****

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!!

****

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

SEPTEMBER 2026

WELCOME

This is the time of year traditionally when churches really start cranking on their programs. Sunday School, Confirmation, Nursery Schedules, Bible Study, Choirs, Pageants, etcetera, etcetera, etcetera. I'm thinking we here at FPCBP are genuinely content with the LACK of buzz about such things around here.

Having said that, let me remind you that young Colter just turned four, and I'm on my third year of retirement from the Dakota County Library. We may have to start gearing ourselves up for a little more activity than has been customary and usual.

Something tells me we're not going to have a problem with that. If the past 9 years have revealed anything, it is that this is a robust, active and intentional community of faith. You accepted the call of one who was both untested and untried, and treated him as though he were one of you. And the doors remained open.

COVID swept through and delivered a terrible new dynamic to everyday life – isolation – disengagement – death. And in defiance of that brutal reality – you opened the doors and came back with renewed enthusiasm and purpose.

Whatever blow has been dealt to derail our cozy little hamlet down here in "Flyover Territory," has been met, addressed, and overcome as a matter of routine. Still the doors remain open, and hearts continue to flourish and expand into the wider world.

Perhaps we are on the threshold of new chapters and challenges. I can only look forward to what's ahead with high expectation and wonder. Because that's what you folks have instilled in me, and I can't thank you enough.

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.

Prayers
Denise Johnson, Karen Wakup, Audrey and Glen Schultz
Nikki Bartholomew, Leona Fabel, Brian Stolt,
Gladys Oberstar, Earl Tiegs.

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

SERVE

Meals On Wheels

First Presbyterian Church will be serving Meals on Wheels – Monday-Friday, August 31st thru September 4th and again on September 28th thru October 2nd.

Thank you for your ministry in serving those in need.

Our Monthly OFFERINGS – July and August , 2026

July 5	25	$ 885.00
July 12	18	$ 310.00
July 20	20	$ 350.00
July 26	15	$ 515.00

Total Attendance 78
Total July Offerings $ 2060.00

August 2	21	$ 270.00
August 9	19	$1360.00
August 16	17	$ 310.00
August 23	21	$ 340.00
August 30	n/a	n/a

Total Attendance 78
Total August Offerings $2280.00
(minus 8/30 information)

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

SEPTEMBER LEADERS AND ASSISTANTS:

Deacon-

September 6 Don Kowalke
September 13 Walt Lehtinen
September 20 Wally Vellishik
September 27 Dick Coleman

Worship Leaders

September 6 Laura Burkhard
September 13 Pastor Waibel
September 20 Laura Burkhard
September 27 Pam Pint

Greeters

September 6
September 13 Walt & Helen Lehtinen
September 20 Marilyn McSweeney
September 27 Dick & Tammie Coleman

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Operation Christmas Child

Since 1993, **more than 100 million boys and girls in over 130 countries** have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child..
It is a project sponsored by Samaritan's Purse, collects gift-filled shoeboxes for children in need globally. Drop Off is typically held in mid-November.

First Presbyterian Church will be participating in OCC again this year.
There are many school items available at the stores now and we are looking for the following items to add to the boxes:
Notebooks, Rulers, Pencil cases (big,clear), Hot wheel cars.
Items can be brought to the church anytime. Thanks for helping!

+ + + + + + +

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY'S and ANNIVERSARIES:

Happy Birthday to: Tom Johnson.

Happy Anniversary to: Mark & Kathy Hodapp, Paul & Megan DeGeest, Brian & Brenna Stolt, Denise & Tom Johnson.

**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.

September Lectionary - 2026

9-6-2026 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 119:33-40
Ezekiel 33:7-11
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

9-13-2026- Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 103:1-13
Genesis 50:15-21
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

9-20-2026 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 145:1-8
Jonah 3:10-4:11
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

9-27-2026 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 25:1-9
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

+ + + + + + +

The very first Labor Day in the country was celebrated in 1882, and it became an official federal holiday in 1894. The holiday falls on the first Monday of September — Sept. 5 this year. The day typically celebrated with picnics and parades has more to it than that, though.

PATRIOT DAY --- A national day of remembrance designated by federal law following the September 11, 2001 attacks. **It is celebrated** as it honors the nearly 3,000 people who lost their lives during the terrorist attacks in New York, Pennsylvania, and at the Pentagon.I