

Chip's Chatter

FEBRUARY

Life is an Adventure

What do you think about when you hear the word "adventure?" Do you think of happiness, joy, or excitement? Does an adventure require some specific thrilling activity like zip-lining, parasailing, driving a race car, to name just a few. What about experiences? Some experiences may seem like an adventure. Going in person to a sporting event can seem like an adventure when you rarely go in person. Must an adventure always involve some sort of risk?

What adventures can you think of? I have asked a couple of people what are some of the adventures that have experienced. Some list trips to Europe or Ocean Cruises. There have been a few that say "I grew up in Bemidji. Stayed here all my life. Got married here and raised a family. I spent my entire working career here.....can't say I can think of any great adventures in my life."

I would beg to differ with someone who can't think of any adventure they have experienced. When you come right down to it, every day has an element of adventure in it. Someone asked me about my adventures. My response: "I have an adventure every day going to work." In fact, sometimes just getting the day started is an adventure, especially as I am aging! Perhaps we need to change our perspec-

tive on what adventure means.

Our life's journey has many twists and turns. Some of those twists and turns are good, but others not so good. I think about the changes we all experience in our lives. Change can be good or it can be "other." The summer between my Junior and Senior years of High School, my parents and I moved from Grand Forks to the Twin Cities. Our family was deeply entrenched in Grand Forks beginning with my grandparents. My father owned a successful printing business and we thought we would probably stay in Grand Forks for the rest of our lives. We had a lake cottage on Lake Plantagenet south of Bemidji. It was a 2-hour drive from Grand Forks to the lake and we spent all summer there. But as the time to physically move came closer, people would approach my mother and say "How can you leave Grand Forks and all you've known?" I will never forget my mother's answer, "We are looking at the change as an adventure and ready to experience new things." Mom's comment has stuck with me all these years. I moved 13 times in my Air Force career. After retiring from the Air Force, I had four additional moves within the Twin Cities. Change. Every time I moved, it was a new adventure.

After we got settled into our new home in the Twin Cities when I was in high school, we continued to drive to the lake on weekends. This time, however, the drive was 4 ½ hrs. Once again, we decided to make the drive an adven-

ture. In fact, we considered our time at the lake began when we pulled out of the driveway in the Twin Cities. A change in perspective did the trick and the drive became enjoyable.

There are times, however, when a change in perspective may not do the trick. Divorce or death of a spouse is a hard thing to change your perspective. However, when you look at it as a sad adventure, you come to realize everything will eventually get better. You learn to adapt to a new way of life and new experiences. Sometimes people, incorrectly state that time heals. They are wrong. Time does not heal, only Jesus Christ can do that. This is why it is so important to open our hearts to our faith during life's sad adventures.

One of my favorite commanders in the Air Force, when asked how his day was going, would response "today is just a little slice of heaven." He also had the "adventure spirit." The greatest adventure we all can look forward to is graduating from this life so as to be forever with the Lord. It won't be "just a little slice of heaven," it will be the whole thing! As we continue through life, let us remember the "little slices of heaven" each day and let them remind us the greatest adventure is yet to be. If you can remember to do that, you will always be able to tell someone of the adventures in your own life.



“

God,
 Help me love the life I live right now. Show me the good things I often overlook and help me be content with what I have. Forgive me when I compare myself to others, forgive me for longing for things outside of You and Your kingdom. Thank You for loving me right where I am, right as I am. Help me keep my eyes on You. In Jesus' name, Amen.”

NICKI KOZIARZ



Seekers is starting again Wednesday, February 12th. It will still be in the conference room beginning at 12:00.

The subject for this class will be the How the Resurrection of Christ Changes Everything. 8 Sessions See you there!!

