

THE VALLEY BRIDGE



August 13, 2015

AUGUST 16: 12TH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14; Psalm 111; Ephesians 5:15-20;
John 6:51-58

Youth in the Church and World

Fellowship of Prayer: Maine Presbyterian Church

Church Leadership:

Elders: Betty Moss, Maybelle Borgrud, Joanne Guyer,
Merv Freeman, Nina Setzle, Jerry Hangartner

Clerk of Session: Linda Gronner

Prayer Requests:

We ask for prayers for the session and the congregation as they go through transition to a new pastor. We are thankful for Rev. Tom Junkert who will be the stated supply pastor beginning September 1. We are excited about what God has done in our church over the past year and half and look forward to good things in the future.



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MN Valleys Presbytery
4055 Abbott Drive
Willmar MN 56201
320-235-7910

minnesotavalleys.org

Monday-Friday:
8:00-4:30

We're on Facebook,
too!

AROUND THE PRESBYTERY

The **First Presbyterian Church of Maynard** is celebrating its 118th anniversary on Sunday, August 23. The schedule for the day: 10:30am—Fellowship Hour Coffee; 11:00am—Worship Service; 12:00pm—Birthday Celebration Picnic. RSVP by August 16 to Pastor Beverly Crute at beverly_crute@msn.com.

First Presbyterian

Church of Winnebago

will host Chuck Crain in a Southern Gospel music concert during worship at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, August 30. The **First Presbyterian Churches of Amboy and Blue**



Earth will be joining the

Winnebago church for the morning, with pastors from the three churches leading a bit of the liturgy surrounding the concert. Chuck has been a part of the Presley's Country Jubilee Show for 18 years, performing gospel music in Branson, MO. He has performed with a variety of other groups, formed his own groups, both nationally and internationally over a period of 40 years. A freewill offering will be received that day to support this ministry. Refreshments will be served following the concert/worship.

The CARE Pantry at **Hope Presbyterian Church of Spicer** is now located in a permanent room in the Christian Education wing. This year's distribution average has been 27 clients each month. Clients have been referred to them from nine communities, and receive household and personal care items, baby care products, and products for children and teens.

The **Westminster Presbyterian Church of Worthington** offers the opportunity to its members to sponsor a weekly bulletin or flowers—another way to share the joy, honor a person or life event, or show appreciation for a job well done.

The **First Presbyterian Church of Willmar** is holding a Men's Retreat October 2-4 at Presbyterian Clearwater Forest. Activities will include worship, Bible study, fellowship, hiking, fishing, kayaking, team rope/challenge course, campfires, reflection and time set apart, not to mention creating and consuming some pretty awesome meals.

RESOURCES

LEADING LONG, LEADING WELL – “Remaining Resilient in Times of Adaptive Chang, Parts I and II. These are seminars sponsored by the Presbyterian of the Northern Plains, and led by Mark Sundby of the North Central Ministry Development Center and Mary Kay DuChene of Easter Lutheran Church in Eagan, MN. The seminars will take place September 28-29 (Part I) and September 30-October 1 (Part II) at the United Presbyterian Church in Jamestown, ND. Information brochures are available at the presbytery office, or by contact the Presbytery of the Northern Plains office at 701.772.0783.

FREE ELECTRONIC RESOURCES from “Growing in Grace & Gratitude,” the new Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) denominational children’s curriculum, are now available! The resources, in English and Spanish, include an e-book, formatted for iPad and Kindle, and audio readings of the curriculum’s weekly Bible stories. The e-book and audio recordings will help the sessions of Growing in Grace & Gratitude reach beyond Sunday morning, encouraging children to live their lives as an expression of God’s grace at home and at school. Download free electronic resources and learn more about the curriculum at growinggracegratitude.org.



NEW GRANTS ARE AVAILABLE through the General Assembly to facilitate new ministries (not new worshipping communities ~ that is a separate program). Titled DREAM Grants (Developmental, Risky, Experimental, Adaptive Mission), these one-time grants of up to \$10,000 are available to provide assistance with start-up costs for new ministry initiatives. Applicants can be churches or mid-councils. In the remainder of 2015, there are two windows for applications, although the first is very soon. For the first window, **applications need to be at the synod office by August 17, 2015. There is a second window with a due date by November 15, 2015.**

Information has been sent to pastoral leaders in our congregations. For more information, please contact Rick Carus.

