



FROM PASTOR ERIC

“And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:24-25

One of the things that I find so compelling about the Bible is how unapologetically it walks the balance between being gruelingly aspirational and unapologetically realistic. It tells real stories about human lives in all of our failures while also affording vision and direction for all the good that we’re capable of. Peter both denies knowing Jesus and goes on to lead the church. Mary the sister of Martha both questions Jesus’ motives and sacrifices a valuable possession to give him honor. Our Scriptures hold both aspects of life together, recognizing that caricature will never tell the whole truth.

In the letter that we’ve come to describe as being written to the Hebrews, the unknown author gives a wildly aspirational command to *provoke one another to love and good deeds*. It is challenging enough to drive ourselves as individuals to continue in love and act in good ways for others, so how can we possibly *provoke* people to this lofty end? I would suggest that the author provides a possible path towards this provocation through something very mundane: *spend time with one another*. It’s not glamorous, nor does it sound revolutionary, but that’s precisely what our Scriptures command. Make it a habit to spend time with the people who make up the body of the church.

As someone new here, that’s exactly what I’d like to do as we work our way towards the lofty Scriptural goal of working love and good deeds: **I want to meet with you.** Before the end of the year, I’d like to make the effort to meet with each of you, regardless of whether that’s in your home, the church, a coffee shop, or wherever. So let me know what works for you, and we will get a time on the calendar for us to spend some time with one another.

Who knows, we may just provoke one another to practice love and work for the good.

In Christ,
Eric

PS: If you have a new address, phone number, or email, please be sure to let Lori Olson in the office know. You can contact her at administrative@fpcmankato.org. Since I’ll be reaching out to people to set up a time for meeting, I’d like to know that I am contacting you through the best medium possible.



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**Sunday, July 7 is
Fair Trade Coffee Hour!**



The first Sunday of the month is Fair Trade Coffee Hour. Fair Trade coffee is served to support the global movement to improve the lives of farmers and workers in developing countries by ensuring that they have access to export markets and are paid a fair price for their products.



Do you know someone who is in the hospital, someone who would like to hear a friendly voice, or someone who would like to make a prayer request? The FPC Pastoral staff and Deacons would like to hear from you!

You can complete a Prayer Request form online at www.fpcmankato.org/prayer-requests, call, or email the Church office at and our administrative assistant will get you connected to our Pastoral staff and Deacons! 507.387.2160 | info@fpcmankato.org



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Every Sunday, FPC members generously volunteer their time during worship services and for many other activities—we just want to say


THANK YOU!

For all you do! We couldn't do it without you!

If you would like to volunteer during a worship service, please visit our SignUp Genius website here:
[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c4ea8a92fa1fe3-livestream#/,](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c4ea8a92fa1fe3-livestream#/) or, please call the church office and Lori can help you with getting signed up.



July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 12:00 p.m. FPC Staff Meeting	3	4 Office Closed 	5	6
7 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Fair Trade Coffee Hour & 2-Cents-A- Meal	8	9 5:30 p.m. Compassion Camp	10 5:30 p.m. Properties Comm. Meeting	11	12 1:00 p.m. Summer Fun Friday	13 2:00 p.m. Candlelight Concert Series
14 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	15	16 6:00 p.m. Budget Comm. Meeting	17 5:00 p.m. Worship Comm. Meeting No Session Meeting	18	19	20
21 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Synod School Starts Storm Lake, IA	22 Synod School Storm Lake, IA YWCA Mindset Camp Starts Mankato YWCA	23 Synod School Storm Lake, IA YWCA Mindset Camp Mankato YWCA	24 Synod School Storm Lake, IA YWCA Mindset Camp Mankato YWCA	25 Synod School Storm Lake, IA YWCA Mindset Camp Mankato YWCA	26 Synod School Storm Lake, IA YWCA Mindset Camp Mankato YWCA	27
28 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 5:30 p.m. Dinner Service in the Cellar	29	30	31			



July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Mickey Corcoran Trenton Enter Cassi Wanous	2 Muriel Schoon	3		5	6 John Julian Danielle Mansfield
7 Larissa Fette	8	9 Pat Ashling	10	11 Dennis Fredericksen	12	13 Judy Arzdorf
14 John Oyhoudt	15	16	17	18	19 Bob Madsen	20
21	22	23 Peggy Fleming	24	25 Jeanne Steiner Nancy Sullivan	26 Mary Topp	27
28	29	30	31			

