

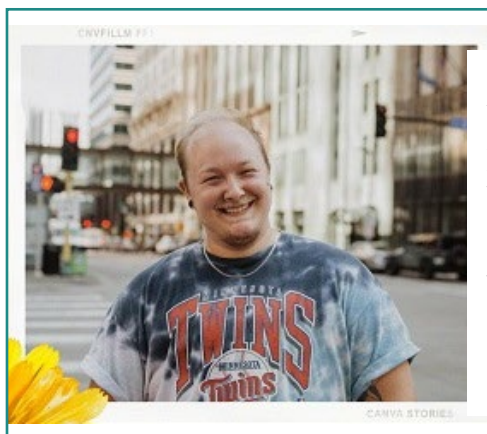


CALLING ALL GRADUATES!

The FPC Faith Formation Committee would like to honor any student who is in the Class of 2024, whether graduating high school, college, or other degrees! On Sunday, June 9, we will celebrate your graduation with a blessing during the service, a slideshow, and cake celebration afterwards!

For a bulletin insert in our June 9 bulletin, we would like to have your baby photo and a recent photo of you and know: your name | your parent/guardian's name(s) | the high school or college you graduated from | if college, what is your degree? | your future plans | your interests | your favorite quote. **Please email your information to Lizz Kendall at educator@fpcmankato.org by Sunday, June 2!**

Congratulations to the Class of 2024 FPC high school graduates Isabel Carleton, Nyewal Dojiok, Noa Malone, Logan Palm, and Talay Sartell! Card baskets for each graduate will be in the narthex after worship services.



You are invited to Seth's "Thank You" celebration here in the FPC parking lot on Sunday, June 2 after worship service!

Lots of hamburgers and hot dogs will be catered in part by TNT Eats and there will be lots of games!

Join us!



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**Sunday, June 2 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#/>, or, please call the church office and Lori can help you with getting signed up.



June 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|--|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Seth's Celebration & BBQ Luncheon! | 3 | 4 12:00 p.m. FPC Staff Meeting | 5 | 6 6:00 p.m. Progressive Bible Study, Narthex | 7 | 8 |
| 9 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Senior Recognition Sunday! | 10 | 11 6:30 p.m. Budget Comm. Meeting | 12 5:30 p.m. Properties Comm. Meeting | 13 | 14 12:00 p.m. Session Agenda Items Due | 15 |
| 16 10:00 a.m. Pastor Eric Worship Service 11:15 a.m. Deacons Meeting | 17 | 18 5:30 p.m. Compassion Camp! <i>Every Little Thing Needs Shelter</i> Ages 2 –12 | 19 9:30 a.m. PCW Meeting 5:00 p.m. Worship Comm. Meeting 6:00 p.m. Session Meeting | 20 | 21 12:45 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Youth Summer Fun Friday ~ Gardening! Ages 12 - 18 | 22 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Noa Malone's Graduation Open House |
| 23 10:00 a.m. Pastor Eric Worship Service 5:30 p.m. Dinner Service in the Cellar 30 10:00 a.m. Pastor Eric Worship Service | 24 | 25 5:30 p.m. Compassion Camp! <i>Every Living Thing Needs Food</i> Ages 2 - 12 | 26 | 27 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Church Office Closed; Lori—Out of Town | 28 | 29 |



June 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | | | | 1 Rick Sartell |
| 2 Rich Stolp | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Robert Chesley | 8 |
| 9 | 10 Rebecca Goth | 11 | 12 Aaron Grimm | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 Stuart Carleton Britt Fleming | 17 | 18 Terry Kuechle Hannah Oberle | 19 Sheree Palm | 20 Prince Schafer Nancy Zallek | 21 | 22 Sue Fleming Joyce Prahm |
| 23 | 24 | 25 Shantell Nei | 26 Maci Grunzke Amy Michel | 27 | 28 | 29 Cathy Davis Eric Michel |
| 30 Kelly Gurnzke | | | | | | |
| notes | | | | | | |

FROM PASTOR ERIC GARNER

Late last year, The New York Times compiled a series of videos in which people of various ages spoke to feeling alone. The persistence of experiencing isolation was termed *a lifetime of loneliness*; a sensation of not knowing relationship even while sharing a room (or even a life) with others. These words of longing conjured questions within me about what the church can do to help meet the existential isolation of our times. *Does the church have a presence to offer to people who feel alone?*

As Anneva and I pack boxes and say our good-byes to the people we love in Colorado, I've been struck by the power of belonging. It is one thing to live in a home or to share space with others, but it is something else entirely to belong to people and places. There's risk in belonging to others, since it means our experience, hopes, and lives are bound up together; affecting one another whether we want to or not.

