

Andrew Crandall, Pastor—pastorandrew@midco.net Church Office: firstpc@midco.net Phone 605-352-8789 www.fpchuron.com

Issue #5 May 2025

Lawrence lived in Rome in the 200s. It was a dangerous time for Christians; the Roman government periodically punished Christians and confiscated their property. Lawrence was the deacon in charge of the silver communion chalices, candlesticks, and the poor fund.

One day the city prefect demanded Lawrence turn over all the church's assets. Lawrence answered, "I do not deny that our Church is wealthy. No one in the world is richer! I'll need three days to gather it all." Then he quickly gathered all the silver and gold in the Roman churches and gave it away to the poor!

When the prefect returned, he found Lawrence had assembled a ragtag group of poor, disabled, blind, homeless, and leprous Christians. One man had two eyeless sockets, another a broken knee. Lawrence announced to the astonished official, "These are Christ's most valuable treasures! Their bodies may not be beautiful, but they contain the priceless treasure of God's grace."

James 2:1-17 calls us to be a community of compassion for the poor. The reason is rooted in Jesus, "our glorious Lord" (2:1). In the Bible, "glory" means importance, significance, honor – things often connected to wealth and power. We *humanly* reason that a rich person is more "glorious" than a poor person.

But remembering that Jesus is the most glorious one (most honored, most significant, most important), which ordinary human is Jesus more like? The rich or the poor? Throughout his earthly life, the "lord of glory" identified with the poor and needy. The Son of God became disfigured and ugly. He had no wealth or status. James is saying, if Jesus is "our glorious Lord," we no longer put our faith in money or power, and we no longer divide between those who have them and those who don't.

But how can we do that? In 2:7 James says that Christians are called by "the *noble* name." What name? Christ's! Christ's *noble, glorious, important, beautiful* name is given to you! "Christian." This is your new identity, as when a child is adopted, she takes the name of her new family. But not just any old identity! Jesus is the *Lord of Glory* – and now that name is on you too! For whether we are rich or poor (in earthly terms), we're all hopelessly bankrupt before God. So, Christ cancelled the record of our debt on the cross and showers us with his glory.

Before Jesus, our different levels of piety and earthly status, of income and importance are tiny and meaningless! It makes no sense to compare ourselves with one another because we are all much more alike than we are different. We are all beggars by right. We are all nobles by grace. We all deserve condemnation. We all receive blessing. We are all nobody. We have all been made somebody. When that fact grips us, we become people of mercy – not just because we ought to – but because we'll want to.

Grace & Peace Pastor Andrew

First Presbyterian Church May, 2025

May

	May, 2025
D	May, 2025 Dates to Remember–Meetings and Notices
01	Scholarship Applications are due to the Office
04	Men's Prayer Breakfast @ The Plains @ 8:00 AM
	Sunday School (All ages) @ 9:20 AM
	Worship/Communion @ 10:30 AM
	Choir practice @ 11:45 AM
	"Cinco de Mayo" Potluck following Worship
	Worship at Avantara @ 3:00 PM
	Tabitha Unruh's students piano recital @ 3:00 PM
	In the Sanctuary
05	Home Communion @ Peaceful Pines @ 9:20 AM
	Home Communion @ Avantara @ 10:00 AM
	Home Communion @ Wellshire Village @ 10:30 AM
07	Praise Team practice @ 5:15 PM
11	Happy Mother's Day!
	Sunday School (All ages) @ 9:20 AM
	(Last day of Youth Sunday School until the Fall!)
	Worship @ 10:30 AM
	Christian Education Volunteer Appreciation Day!
	Choir practice @ 11:45 AM
13	Administrative Committee meeting @ 12:30 PM
	Christian Education Committee meeting @ 6:30 PM
	Mission/Evangelism Committee meeting @ 6:30 PM
	Church Life Committee meeting @ 6:30 PM
	Building/Grounds Committee meeting @ 7:00 PM
	Worship/Music Committee meeting @ 7:00 PM
	Session meeting @ 7:30 PM
14	Praise Team practice @ 5:15 PM
15	Ministerial Food Give Away @ People's Transit
	from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM Helpers are needed!
16	June '25 Newsletter information due to the Office
18	Men's Prayer Breakfast @ The Plains @ 8:00 AM
	Sunday School (Adults Only) @ 9:20 AM
	Worship @ 10:30 AM
	Choir practice @ 11:45 AM
	Huron High School Graduation ceremony @ 2:00 PM
21	Praise Team practice @ 5:15 PM
25	Sunday School (Adults Only) @ 9:20 AM
	Worship/Holy Buckets @ 10:30 AM
	Choir practice @ 11:45 AM
26	Memorial Day Holiday – Office closed
28	Praise Team practice @ 5:15 PM

