

The Tower

June 2026

LowerTown Project Outdoor Concert

June 19, 2026 Time: 6:00 p.m.

Please join LowerTown Project in our 3rd annual free outdoor concert. This year we are supporting the Recovery Community Network (RCN) of St. Cloud. RCN provides free services for individuals recovering from substance abuse disorders in the St. Cloud area. A free will offering will be taken to support their ongoing mission.

The concert will be a mix of new music mixed with some old favorites. The more the merrier so bring your friends and your lawn chairs and be ready to sing along.

First Presbyterian Church parking lot
Rain backup - inside the Church



First Presbyterian Church

340 South 5th Avenue
Saint Cloud, MN 56301
Telephone: 320-251-8277
www.fpcstcloud.org

Carnival

SAVE THE DATE

June 20th from 1 until 4 is our annual Outreach Carnival. This event is for all ages. We are still in need of quite a few volunteers. Older youth are encouraged to sign up for games and the dunk tank. Bring a friend along and volunteer together.

www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054FA5AF2DA4F9C43-63502029-summer#/



**Church
Carnival**

Church Staff

KRISTINA SCHAAB
Administrative Assistant

JULLIAN EUTENEUER
Music Director

LORA HANSEN
Youth Director

BRAD JOHNSON
Facilities Coordinator

PATTY SCOTT
Custodian

DON ONDRACEK
Asst Custodian

C.O.R.E.



May brought us to the close of our 2025-26 Sunday School and midweek ministry. We celebrated 14 of our youth at the annual Shine Your Light Program. If you were unable to attend the event and would like to watch the program was streamed live on our Facebook page.

May is not only the closing of our school year programs but the transition into our summer programs. This year we will be adding Family Fun and Faith nights to our program. Every Monday in the month of June will be a fun family social event to assist with bringing the community together in fellowship and building relationships. Beginning in July, we will be hosting Family Faith Nights, walking along side parents bringing the gospel to our littlest disciples. These events are not just for families but anyone in our congregation who wishes to help create a loving and welcoming environment for our community.

Check out FPCSTCLOUD.ORG under C.O.R.E. to see weekly details.

Introducing new activities into our kid's program means we are in need of more adult or older youth volunteers. If you feel led to serve in this way please check out the link below to sign up.

www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054FA5AF2DA4F9C43-64093331-family#/

The youth committee also created an Amazon wish list for things that would help us take the carnival to the next level. www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/3EERTHNZFN4V9?ref=cm_sw_r_apann_ggr-subnav-share_EQDBMXK50QH6D804NBHT&language=en-US

(To access links, go to FPC's website, choose "More", then "Resources" and click on the June Tower Newsletter.)

Message from Director of Youth Ministries:

I recently celebrated my first year at FPC. I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to be a part of a church that always says yes. A church that acts out being the hands and feet of Jesus. The support and welcoming I have felt from each member has brought upon a sense of peace and strength to me. My cup is full to the brim and I look forward to continuing to grow our youth ministry alongside each other. Thank you so much for all of your love and encouragement. It means the world to me.

Lora Hansen



MUSIC

As Pastor Darin's time here at our church comes to a close, I find myself reflecting on one simple yet profound word: **humble**.

How truly blessed we are to have served God alongside Pastor Darin. Each of us has been part of his journey here—some for many years, others for just a short while. For me, as I round out my third year here at First Presbyterian Church, it feels as though I should have been here much sooner.



Serving as Music Director often leads me to reflect on my own calling. What kind of person am I in this role? Am I doing all I can to ensure that our congregation is nourished through music, worship, and the example I set? These are important questions, and ones I continue to carry with me.

God places people in our lives for a reason. Some walk beside us for many years, while others are with us for a season. Yet each person leaves an imprint on our hearts and faith journey.

When I think of Pastor Darin, I think of humility. He truly embodies that word. Pastor Darin has been an incredible partner in ministry, a trusted friend, a mentor, and above all, a beautiful example of Christian faith lived out daily. His quiet strength, caring spirit, and servant heart have touched this congregation in countless ways.

