



The Session and members of First Presbyterian Church Fargo extend a sincere welcome to you. We are grateful for your presence today! We welcome all persons regardless of race, nationality, disability, gender or sexual orientation. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, marriage, funerals, memorial services and to serve as an officer of the church.

Everyone is invited for coffee and fellowship in the Gathering Space after worship.

We recycle! If you are not taking your bulletin, please drop it in the blue bin at the door as you leave.

✧ Please rise in body or spirit

October 04, 2026
World Communion Sunday
We Gather in Christ

PRELUDE

Matthew Pechtl, organ

INTROIT

I Am a Small Part of the World

Albrecht & Althouse

Proclamation (7-12) Choir; Rusty Bender, director

WELCOME

Rusty Bender, Director of Church Life

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Generous God, gather me again at your table. Teach me to receive with gratitude, to share with gladness, and to recognize Christ in every neighbor I meet. Make my life an offering of your abundant grace. Amen.

✧ CALL TO WORSHIP

Come in and gather with the people of God.

We come from many places to share one life in Christ.

Come to the Word, to prayer, to fellowship, and to the table.

We come with glad and generous hearts.

Around Christ's table, strangers become neighbors.

Around Christ's table, there is enough and there is room.

Come, for Christ gathers the whole world in grace.

Together with God's people everywhere, let us worship!

✧ HYMN 321

The Church's One Foundation (vs. 1, 2, 5)

✧ CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God of abundant grace, you gather us into community and provide more than enough to share. Yet we confess that we hold too tightly to what we call our own. We forget the needs of our neighbors. We allow differences to divide us and scarcity to govern our imaginations. We break bread at your table while forgetting those whose tables are empty. Forgive us, O God. Give us glad and generous hearts. Teach us to care for one another, and to seek the flourishing of all your people. In the silence, we confess the ways we contribute to division and strife.

a moment of silence for personal confession

Search us, O God, and know our hearts.

Lead us in the way everlasting.

...Friends believe in the good news of the gospel,
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

✧ RESPONSE

God's Goodness Is Eternal



✧ PASSING OF THE PEACE

GIFT OF MUSIC

Come As You Are

arr. Lloyd Larson

Sanctuary Choir; Bryan Poyzer, director; Jessica Poyzer, piano

The Word

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:42-47, pp. 993

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Community

Rev. Nancy Emerson

✧ HYMN 769

For Everyone Born (vs. 1, 2, 3, 5)

The Sacrament of Communion

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The words spoken by the pastor bless the bread and cup on the table and all the elements that are an extension of this table.

HYMN OF APPROACH 530 *One Bread, One Body (vs.1, 2)*

COMMUNION MUSIC

Quartet No. 14 in D minor

F. Schubert

II. Andante con moto

Second Avenue Strings; Dr. Eduard Teregulov, director

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Responding to the Word



MINUTE FOR MISSION – *Generosity: A Privilege*

Kurt Kooyer

Use the QR code to access the secure giving portal on our website!

OFFERTORY

Schafe können sicher weiden

J. S. Bach

(Sheep May Safely Graze)

Second Avenue Strings; Dr. Eduard Teregulov, director

❖ **RESPONSE**

O God Beyond All Praising



O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to - day and sing the love a-maz-ing that
songs can - not re - pay; for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send, at
bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end: we lift our hearts be-fore you and
wait u - pon your word, we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.

❖ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Bearing the Word into the World

❖ **HYMN 526**

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

❖ **BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Matthew Pechtl, organ

Thank you to Emily Erpelding and Nick Winistorfer on livestream and soundboard, and our Welcome Team: Steve Wonderlich, Gayla McGoldrick, Kurt Kooyer, Val Anderson, Nate Boyer, Becky & Josh Trumbo, David & Virginia Stern, Candy Shultz, Murray Moen, Jeana Scheffler, Troy, Schmidt, and Erin Torpey for taking such good care of us this morning. A special thank you to our musicians: Matthew Pechtl, the Proclamation (7-12) Choir directed by Rusty Bender, and the Second Avenue Strings directed by Dr. Eduard Teregulov.

*** The Second Avenue Strings is an exciting expansion of our Worship Arts Scholars Program, bringing together string performance majors from Concordia College under the direction of Dr. Eduard Teregulov, professor and String Department Coordinator. The ensemble features Taj Baang and Marian Jamora, violin; Payton Kasel, viola; and David Aguilera, cello.*

Church Information

Upcoming Events

Sun, Oct 4

All Day Communion
10:30 AM Worship Service - Fargo Site (L)

Mon, Oct 5

5:00 PM Faith Formation & Fellowship
5:30 PM BELLissimo Hand Bells

Tue, Oct 6

5:30 PM Worship Cmt. (H)
5:30 PM Personnel Meeting
5:30 PM Mission Cmt. Meeting

Wed, Oct 7

10:00 AM Noteables
4:30 PM Heart N Soul Food Trailer / Family Meal
5:30 PM Genesis Ringers
5:30 PM Building & Grounds meeting
6:15 PM Youth Choirs (Friendship, K.O.K., and Proclamation)
6:30 PM Westminster Ringers
7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir

