

# FIRST PRESS

The monthly newsletter of  
Estherville First  
Presbyterian Church



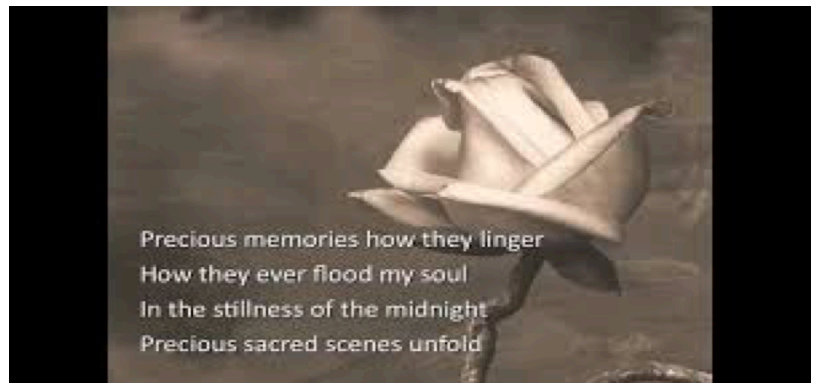
August 2020

## *In this issue...*

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## Pastor's Ponderings



Memories.

Making memories.

On Sunday, July 26, I shared a little bit of a story about going to the Boundary Waters as an excursion that my sons as I have done over the years as a chance to just get away and be together without anyone else around. These excursions began when my oldest son was in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and the Lutheran Pastor in George, Jim Steen, was to lead a father-son camp through the Lutheran Camp on Okoboji. The camp was being cancelled because of too

*Did you know you can make automatic contributions to the church? Never worry about writing a check or missing the offering plate! Go to [www.esthervillepresbyterian.com](http://www.esthervillepresbyterian.com) and click on "make a donation" to give a one-time gift or to set up regular*

## Pastor's Ponderings Cont.

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few registrations. Jim said he had the permits and was going anyway, and asked at a Ministerial gathering if anyone would like to go along. My son, Mat, and I did and I learned how to do a canoe trip in the lakes of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area along the boundary of Minnesota and Canada. That was the first trip of dozens more including my leading camps for more than 50 youth through the Presbyterian Camp at Okoboji and also dozens through the Presbyterian Camp in South Dakota for backpacking trips. These trips have provided lifelong memories that have become a part of who and what each of those who have participated have become as they have matured in their lives. I know that those trips have had plenty to do with forming and shaping my sons into the men that they are. I could regale you for hours with funny stories, with other stories that involved overcoming various challenges, and plenty of stories about spending time together.

We had to cancel our planned mountain climbing trip this year because of cancer, but two months ago I proposed the idea to Josh that a trip to the Boundary Waters as something that we could do and he would be able to take it easy and do. A couple weeks ago his doctor said he might expect 3-5 more years before cancer wins. Last week he sent out a text to each of the brothers and myself saying that he wanted to go to the boundary waters one last time. His kids have not had this experience with him. We were waiting until they were old enough to get into canoes and begin to make these kinds of memories.

Making memories That's what this trip in the last week of August is all about. A father's desire to leave behind memories with his children. Lasting memories of time spent together.

Jesus said, *"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you."* John 15:7. Solomon was given that exact opportunity from God when he became king of Israel. God told him to ask for anything he wanted. His request was to ask for wisdom. He didn't ask for might or power or wealth or glory or any of those kinds of things. But God supplied them all because of Solomon's request for wisdom, to follow God, to be with God in all that he did. As a result he also received everything that he could have possibly desired. The parables in the scriptures for several Sundays talk about the Kingdom of Heaven; what it is like and emphasizing that it needs to be the focus for all we are and all that we desire to be with God. To join together with all of the Lord's children to enjoy and appreciate heaven and eternal life forever and ever. .

*Precious Memories* is a wonderful hymn that speaks to our hearts about these things. Here are the words of the chorus: *Precious memories how they linger. How they ever flood my soul. In the stillness, of the midnight; Precious sacred scenes unfold.*

There are times when God is doing things and we might not understand it yet. That is why it's important to cherish the little moments on your walk with Christ. You might not know exactly what He is doing but you know something is being done. Let's follow the example of Mary and treasure these memories in our hearts.

Making memories... with God.