PROGRAMMING

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Compassion Camp 5:30-7:30 PM	10 Book Club @ 6 PM	11	12 Youth Summer Fun Friday Nursing Home & Canoeling 1-7 PM	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Synod School - Storm Lake, IA	Synod School - Storm Lake, IA	Synod School - Storm Lake, IA	Synod School - Storm Lake, IA	Synod School - Storm Lake, IA	Synod School - Storm Lake, IA	Synod School - Storm Lake, IA
28	29	30	31			



First Presbyterian Church

OF MANKATO

rooted in community • growing in faith

**TUESDAY EVENINGS
THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER
FROM 5:30-7:30 p.m.**

Tuesday, June 18 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Every Living Things Needs
Shelter

Tuesday, June 25 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Every Living Things Needs Food

Tuesday, July 9 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Every Living Things Needs Water

Tuesday, August 13 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Every Living Things Needs Air

Tuesday, August 20 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Every Living Things Needs
Community

**COMPASSION
CAMP**

WHAT EVERY LIVING THING NEEDS

**OPEN TO
AGES 2-12**

Compassion Camp is an inclusive vacation Bible school program for children focused on loving our neighbors, ourselves, and the world! Activities will include story time, music, art projects, games, movement, and more!



www.fpcmankato.org

507-246-6381

220 E. Hickory Street
Mankato, MN 56001

Contact Lizz Kendall with any questions: educator@fpcmankato.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is on a break during the summer months, but join us beginning in September!

Children

Classes during the Worship service for age groups:

Pre-K – 5th grade
10:20 - 11:00 a.m.
Children's room

No registration Required.
Contact Lizz with any questions!

YOUTH GROUP

Youth

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Every Sunday with Lizz. Tons of activities planned for fall!

No registration required.
Contact Lizz at with any Questions!

educator@fpcmankato.org

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLE

The Presbyterian Women's Circle is taking the **summer months off** and will resume meeting in September.

Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. in the FPC Fellowship Hall.

See you then!



eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
Mankato

Join YWCA Mankato's Summer Camp Adventure as a Volunteer!



MindSet Camp: July 22-26, 2024

Seeking women in helping professions to guide our campers.

July 22-26, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Ready to inspire and empower? Sign up here:

<https://www.ywcamankato.org/volunteer>



Dinner Service in the Cellar is a monthly community potluck dinner and evening worship service. **Bring a dish to share!**

Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m., worship begins at 6:00 p.m.

- For all ages
 - Fourth Sundays at 5:30 p.m. in the FPC Fellowship Hall on:
 - July 28 | August 25 | September 29 | October 27 November 24 | December 29
 - Please RSVP no later than one week before each month's event: www.tinyurl.com/fpcdinnerservice
- Questions? Please contact the church office

New Books in the Library

The Glassmaker by acclaimed author Tracy Chevalier has been added to the church library purchased with Shirley Higginbotham's memorial funds. It follows a family of glassmakers in Murano / Venice through triumph and loss from the height of Renaissance-era Italy to the present day.

Only the Beautiful by Susan Meissner has been added to the church library purchased with Shirley Higginbotham's memorial funds. It is a heartrending story about a young mother's fight to keep her daughter and the decisions that keep them apart. The mother's hereditary "difference" gains unwanted attention in California in 1938 similar to that alarming the Nazi regime in Austria in 1947.

New Jigsaw Puzzles are also available ~ Help Yourself ~ Return them if you wish ~ No checkout required!



"Love Thy Neighbor" Social Justice Book Club a low-commitment group for anyone who cares about making a difference in their corner of the world. Didn't finish or read the book? No problem! Join us for a great discussion anyway.

- For all adults
- First Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the FPC Narthex
No July or August meetings
September 4 | October 2 | November 6
December 4 (*books for fall meetings will be announced in late summer*)
- Just show up! No sign-up required.

Contact: Sophie Hoiseth (Session Elder);
sophie.hoiseth@gmail.com

SESSION MINUTES, WEDNESDAY, June 26, 2024

Prayers & Devotions

- Moderator: Pastor Eric Garner
- Devotion: Pastor Eric, 1 John
- Elders express their Joys and Concerns
- Opening Prayer led by Pastor Eric

For the Record

- Attendance: April Austin, Jim Connors, Brad Leiding, Nora Henry, Sophie Hoiseth, Lynn Kuechle, Paul Peterson.
- Excused: Kelly McBride and Joyce Prahm.
- Guests: Karen Anderson, Deacon representative; Andrew Kendall, Music Director.
- May 15, 2024, Minutes approved via email.
- Communion count for June 2: 77
- Communion count to homebound members for June: 0
- Births in May: N/A
- Baptisms in May: N/A
- Members who passed in May: N/A
- New members in May: N/A
- Transfer members in May: N/A
- Notice of Inventory of the Estate of Marcia Chalgren.
- Letter from City of Mankato regarding a redevelopment project.
- Next Session meeting is Wednesday, August 21, 2024.

