helpers Needed!
- 18 **Good Friday Service @ 6:30 PM**
Newsletter pictures/information due to the Office!
- 20 **Easter Sunday**
No Men's Prayer Breakfast is planned for today!
Easter Breakfast hosted by Senior High Youth @ 8:30 AM
Free-will donation - Fundraiser
Sunday School (All ages) @ 9:20 AM
Worship @ 10:30 AM
No choir practice for today!
- 21 **College Care Packages will be mailed today!**
- 22 **Camp Commission-Open Forum @ 7:00 PM**
- 23 Praise Team practice @ 5:15 PM
- 27 Sunday School (All ages) @ 9:20 AM
Worship/Holy Buckets & Senior Recognition @ 10:30 AM
Choir practice @ 11:45 AM
- 30 Praise Team practice @ 5:15 PM

Elder for April, 2025 – Leanne Kopfmann

Deacon for April, 2025 – Mona Kotas



Our sympathies are extended to Diana Herdman and her family at the loss of her son, Nathan Klusman. We extend our sympathies to the Alex Hepper family. Sympathies are extended to Brenda Schmidt and her family at the loss of Steve Jensen, her first cousin.

Prayer Ministry

Members

Jerry Galliger
Tana Hagel
Larry Neuharth
Jackie Sievers
Louise Van Poll

Susan Galliger
Ron & Sharon Hastings
Steve & Diane Peters
Chris Sirvas
Corinne Wipf

Chuck Groth
Linda Marcus
Rev. Allen Sager
Roger Tarbox

Family & Friends

Lori Burns and Rick Hein Family (continues with health issues)
Dale Daugherty (Linda Marcus' nephew)
Joyce Balliette (Jan LaMont's sister)
Debbie Caudell (Maggie Caudell's mother-in-law)
Juli Wolf (JoLynne Parmely's sister)
Jene Carol (JoLynne Parmely's brother-in-law)
Glen Hohn (Brenda Schmidt's cousin)
Doug Meiers (Donna Meiers' son)
John Gifford (friend of the Sager's)
Joyce Borah (Jamie Peterson's mother)
David Hepper (Greg's brother with advanced lung/pancreatic cancer)
Stanley Martens (friend of the Sager's)
Wendy (Paulson) Riesetter (niece of Nancy Shoultz)
Ronnie Cunnigan (Lori Magness' cousin)
Doug Zeeck (father of Mindy Eden, Bryan Eden's wife)
Velda Zeeck (Mindy Eden's grandmother) recovering from Surgery
Patricia DeVaney (Greg Hepper's sister who is diagnosed with pancreatic cancer)
Pam Oschner (friend of Barb Peterson, Calajean Kopfmann and others)
Brayden Schlader (friend of Deannie LeRoux)
Robert Palmiteer (Jan LaMont's cousin)
Donald Schmidt (Alan Schmidt's brother) recovering from falls
Mark Holloway (Diane Clayton's brother)
Brenda Houge (friend of Church members)
Kimberly Meink (Bill Meink's sister) cancer treatment

Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Home Bound

Avantara Nursing Home: Eva Vilhauer, Sara Jorgensen, Phyllis Lemke,
Larry Neuharth and Jackie Sievers

Peaceful Pines: Inez Eddy

Stoneybrook Suites: Eileen Dracy

Wellshire Village: Shirley Fullerton and Deannie LeRoux

DeSmet: Ruth Winter

Please let the office know of changes that should be made to the above prayer concerns. Thank you!



Please note: There are some corrections in the Membership listing found in the 2024 Annual Report as follows:
Greg Hepper – 605-380-6780
Donna Hepper – 605-380-6796

We've Got Mail and Other Notices!

“Thank you for remembering us on our 65th anniversary. We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness!” Ron and Sharon Hastings (3/25)

From the Family of Nathan Klusman: Your thoughts and prayers are felt and appreciated at this difficult time. We thank everyone who has reached out to us and helped in any way with the funeral and luncheon. Thank you to Pastor Andrew for the beautiful service for Nathan. God bless you all.

“To the Presbyterian Church, I would like to thank everyone who made my 95th birthday such a fun day. There were beautiful cards, phone calls, visits and apple fritters which I did share! I should write to all of you individually. However, I have discovered that my handwriting is not as neat as it used to be. I think I am getting too old. I think of all of you often and for that I am not too old.

