



Chip's Chatter

During my 15 years as a commercial airline pilot, I was "on the road" 18 to 19 days per month which translates to 18 to 19 nights in a strange hotel. My first activity in arriving in my room was to try to find a radio station that was part of the Moody Bible Institute. I sometimes had to strain to listen to a very weak signal, but when I did, I received some wonderful teaching and peaceful music to aid in sleep. I tried to listen to Dr. Charles Stanley, or Dr. David Jeremiah, or Bishop T. D. Jakes, or Dr. Tony Evans. When I listened, I would often take notes on their messages, usually on those small pads of paper placed in the hotel room. I still have those notes. This month I will let you read those notes, just as I listened. There are some great life lessons for all of us.

Prayer

Prayer is my recognition of my dependence on God

Lay it out before God

Begin the day with a dependence on God

Walk through the day together with God

God's power is released through prayer and that person's life

Ask God to empower your life
"I need your power today."

Prayer is the channel of God's resources and blessings

God wants to increase your blessing

God is waiting on you

God's will – Finding God's will

We know God's will instinctively (Jer 31:33, Romans 1:32 & 2:14)

Our conscience is our guide (Job 27:6, Acts 24:16)

God's will is in the Bible (2 Timothy 3:15-16)

It makes us wise for salvation, teaches us, rebukes us, corrects us

It also trains and equips us

Pray for it...then listen (Luke 22:41, Matthew 6:10, 1 John 5:14)

Failure to listen hinders God's reply

Prayer is conversation with God.
Ease up!

How to handle disappointment

Don't be quick to judge the conduct of the person who has disappointed you.

Seek God's will before making a decision or to respond. (God is not silent)

Trust God's guidance. What He says may be different from what other say.

It will work out His higher purpose

Ask God for what to do
 Respond in a manner that is best
 for the other person
 Without accusation, without
 embarrassment, without seeking revenge
 Look for God's higher purpose in
 your life
 Ask "God, what are you
 teaching me or what is the purpose?"
 It gets your eyes off
 the disappointment or person
 This gets your eyes
 on to God and the Cross (forgiveness)
 Make a decision based on the Ho-
 ly Spirits guidance not the other person's
 opinion
 Do exactly what God tells you.
 Anticipate a blessing from God in
 your disappointment
 People will disappoint you,
 but Jesus never will
 Learn to accept rather than control

Crisis or Spiritual Crisis

God has the right to interrupt our lives at
 will
 God interrupts your life in order to ac-
 complish His pre-determined plan
 When God interrupts, it seems as
 if He's turned against us
 You may never fully recover or for-
 get the trauma
 But you must remember 4 things
 They are not interruptions, they
 are Divine interventions
 God want to use you for His
 plan
 God's interruptions are redemp-
 tive. God is trying to bring someone to
 Him
 Remind yourself, "God, you
 have chosen me to use me."
 The interruptions are very often

painful
 God is willing to make us suffer
 in order to reach someone who is not His child
 When God interrupts, it is worth it
 Every tear will be wiped away (Luke
 1:38)
 How do we know it is God?
 My responsibility is to no figure it out,
 but to respond
 Our prayer is to respond in the
 way God wants to use us
 We should ask "What is the pain trying to
 teach me?"
 To some problems you mut accept the
 fact that the solution is no solution
 No matter what happened in your childhood,
 at some time you must assume responsibility

One final thought – Think about it

So friend, when your nights are filled with
 loneliness
 And your days are dark with discouragement –
 When you can't seem to read or pray
 or to do anything else –
 Just sit still and let God love you.
 As the gloomy days of winter disappear into
 our rear- view mirror, use these teaching
 points to help focus on new life that comes
 with Spring.

Chip



Benevolence for April

One Great Hour of Sharing

We Are there

For 75 years,
One Great Hour of Sharing
Has partnered with others to take action
To share God's Love.

Through these three life-saving programs
We are there to advance the causes of
Justice, resilience and sustainability.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Restore streets to Live In



PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM

Share Bread with the Hungry



SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE

Loose the Bonds of Injustice



**Please give what you can.
IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE,
IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!**

FINANCIAL REPORT—Month Ending 2/28/2024

Monthly requirement to meet our budget \$10,705.00

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Total Income | \$12,419.21 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 9,950.63 |
| Net Income | \$ 2,468.58 |

Thank you for supporting our church

Sunday Worship Attendance

| | |
|----------|----|
| Feb. 18 | 25 |
| Feb 25 | 23 |
| Mar 3 | 25 |
| March 10 | 29 |
| March 17 | 31 |



Birthdays for April

- 1 Richard Miller
- 19 Ruth Andersen
- 20 Joan Forbes
- 20 Betty Hanson-Lehman
- 21 Cheryl Hiltz
- 24 Vera Weis

Head Usher: Terri Murray

April 7

April 14

April 21

April 28

Liturgist

Shirlee Harold

Linda Wagner

Mary Hayes

Donna Enfield

Greeter

Linnea Mostad

Gini Sande

Barbara McGregor

Brenda Miller

Communion Prep: Nancy Weber

Communion Serve: Brenda Strowbridge and Jenny Miller

Kitchen: Chair: Libby Underhill with Jenny Miller, Mary Lou Miller & Brenda Strowbridge

Supper Club

Table for 7

414 Beltrami Ave NW'

Bemidji, MN 56601



Please call Dianne Roholt directly at 218-444-2859 for your reservations!