Guest Speaker (Andrew Kendall)

- Andrew provided an overview of his proposal to replace his current position with a new position entitled “Director of Music Ministries.” The Director position would be a 12-month role with expanded responsibilities at FPC.
- Andrew answered questions from Session, including his plans for the future expansion of the music ministry at FPC.
- Session discussed the proposal and identified next steps, including how such a move impacts roles and responsibilities of existing staff.
- Pastor Eric will connect with Andrew and communicate that Session has the goal of having a decision by early August.

From the Pastor (Eric Garner)

- Pastor Eric shared his policy on non-voting as Head of Staff. When the Session is divided, he will vote no to allow for continued deliberation/dialogue.

Review of Financial Reports

Committee Reports – Consent/Approval

- Budget, 6/11/24, Minutes.
- Community Engagement, 6/16/24, Minutes.
- Deacons, 6/9/24
- Endowment
- Faith Formation
- Personnel
- Properties
- Worship

Continued on page 9

SESSION MINUTES CONTINUED

From Budget Committee (Brad Leiding)

- Profinium has asked if there are specific items that are being purchased with dollars provided to the church of approximately \$2,500. Youth initiatives at the church were identified as priority needs. Motion by Lynn Kuechle, seconded by Nora Henry for donation to be directed to Faith Formation. Passed unanimously.
- Moving costs to Minnesota were higher than the initial quote received by the Garners. Motion by Paul Peterson, seconded by Sophie Hoiseth for FPC to cover all moving costs. Passed unanimously.
- On behalf of FPC, Nancy Zallek has submitted a \$16,000, grant proposal to a Madelia church for Connections Shelter.
- Specific information related to the Marcia Chalgren estate will be shared as it becomes available, likely towards the end of the calendar year.
- A refund from State Farm Insurance for overpayment has been received and put in the General Fund.
- Motion by Brad Leiding, seconded by Jim Connors to amend the Payment Policy to reflect new rates and adjusted organist rate to \$300. Passed unanimously.

From Corporate President (Jim Connors)

- No items.

From Board of Deacons (Karen Anderson)

- No items.

From Community Engagement Team (Lynn Kuechle)

- Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 27.
- Austin asked for a review of the process for communications that go to the full congregation. Kuechle will bring this topic to the committee's next meeting.

From Faith Formation Committee (Nora Henry)

- No items.

From Personnel Committee (Paul Peterson)

- Andrew Kendall's proposal for FPC Director of Music Ministries (see above)
- Lizz Kendall does not have a job description. The Personnel Committee will work on the topic of staff job descriptions and provide an update at the next Session meeting.

From Properties Committee (Kelly McBride)

- A Candlelight Concert Series will be held on July 27 and August 31 at FPC. Discussion centered on the historical and potential future practice of making building use decisions at the Pastor, Faith Formation level. Session voted to formally approve the concert series.
- Food Not Bombs building use request was reviewed. McBride will reach out to the organization to continue the conversation.

From Worship Committee (April Austin)

- Protocol for approval on Minute for Mission guests speakers during the service. This item was tabled to August.
- Installation reception planning is underway. April provided details on the event, including the Saturday preparation work. Discussion was held on whether to serve wine at the reception. Motion by April Austin, seconded by Jim Connors to offer punch, coffee, and wine. Motion was approved on a 5-2 vote. Wine will be donated.

Other Business (from church office)

- Letter from Consolidated Communications regarding replacement of Yealink IP phones by November 30, 2024, (Pastor Eric and Lori's desk phones). This item was tabled.

Motion to Adjourn by Jim Connors, Seconded by Brad Leiding at 8:02 p.m. Closing prayer led by Pastor Eric. Next meeting: Wednesday, August 21, at 6:00 p.m., Multipurpose Room.

**YOUTH WHO COMPLETED
GRADES 6-12**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUMMER

Fun Fridays



**DAYS CONSIST OF
SERVICE PROJECTS IN
THE MANKATO
COMMUNITY AND
OUTDOOR FUN**

FRI JUNE 21 ~ 1-7 PM

POSTPONED

GARDEN

FARM

FRI JULY 12 ~ 1-7 PM

**OAK TERRACE
ASSISTED LIVING
BINGO WITH
RESIDENTS**

**KAYAKING AND
CANOEING**

FRI AUGUST 16 ~ 1-7 PM

**BACKPACK
FOOD
PROGRAM**

**LAKE TIME
AT THE TAYLOR
HOME**

SYNOD SCHOOL

Synod School is for EVERYONE: Adults, Youth and Children!

