

First Press

October 2018 - November 2018

First Presbyterian Church
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FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

***I will extol you, my God and
King, and bless your name
forever and ever.
Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name forever
and ever.
Great is the Lord, and greatly to
be praised; his greatness is
unsearchable. One generation
shall laud your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty
acts.***

Psalm 145:1-4 (NRSV)

Sometimes I worry that we are less
and less able or willing to laud God's

works and God's mighty acts to
another generation. The assumption
behind the Psalm is that we will do
just that. And I think we intend to do
it, too. But when I look at the trends
in our church, and in most churches I
know of, I am afraid I might be
seeing something else.

We have a really good and healthy
Sunday school program in our
church, and I am grateful to all those
who help with that, and to those who
make sure their children are here,
receiving an education that they will
get nowhere else.

At the same time, I wonder if in our
homes it is God who is extolled, and
whose name is blessed and praised.
And I wonder this because so many
people participate in events that are
scheduled at the same time as our
weekly worship. Sometimes it is
recreation, sometimes it is organized

athletics, sometimes it may be other things that are being lauded and extolled in our homes.

And that makes me wonder if we are willing and able to laud God's works and mighty acts to another generation. I suspect that if that next generation is not in church on Sunday morning, all that lauding and extolling will not happen.

If your kids are in Sunday school, that is great. They will get a great education there. But faith formation takes place over many years by constant attention and concentration on our story. And when we send kids to Sunday school, but do not worship with them as a whole congregation, it sends the signal to kids that the Christian faith is for children only, as if it is something one can outgrow.

It is important that we worship together as families, not just once in a while—not just when it is convenient. Not just when there is nothing else scheduled. It is important that we understand that we are the people who make such gatherings a (the) priority. If we don't, there is little hope that another generation will. And then what will we have achieved?

I would guess that most families would not have great confidence in their ability to pass the faith on, in a way that is faithful to our beliefs, to the next generation, all on their own. And no family is expected to do that.

We are all in this together. We are here for—among other things—that very purpose.

The thing that should make this easier and better for us than perhaps others is that in our church we have an outstanding Sunday school (for children and adults) and we have times in our worship service that are particularly focused on the children and their learning and their faith and their songs.

It is an act of love toward us when God calls us together to worship. And it is an act of love toward our children when we make sure we worship with them on Sunday mornings.

Besides, if you are not here, we miss you!

Blessings,

Brian Jones

PW Bible Study Groups

Evening Bible Study Group will meet October 17 at 8:00 P.M. at the Church Basement.

Morning Bible Study Group will meet October 17 and November 21 at 9:00 A.M. at the Miller Plaza.

SESSION REPORT

Session held its regular meetings on
August 8, 2018 at 7pm &
September 12, 2018 at 8 pm
in the Campbell Library

Communion

August 12, 2018
by intinction

Funerals

Ruth Sivertsen July 23, 2018

James Parmely August 8, 2018

**Have you seen the new landscaping
at the north side of the church and
around our sign?**

Clerk of Session

Shar Ruhnke

****The Minister's Calendar for the
Church is in the secretary's office.
Feel free to add any information.**

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Our Fall Luncheon was a success!
Dollar amounts will be reported
later. Remember if you did not
furnish food or work, please make a
cash donation to either Nancy

Williams or Shar Ruhnke.
Bible Studies have started. They are
on the 3rd Wednesday- 9am at the
Miller Plaza and 8pm at the Church
Basement. Everyone is welcome.
We will be printing new PW
booklets this year. If you no longer
have a landline, please get your cell
phone number to Patty at the
Church. Thank you!