This is an evening full of joy, laughter and good food.

All are welcome!

You Never Hear in Church

Hey! It's my turn to sit on the front pew!

I was so enthralled, I never noticed your sermon went over time 25 minutes.

Personally, I find witnessing much more enjoyable than golf.

I've decided to give our church the \$500.00 a month I used to send to TV evangelists.

I volunteer to be the permanent teacher for the Junior High Sunday School class.

Forget the denominational minimum salary: let's pay our pastor so he/she can live like we do.

I love it when we sing hymns I've never heard before!

Since we're all here, let's start the worship service early!

Pastor, we'd like to send you to this Bible Seminar in the Bahamas.

Nothing inspires me and strengthens my commitment like our annual stewardship campaign!



Your session at work

First Presbyterian Church
3-19-24
Bemidji, MN
February 20, 2024

APPROVED:

The monthly stated meeting of the session of First Presbyterian Church was held in the Conference Room on February 20, 2024, at 1:00 pm. The meeting was opened with prayer by Moderator, Pastor Chip Holt.

ELDERS PRESENT CONSTITUTING A

QUORUM: Cheryl Hiltz, Linnea Mostad, Terri Murray, and Bev Novak.

QUORUM DECLARED

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - MSP to approve

MEETING MINUTES - MSP to approve the minutes from the January Session meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

CLERK'S REPORT

First Presbyterian Church, Bemidji, MN, Clerk's Report - February 20, 2024

Weddings: None

Baptisms: None

Deaths: None

New Members: None

Return to Active Membership: None

Request Transfer of Membership: None

Removed from Membership Roll: None

Communion: February 4, 2024: 28 served

Membership as of February 20, 2024: 64

January 21st: **27** January 28th: **30** February 4th: **28** February 11th: **27** February 18th: **25**

FINANCIAL REPORT - Finances from January were reviewed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration/Personnel: Chairperson: Bev Novak; no report.

Buildings & Grounds: Chairperson: Terri Murray; shared a 2nd estimate to fix the basement wall; this includes the window wells on the south side of the building. **MSP** to approve the \$2250 estimate. Terri is seeking a quote for fixing the entry heater as the locks keep freezing. She is also seeking a quote for cleaning the carpets in the sanctuary and possibly the fireplace room.

Finance & Stewardship: Chairperson: Cheryl Hiltz; no report.

Adult & Christian Education: Chairperson: Linnea Mostad; the next session of Seekers has started and is well attended.

Outreach: Chairperson: Linnea Mostad reported that First Presbyterians will serve at the Bemidji Food Shelf on February 23rd.

Worship & Music: Chairperson: Gloria Phelps; Maundy Thursday service will be at 7pm on March 28th. There will be no Good Friday service. Easter service will be March 31st at 10am.

OTHER BUSINESS

Computer Committee: Chairperson: Cheryl Hiltz; no report.

Kitchen Fellowship Committee: no report.

NEW BUSINESS

the 2023 Church Statistical Report that is submitted to Presbytery was shared.

the Bemidji Area Church Musicians Summer Recital Series has scheduled a concert at our church for August 21, 2024.

Suggestions were shared as to additional ways to get people into our church. Some ideas were to have a summer hymn sing similar to the Community Christmas Carols Sing-Along, and/or do something

for the March for Jesus event.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 1:00 pm. in the conference room. Chip will moderate.

MSP to adjourn with prayer at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linnea Mostad
pro-tem, Clerk of Session



Coffee fellowship is returning to every Sunday beginning immediately. Please come and enjoy the continued fellowship with coffee and a treat

**Some days are better,
some days are worse. Look for
the blessing instead of the curse.
Be positive, stay strong and get
enough rest. You can't do it all,
but you can do your best.**

Doe Zantamata



Sundays
10:00 am
Worship
11:00am
Fellowship



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| | 1  | 2 | 3 12PM-Seekers 6:30-Calvary Chapel | 4 5-7pm PEO | 5 | 6 |
| 7 Pastor Chip Communion Pot Luck Fellowship | 8 9:30 MSC Mtg 7pm Scouts | 9 | 10 Last Seekers 12pm 6:30-Calvary Chapel | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 Pastor Chip Fellowship | 15 7pm Scouts | 16 1:00 Session Mtg | 17 6:30-Calvary Chapel | 18 5:30 Supper Club @ Ta- ble for Seven | 19 | 20 |
| 21 Pastor Chip Fellowship | 22 7pm Scouts | 23 | 24 6:30-Calvary Chapel | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 Randy McGuire Fellowship | 29 7pm Scouts | 30 |  | | | |



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