Our church volunteers once again did outstanding work at the Food Shelf January 26th. The need continues to rise. Here are the statistics for the year 2024

Total Households served	13,606
Total Individuals served	42,712
Total Pounds of Food Distributed	963,428
First Time Customers	2,910

It is our duty and privilege to contribute our time, energy, and funds to this worth endeavor. The Food Shelf thanks you and so do I. Linnea Mostad



FINANCIAL REPORT—Month Ending 12/31/2025

Monthly requirement to meet our budget \$12,705.00

Total Income	\$12,011.73
Total Expenses	\$15,599.01
Net Income	\$ -3587.25

Thank you for supporting our church

Sunday Worship Attendance

Dec 24th	43
Dec 29st	23
Jan 5th	22
Jan 12th	19
Jan 19st	20



3rd	Terri Murray
6th	Palmer Berg
6th	Duane Hayes
14th	Donna Dickinson


Head Usher: Cheryl Hiltz

Date	Liturgist	Greeter
Feb 2	Donna Enfield	Carla Erickson
Feb 9	Ruth Andersen	Linnea Mostad
Feb 16	Libby Underhill	Kenny Paulson
Feb 23	Mary Hayes	Palmer Berg

Communion: Set-up Nancy Weber
Serve Barb McGregor, Gloria Phelps

Kitchen: Libby Underhill with helpers Donna Enfield, Carla Erickson and Ray Hamblin

February Supper Club is on the 20th at Mi Rancho at 5:30pm



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!



Evergreen
Youth & Family Services
Strengthening Youth. Preserving Families.



February

Our Mission

Evergreen Youth & Family Services is a community-based organization committed to strengthening youth, preserving families and building relationships with an emphasis on those living in Northern Minnesota.

Our Values

Evergreen believes that communities are strongest when every individual is treated with dignity and respect and has support to achieve his/her full human potential. Evergreen chooses to remain client-centered with an emphasis on being responsive to each individual and families' needs while maintaining a high level of professionalism, compassion and empathy. We operate from a position of hope, faith and support. Our services and perspective are often grassroots in nature and it is because of our strong relationships and resources that Evergreen Youth & Family Services remains a catalyst in the region for proactive services, education and advocacy.

Evergreen has an extensive intake survey to determine program placement in these programs. These programs are a part of a comprehensive approach to providing services and success to our youth.

[Drop-In Center](#)

[Housing](#)

[Independent Living Skills](#)

[Mental Health & Counseling](#)

[Rock Sober](#)

[Street Outreach](#)

[Crime Victim Services](#)

[Safe Harbor](#)

[Youth-At-Work](#)

[Youth Shelter](#)

[Crisis Intervention](#)

[Short Term Shelter Program](#)

[35-Day Evaluation Program](#)

[Youth & Family Coaching](#)



Your session at work

First Presbyterian Church Bemidji, MN

December 17, 2024 **APPROVED: 1-21-25**

The monthly stated meeting of the session of First Presbyterian Church was held in the Conference Room on December 17, 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, Bev Novak, Terri Murray, Gloria Phelps, and Libby Underhill.

QUORUM DECLARED

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - MSP to approve

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Update from the Boy Scouts on the restoration of the model of the church
Thank you from Hope House for the benevolence donation and the use of the church for their annual Thanksgiving dinner
Thank you from Northwoods Caregivers for the benevolence donation
Thank you from the Bemidji Senior Center

CLERK'S REPORT

First Presbyterian Church, Bemidji, MN,
Clerk's Report – December 17, 2024

Weddings: None

Baptisms: 2 (Nora Srystad: November 24, 2024; Max Baker: December 15, 2024)

Deaths: None

New Members: None

Return to Active Membership: None

Request Transfer of Membership: None

Removed from Membership Roll: None

Communion: December 1, 2024: 26 served

Membership as of December 17, 2024: 62

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Buildings & Grounds: Chairperson: Terri Murray; carpets have been cleaned; Dick's Plumbing to repair condensation return pump; received text from DBS Residential Solutions regarding basement leaking resolution

Finance Report & Stewardship:

Chairperson: Cheryl Hiltz; Financial reports for November were reviewed; update on 2025 pledges;

Adult & Christian Education: Chairperson: Linnea Mostad; The fall session of Seekers ended December 11th. The spring session will begin in February.

