

# First Press

August 2021 —September 2021

First Presbyterian Church

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## From the Pastor's Study

*For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.*

*He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.*

*On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.*

*Psalm 62:5-7 (NRSV)*

I was reading the 62nd Psalm and realized that we often ignore what it says about God and about us. I know that, as we think about the future of the church—a future that looks pretty challenging—we think that if we get the right pastor and the right Sunday school leaders and come up with all the right programs, then the church will be saved. But the truth is a little different.

From God alone comes our hope.  
God alone is our rock, our fortress,

and our salvation. So there will be a lot to do in the months and years ahead. But in the end, the church will survive and thrive if God has a place for it. So the task will be to see what God is about, and join in that work.

Whatever pastor a church has, whatever leaders, whatever programs, we have to know that these things will not save the church.

What will save and strengthen the church is for people, inspired by the Holy Spirit, to carry our Christ's ministry of love and mercy, of forgiveness and healing, in the community and in the world.

It has been such an honor to serve you and this church these past 21 years. But we have high hopes for the future, because we know who you are.

Blessings,  
Brian Jones

## SESSION REPORT

Session held its regular meetings on June 16<sup>th</sup> and July 14<sup>th</sup> in the Campbell Library. Session also held special meetings on June 28<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>

### Communion

Communion was served on June 6<sup>th</sup>  
with 42 served

### Funerals/Memorial Services

Karen Evans     Irene Jordeth  
Rex Lanz         Lisa Droz  
Ellen Parmely     Fern Droz  
Mary Johnson     Peg McInnis

Phil Crackel

### Baptisms

Lee Brian Jones  
son of Will and Brooke Jones

### Weddings

Stephanie Dietterle & Mike Edwards

*Join Us for Worship!*



**On Monday, July 26, there will be a PW meeting for all women of the Church in the Fellowship Hall. Please try and attend.**

## Wanted !!

### Ushers and Greeters

Now that Church services are back to normal for the most part, we are in need of greeters and ushers for services. Greeters are for one week, and ushers are usually scheduled for a month at a time. It is not mandatory that you be there every Sunday, but if you are not available each Sunday of the month, please let the secretary know so we can find a replacement if you can't find one. These are very important ministries in our Church, so please volunteer or say "yes" if asked to serve. It is getting more difficult to find these volunteers, and we need people to "step up" for these positions. Thank you!





*After too long of a break, the bell choir looks forward to once again begin practicing and playing in church.*

*We will begin our practices in September (exact date TBD) and play in church during regular worship and for the annual Christmas concert. New members are always welcome, so please let the director or a present ringer know if you are interested. We have a lot of fun and enjoy producing music that helps spread the news of God's love!*

*Ray Caffee*



### **Sanctuary Choir Report**

The choir was delighted last Sunday to sing one last anthem with Tyann and Brian included. Singing as a choir always brings bright and cheerful people together, each voice contributing its own part to the unique sound of the

choir--in this case, for twenty-one years. Every member of this close-knit group will miss them in so very many ways.

We thank them for sharing their musical gifts and pray for them the blessings of singing with the choir at Hope Presbyterian Church in Spicer, MN.



### **Christian Education:**

**"Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let everything you do be done in love."**

**1<sup>st</sup>. Corinthians 16: 13-14**



**Hope you are enjoying your summer. It is time to think about returning to Sunday school.**

### **Schedule for returning to Sunday school.**

**August 29 Rally Day** – Come to church and Sunday school. Students will go to opening and then find their classrooms.

**Potluck meal**

**Fun Activity**

**Sept. 5 No Sunday school – Labor Day weekend.**

- Sept. 12**
  - 1. Sunday school resumes**
  - 2. Third Graders get Bibles** during worship.
  - 3. Christian Ed. Leaders will be commissioned** during worship.

4. **Attendance pins** awarded for 2020--2021.

