



## FROM PASTOR ERIC

In 1959, Pete Seeger modernized a bit of biblical wisdom for the radio. His song, “Turn! Turn! Turn!” (made an international hit by The Byrds), takes the words of Ecclesiastes 3 and supports the book’s claim *that there is nothing new under the sun* by attaching them into a catchy folk melody. That which is old becomes new, and the cycle of the world’s changing brings us back to what has formerly been.

By the logic of Ecclesiastes, there is a season and a time for all of the events that transpire under heaven. Sometimes we find ourselves in a period of life where we embrace, laugh, and dance; however, this will regularly give way to a time of loss, weeping, and death. While we often place value judgments on these things, Ecclesiastes isn’t so cut and dry about whether one thing is good or bad, simply claiming that some things are present and some things are yet to come. In the interpretation of Pete Seeger, the wheel of time with *turn*, and a new season will come upon us.

We currently find ourselves in a time of change. Yes, there are hints of fall as our trees incline themselves towards their autumnal hues, but more than this we also find ourselves on the cusp of broader change. We have new families within our church whose very presence will help to shape our future as a community. We are grieving the loss of longtime members who, in the old language of the faith, have entered *the Church Triumphant!* We are anxious about the next season of national life as we not only select our future representatives in government, but also question how we can heal the national divide that only seems to widen as politicians exploit our differences for their gain. And hopefully we also are living into the hope of Christ’s *good news* being worked in our midst as we share his joy with our neighbors and world.

We cannot stop change. It is a counterintuitive constant of being alive. Time continues its march forward, and we are left with a choice for how to live within it. We may not always enjoy the changes of life, but we can find ways to recognize God’s gifts in the midst of them. We can rigidly try to cling to what has been, or we can accept that God is offering a glimpse into God’s goodness even as the world changes around us.

This isn’t, however, a call to passivity or resignation. Even in the midst of the turning seasons of the world, we are afforded a choice for how to participate in the working of birth or death; seeking or losing; loving or hating. Will we be callous about these realities, or will approach these things with empathy and care? And so, as we consider our response to life’s changes, let’s remember the final plea of Seeger’s song: “A time for peace, I swear it’s not too late.”

Even now, in the turning season of our world, it is not too late for us to respond to the inevitable changes going on all around us with the choice for peace.

In Christ,  
Eric

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**Sunday, October 6 is  
World Communion  
Sunday  
Join us for worship and  
potluck in the Fellowship  
Hall!**

**Sunday, October 6 is  
Fair Trade Coffee Hour!**

**Sunday, October 6 is  
2-Cents-A-Meal**



***Candlelight*** concerts bring the magic of a live, multi-sensory musical experience to awe-inspiring locations like never seen before in Mankato. Get your tickets now to discover music inspired by Halloween at First Presbyterian Church of Mankato under the gentle glow of candlelight.

***Saturday***  
***October 19, 2024***  
***6:30 p.m.***

***Tickets are available online here:***  
<https://feverup.com/m/193394>



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](http://www.fpcmankato.org/prayer-requests), call, or email the Church office and our administrative assistant will get you connected to Pastor Eric and the Deacons! 507.387.2160 | [info@fpcmankato.org](mailto:info@fpcmankato.org)

**Prayers for:**

- Sally Coomes as she recovers after she had undergone an AV Node Catheter ablation and implantation of a pacemaker on Wednesday, September 25, at Abbott Northwestern Hospital.
- Lee Williams, his family and loved ones after the loss of Carol Williams.
- Joanne Madsen, her family and loved ones after the loss of Bob Madsen.

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## WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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



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.

# CHURCH CALENDAR



## October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 6:00 p.m. Book Club Narthex	3	4	5
6 10:00 a.m. ~ World Communion Sunday ~ Worship in Fellowship Hall and Potluck!	7	8 6:30 p.m. Budget Comm. Meeting Multipurpose	9 5:30 p.m. Properties Comm. Meeting Multipurpose	10 12:00 p.m. Community Engage. Team Meeting Blue Bricks	11 12:00 p.m. Session Agenda Items Due	12
13 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	14	15	16 9:30 a.m. PCW Meeting 5:00 p.m. Worship Comm. Meeting 6:00 p.m. Session Meeting	17	18	19 6:30 p.m. Candlelight Concert Halloween Tribute
20 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	28	29	30	31		

# OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



## October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Judy Koenen Rhonda Taylor	2 Bailey DeVetter	3	4	5
6 Nyeleap Dojiok	7	8	9 Samantha Anderson Mary Otto	10	11	12
13	14 Katie Fahey	15	16 Naomi Lopez	17	18	19
20	21 Paige Attarian	22 Jordyn Vihstadt	23	24	25 Madeline Mueller	26
27	28 Jolene Fay	29	30	31 Roberta Jensen Rachel Mueller		