Thu, Oct 8

10:00 AM PNP - Congregational Vitality Pod
12:00 PM Centering Prayer
3:00 PM Preparing at Micah's Mission
5:00 PM Serving at Micah's Mission
5:00 PM Nurturing Families
5:30 PM APRTF

Fri, Oct 9

5:45 PM Men's Bible Study Retreat

Sun, Oct 11

10:30 AM Worship Service - Fargo Site (L)
11:30 AM Fellowship Fargo

Church Information

Office Hours:
M-TH, 9:00am - 4:00pm
Phone: 701-293-6311
www.firstpresfargo.org
650 2nd Ave. N.
Fargo, ND 58102



Church Officers

Session: Kathryn Byrd, Tom Dawson, Glen Deeton (BD), Colleen Ford-Dunker, Kurt Kooyer, Dick Laraway, Brian McClure, Jim McEvers, Carolyn Peloubet (BD), Wayne Sander, Jeana Scheffler, Kathy Scheffler (BD), Troy Schmidt, Sharon Secor, Paula Thomas (Clerk), Erin Torpey, Jeff Wilkens, Steve Wonderlich.

Deacons: Jan Carlsen, Toby Christensen, Dianne Connelly, Aubrey DeCoteau, Gracia Fulwiler, Sydney Goddard, Taaren Haak, David Hoffman, Gayla McGoldrick, Brian Peterson, Mary Peterson (BD), Candy Shultz, Virginia Stern, Kathleen Thomas, Kevin Thomas, Debbie Tight, Sandy Ystenes (BD).

Church Treasurer: Sherri Stern.

Ongoing Prayers

Concerns: Lynne and Don Bigwood, surgeries (Tom B.); Kristin, baby (Rachel S.); Matt Donovan, head injury (Pam); Joyce Skinner, cancer (J. Bossingham); Delbert Bossingham, cancer (K. Bossingham); LaVonne, Della, Laurie (Judy T); Wesley & Jenny, cancer (Ashley T.)

Joys: A joyful welcome to our new worshipping community as they begin sharing our space this October. We give thanks for this new relationship and for all that may grow from it.

Worship Notes

Hearing devices are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Nursery staff will be present beginning at 9:15 for infants through 3 years old in the nursery complex on the 1st floor.

Activity Bags for children are fun-filled tote bags located at both doors.

Restrooms are located in the Gathering Space and on the lower level.

Prayer Request Cards are in pew racks for your use. Prayers will be committed to God along with the other offerings and also lifted up in prayer by the staff.

Peace Candles are available at the Welcome Center near the west doors. The candle burning on the chancel symbolizes peace, and we ask guests to take a candle back to your church as a gift from us.

Wi-Fi is available throughout the church. Password: community650

Church Staff

Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood: *Senior Pastor*
Rusty Bender: *Director of Church Life*
Carrie Lawrence: *Sunday School Coordinator*
Matthew Pecht!: *Organist*
Bryan Poyzer: *Adult Choir Director*
Jessica Poyzer: *Choir Accompanist*
Jan Lundgren: *Business Manager*
Rick Fiebiger: *Facilities Manager*
Drew Brovold: *Custodian*
Sarah Anderson: *Admin & Communications*
admin.assistant@firstpresfargo.org

Staff emails are: first initial + last name @ firstpresfargo.org.

Parish Associates:

Rev. Daniel Billings
Rev. Nancy Emerson

Pastor Emeritus:

Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

For Your Information

Sunday, September 27, 2026
Attendance: 166
Online Worship: 34
Contributions: \$9084

First Presbyterian Church

Fargo, ND

Sunday, October 4, 2026

Men's Bible Study Retreat

All men of the church are invited to attend First Presbyterian's Annual Men's Bible Study Retreat, scheduled for Friday evening, Oct. 9, and Saturday, Oct. 10. The retreat is a great opportunity to get to know your fellow men at First Presbyterian and learn about God's message for men.

The retreat will, again, be held at the Country Inn & Suites in Detroit Lakes. It begins with dinner at Zorba's on Detroit Lake around 5:45 p.m. The study session will start around 7:00 p.m. on Friday at the inn. Continuing Saturday morning (breakfast provided) and ending around 3:00 p.m., it will again be led by Dr. Stephen Reed, professor emeritus and former chair of the Religion & Philosophy Department at the University of Jamestown. With a view to our coming monthly study of Paul's Letter to the Thessalonians, Steve plans to prepare us by looking at passages in the Old Testament about imitating God and ones in the New Testament about imitating Jesus.

If haven't made your reservation, you can do so by calling Country Inn & Suites at 218-846-8763. When making your reservation, let them know that you are with the First Presbyterian Fargo group. If you'd like to split the cost of a room (\$146/night, same as last year, despite inflation!), please contact Dick Blaine (dickandcarolyn@ymail.com) or Bruce Maylath (ring4linguist@yahoo.com or 701-866-2626), and we will coordinate with others seeking a roommate.