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP MONEY!

Congregational Resources and Development Committee has \$75 scholarships per camper to attend Presbyterian Clearwater Forest or Presbyterian Camp on Okoboji summer camp programs. If your church has already applied for scholarships and you have more campers going, please apply for more! Here is the link on our website: [Scholarship Form](#).

KEEPING PRESBYTERIAN CLEARWATER FOREST SUMMER CAMP STAFF IN OUR PRAYERS

The summer program at Clearwater Forest is now in full swing. During staff training a few weeks ago, I told the staff team that they were engaged in a unique ministry that had the power to transform lives for Christ in ways that they could not imagine. I reminded them that this was more than another summer job, but rather that this was a call to serve God's people in a special way. On that day, I told the staff that they were not alone in this venture, but that they would have people in our churches supporting them with prayer. I made a promise to the staff that you would pray for them every week, every day of the camp season.

Through the end of the summer, you will see names of the Clearwater Forest Summer Camp staff in the Valley Bridge. Please remember to keep these young people in your prayers as they serve, in Christ's name, every person whose lives they encounter in this ministry.



Thank you for your prayers,

RICK

Clearwater Week of August 9

Christiaan van Lierop - Counselor - Hopkins, MN

Austin Adams - Counselor - New London, MN

Noah Ross - Counselor - Spring Lake Park, MN

NEIGHBOR: BEING CHRISTIAN IN A MULTIFAITH WORLD

October 12-15, 2015 at Montreat Conference Center

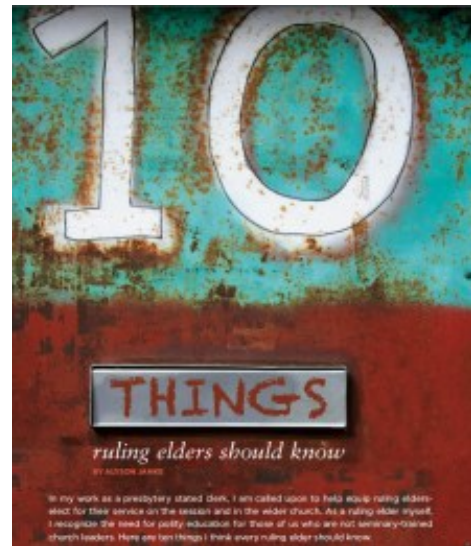
The Scriptures command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” As our world and our communities become more diverse, how do we have loving, respectful interactions with neighbors of other faiths while still being true to our call to share the Gospel? Join author, speaker, and public theologian Brian McLaren and other critical thinkers as we explore what it means to be Christian in a multifaith world.

For more information, registration and accommodations: <http://www.montreat.org/neighbor/>

TEN THINGS RULING ELDERS SHOULD KNOW

In her work as stated clerk of John Knox Presbytery, Alyson Janke is called upon to equip ruling elders-elect for their service on the session and in the wider church. In this article, she offers a bit of polity education for these leaders who are not seminary-trained.

[Click here to read the full article.](#)



HYMNAL GIVEAWAY

What?? Yes!! First Presbyterian Church of Saint Cloud has a set of the 1993 Presbyterian Hymnal to be given away, replacing them with the Glory to God hymnals. Do you know of a church/Would your church like to have this set of 150? The St. Cloud church will pay the shipping cost for them to be sent to the new church. Contact Karen at the presbytery office to make arrangements.



Pray for the Next Pres Team



CALENDAR

Wednesday, August 19: Next Pres Team meets at the presbytery office from 9:00-3:00

Wednesday, August 19—Monday, August 24: Karen on vacation

Sunday, August 23: Rick preaches at Faith Presbyterian Church of Silver Lake

Wednesday, August 26: Personnel Committee meets at the presbytery office beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Friday, August 28: Virginia out of the office

Sunday, August 30: Rick preaches at First Presbyterian Church of Rushmore

JOHN 6:51-58

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'