I am deeply grateful to have served alongside him.

As we continue forward in the life of this church, my prayer is that we carry that same spirit with us—that we strive to be humble, caring, loving, and giving Christians to all those we encounter. May we continue to serve one another and our community with grace, compassion, and faithful hearts.

Thank you, Pastor Darin, for your ministry, your friendship, and your example. You have been a blessing to us all.

With gratitude and hope,
Jullian Euteneuer, Music Director



Summer Music at Church - What's Happening?

🎵 Summer Music at Church – What's Happening? 🎵

As we move into the beautiful summer season, you may be wondering... **what's happening with music this summer?** The answer is: **lots of wonderful opportunities!**

I will have **summer music sign-up sheets available on the table outside my office**, and I warmly invite you to consider being part of one of our music ministries. Whether you are experienced or simply curious to try something new, there is a place for you!

🔔 Ring! Bell Choir

Our Bell Choir will continue this summer in **smaller groups**. This is a wonderful opportunity to **try handbells for the first time** in a relaxed and welcoming setting. If you have ever been curious, this may be the perfect time!

🎵 Closer Walk Men's Group

The **Closer Walk Men's Group** will continue meeting and singing throughout the summer. Their music and fellowship continue to be a blessing to our worship life.

🎸 Praise Team

I am excited to share that we have started a **new Praise Team!** This group includes pianist, guitarist and vocalist **Jim Anderson**, singers **Rachel Buchin** and **Shauna Seaman**. Together, we will continue exploring and sharing **contemporary Christian music** as part of our worship experience.

🌸 Women's Summer Choir

We are also hoping to form a **Women's Choir** this summer! The plan is to gather a few times at the home of one of our members, enjoy fellowship and music-making together, and sing for a couple of Sundays during the season.

🎵 Children's Special Music

Do you have children who love music? I would love to gather a **small group of children for special music** this summer! It is always a joy to help young musicians share their gifts and grow in confidence and faith through music.

Please note that **Chancel Choir will take a well-deserved summer break** and will resume later in the year.

Once I know who is interested in each group, I will post **rehearsal dates and times on Facebook, the church website, and in the bulletin** so everyone can stay informed.

Most importantly, **thank you** to all of our musicians for making this past music season so uplifting, meaningful, and fun. Your dedication, talent, and joyful spirit help bring worship to life in such beautiful ways, and I am deeply grateful for each of you.

And one more fun reminder... **don't forget to bring in a picture of your favorite pet so I can add it to our Campbell Room pet wall!** 🐾

Love you all!

Jullian Euteneuer

Music Director

Who's Who in the Pew?



Tell us about yourself.

I was born and raised in St Cloud. My father was the Associate Superintendent of Custody at the St Cloud Reformatory. We lived on the grounds of the Reformatory for the first 20 years of my life.

I met my wife, Patty, when we both worked at Dan Marsh Drugs. **John Scott** We have 3 children, John Jr. He makes training and sales videos for Blattner Energy. Our daughter, Jamie, works for 6Smith on Lake Minnetonka in Wayzata. Our son, Peter, works for Clive's Roadhouse in Burnsville.

I have had a very unique working career. I was a photo manager for Harmon Photo and Video in Florida and Ritz Camera at two locations here in Minnesota. I was also a District Manager of Operations / District Systems Coordinator for Zayre Department Stores. I was the Network Administrator for North Central Pathology here in St Cloud. I was also a Trainer / Installer / Senior Help Desk Technician for Alpha Audio and Video.

After I retired Patty and I started selling her cookies at various craft shows and markets around the state. A few years after that, I started sublimating stainless steel tumblers. We have enjoyed that a lot and now Jamie & her family (making lake maps) and Peter (3D printing) are also selling crafts.

How long have you been attending FPC? Where did you attend before that.

My parents joined FPC in 1958, I was 5 at the time. We attended First Methodist church before that.

Where is the most interesting place you have been and why.