(A note of correction please. On your calendar for May, '25, I have listed on May 16th – "May, '25 Newsletter info due to the Office". It should read "June, '25 Newsletter info due to the Office". My mistake - Carol

Elder for May, 2025 – Krissa Korkow Deacon for May, 2025 – Roxann Veenhof

Prayer Ministry Members

Jerry Galliger Chuck Groth Herdman/Klusman Families Steve & Diane Peters Chris Sirvas Corinne Wipf

Susan Galliger Tana Hagel Linda Marcus Rev. Allen Sager Roger Tarbox Sue Gose Ron & Sharon Hastings Larrry Neuharth Jackie Sievers Louise Van Poll

Family & Friends

Lori Burns and Rick Hein Family (continues with health issues) Dale Daugherty (Linda Marcus' nephew) Joyce Balliette (Jan LaMont's sister) Debbie Caudell (Maggie Caudell's mother-in-law) Juli Wolf (JoLynne Parmely's sister) Jene Caroll (JoLynne Parmely's brother-in-law) Glen Hohn (Brenda Schmidt's cousin) Doug Meiers (Donna Meiers' son) John Gifford (friend of the Sager's) Joyce Borah (Jamie Peterson's mother) David Hepper (Greg's brother with advanced lung/pancreatic cancer) Wendy (Paulson) Riesetter (niece of Nancy Shoultz) Ronnie Cunnigan (Lori Magness' cousin) Doug Zeeck (father of Mindy Eden, Bryan Eden's wife) Velda Zeeck (Mindy Eden's grandmother) recovering from Surgery Patricia DeVaney (Greg Hepper's sister who is diagnosed with pancreatic cancer) Pam Oschner (friend of Barb Peterson, Calajean Kopfmann and others) Robert Palmiteer (Jan LaMont's cousin) Donald Schmidt (Alan Schmidt' brother) recovering from falls Brenda Houge (friend of Church members) Kimberly Meink (Bill Meink's sister) cancer treatment Demi Moon (friend of many in our Church) battling Acute Myeloid Leukemia Braden Schlader (friend of Deannie LeRoux) post-surgery healing

Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Home Bound

Avantara Nursing Home: Eva Vilhauer, Sara Jorgensen, Phyllis Lemke, Larry Neuharth and Jackie Sievers Peaceful Pines: Inez Eddy Stoneybrook Suites: Eileen Dracy Wellshire Village: Shirley Fullerton and Deannie LeRoux DeSmet: Ruth Winter



Please let the office know of changes that should be made to the above prayer concerns. Thank you!

We've Got Mail and Other Notices!

"I do want to thank you for thinking of me and for the very pretty and bottomless Easter basket – all of the goodies and fresh fruit and a puzzle book! I do miss you all! I also want to thank you for the prayers for my little friend Braden Schlader. His surgery in Sioux Falls went well and he and his Mother had Easter dinner with my daughter and me, here at Wellshire. He winked at me! Much love, Deannie LeRoux (April 22, 2025)

<u>Note</u>: <u>Per Capita</u> for 2025 is \$43.04 for each member, adult and confirmed.

MORE INFORMATION FOR YOU!

You are invited to the year-end piano recital for Tabitha Unruh's students to be held in our Sanctuary, Sunday, May 4, 2025 at 3:00 PM. All are welcome!

FPC's opportunity to volunteer for the <u>Huron Area Senior Center's</u> <u>Meals on Wheels</u> delivery is scheduled for the week of May 5 - 9, 2025. Sandy Eden just wanted to give you a "heads up" as she would like you to contact her if you can help with this effort. Please reach out to her at 605-354-5411. Thank you for your consideration and volunteerism. It is appreciated by many!