Your Faithful Servant,

Pastor Dave Ullom <\*}}}><



## Something to celebrate at First Presbyterian Church

*If you have something to celebrate, let us know so we can share it with our family of faith in next month's newsletter!*

### Birthday Wishes

02 - Karel Bishop  
03 - Jim Hill  
05 - Sarah Kollasch  
12- Melissa Patrick  
13 - Judy Ullom  
14 - Dale Green  
16 - Blake Bixby  
16 - Cullen Bixby  
16 - Belva Henrickson  
18 - Sebastian Streng  
21 - Ed Greving  
21 - Miss Lee Mulka  
23 - Kerry Erickson  
23 - Pat Johnson  
23 - Denise Christensen  
23 - Sue Friesner  
24 - Barb Johnson  
24 - Dennis Henrickson  
27 - Mark Guge  
29 - Liam Brown  
30 - Jack Bixby

### Anniversary Congratulations

01 - Aaron & Dawn Ruschy  
01 - Larry & Dora Aldrich  
02 - Steve & Sue Friesner  
09 - James & Karel Bishop  
14 - Dan & Lori Donovan  
17 - Dean & Denise Christensen  
21 - Scott & Becky Olk  
21 - James & Koral Rosendahl  
27 - John & Cheryl Klingbeil  
28 - Craig & Margaret White  
30 - Mark & Norma Guge

### Way to Go...

*\* Thank you to those who help members in our community through their Meet the Needs donations.*

*\* Thank you to those who continue to help support our Radio Broadcasts and our church through your donations and pledges during this time!*



# Committee Happenings

## **Building & Grounds** – No Notes.

The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30am. –Aaron Ruschy, Chairperson

## **Christian Education** – No notes.

The next meeting is TBA. – Chairperson

## **Congregational Life/ Outreach** – No Notes.

The next meeting is TBD. –Molly Jo Anderson, Chairperson

## **Deacons** – No Notes.

Next meeting will be Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30pm. –Lavonne Ruschy, Moderator

## **Finance** – No Notes.

The next meeting is TBA. –Kevin Sander, Chairperson

## **Generosity Team** – No Notes.

The next meeting is TBD – Craig White & Beth Carrico, Co-Chairpersons

## **Worship** – No Notes.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, at 5:30pm –Lori Donovan, Chairperson



# Radio Ministry



Thanks to your generous donations, ALL dates for Radio Sponsorship have been filled for 2020!

Thank you again for your dedication to helping share our services to those who are unable to be with us in person.

## USHERS

**August**

Larry Harsin

John & Cheryl Klingbeil

Pat Johnson

# Worship

Please remember as we continue to journey through this difficult time that you can still enjoy worship with us from a distance.

**You can listen to or view our services on KILR, the cable broadcast or on Pastor Dave's Facebook page.**

Online Donations can be made at  
<http://esthervillepresbyterian.com>  
via the 'Donation' tab  
on the top right corner.



## Meet the Need

Meet the Need for August is:  
**School Supplies**

Items needed by not limited to:

- \* Pencils
- \* Markers/Crayons/Colored Pencils
- \* Highlighters
- \* Fiskar Scissors
- \* Spiral Notebooks
- \* Elmer's Glue/Glue sticks
- \* Dray Erase Markers
- \* Plastic 2 Pocket Folders
- \* Large Pink Erasers/Pencil Top Erasers
- \* Kleenex
- \* Kids Underwear

## By the numbers...

### Average Worship Attendance

July 2018 – 53

July 2019 – 53

July 2020 – 32

### General Budget

**2020 General Budget: \$99,000**

**Last Week Giving: \$ 930.00**

**Current Yearly Total: \$77,053.99**

Weekly Amount Needed to Meet Budget: \$1,903.84

# August

2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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2 Worship, 10:30am	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Worship, 10:30am	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Worship, 10:30am	17	18 Session Meeting, 7:00pm	19	20	21	22
23 Worship, 10:30am	24 _____	25	26	27	28	29
30 _____	31					

**Ruling Elders** – Eric Anderson, Kevin Sander, Walt Jensen, Brad Hermanson, Beth Carrico, Kelly Claude, Molly Jo Anderson, Aaron Ruschy and Lori Donovan

**Deacons** – John Klingbeil, Mary Clabaugh, Pat Johnson, Evy Strenge, Jan Greig, Cheryl Klingbeil, Jim Hill, Mavis Evans, Denna Hill, Georgia Whitehouse, Lavonne Ruschy and Kevin Strenge

**Building & Grounds** – Aaron Ruschy (Chair), Jack Bixby, Sharon Archer, Walt Jensen, Larry Harsin, Kevin Strenge

**Christian Education** - Liz Bixby, Natalie Brown, Katie Hanson, Heidi Origer, & Bobbi Jo Ruschy

**Congregational Life/Outreach** – Molly Jo Anderson (Chair), Jolene Greving, Lisa & Brad Hermanson, Paul, Shirley & Chelsea Moffitt, & Lavonne Ruschy

**Finance/Personnel**– George Shadle, John Klingbeil, Lavonne Ruschy & Kevin Sander (chair)

**Generosity Team** – Beth Carrico (Co-Chair), Craig White (Co-Chair), Janet Anderson, Lisa Hermanson, Kevin Sander, Diane Swalve, Eric Anderson

**Prayer Chain** - Belva Henrickson, Velma White, Jean Wiant, Dee Zinnel

**Worship** – Lori Donovan (Chair), Paula Beaver, Beth Carrico, Paul Moffitt, Evy Strenge, Margaret White, Kelly Claude

**Pastors and Staff** –Rev. Dr. Dave Ullom, Pastor; Amber Hall, Administrative Assistant/Treasurer; Craig Kesler, Custodian

## First Presbyterian Church

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