# PROGRAMMING CALENDAR

## OCTOBER 2024 PROGRAMMING DATES



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
6 Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Sunday School 10-20 AM Wired Word 11:20 AM	7	8	9 2 Love Thy Neighbor Book Club @ 6 PM	10	11	12
13 Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Sunday School 10-20 AM Wired Word 11:20 AM	14	15	16 Presbyterian Women @9:30 AM	17 Theology on Tap @6PM	18	19 Halloween Candlelight Concerts 6:30 & 8:45 PM
20 Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Sunday School 10-20 AM Wired Word 11:20 AM	21	22	23 Board Game Night at 6 PM	24	25	26
27 Choir Rehearsal 9 AM Sunday School 10-20 AM Wired Word 11:20 AM	28	29	30	31		
Trunk or Treat Event 5-8 PM						

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

### Children Kidz Club

Classes during the Worship service for age groups:

Pre-K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
10:20 a.m. - 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



Sunday morning rehearsals at 9:00 a.m. in the FPC Chapel, choir sings at 10:00 a.m. during Worship Service in the Sanctuary.

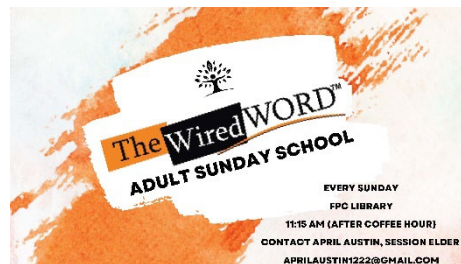
Contact Dr. Andrew Kendall at [music@fpcmankato.org](mailto:music@fpcmankato.org)

Our adult choir provides beautiful musical offerings during our Sunday worship services. This is a low-commitment opportunity to sing with a group and dive more deeply in worship arts practices.

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## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLE

The PW Circle will meet Wednesday, October 16, at 9:30 a.m. in the FPC Fellowship Hall. Thank you to Pam Grems who will lead the *Horizons* Bible study *Let Justice Roll Down*. Thank you also to Suellen Lloyd who will serve as hostess. **All are welcome for this time of study and fellowship!**



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Every Sunday at 11:20 a.m. in the FPC Library  
for Adults

Contact April Austin at [aprilaustin1222@gmail.com](mailto:aprilaustin1222@gmail.com)



## Families Connect

Fourth Sunday at 11:30 a.m. at various locations.

Contact Lizz Kendall at [educator@fpcmankato.org](mailto:educator@fpcmankato.org)

**All families are welcome!**

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## Board Game Nights

Fourth Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the FPC Fellowship Hall.

Contact Lizz Kendall at [educator@fpcmankato.org](mailto:educator@fpcmankato.org)

**Bring board games and appetizers to share!**



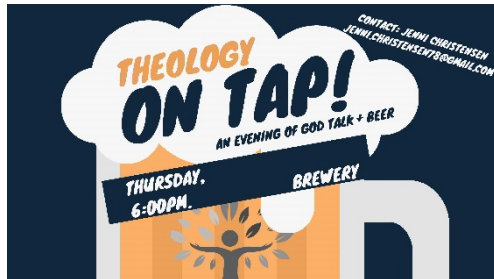
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## Theology on Tap

Third Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at various brewery locations. For adults 21+

Contact Jenni Christensen at [jenni.christensen78@gmail.com](mailto:jenni.christensen78@gmail.com)

**Bring money for food and drink!**



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## “Love Thy Neighbor” Social Justice Book Club

First Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the FPC Narthex.

A low-commitment group for anyone (all adults) 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.

Contact Sophie Hoiseth at [sophie.hoiseth@gmail.com](mailto:sophie.hoiseth@gmail.com)

**Just show up! No sign-up required.**



## SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 SESSION MINUTES

### Prayers & Devotions

- Moderator: Pastor Eric Garner
- Devotion: Pastor Eric
- Elders express their Joys and Concerns
- Opening Prayer by Pastor Eric at 6:10 p.m.

### For the Record

- Attendance: Jim Connors, Brad Leiding, Nora Henry, Lynn Kuechle, Paul Peterson, Pastor Eric Garner, Joyce Prahm, and April Austin.
- Excused: Sophie Hoiseth and Kelly McBride
- Guests: Amily Crowel, Deacon representative.
- August 21, 2024, Minutes approved via email.
- Communion Count for September 1: 67
- Communion count to homebound members for September: 1
- Births in August: N/A
- Baptisms in August: N/A
- Members who passed in August: Carol Williams, August 28.
- New members in August: N/A
- Transfer members in August: N/A
- Presbytery Meeting letter was reviewed.
- Next Session meeting is Wednesday, October 16, 2024.

