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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

Our Mission Statement:
Welcome, Learn, Serve
We welcome persons to faith in Jesus Christ;
Learning together to live that faith in the real world;
Serving God Together.

PRACTICING FAITHFULNESS IN ALL SEASONS!!

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First Presbyterian Church
219 West Main St.
Belle Plaine, Mn. 56011
Email: fpcbelleplaine@frontiernet.net
Phone (952) 873-2966

Pastor Wayne Waibel
email: wdwaibel@aol.com
cell: 612.750.3443
Church Website: www.fpcbp.org
Worship Service: Sunday, 10:30 am

CHURCH OFFICE HORUS:
Wednesday: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

JULY 2026

WELCOME

Many current factions of Christianity have an inability to see beyond the literal. It's understandable. It's a lot easier to embrace the literal than to entertain some critical thinking which opens alternative mind sets with undefined and unexplored results. That is the promise of the unknown.

But the illusion of safety in the known often leads to the dismissal of a relevance that may very well hold a key to understanding. As humans with a yearning to breathe free, we ultimately trade that freedom for a certainty that all but eliminates our opportunity to actually feel what it is to have faith.

And that most unfortunate turn occurs often these days as the swirl of politics and general mayhem conspire to deflect our attention away from some of the truly remarkable accomplishments unfolding daily.

The one who calls is the one who equips. There was nothing special about Abraham other than his faithfulness. But that was enough for God to make of him a great nation.

Nothing is impossible for God. He calls into being those things that did not previously exist. God works hard for us and our faith. He has always done that. A faithful response to God's leading results in a blessing of gifts and talents, of learned and acquired skill sets sufficient for the task to which one is called.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us so that we could see and feel grace happening. Proving yet again that scripture provides reliable access to God's truth.

Peace.
Always.
Pastor Wayne

Office hours:
Pastor Waibel is in the office on Wednesday mornings from 10:00am – 12:00 pm
He can be reached anytime on his cell phone 612-750-3443.

LuAnn Dahn (secretary) -Wednesday and Friday mornings. 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Clergy Meeting

Pastor Wayne attends clergy meetings monthly. If there is anything you would like him to bring up to discuss with the other clergy in the area, please let him know.

P*rayers*
Marilyn Johnson, Denise Johnson, Karen Wakup,
Nikki Bartholomew, Leona Fabel, Brian Stolt,
Katy Keohen, Gladys Oberstar, Earl Tiegs,
Clifford Boateng, Wendy Diers

Victims of violence**;** Leaders;
Those hard to love, gratitude for our friends, family, and community.

LEARN

Coffee hour Please join us in the fellowship hall on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am prior to worship service for coffee and fellowship.

FPC Church Website – Check it out – www.fpcbp.org

Reminder – If you are unable to attend a service at the church on Sunday mornings, Pastor Wayne is recording a message each week and can be viewed on the website listed above.

SERVE

Meals On Wheels

First Presbyterian Church will be serving Meals on Wheels –
Monday-Friday, July 6th – July 10th.
Thank you for your ministry in serving those in need.
Meals on Wheels coordinator and contact is Susan Volek at– 507-381-2028

Our Monthly OFFERINGS – May and June 2026

May 3	23	$ 720.00	June 7	20	$ 535.00
May 10	11	$ 175.00	June 14	31	$ 680.00
May 17	19	$ 830.00	June 21	16	$ 445.00
May 24	16	$ 465.00	June 28	14	$ 190.00
May 31	20	$ 535.00			

Total Attendance	89	Total Attendance	81
Total May Offerings	$2725.00	Total June Offerings	$1850.00

**A detailed copy of the financial report is available in the church office. For more information, contact a Session member.*

JULY LEADERS AND ASSISTANTS:

Deacon-

July 5	Marilyn Johnson
July 12	Dick Coleman
July 19	Don Kowalke
July 26	Walt Lehtinen

Worship Leaders

July 5	Laura Burkhard
July 12	Dick Coleman
July 19	JoEllen Kowalke
July 26	Helen Lehtinen

Greeters

July 5	Marilyn McSweeney
July 12	Dick & Tammie Coleman
July 19	Jim & Carol Schmidt
July 26	Walt & Helen Lehtinen

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN JULY BIRTHDAY'S
Happy Birthday to: Brenna Stolt, Pastor Wayne Waibel, Dylan Stolt and Erica Coleman

**Please note: If you, or someone you know is having a birthday or anniversary, please let us know so that we may observe it in our newsletter. Please call the church office at 952-873-2966.

July Lectionary - 2026

7-5-2026 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 145:8-14
Zechariah 9:9-12
Romans 7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

7-12-2026 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 65:1-13
Isaiah 55:10-13
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

7-19-2026 – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 86:11-17
Isaiah 44:6-8
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

7-26-2026 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 119:129-136
1 Kings 3:5-12
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

"Two hundred and fifty years ago, our founders embarked on an unprecedented democratic journey. This anniversary isn't just about celebrating where we are today; it’s an opportunity to reflect on our journey, learn from our contradictions, and recommit ourselves to the founding promise of liberty and equality for the next generation."

God bless America" is a multi-faceted expression that serves as a prayer, a patriotic idiom, and a statement of national identity.