**Sept. 15 First Wednesday night class  
Grades 6-8 at 7:00 PM**

*This is the breakdown of classes and teachers for this year:*

**Preschool – grade 1:** Laura Duxbury  
Sept. – Dec.  
**Teacher needed for Jan. – May**

**Gr. 2-3:** Kelly Johnson  
Kelly Wagner

**Gr. 4-5** Susan Jones and Marilyn Dyer  
Sept. –Dec.  
**1 Teacher needed Jan. - May**

**Gr. 6-8:** Jennifer Runge Sept. -Feb.  
**1 Teacher needed for March-May**

**Substitutes:** Patty Crackel, Dawn Haar,  
Jill VanDerWerff, Kevin Hofer,  
Brian and Jan Winter  
Chelsea Pugh

**Opening: Teacher Needed**

**Pianist:** Susan Jones

**Adult Class: Teachers Needed**

**Junior Youth Group:**

Kevin Hofer

**1 Leader Needed**

**Senior Youth Group:**

**Leaders Needed**

**Christmas Program:** Kelly Wagner and  
Laura Duxbury

**We need a co-chair.**

*Please consider making Christian Education part of your ministry.*

*Please call Kevin Hofer, Gayle Vrooman or Stephanie Edwards to volunteer.*

Third Graders get Bibles in church on

**September 12**

Vaelynn Welk Rya Wagner  
Blake Hofer Peyton Moss



**THANK YOU!**

Thank you for all your support and help over the years! We have a successful Christian Education program here because you have all made it a priority. You are hard-working disciples who have made the spiritual formation of our congregation a priority. The teachers have been phenomenal over the years going above and beyond just preparing lessons. They have done that and also formed their classes into families of faithful people.

Thanks again for your loving support. I can't even begin to imagine how much I will miss all of you and how much I will miss serving this church. May God continue to bless and keep you.

**With love and gratitude,**

**Tyann Jones**

Submitted by Tyann Jones

# Christian Education

June 14-17 the Presbyterian Church hosted

## **ROCKY RAILWAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL.**

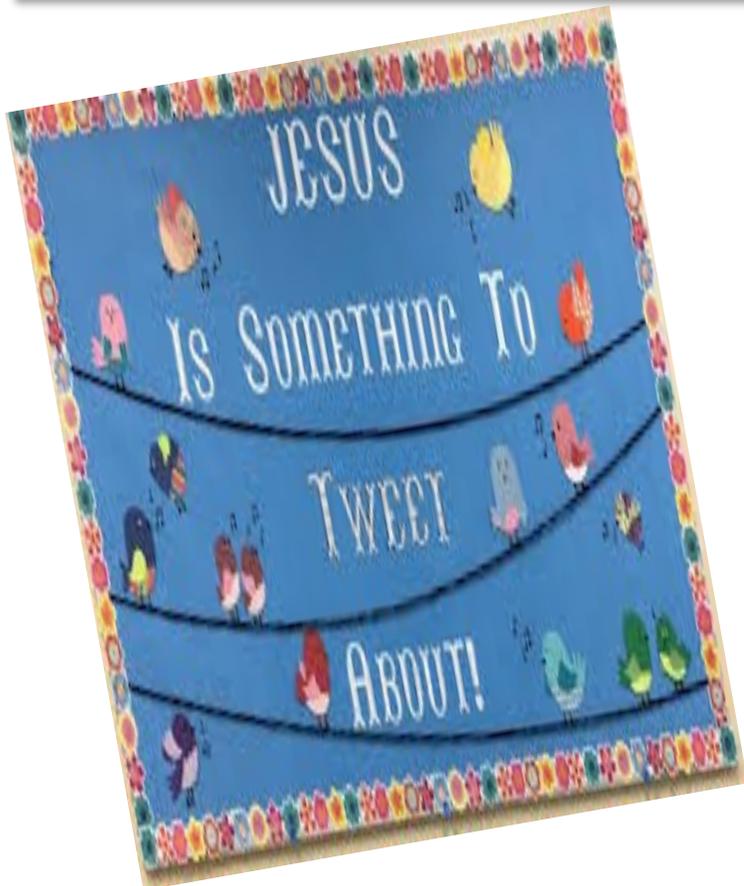
There was an average of 95 kids and crew leaders each day. Forces were once again joined with the following area Miller churches:

Trinity Lutheran  
United Methodist  
St. Ann's Catholic.