I have been able to attend many various sporting events and get a behind-the-scenes look at them. The most interesting was probably the 1992 Daytona 500. It was Richard Petty's last Daytona 500, I was last AP photographer in turn 4 when he crashed. I was picked up by the AP runner (on a motorcycle) and taken to the crash to get photos. When that was over, I couldn't get back to my spot so I was roaming around the garage area when a voice called me over. I spent the rest of the race in a dark corner of the garage talking with Richard Petty. A very nice man. I had gotten to know the Petty Enterprises Team my first trip to the Daytona 500 in 1985.

What Bible verse or verses hold a deep meaning.

Matthew 6:9 – 13 The Lord's Prayer. I enjoy thinking about the meaning of the various verses.

(Continues on page 9)

Separation Agreement

Pastor Darin recently signed a Separation Agreement with the church and presbytery outlining his role as a former pastor at our church. He is prohibited from any form of ministry without the permission of Minnesota Valleys Presbytery. Here's how you can help: Please do not ask Pastor Darin to officiate in any capacity. Please do not call him asking for his input. You might be wondering if the separation agreement applies to Shauna. It does not.

Why is Pastor Darin prohibited from participating here? From previous experiences within our presbytery, former pastors have sometimes not allowed ministry to flourish under new leadership. It is best if Pastor Darin does not participate in any kind of ministry at our church. This will allow Elders and Deacons to minister faithfully.

Summer Pulpit Supply

May 31- Rev. Sarah Hoogendoorn
June 7- Rev. Candace Adams
June 14- Rev. Michael Hartwell
June 21- Rev. Beth Buckwalter-Miller
June 28- Rev. Sarah Hoogendoorn
July 5- Jamie Deering and Pastor Al Jergenson for Communion
July 12- Rev. Michael Hartwell
July 19- Jamie Deering
July 26- Gordon Pennertz, Commissioned Ruling Elder

Please welcome these fine people on their Sundays.

As the Session representative from the Worship Committee, I will be lining up Pulpit Supply going forward. Please be in prayer for future volunteers. Pastors need to preside over Communion but others can fill the pulpit. If you have names to suggest, please let me know. At the same time, the Session has authorized the Interim Pastor Nominating Committee to begin work in the search for an Interim Pastor.

Marsha Elg

Misson

HAPPY 40TH ANNIVERSARY TO THE EQUAL EXCHANGE-FAIR TRADE CO-OP

Established on May 1, 1986 the founders, three New England food co-op managers had a plan for a new organization called "Equal Exchange" that would be a worker-owned cooperative with democratic principles. The founders envisioned a different way of doing business, one where trade values each part of the supply chain.

A core group of folks believed in their cause and decided to invest \$100,000.00 needed to start this new company. For the first three years Equal Exchange lost money, but the founders hung on, and after 40 years sales are now reaching over \$70 million annually with 100 worker-owners. Equal Exchange started with one office in Massachusetts and now has offices in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Oregon.

In 2001, The Presbyterian Coffee Project was established and offered a special link between Congregations and communities around the world. The Presbyterian Coffee Project worked with Equal Exchange to bring high-quality ORGANIC, fairly-traded products always paying the farmers fairly.

Since April 2017 our Church started to serve and sell some of the Equal Exchange products (coffee, tea, hot cocoa mix, baking cocoa powder, chocolate bars, and olive oil) during our social time in our Fellowship Hall. We invite you to taste and purchase these fine products during our fellowship time each Sunday. Also your donations to the Church coffee fund on Sunday mornings is much appreciated!

Our sales continue to support the worker-owned small farmers and assist us in providing funds to the Presbyterian Clearwater Forest Camp attended by our adults and youth. Thank You for your continued purchases and support.

The Mission and Social Witness Committee

Information Source-<https://www.info.equalexchange.coop/articles/history>

Submitted by Norm Seehusen

Duane and I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our friends at First Presbyterian Church for all their prayers, cards and phone calls during Duane's recent install of a pacemaker. Your caring means so much to us. We thank you all.

