

The Tower

July 2022

Photo Directory Update

Photos are being taken after worship for the photo directory. You are invited simply to stop by after worship and join us in the library. If you are unable to take photos on a Sunday, we are planning to take your photo at church on July 7 from 3:00 to 6:00 pm. An appointment will be necessary. Please call the church office. The deadline for photos is August 28.

Carrie Raiche and Lynn Rae Olson deserve special thanks for the work they have done to help with the directory.



Pictured above: June Rowland sitting for her photo.



First Presbyterian Church

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

Church Staff

REV. DARIN SEAMAN
Pastor

DON FORTNER
Music Director

MARY NOTHNAGEL
Administrative Assistant

PATTY SCOTT
Custodian

NATE SALGREN
Facilities Coordinator

Pastor's Reflections

I've been thinking about photo directories. I was going through an older directory recently. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Cox. . . Mr. and Mrs. John Tenant. Gone are the days when women were not named. Black and white photos have been replaced with color. Ministries in the church have changed.

It has been a joy seeing individuals and families get their picture taken. It has also been a bit emotional. One woman shared with me, "This is my first photo directory without my husband." I thought about that comment when my own family gathered for the photo. I realized that this was our family's last photo with children at home. They will, most likely, not be in any future directories. I hope they will find another group of saints to worship with and connect.

Some have asked why we even do a directory. I think connection is the answer. We hope that people will be able to connect through a directory. When you don't remember someone you saw at church, you can check the directory. When you are new to our congregation, the directory certainly helps. Some even use the directory as a prayer guide praying for people each day. There may be other reasons for a directory as well.

A directory is a marker, of sorts, for churches. The marker shows how the church grows, ages, and changes throughout the years. It is also a reminder of God's presence throughout all the years.

I encourage you to participate in the directory. It is free and does not take very long at all. The grace and peace of Christ be with you.



Rev. Darin Seaman



July Sermon Titles

July 3

"A Call to Ministry in a Flame"
Current series: Life of Moses
Exodus 3:1-15

July 10

"From Bad to Worse"
Exodus 5 & 6, selected text

July 17

"Plagues"
Exodus 7-10, selected text

July 24

"Passover Nightmare"
Exodus 11-12, selected text

July 31

Jill Emery is Preaching

Don Fortner**Music Director****Email:** donfortner@fpestcloud.org**Music and Arts in Worship**

The music program at First Presbyterian continues on, now into the 2nd month of calendar summer. On June 26, the Lower Town Project led worship music at Peace Lutheran Church in New London, and is now preparing for a summer concert at First Presbyterian on August 12. The choirs are taking a well-deserved break and gifted soloists and small ensembles will be gracing Sunday worship with special music. Please carefully and prayerfully consider how you might share your gifts with the music program. There is a need for singers, instrumentalists, organizers and administration. I would welcome helping hands and voices.

The Fridays at First series continues on for the summer, featuring the following Musicians:

July 1- 7PM: Rupert Wales

August 12 - 7PM: Mike Karl and Lower Town Project

September 23 - Ordinary Elephant



Do You Have Connections?

Calling all connectors in our congregation!! Do you have ideas or connections that would help us reach college students in the coming school year? Reach out to Tomoko at torebe11@hotmail.com to share your ideas

Youth Events

Parents – watch your email for details about youth events

Top Golf for high school students

Canoeing in late summer/early fall

Sunday School registration/kick-off dates later this summer

If you're a parent and you're not receiving event email/communications about youth events, contact Tomoko at torebe11@hotmail.com



Prayers

- **Guidance and direction** toward finding a new Youth Director
- **For our confirmands** as they move forward in their faith journeys
- **Our six youth who will be attending Clearwater Forest** for the Endless Summer week the at the end of July – the theme is “Creation Speaks”
- **For Sunday School teachers** for the coming school year - please email Tomoko at torebe11@hotmail.com to learn more



With Much Gratitude

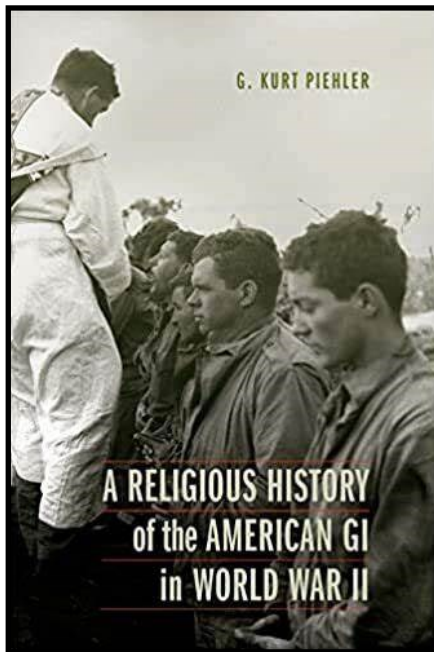
Thank you to David Morreim for his generosity in supporting our campers with Patti-son Farm Greenhouse gift certificate sales

Thank you to Lynn Rae Olson and Carrie Raiche for joining the Children, Youth and Family Ministry committee and for organizing the Root Beer Floats to celebrate Father's Day along with **Lori Smith**