Throughout the week the kids discovered Jesus' power can pull them through life's ups and downs. The sights and sounds amongst the kids and helpers were amazing. Kids were taken away on adventures during story time, sang cool Bible songs, played team-building games, and enjoyed a tasty treat each day. Participates were also encouraged this year to bring an offering for the Hand County Library.

Next year, Trinity Lutheran will be hosting. However, we do need a chair person and a co-chair. Please contact Kelly Wagner if you are willing and she will get you set up and ready to hit the floor running.





***Vacation  
Bible  
School  
2021***

## **Birthdays in August**

- 2 - Kylie Selting
- 4 - Jaden Anderberg
- 6- Mike Edwards
- 8 – Docson Jones
- 9- Laura Duxbury
- 13 - Riley Pugh
- 15- Heather Resel  
June VanZee
- 17 - Sandra Selting
- 20 - Greg Rediger  
Dayken Nelson  
Bailey Strasburg  
Davon Rombough
- 23 - David Johnson
- 22- Stephanie Bonebright  
Stephan Resel
- 25 - Sarah Resel
- 26 – Kristy Strasburg  
Tammie Gross
- 31- Kohen Resel

## **Anniversaries in August**

- 8- Dylan & Jennifer Templeton
- 10 - Travis & Angie Anderberg
- 20- Mike & Jennifer Runge
- 21 - Whitey & Joyce Wieland
- 22 - Rich & Pat Waldrop
- 26 – Robin & Gayle Vrooman

## **Greeters for August**

- 1 – Jim & Marilyn Dyer
- 8– Ray & Tammy Caffee
- 15–Kay & Doyle Foreman
- 22– Travis & Angie Anderberg
- 29- Jim Jones

## **Ushers for August**

Dick Palmer, Steve Zeigler  
Jim & Marilyn Dyer

## **Deacons for August**

Jan Winter  
Padyn Resel

## **Birthdays in September**

- 6 - Ava Johnson  
Vaelynn Welk  
Mike Edwards
- 7 - Rich Waldrop
- 9 - Corbin Kruml
- 11 - Luis Koeck
- 12 -Dale Dyer
- 14 - John Rombough  
Dee Sivertsen
- 16 - Roberta Harvey
- 17 - Carolyn Rediger  
Colton VanDerWerff  
Carol Swaney
- 19 - Tyson VanDerWeff
- 20 - Taylor Droz  
Daniel Palmer  
Kirby VanDerWerff  
Ruby Carder
- 21 - Leonard Fischer
- 22 - Carter Kruml
- 23 - Vance Caffee  
Wayne Ruhnke  
Ryland Nelson
- 24 – Tanner DeHaa
- 25 - Patricia Waldrop  
Jennifer Thyen
- 27 - Tammy Caffee  
Jason Mentzer  
Chip Rombough  
Teague Resel
- 28 - Joan Sivertsen
- 29- Hadlee Duxbury
- 30 - Lee Skinner  
Roxanne Stevens

## **Anniversaries in September**

- 18 - Donnie & Bonnie Ehlers
- 19 – Tony & Kristen Moss
- 26- Dick & Janice Palmer
- 29 – Travis & Cassandra Foreman

## **Greeters for September**

- 5 – Brian & Jan Winter
- 12 – Larry & Janice Arbogast
- 19 - Wayne & Shar Ruhnke
- 26 - Sarah Resel

## **Deacons for September**

Jean Johnson  
Jim Jones