Our world bears witness to how easily belonging is ruptured as relationships are severed over disagreements and relational failures. It would seem that even our most primal bonds prove voluntary when it comes to belonging as family ties and lifelong friendships are discarded over self-care and maintaining healthy boundaries. Yes, there are times when safety and well-being may require such moves, but our propensity to cut and run offers clear insight into the lifetimes of loneliness so many of us live.

All this brings me back to the church — to this church. What kind of belonging do we hope to share with one another? How do we voluntarily choose to belong to one another in a way where we don't sacrifice relationship at the first signs of disagreement or discord? I am obviously a new facet to the system of our church, who has much to learn in the process of our being bounded to one another. Together we will both succeed and fail as we engage in the processes of getting to know one another and belonging to one another. However,



throughout this process there is something I believe
will see us through: *we are choosing to be united
with one another through our shared life in Christ.*

I am honored that you have chosen me to be a part of you. I feel blessed to have begun to integrate you all into myself. We are not alone, since we are united in purpose for the sake of serving Mankato and all the world.

As we engage in this processes of being knit together, I hope that we can help the people around us feel less alone. I believe that in both welcoming them in our midst and going to be intentionally present in their lives that we can convey the transfiguring message of Christ to them: *From the first you are loved; in me you will always belong.* I look forward to speaking these words to you and with you. Let's go ensure the lonesome that they belong.

In Christ,
Eric





First Presbyterian Church
OF MANKATO
rooted in community • growing in faith

COMPASSION CAMP

WHAT EVERY LIVING THING NEEDS

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

**OPEN TO
AGES 2-12**

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 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!



Trades Trailblazers Camp: June 24-27, 2024
Calling knowledgeable individuals in building trades, ideal for folks comfortable around tools and wood shops. June 24-27,
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



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:
 - June 23 | 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/fpcdinner-service
- Questions? Please contact the church office

Progressive Bible Study invites you to explore scripture with your fellow church-goers in an anti-oppressive, trauma-informed, dogma-free environment. We follow an adapted version of the Lectio Divina model, offering a balance of meditative reflection, curiosity-inspired research, and group discussion.

- For all ages
 - First Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. in the FPC Library
 - June 5 | No July Meeting | August 1 | September 5
October 3 | November 7 | December 5
 - Just show up! No sign-up required.
 - Bring a Bible if you have one! Any version or translation. (We will provide a Bible if you don't have one!)
- Questions? Please contact the church office



“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
 - June 6 | 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, MAY 15, 2024

Prayers & Devotions

- Moderator: Pastor Andy Davis called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.
- Devotion: Jim Connors
- Elders express their Joys and Concerns
- Opening Prayer

For the Record

- Attendance: April Austin, Jim Connors, Nora Henry, Lynn Kuechle, Brad Leiding, Paul Peterson, and Joyce Prahm.
- Excused: Sophie Hoiseth and Kelly McBride.
- Guests: Andy Davis, Moderator; and Lenore representative of Foods Not Bombs Organization.
- April 17, 2024, Minutes approved via email.
- Communion count for May 5: 77
- Communion count to homebound members for May: 0
- Births in April: N/A
- Baptisms in April: N/A
- Members who passed in April: N/A
- New members in April: N/A
- Transfer members in April: N/A
- Order of Formal Probate of Will for Joy Lutzi.
- Thank you card from Jeanne and Pete Steiner.
- Giving Statement from the PC USA.
- Next Session meeting is Wednesday, June 19, 2024.