Outreach: Chairperson: Linnea Mostad; First Presbyterians served at the Bemidji Food Shelf on November 22nd and will serve again on December 27th. Tubs of Love will be delivered to Churches United **Worship & Music:** Chairperson: Gloria Phelps; Christmas Eve service will

be December 24th at 3pm.

OTHER BUSINESS

Feedback discussion was held regarding the Community Christmas Carol Sing-along on December 8th. Consensus was positive despite the weather.

NEW BUSINESS

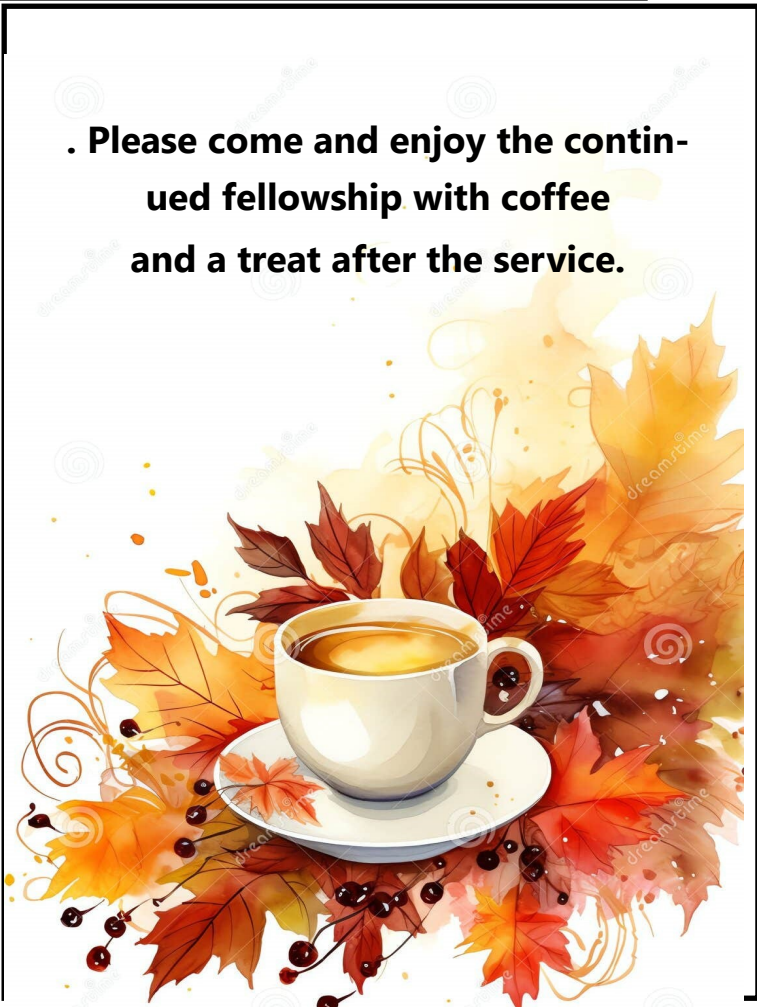
Annual congregational meeting will be Sunday, January 26, 2025, following the service. All reports are due by January 13, 2025.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 1:00 pm. in the conference room. Chip will moderate.

MSP to adjourn with prayer at 2:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Libby Underhill



Sundays
10:00 am
Worship
11:00am
Fellowship



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Pastor Chip Communion Fellowship	3 7pm Scouts	4	5 Calvary Chapel 6:30-8pm	6	7	8
9 Pastor Chip Fellowship	10 7pm Scouts	11	12 Seekers 12PM Calvary Chapel 6:30-8Pm	13	14	15
16 Pastor Chip Fellowship	17 7pm Scouts	18 1pm Session	19 Seekers 12pm Calvary Chapel 6:30-8pm	20 Supper Club Mi Rancho At 5:30	21	22
23 Pulpit Supply Fellowship	24 7pm Scouts	25	26 Seekers 12 pm Calvary Chapel 6:30-8pm	27	28	



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