Dates to Remember

- Oct. 4** — World Communion Sunday
- Oct. 7** — Heart-n-Soul Community Café
- Oct. 9 & 10** — Men's Bible Study Retreat
- Oct. 12** — OFFICE CLOSED
- OCT. 14** — NO YOUTH MUSIC/YOUTH GROUP
- Oct. 18** — NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
- Oct. 23** — Baker Downer Fish Dinner
- Oct. 23** — Messenger Article Deadline
- Nov. 1** — Remembering the Saints Service
- Nov. 8** — Kirkin' O' the Tartans Services

Diaper Drive



We're celebrating Baby Joey Brovold, son of Drew and Mady Brovold, the first baby born to a member of our church staff in many years!

Help us celebrate Joey and support other families by donating Pampers diapers, sizes 2–4, through the end of October. Drew and Mady will use what they need for Joey, and all remaining diapers will be donated to local pantries.

Monthly Bible Study for Men Begins

On the heels of its annual retreat, the men's Bible study kicks off its monthly study for the program year on October 13th at 6:45 a.m., in the Jennie Roberts Room. The group meets on the second Tuesday of each month, October through May. Coffee and breakfast pastries will be served. Intended to help men understand what the Bible says in relation to what is expected of a Christian man, the study this year examines the Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians. A copy of the study guide can be obtained at pcusa.org/sites/default/files/1thessalonians.pdf, or you can request a copy from Bruce Maylath at ring4linguist@yahoo.com. No advance preparation is required for each month's study.

Micah's Mission, Changes Afoot This Fall

Thanks to many of you we are making great progress in developing TEAMS to serve at Micah's Mission throughout the coming year. What does a team look like? Here is an example of the Secor Team that prepared and served the September 10th meal at Micah's Mission. Seen here are the following: (L to R): Maggie Sundberg (8th grade), Dan Sundberg (Maggie's dad and Greta's uncle), Greta Sundberg (NDSU), Flo (the most amazing Micah's Mission kitchen coordinator), Jonas Nelson (MSUM), Connie Weed (chosen family). Not pictured: Colin May and Sharon Secor.



What does your team look like?

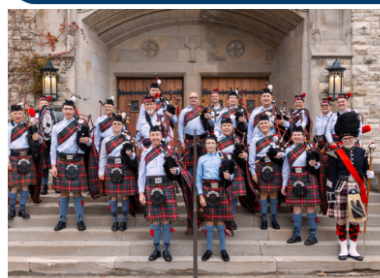
We have 3-4 TEAMS already signed up but could use 2 more. First Pres Fargo always serves the evening meal of lasagna and garlic bread on the second Thursday of each month.

Interested? Please call or text Colleen Ford-Dunker at 701-451-0751. She is currently the Micah's Mission Volunteer Coordinator for our church and would be happy to answer any questions. Instructions and mentoring available!

Holy Buckets!

Holy Buckets continues to collect new or slightly used winter clothing for kids and teens at Bdecan Presbyterian Church. Winter coats, snow-pants, boots and all other gear in all sizes are needed. Put items in the green buckets in the West foyer. If you wish, you may make a financial contribution. Make checks out to First Presbyterian Church and clearly mark your check "Bdecan winterwear," or use the online giving portal under "Other." Items will be delivered in mid-October. Let's make sure children are warm as they wait for the school bus.

Kirkin' o' the Tartans



*You Are
Invited*

- Historic Church
- Bagpipe & Drum Corps
- Celtic Dancers

Our Annual
Kirkin' o' the Tartans
Service

Contact First Presbyterian Fargo
for more details:

☎ (701) 293-6311

✉ admin.assistant@firstpresfargo.org

Mark your calendars and prepare your plaid! Our Kirkin' O' The Tartans services will be at 9am and 11am on November 8th. All of the traditional elements will be included, from pipers to Celtic dancers! Don't forget to bring your piece of Tartan Plaid with you (with name taped or pinned to the back) to the service so that you can participate in the traditional "Calling of the Clans."

BDPC & St. James UCC Fish Fry

Join us at Baker Downer Presbyterian Church Friday, Oct. 24 from 4pm-7pm for an All New Fish Fry! Helpers and volunteers are needed for baking bars and bread, making salad dressing set up and help day of the event. Reach out to Sandy, Glen, Kathy and Carolyn on the planning team if you are interested in volunteering!

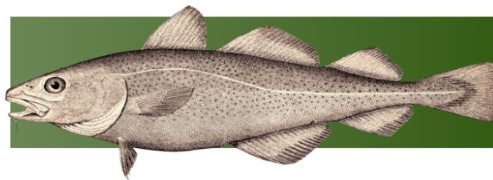


Baker-Downer Presbyterian & St. James UCC



FISH FRY

Join us at Baker Downer Presbyterian Church
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026 | 4:00-7:00PM



Menu

**Fried Fish, Baked Potatoes, Coleslaw, Corn,
Garlic Toast, Rolls, Dessert, and Beverages**

\$20 — 12 years and above

\$10 — ages 6-11

Free — ages 5 and under

Takeout meals can be ordered at the door

*Special thanks to Mainline Bar & Grill for supplying the fish
and to Barnesville Grocery for providing other food items*



(218) 799-1488



www.bakerdownerchurch.org



11927 123rd Ave S Baker, MN