Review of Financial Reports

Committee Reports: Motion by Jim Connors, seconded by Brad Leiding, and unanimously approved to accept the Consent Agenda

- Budget, 5/14/24
- Community Engagement, 4/11/24, Minutes.
- Deacons, no meeting in April, 5/19/24
- Endowment
- Faith Formation, 5/5/24, Minutes.
- Personnel
- Properties, 5/8/24, Minutes.
- Worship, 4/17/24, 5/15/24

From Budget Committee (Brad Leiding)

- April 30, 2024, Financial Compilation Report.
- Brad Leiding highlighted that the insurance policy was missing a discount for the Church building's sprinkler system and estimated the discount of \$4,000.
- As discussed at last month's meeting, the savings account funds were invested into CDs.
- Motion by Brad Leiding and seconded by Paul Peterson to approve the estimated costs for Pastor moving costs of \$5,600.

From Corporate President (Jim Connors)

- No updates.

Continued on page 9

SESSION MINUTES CONTINUED

From Engagement Team (Lynn Kuechle, Joyce Prahm)

- Joyce reviewed the Team's April 11 Minutes.
- Session moved to bring back triangle bulletin board to encourage volunteer recruitment.
- Session discussed and agreed to commission Julia Prouty in her work on her graduate degree and will be the Youth Adult Delegate to the General Assembly when she visits the Church in June.

From Faith Formation Committee (Nora Henry)

- Motion by April Austin, seconded by Paul Peterson to send the Church Youth to off campus on activities on June 21 for a community garden, July 12 to Oak Terrace, July 21-26 to Synod School, and August 16 to the North Mankato backpack program. Motion carried.

From Personnel Committee (Paul Peterson)

- Paul shared that the Committee is meeting and reviewing staff roles.

From Properties Committees (Joyce Prahm)

- Lenore from Foods Not Bombs Organization gave presentations regarding their building use request for preparing meals to feed the community one time each month. Their organization consists of a group of 10-15 people who want to restart this food program that in 2009, was feeding up to 90 people each month. They are asking for either use of the space for free or at a discounted rate to prepare the food then taking their food to a park as "picnics" for those in the community. Session members asked questions and shared that a decision might wait until Pastor Eric Garner starts in June. Lenore said this timing is acceptable as they are still working on their preplanning. Lenore will reach out to the Church's administrative staff when they are ready to take the next steps.
- A Church member is needed as a representative on the Connections Shelter board as a requirement of the lease agreement. Nominations are being sought.

From Worship Committee (April Austin)

- April reported on Seth's farewell party on Sunday, June 2 and encouraged volunteers to sign up.

Other Business (Session)

- Session is checking dates for Paster Eric Garner's ordination(s).
- Session thanks Pastor Andy Davis for his work with us as we navigated this transition.

Motion to Adjourn at 7:26 p.m. by Joyce Prahm, seconded by Brad Leiding. ~ Closing Prayer

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, June 18: Every Living Things Needs Shelter

Tuesday, June 25: Every Living Things Needs Food

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 by Monday, June 10!
educator@fpcmankato.org

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.

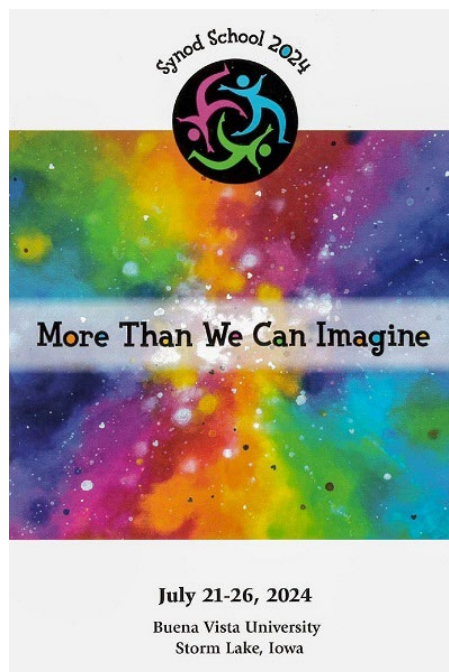
Come...

- 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



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:

Pastor Eric Garner: pastor@fpcmankato.org | 507-387-2160

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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