Avantara Huron Nursing Home is looking for additional volunteers to assist them in fulfilling their mission of care for their elderly and disabled residents who are from Huron and the surrounding area. If you are interested and available, please reach out to Laurie Solem, Administrator, at 605-352-8471. Thank you for your consideration!

There will be a Suicide Prevention Workshop held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 beginning at 1:00 PM at the Grace Lutheran Church in Willow Lake, SD. The Suicide Prevention Team from SDSU, along with Rev. Bill Cooper (Sanford), will be presenting information including signs to watch for and an opportunity for general discussion. Everyone is invited to attend. For more info, call Dick Poppen @ 605-520-3098. If you plan to attend, it would helpful if you would let Dick know to insure that there are enough materials available Thank you!

The Church Life Committee sent 11 College Care packages this year. Thank you for all who donated in any way! At its February 11, 2025 meeting, FPC's Session approved a <u>new</u> <u>Building & Grounds Use Policy</u>. The process outlined in this new policy is that all parties requesting use of the Church facilities must contact the Church Office for discussion of said use. Upon approval of such use, a "Rental Agreement" must be completed and signed, a deposit of \$250.00 must be submitted if required, and "Checklist of Building and Grounds Rentals" must be received by the person making the request. The \$250.00 deposit will be retained by the Church Office and returned to the party requesting the use of FPC facilities once the "Checklist of Building and Grounds Rentals" is returned to the Office and it is determined that the reserved area of use is left in the original condition and guidelines were followed in the "Rental Agreement". If you have any questions about the new policy, please contact the Church Office.

The <u>Synodwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women</u> is scheduled for June 11-15, 2025 in Watertown, SD. Registration is now open with the registration fee of \$150.00 which includes all meals, even snack breaks; up to eight (8) workshops from inspiring leaders; group presentations; shopping; a program book; book groups; mission opportunities; guest speakers; a Gathering choir; and much more. Single day registration is \$75.00 which includes the meals of the day, select from the day's programming options, up to four workshops. Additional information is available at the Church Office or visit with Louise Van Poll, Moderator, PW of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies and Presbytery of South Dakota.

From Brenda Arteman and your FPC Missions/Evangelism Committee: "Thank you generous members of 1st Presby Church! We were able to deliver donations of clothing, personal items, games and the free will offering from the Session Lent luncheon held March 9, 2025 in the amount of \$265 to our friends at Angel Haus. They are very appreciative of your gifts. Thank you!"









Camp season is *just* around the corner! Sign-up today!



FPC is offering scholarships up to \$250 per young person!



The scholarship can be used at any Christian church camp, and if you're sending your young person(s) to Camp Rimrock (Rapid City) or Byron Bible Camp (Huron), you'll get a coupon code to use in your on-line camp registration, the preferred way to register for either Camp! Call the Office, 605-352-8789, for the Camp Code.

Byron Bible Camp has camps for grades k-12, a wrestling camp, backpacking trip and family camp this summer. This is a great place for everyone to grow in their faith.

Byron Bible Camp is also seeking \$84,000 by May 10, 2025 to help pay off the Bunk House final bills for the plumbing and heating/cooling expenses. The Bunk House was finished last May and has been an answer to prayer already. The total of these final bills is more than what the camp has in its savings and checking accounts. Thank you for your support and gifts in the past. If you have questions, please feel free to call the Camp Office at 605-352-7267.



June 1-4, 2025 from 5:30 - 7:15 PM (includes supper)

3 year-olds – 5th Grade

This time of fun, silliness, praise, and Bible-learning is for the preschoolers and elementary kids in our <u>church</u> and <u>community</u>. There is no charge.

Spread the word!









Happy Mother's Day!

<u>Some thoughts for you, Mom</u>

You survived my teenage years – Mothers Day should be a public holiday in your honor!

Happy Mother's Day! Remember, you don't have a favorite child...but if you did, it would be me!

"As one whom his Mother comforts, so I will comfort you." Isaiah 66:13