Love, Deannie Leroux (3/26)

There will be an in-person Camping Commission Open Forum at FPC in the Fellowship Hall @ 7:00 PM on Tuesday, April 22, 2025. Discussion will center on Rimrock Camp becoming a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a majority Presbyterian Board of Trustees. Also presented will be the recent Sherry Group report for camp improvements. This Open Forum is open to all members of FPC-Huron and Presbyterian Churches in surrounding communities.

Note: Senior Recognition Sunday will be April 27, 2025. If you have a graduate in your family, please let the Office know as soon as possible. Either call 605-352-8789 or email to firstpc@midco.net. We would like to have the following by Sunday, April 20th:

- 1. A photo of your graduate**
- 2. Graduating from: Name of High School, other High School or College/Trade school**
- 3. Future plans (work, attend college (where?), military**
- 4. Parents' or Guardians' names**

Note: The Church Life Committee will send Finals Week Care Packages to college students again this year. Please let the Office know your student's name and address. Names, addresses and treats for the packages are due to the Church by April 15th! We plan to mail the packages on April 21st!

Note: Per Capita for 2025 is \$43.04 for each member, adult and confirmed.

MORE INFORMATION FOR YOU!

Scholarship applications are available for the First Presbyterian Church and/or the Dorothy Linette Scholarship/D Peterson. Email the Church office if you would like an application emailed to you, stop in the Office and pick one up or call the Church Office and we will mail an application to you. The forms have changed for this year. Applications are due to the Church Office by May 1, 2025.

You are invited to the year-end piano recital for Tabitha Unruh's students to be held in our Sanctuary, Sunday, May 4, 2025 at 3:00 PM. All are welcome!

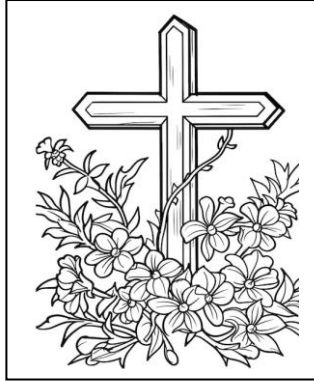
FPC's opportunity to volunteer for the Huron Area Senior Center's Meals on Wheels delivery is scheduled for the week of May 5 – 9, 2025. Sandy Eden just wanted to give you a "heads up" as she would like you to contact her if you can help with this effort. Please reach out to her at 605-354-5411. Thank you for your consideration and volunteerism. It is appreciated by many!

At its February 11, 2025 meeting, FPC's Session approved a new Building & Grounds Use Policy. The process outlined in this new policy is that all parties requesting use of the Church facilities must contact the Church Office for discussion of said use. Upon approval of such use, a "Rental Agreement" must be completed and signed, a deposit of \$250.00 must be submitted if required, and "Checklist of Building and Grounds Rentals" must be received by the person making the request. The \$250.00 deposit will be retained by the Church Office and returned to the party requesting the use of FPC facilities once the "Checklist of Building and Grounds Rentals" is returned to the Office and it is determined that the reserved area of use is left in the original condition and guidelines were followed in the "Rental Agreement". If you have any questions about the new policy, please contact the Church Office.

The Synodwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women is scheduled for June 12-15, 2025 in Watertown, SD. Registration is now open with the registration fee of \$150.00 which includes all meals, even snack breaks; up to eight (8) workshops from inspiring leaders; group presentations; shopping; a program book; book groups; mission opportunities; guest speakers; a Gathering choir; and much more. Single day registration is \$75.00 which includes the meals of the day, select from the day's programming options, up to four workshops. Additional information is available at the Church Office or visit with Louise Van Poll, Moderator, PW of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies and Presbyterian of South Dakota.



HOLY WEEK



**MAUNDY THURSDAY
APRIL 17 at 6:30 PM**

**GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 18 at 6:30 PM**

**EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 20
SENIOR HIGH EASTER
BREAKFAST at 8:30 AM
FUNDRAISER-FREE WILL
DONATION**

WORSHIP at 10:30 AM

He is not
Here

for He is

RISEN