Sincerely,

Duane and Darlene Scherbing

Thank you

Deacon's Corner

A Typical Deacon Meeting-

If you have served as a Deacon (Thank you!), you've experienced meetings. But...if you've ever wondered:

Eleven times each year the Deacons gather at the Church. These meetings, held the 1st Monday of the month, start at 7:00 PM and last about an hour. We review previous duties and upcoming projects, and make time to discuss new ideas or possible future missions. Sometimes light-hearted, sometimes serious, we cover things that effect our congregation and community.

After an opening prayer, one of us offers a devotional. No one is caught off guard as there is sign-up list! These have covered Psalms and other Biblical readings, Christian-based observations of a book or film, the promise of a returning springtime (by a Finnish writer), the Serenity Prayer, and are often quite personal. A quick discussion along with a 'thank you' to the presenter usually follows.

A mention of who is next in line for the Devotion, and also the monthly Tower article, comes next.

At this point the Moderator(s) ask for a brief review of the last meeting minutes, and a call made for a volunteer secretary to take notes. Old business / New business – particularly any current or new projects, follows. Everyone is encouraged to join in, and several times new mission areas come into view as talk bounces back-and-forth! This moves the gathering into discussions on Visitations and serving Home-Based Communion, Communion Set-Up Duties, the Card Ministry, Who's-Who In The Pew, Prayer Shawls, and items like Bell-Ringing and Trunk-N-Treat.

Why only eleven meetings? The Deacons look for a project to focus on in July, such as helping an organization with meal service or collecting puzzle & word game books to distribute. This is a good month to skip a meeting – as the 1st Monday is likely to arrive close to or on the 4th! And - deciding which project catches our attention during June also helps those Deacons who just might have a busy summer schedule. Feeling the call to serve in this capacity? Now you may have a better understanding of what it means to be a FPC Deacon.

Submitted by Mike Rutter

Who's Who in the Pew (Continued)

What are favorite pastimes/hobbies.

I've enjoyed photography most of my life. I'll give Bob Payne credit for developing my interest in photography when we both worked at Dan Marsh. He taught me a lot of various things.

What are some small things that brighten your day?

Our grandson, Zack. From when he was first born, he was such a joy. When he sets his mind to do something, he does it. His parents brought him to the Carver County Fair when he was 4. He saw a Karate demonstration and decided he wanted to do it. He set his mind to do it and retired at the age of 11 as a 5 time world champion.

If you could have been a cast member of any TV show which one would it be.

To many to choose from. Maybe The Andy Griffith Show. A simpler time.

Given a choice of anyone in the world, whom would you have dinner with.

My father. He had incredible knowledge and insight.

Share anything unique or memorable you do / have done that others might not know.

I've gotten paid to play 2 different sports (Foosball & softball). Not a lot in some cases but still paid.

With Deepest Appreciation

Thank you, Pastor Darin, for leading and supporting us over the past 15 years. Your ministry is a gift to all of us. We have all grown in faith under your leadership.

Your peaceful presence has made such a positive difference in all of our lives. We pray that God will lead and guide you as you go forward in your faith journey.

The Kingdom of God is within you. Luke 17:21



**Service Group — June
Chairs - Ron/Karen Larson and Dan/Julia Owen**



Margaret	Brooks	Lynn Rae/Carrie	Olson/Raiche
Rodney/Kelly	Kadlec	David/Katie	Pennertz
Gary/Stephanie	Lenzmeier/Merrill	Robert/Betty	Payne
Mary	McMullen		

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVERS SCHEDULE

Listed below is the Server Schedule for Sunday Worship. If you are unavailable for the assigned date, please swap with someone else scheduled that month. Also notify the office of any swaps.