### Review of Financial Reports

#### Committee Reports – Unanimously Approved to receive Committee Reports as submitted.

- Budget, 9/10/24 via phone and email.
- Community Engagement, 9/12/24, Minutes shared during meeting.
- Deacons, 9/8/24
- Endowment
- Faith Formation, 8/25/24, Minutes.
- Personnel
- Properties, 9/11/24, Minutes.
- Worship

### From the Pastor (Eric Garner)

- The Properties committee is requested to look into a TLoop system for those with hearing aids. Also, the presbytery has a grant for technology for \$750/year. Discussion followed regarding how best to move forward with addressing the overall needs and budget. A motion by Nora to move forward quickly on the purchase of devices, up to \$500, that meet the immediate need. One vote no, all others vote yes.
- Pastor Eric asked Session to think about the Church's committee meetings regarding the number, time, and location of meetings. Are there efficiencies that could be implemented? Session members will bring this discussion back to their respective committee and report back with feedback with possible implementation at the beginning of the year.
- Motion by Nora and seconded by Lynn to approve John McKay to be our church's commissioner at the upcoming presbytery meeting.
- Joyce motioned and Brad seconded approval of the purchase of two new IP phones.



## SESSION MINUTES CONTINUED

### From Budget Committee (Brad Leiding)

- August 31, 2024, Financial Compilation Report.
- Copier discussion. Brad motioned and April seconded moving forward with the River Bend Canon multifunction printer/copier.

### From Corporate President (Jim Connors)

- No updates.

### From Board of Deacons (Amily Crowell)

- Amily shared an overview of their recent projects.

### From Community Engagement Team (Joyce Prahm)

- Joyce provided an overview of the committee's latest meeting.

### From Faith Formation Committee (Nora Henry)

- Nora provided a report on rally Sunday and the next family fun event.

### From Nominating Committee (April Austin)

- April shared the committee's work on nominating for the upcoming year. Motion by April and seconded by Joyce to set a congregational meeting on November 3, 2024, following worship for the 2023 annual meeting and electing officers. Motion carried.

### From Personnel Committee (Paul Peterson)

- Paul shared that the committee will be meeting to discuss staffing over Lizz's maternity leave and will report back at a future meeting.

### From Properties Committee (Eric Garner)

- Pastor Eric shared an overview of their report. Motion by Nora and seconded by Paul to approve providing Public Safety a door code for emergency access to connections shelter. Motion carried.

### From Worship Committee (April Austin)

- April shared the committee's ongoing projects and budget expenses through 2024.

\*Next meeting: Wednesday, October 16, at 6:00 p.m. – Multipurpose Room

Devotions for October: April Austin

Deacon's Representative for October: Jeanne Steiner

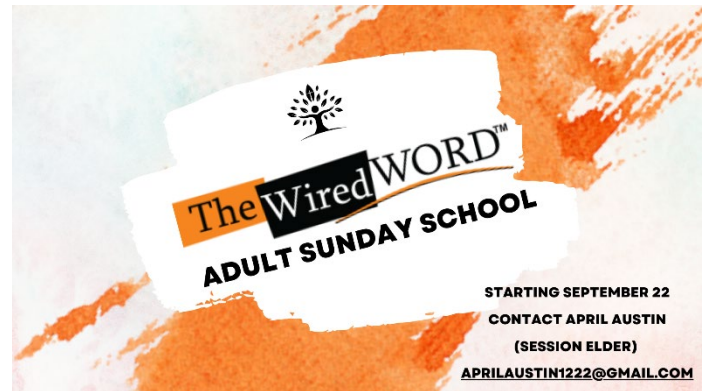
### Three New Books in the Church Library



*Tell Me Everything* by acclaimed author Elizabeth Strout has been donated by Presbyterian Women in Carol Williams' memory. It is a recently released novel about new friendships, old loves, and the very human desire to leave a mark on the world.

*Even Though I Walk: One Woman's Journey of Prayer in the Shadow of Death* by Magda Heras and Ignasi Fassas has been donated by translator Elaine Lilly.

*Gift From the Sea* by Anne Morrow Lindbergh has been donated by Carol and Lee Williams. It is a book of reflections and meditations written during and after a period of time spent at the Florida seashore.



**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](mailto: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.

## FPC Leadership, Staff, and Contact Info

### 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 | Dr. Andrew Kendall, Director of Music Ministries  
Lizz Kendall, Director of Outreach & Faith Formation  
Mark Zallek, Building Manager | Lori Olson, Administrative Assistant  
Noa Malone, Faith Formation Intern

### Staff Contact Info:

Pastor Eric Garner: [pastor@fpcmankato.org](mailto:pastor@fpcmankato.org) | 507-519-2633

Administrative Assistant, Lori Olson: [administrative@fpcmankato.org](mailto:administrative@fpcmankato.org) | 507-387-2160

Building Manager, Mark Zallek: [buildingmanager@fpcmankato.org](mailto:buildingmanager@fpcmankato.org) | 507-327-7907

Pianist and Organist, Ben Marti: [music@fpcmankato.org](mailto:music@fpcmankato.org) | 507-387-2160

Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Andrew Kendall: [music@fpcmankato.org](mailto:music@fpcmankato.org) | 507-387-2160

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

Faith Formation Intern, Noa Malone: [intern@fpcmankato.org](mailto:intern@fpcmankato.org)

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