Peggy Meyer
PW Moderator

KID'S HOPE USA MISSION PROJECT

We are entering into our 11th year
with the KHUSA Mentoring Project.
We are so fortunate to have such
giving and caring individuals in our
congregation willing to take time
out of their busy lives to spend **1
Day with 1 Child for 1 Year!** I
cannot express enough gratitude to
these individuals for all their time
and effort they have put towards
this Mission Project our Church has
invested in. We currently have
eleven mentors in the Miller
Elementary School District but there
is still a need for 3 more. If anyone
would be interested, please contact
me

**Thank You, Angie Anderberg,
Tammy Caffee, Dwan and Pete
DeGeest, Marilyn Dyer, Dawn
Haar, Jim Jones, Susan Jones,**

Chelsea Pugh, Shar Ruhnke, and Gail Vrooman. To ALL of our past Mentors & Prayer Partners—Thank You also! You have & continue to make a difference in each and every child's lives!

Blessings
Dawn Haar
KHUSA Director

Thank you to the people who help with the newsletter—Dee who graciously makes the labels and Sue for delivering many of them around town.

Greeters and Ushers

You will notice on the birthday and anniversary page that the church is in need of volunteers to be ushers in November list. Your gracious gift of giving your time is appreciated.

Also, whenever you need to switch with someone as a greeter or an usher please let me know so that I can update the schedule.

Pat Crackel

FYI

- 1) Session meets the second Wednesday of each month. If you have any concerns, please contact Brian or a session member.



**Daylight savings time begins
Sunday, November 4, 2018.**

E-mail Addresses Needed

We are still currently in need of church members' e-mail addresses so we can send out mass e-mails to parishioners when necessary. Please get your address to me at secretary@firstpresmiller.org or get them to me in writing.

Unfortunately some of the e-mails are not getting through—please let me know if that happens, and we will try and work on them. Thank you.

FALL LUNCHEON “THANK YOU”

The Fall Luncheon was a great success! I would like to extend a *huge* thank you to all of the funeral groups and their co-chairman for all of your hard work. Everything was fabulous and it would not have been the success that it was without each and every one of you.

“ THANK YOU “

2018 Chairperson Shar Ruhnke

Harvest Festival

***“Give, and it will be given
to you”
Luke 6:38a***

The Session and Stewardship committee invite you to join us in celebrating the blessings of the harvest season at a potluck dinner after church on Sunday, October 28. We will also have a “Country Store” and hope to have lots of delicious homemade goodies and crafts for sale.

As in recent years, we will also be hosting our annual Harvest Offering at that time. The Session has a goal of \$2,500.00 for this important offering which funds our local missions. The funds are used to provide assistance to our “Care Flight Bags, to local food banks, to those with medical needs and to a variety of children’s needs. So far year-to-date we have spent \$3,114.29 so as you can see there is a great need.

Come and enjoy great food & fellowship. If you are so able and moved, please make a contribution to our Harvest Offering. Food & Craft items for the Country Store will be greatly appreciated also. If you are unable to attend the potluck, you may place your donation in the offering plate with “Harvest Offering” written in the memo line. You may also mail your offering to First Presbyterian Church, Attn: Dick Palmer, PO Box 63, Miller, SD 57362

***Thank You & May the Lord Bless
You!!***

***Stewardship Committee
Mike Mentzer
Dawn Haar***



***“Its from our church... we’ve been
called up for active duty.”***

Christian Education Report

***“I have come into the
world as a light, so that
no one who believes in
me should stay in
darkness.” John 2:46***

We had Rally Day on August 26. This was a fun kick-off for the new Sunday school year. Thank you to everyone who helped with that. We commissioned the Christian Education leaders on September 9th. Please thank these people who have made this commitment

to serve in this very important ministry. They do a great job and take their responsibility very seriously. We are grateful for each one.

This was also the day to recognize the 3rd graders who receive Bibles this year from the congregation.

Current Christian Education Leaders
Preschool/Kindergarten

Angie and Shaylee Anderberg and
Laura Duxbury

Gr. 1-3

Kelly and Alexis Johnson, Kelly
Wagner

Gr. 4-5

Nicole Trefz, Tiffany McClure

Gr. 6-8

Jody Speck, Stephanie Dietterle
Helper: Curtis Johnson

Confirmation Class (Gr. 7-8)

Brian Jones

Adult

Janice Palmer, Brian Jones, Wes
McClure

**Opening
Exercises
and Pianist**

Tyann Jones, Susan Jones

Jr. Youth Group

Kevin Hofer, Sarah DeHaai

Sr. Youth Group

Brian and Tyann Jones

Substitutes

Patty Crackel, Dawn Haar, Chelsea
Pugh,
Nicole Nelson, Christina Kruml

CE Committee

Kevin Hofer, Tyann Jones,

Carolyn Rediger

Thank You!