**The Synod of Lakes & Prairies Synod School 2024
is scheduled for July 21-26, 2024
in Storm Lake, Iowa**

This 70th Synod School is sure to be a great event!

Synod School is a learning and personal enrichment experience for people of all ages that seeks to create an environment of hospitality, healing, and hope. The week is designed for laity and clergy, and individuals and families with classes and activities for adults, youth, and children.

Come...

- To participate in a unique experience of Christian community as we worship, study, play, and live together;
- To grow in faith through action, relationships, and a centering of the spirit;
- For continuing education, for a special family experience, or for individual growth;
- To take it all in, then return home to share and serve.

If you are interested in going to Synod School please contact Lizz Kendall by email at educator@fpcmankato.org.

Here is the Synod School Program website:

https://www.lakesandprairies.org/files/ugd/2f3070_9b39be5b629c4090a2375

Compassion Camp

This summer, First Presbyterian Church of Mankato is again offering Compassion Camp, an inclusive vacation Bible school program for children ages 2 through 5th graders and spread across the summer months on Tuesday evenings. Activities will be focused on loving our neighbors, ourselves, and the world! Activities will also include story time, music, art projects, games, movements, and more! For children ages 2-3, please have an adult accompany your child.

Dates and Times:

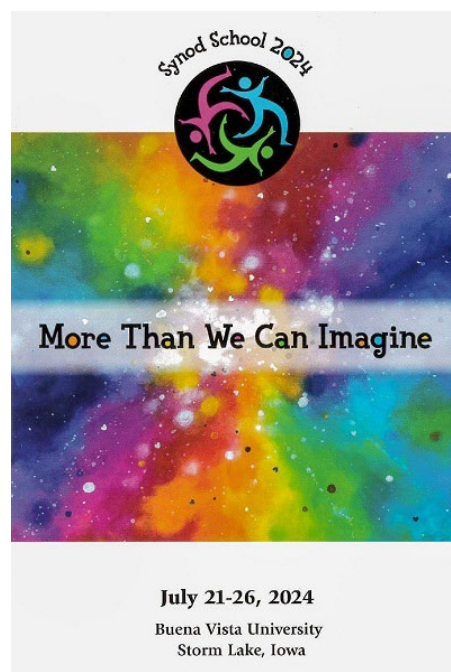
5:30-6:00 p.m.: Dinner and Fellowship, potluck style, please bring food to share
6:00-7:30 p.m.:
Programming

Tuesday, July 9: Every
Living Things Need Water

Tuesday, August 13: Every
Living Things Need Air

Tuesday, August 20: Every
Living Things Needs
Community

**Please register with Lizz at
educator@fpcmankato.org**



Pastor and Head of Staff

Reverend Eric Garner

FPC Session ~ Elders

Jim Connors, President | Brad Leiding, Treasurer | Joyce Prahm, Clerk of Session
April Austin, Worship | Nora Henry, Faith Formation | Sophie Hoiseth, Stewardship
Lynn Kuechle, Community Engagement | Kelly McBride, Properties | Paul Peterson, Personnel

FPC Board of Deacons

Mark Taylor, Moderator | Derek Fette, Treasurer | Chris Renne, Secretary
Karen Anderson | Nancy Black | Amily Crowell | Kathy Gordon | Deb Kienholz
Marcia Richards | Diane Murray | Susan Schoon | Jeanne Steiner

FPC Staff

Ben Marti, Organist | Andrew Kendall,, DMA, Choir Director
Lizz Kendall , Director of Outreach & Faith Formation
Mark Zallek , Building Manager | Lori Olson, Administrative Assistant

Want to be a FPC volunteer for children and/or youth programming events?

Please contact the church office to request and complete a background check authorization form.
After completing the form, you can submit your completed form to the church office by emailing it to
administrative@fpcmankato.org, dropping it off at the church, or
mailing your completed form to the church office.
Please call the church office at 507-387-2160 if you have any questions.

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Staff Contact Info:

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Administrative Assistant, Lori Olson: administrative@fpcmankato.org | 507-387-2160

Building Manager, Mark Zallek: buildingmanager@fpcmankato.org | 507-327-7907

Pianist and Organist, Ben Marti: music@fpcmankato.org | 507-387-2160

Choir Director, Andrew Kendall: music@fpcmankato.org | 507-387-2160

Director of Outreach and Faith Formation, Lizz Kendall: educator@fpcmankato.org | 507-246-6381

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