	Worship Leader	Ushers (2)	Greeter (1/2)
06/07/26	Rachel Buchin	Randy/Kathy Arnold	Kari Ahles
06/14/26	Bob Butter	Phil/Jeannie Chu	Nancy Coleman
06/21/26	Rickie Espelien	Linda Bettison & John Detra	Joe/Stephanie Jacobs
06/28/26	Mary Jost	Joe/Stephanie Jacobs	Karen Larson
07/05/26	Bobbie Lampi	Nancy Coleman & Lori Smith	Ken/Norraine Schmitt
07/12/26	Nancy Horn	Mike/Kim Tollefson	Betty Payne
07/19/26	Tamara Calhoun	LeRoy/Paula Tift	Jan Larson & Lois Buchin
07/26/26	Dick Andzenge	John Hoffman & Dan Owen	Phil/Jeannie Chu

Birthdays

FERKINHOFF, Karen	06/01	TULKKI, Jean	06/17
ANDZENGE, Aver	06/02	HORNIBROOK, Inez	06/18
CALHOUN, Tami	06/02	NIKODYM, Derek	06/18
DONAGHUE, Hayle	06/02	SARFF, Linda	06/18
NIKODYM, Jessica	06/02	SCHMITT, Norine	06/18
WILLIAMSON, Marilyn	06/02	NIKODYM, Ryan	06/19
LUND, Nolan	06/03	MINET, Roger	06/20
CHRISTENSEN, Amanda	06/04	OWEN, Gavin	06/20
SMITH, Alex	06/05	JUSTIN, Callie	06/21
BASTON, Vicki	06/10	PIKE, John	06/21
NEUMANN, Bentley	06/11	HOUNKPATI, Nadine	06/23
JANSSEN, Roni	06/12	SEAMAN, Landry	06/24
DUIININCK, Jeanne	06/15	HUTCHISON, Zakary	06/29
OTREMBA, Bryon	06/16	MOORHOUSE, Larry	06/29



Finance Committee

One of my axioms in life is “Life is change; growth is optional”. Life will change and we can grow, stay the same, or wither. Growth is our best option.

Our beloved Minister and Pastor, Darin Seaman is leaving. He has led our congregation well and it is difficult to see him go. We are in a good financial position. There is money in reserve accounts, we are debt free, and we are on budget. Our balance sheet is very healthy.

Moving forward we must be careful to put aside money as we will have unknown expenses for

- Sunday supply pastors
- Strategic planning for seeking a Pastor
- Interim Pastor
- Expenses for the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)
- Expenses relating to calling a new Pastor
- New Pastor Salary
- Unknown expenses

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Hebrews 13:8

As a Congregation, together we move forward to our next stage of leadership.

Thank you for allowing us to serve our church as the Finance Committee.

David Pennertz, Karen Chopp, Karen Ondracek, Ken Picha, Mike Karl, Tom Horn

Financials	April	YTD
Contributions	34,789	173,513
Expenses	32,828	140,381
New Over/Under	1,961	33,122



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Saint Cloud, MN 56301
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e-mail: admasst@fpcstcloud.org
web site: www.fpcstcloud.org

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
PERMIT NO. 311
Saint Cloud, MN
56301

Our Mission Statement

*"Bringing the Living Hope of
the Gospel to the World by
Knowing and Serving Jesus
Christ"*

Our Vision Statement

*"The Kingdom of God made
known one sacred space at a
time"*

Office Hours

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
BIBLE STUDIES**

Tuesday 9:00 a.m.
Men's Bible Study

Wednesday 9:15 a.m.
Women's Bible Study

Friday 7:00 a.m.
Men's Bible Study

*You're invited to join a study that
works for you!*

JUNE 2026

SESSION

Bobbie Lampi, Clerk

Class of 2026: Tom Horn (Finance), Marsha Elg (Worship),
Bob Butter (Worship), Norine Schmitt (Personnel)

Class of 2027: Jim Anderson (Youth), Brenda Espelien
(Fellowship), Thijin Gatwech (Mission), Sandy
Ross (Fellowship)

Class of 2028: Rhonda Siltman (Mission), Jacob Priest
(Property), David Pennertz (Finance),
Charlie Pentz (Nominating)

DEACONS

Class of 2026: Michael Rutter, Gail Aalderks, Paula Tift, Mary Lease,
Carrie Butter

Class of 2027: Jackie Benn, John Johnson, Sharon Johnson,
Linda Sarff, Lori Smith

Class of 2028: Kim Tollefson, Mike Tollefson, John Detra