**We appreciate your willingness to
volunteer and share in this
important ministry. Thank you for
your dedication to the spiritual
formation of our congregation.**



Third Graders Get Bibles

Brecken Anderberg

Jordyn Pugh

Cody Fanning

Bryleigh Resel

Brooks Johnson

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"I believe in Christianity as I believe
the sun has risen, not only because
I see it, but because by it I see
everything else."

C. S. Lewis.

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We have volunteers to direct the
Christmas program.

**Please thank these
people:**



Chairperson: Kelly Wagner

Co-

Chairperson: Laura Duxbury

Submitted by Tyann Jones



concert. We have a great group of committed ringers and substitute ringers. If you are at all interested in being a part of the bell choir, please contact Ray. Thank you.

Submitted by:
Ray Caffee, Director

Choir

Now that fall is in the air, the Sanctuary Choir is back in singing form again, offering anthems for our Sunday morning worship. Rehearsals of the music we will sing at our annual Christmas concert will begin soon. The concert will be on Sunday afternoon, December 9. We welcome any and all singers who wish to join us.

Bell Choir

The Bell Choir is now busy practicing for the fall and winter season! We practice from 5:45-6:45 on Wednesdays until the Christmas



Birthdays in October

1 - Jack Jones
Ann Douglas
Sally Sivertsen
3 - Joseph Wieseler
Harper Duxbury
4 - Alan Wieseler
Carter Fanning
7 - Ralph Johnson
--Nolan Caffee
8 - Cheryl Fanning
Randy Johnson
9 - Slone Waldrop
Gabe Muschitz
10 - Kayla Foreman
11- Dick Palmer
Shelly Wieseler
12 - Ronalee Johnsen
15 - Doyle Foreman
16 - Bill Douglas
18 - Harriet Kopplin
Lori Engel
19 - Jayce Pugh
20- Becky Nelson
Don Stevens
21- Kelsa Foreman
24- Kyler Foreman
25- Corey Blachford
Rhoda Rombough
26- Tigh Anderberg
Jannelle Kenaston
27- Shirley Steers
Cecilee Miner
Brent Swaney
28- Lester Moeller
30- Larry Arbogast
Loni Haar
Todd Meek
31- Gideon Rembold

October Anniversaries

3- Ray & Tammy
Caffee
6 - Greg & Dawn Haar
8 - Riley & Chelsea
Pugh
10 - Stephen & Lori
Resel
16 - Wes & Tiffany
McClure

Birthdays in November

8 - Brett Stevens
9 - Jennifer Kenaston
McCade Nelson
10- Cindy Rombough
Annette Snodgrass
11- Julie Wilson
Courtney Fanning
12- Angie Anderberg
17- Rebekah Koeck
19- Schelbie DeHaai
22- Angie Rosemore
23 - Brecken Anderberg
26- Pat Crackel
Robb Johnson
Whitey Wieland
27 - David Sivertsen

November Anniversaries

4 - Lee & Sharlene Skinner
9 - Jim & Marilyn Dyer
20- Chip & Sena Rombough
-- Brian & Jan Winter

Greeters in October

7- Whitey & Joyce Wieland
14- Cecilee Miner
21- Lester Moeller
28- Wes & Tiffany McClure

Greeters in November

4 - Greg & Carolyn Rediger
11 - Harriet Kopplin
18 - Darren & Nicole Nelson
25- Pete & Dwan DeGeest

Ushers in October

Lester Moeller
Bob & Barb Lager
Mary Johnson

Ushers in November

Volunteers

Deacons in October

Jean Johnson
Nicole Nelson

Deacons in November

Sarah Resel
Marilyn Dyer