Thank you to all the dads, grandfathers, and other special men in our lives who take care of so many things and help create wonderful memories

Thank you to those who served (and dined!) at the Cash Wise Brat Sale on June 17 and 18 to help offset the cost of youth attending camp

New to the Library



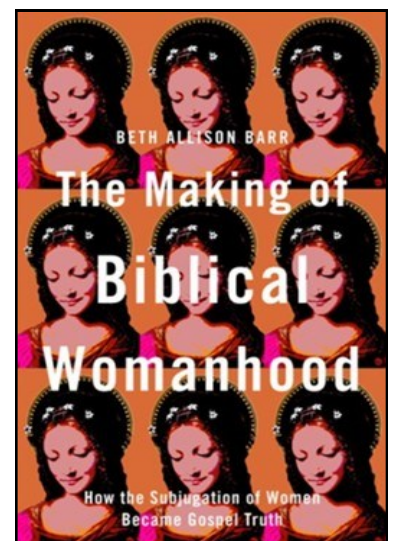
A Religious History of the American GI in World War II by G. Kurt Piehler.

The book describes the attempts of the armed forces to meet the spiritual needs of the 15 million men and women who served in World War II. GIs flocked to services and chaplains offered solace for those who lost comrades and friends in the war. The book is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand the social history of the American GI during the war. The book is based on letters, diaries, oral histories, and memoirs of those who served. It shows how American GIs reflected official administration and Defense Department policy under FDR who saw a Nazi victory as a threat to religious freedom and recognized the

antisemitic character of the regime. Official policies promoted a civil religion that stressed equality between Protestantism, Roman Catholicism, and Judaism. The author is a professor of history at Florida State University.

The Making of Biblical Womanhood (2021) by Beth Allison Barr

Historian Beth Allison Barr shows that "biblical womanhood" isn't biblical but arose from a series of clearly definable historical moments. She presents a better way forward for the contemporary church. Writing from a Southern Baptist perspective, Dr. Barr shows how her background influenced her thinking and how it has changed over the years.



Finances

May Contributions	\$ 30,284.52
May Expenses	\$ 26,361.90
Over/under	\$ 3,922.62
YTD over/under	\$ 42,325.14



Finance Update

Thank you for your generosity as we progress through the year. The financials are a bit skewed. Our expenses are significantly under budget due to a shortage of staff right now. The Personnel and Youth Committee are busy searching for a new Youth Director. We always appreciate your gifts to the church.

Socks & Underwear Drive

The annual socks and underwear drive will start on August 1 and run through the end of September. These socks and underwear are for school age children that don't have new ones for the coming school year.

So start stockpiling socks and underwear so we can fill the baskets starting next month.

- submitted by Darlene Scherbing

Outdoor Worship and Potluck

Make plans now to attend outdoor worship on Sunday, Aug. 21 at 10:00 am. We will also be hosting a potluck after worship. Join us for a unique experience and fellowship with neighbors and friends.



Who's Who in the Pew?

David Buchin



Tell us about your early years.

I was born in George, Iowa and lived there through kindergarten. We moved to West Fargo, ND when I was six and I lived there through completion of my undergraduate degree at North Dakota State University.

How long have you been attending First Presbyterian?

I began attending First Presbyterian after finishing law school in 1993. My father was the Associate Pastor here at the time. I was absent from church for a number of years until Rachel and I began attending around 2014.

Share anything you wish about your family/children and pets.

Rachel and I have two children together: William (6) and Laura (2). Rachel has three older children: Calvin and Colton (19) and Carrera (15). My mother, Lois, lives nearby and enjoys our family time together. We have two dogs, Lola, who is a Great Pyrenees mix and Hugo, who is a Basset Hound.

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

I did a summer session in the Greek Islands during my first year of law school. Traveling through Greece and the islands was a great experience.

What are your favorite books?

I wish I had more time to read. I can't remember the last non-work related book I have read.

What is a Bible Verse that holds deep meaning for you?

Psalm 46, especially verse 10. *Be still and know that I am God.* It is a great reminder of God's presence when life gets hectic.

What are your favorite pastimes or hobbies?

I like to golf and run. Although lately, I have not done much of either.

What are some small things that brighten your day?

Seeing the excitement of my children when I get home from work.

Share anything unique or memorable that others might not know about you.

I was a whitewater rafting river guide on the Arkansas River in Colorado between college and law school.

Scholarship Awards

Recently the Finance and Session approved scholarship awards from the House/Holmgren Scholarship Fund. Harold and Hulda House were members of First Presbyterian and devoted their life to education. Joyce Holmgren was also a member of the church who highly valued education. Together, their gifts were combined to create the House/Holmgren Scholarship fund, given to those pursuing undergraduate degrees. Awards (\$2,000) will be given to the following individuals: Alarie Chu, Peter Espelien, Jenna Jacobs, Jack Randolph, Landry Seaman, Brynn Seaman, Calvin Walters, Colton Walters, and Will Yu.



Deacons Corner—submitted by Carol Dirks

“Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for God who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:23-25

There are descriptive words in this text. “Without wavering” can mean a steady, straight course. “Provoke” has negative connotations, but in this text I think it means to provide incentive to one another to help each other demonstrate love in action.

My thoughts about encouraging one another are partly related to the pandemic we are going through. So much was missed during the pandemic, at least in our family. The daily isolation in my life by not being able to be with family, other than my husband, not being with friends or attending worship was eye opening. It helped me realize that those aging and away from loved ones and friends are the people we minister to with visits, phone calls, cards and other ways we show God's love.

Encouragement helps cope with each day's happenings. Knowing someone cares makes a significant difference. It also expands our hope as we see God's faithfulness to us by seeing others practice that love toward us. It “refills our well” of love. We then have more to share with others.

We can act by loving and doing good deeds. I think it starts by showing love toward one another, then to those in need. Also, we show God's love to those whomever we meet in our day; family, coworkers, friends and others we do not know but cross our paths each day. AND...loving and caring for ourselves to “refill our well” helps us and others.

As we meet together and encourage one another we can be assured that God is unwavering in faithfulness to us. What a joy!

SUNDAY WORSHIP WORKERS SCHEDULE

Listed below is the Worker 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, so that the Sunday bulletin can be updated.

Thank you for your service to the Church.

	<u>Worship Leader</u>	<u>Ushers (2)</u>	<u>Greeter (1/2)</u>
July 3	Dick Andzenge	Mary Lease/John Hoffman	Karen Larson
July 10	John Pike	Ryne Pentz/John Detra	Stephanie Randolph
July 17	Ryne Pentz	Jeanne Duininck/Shaula Seaman	Duane/Darlene Scherb
July 24	Bobbie Lampi	Mike/Kim Tollefson	Brynn/Bailey Seaman
July 31	Melinda Anderson	Jan/Bert East	Don/Jan Watkins
August 7	Tamara Calhoun	Gail Aalderks/Linda Bettison	Randy/Kathy Arnold
August 14	Gene Williamson	Joe/Stephanie Jacobs	John Detra
August 21	Ian Rutter	Phil/Jeanne Chu	Jan Larson
August 28	Michelle Chan	Duane Scherbing/John Pike	Leroy/Paula Tift

Mariah Benn	07/01
Tristin Hamble	07/01
Robert Hobson	07/01
Chase Donaghue	07/02
Sebastian Cabrera	07/03
Betsy Hayenga	07/03
Cindy Justin	07/05
Gene Williamson	07/05
Brea Corrigan	07/06
Morrison LaVictoire	07/06
Jim McMullen	07/06
Joshua Wood	07/06
Maximilian Cabrera	07/09
Nathan Hounkpati	07/11
David Buchin	07/12



Brenda Espelien	07/12
Erica Smith	07/13
Cole Hedlund	07/15
Sandy Moorhouse	07/17
Andrew Giese	07/18
Susan Stocker	07/20
Zachary Ruble	07/21
Randy Saliars	07/22
NeSe Andzenge	07/23
David McLaughlin	07/23
Samantha Handley	07/24
George Hontos	07/26
Edward Bavary	07/27
William Hornibrook	07/30
Julee Sticha	07/30

Thank You!

Last Tuesday, our hearts were broken by our daughter Tessa's untimely death, but God has been true to the divine promise to be with us, surrounding us with the support and love of this congregation and beyond! Words can't begin to express our gratitude for all of the ways, both little and large, that you all, and so many others, have found to reach out and bless us!

Now, as we move on with our lives, we give thanks to God for the gift of Tessa, for the 47 years we were blessed to have had with her, and for all the ways it became clear that her life DID make a difference...and we look forward to that promised day of glad reunion when there will be no more sorrow or sighing or tears!

*- With undying gratitude, the family of
Tessa Marie Jergenson*

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- submitted by Darlene Scherbing

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 web site: www.fpcstcloud.org

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

Monday - Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 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

Friday 5:30 p.m.
 Chinese Christian Fellowship in the
 Fellowship Hall
 (Bi-weekly) (September-May)

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

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 Saint Cloud, MN
 56301

JULY 2022

SESSION

Pastor Darin Seaman, Moderator
 Bobbie Lampi, Clerk

Class of 2022: David Buchin, (Worship/Evangelism), Lynn Rae
 Olson (Worship/Evangelism), Lori Smith
 (Children & Youth),
 Tomoko Rebeck (Children & Youth)

Class of 2023: Tom Horn (Finance), Jeanne Duininck
 (Fellowship)
 Darlene Scherbing (Mission), Rodney Kadlec
 (Property)

Class of 2024: Joni Karl (Fellowship), Kim Tollefson
 (Personnel), Alvin Yu, Stephanie Randolph
 (Worship)

DEACONS

Class of 2022: Judy Hook, Peter Espelien, Jeannie Chu, Norine
 Schmitt, Marsha Elg, Linda Addicott

Class of 2023: Mary Jost, Betty Vigen, Sandy Johnson, Janis Cimper-
 man, Barb Isaacson

Class of 2024: Gary Lenzmeier, Stephanie Merrell, Randy Arnold,
 Kathy Arnold, Carol Dirks