First Church News

Volume 12 issue 9

September 2025



I LIKE TO CALL IT PRAYER

To seek the heights and depths of thought
And pause in silence there;
Some call it meditation...
I like to call it prayer.

To look out on the troubled world
And find the true and fair;
Some call it contemplation...
I like to call it prayer

To give oneself for others.

To lift and love and share;

Some call it consecration...

I like to call it prayer.

To sense a silent, reverent awe
At beauty everywhere;
Some call it adoration...
I like to call it prayer.

Helen Lawrie Marshall

Woman of God...Wonderfully Made...Devotions for Women by CTA

Growing up with three brothers, I witnessed my fair share of squabbles. Screams of "That's my toy" or 'He pushed me!" were as common as bumps and bruises. As most parents would, mine required apologies after a fight. I often heard a monotone "I'm sorry" and a mumbled "I forgive you," followed by a mandatory handshake. The boys went through the motions, but it was clear their hearts weren't in it.

Unfortunately, those closest to us often get the worst of us. Family members use hurtful words and actions within their own homes that they would never use with others. Those who know you best have the greatest capacity to hurt you. Yet, the bonds created within a family can be stronger and longer lasting than any other. Co-workers and neighbors may come and go, but family connections can't be erased.

Navigating family relationships isn't easy Apologies and forgiveness are a necessary (and often daily) part of healthy family life. But what if there isn't an apology? What if forgiveness isn't deserved? How can you forgive someone who just doesn't deserve it?

There are conflicts that just can't be resolved and differences that can't be settled. Sometimes the only way to build a healthy relationship is to forgive and love anyway.

Forgiveness is possible only through the power of God. His love enables you to give what isn't deserved or even asked for. You can forgive others only because the Lord has forgiven you. Before you even asked for it, Jesus earned your complete forgiveness. God sent Jesus to pay the price for your sins.

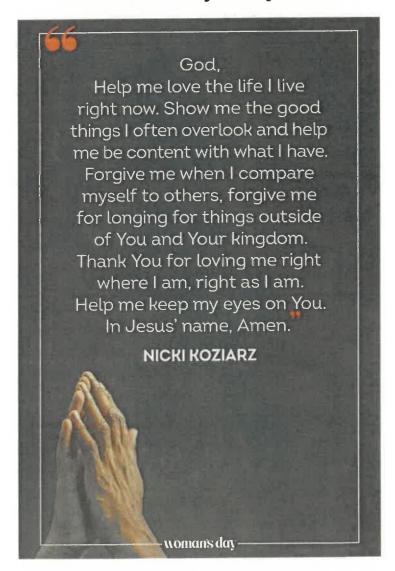
God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

You don't deserve God's forgiveness, but in Jesus, you have it. You have it filled to the brim and overflowing with more than enough to share!

You and I can never love and forgive to the extent that God loves and forgives us. Like fighting children, we often go through the motions of giving and receiving apologies. Thankfully, our weaknesses don't erase God's strength! He works through our attempts to love our family and forgives us when we fail. In Jesus, you have total forgiveness-filled to the brim and overflowing! (Devotions for Women, CTA, Inc.)

A Good Daily Prayer



Our Benevolence for the month of September

Bemidji Meals on Wheels

Nonprofit that provides balanced meals and socialization in a warm caring setting and meals on wheels to the elderly homebound, enabling them to continue living in their own homes



What does meals on Wheels do?

Meals-on-wheels service is a critical component of the continuum of care services that enable older people to remain living in the community or to return to their own homes after hospitalisation.

Who is eligible for Meals on Wheels NSW?

You're 65 years or older, Are registered for My Aged Care, Are registered with the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP), or. Are younger with a disability and registered under National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

Consistent well-balanced meals can boost your immune system, reduce your risk for many health-related conditions and prevent the need for premature nursing home or assisted living care.

Our affordable meals are available to older adults age 60 and older for a suggested donation.

Our volunteers personally greet and get to know each person when they deliver the fresh, hot meals. Older adults enjoy the friendly, personal interaction which for many is the only person they see or speak to all day.

Family members gain peace of mind in knowing that someone is checking on their loved one daily. If the delivery volunteer notices anything of concern, with the older adult's permission, we can notify family members.

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From the Church Office

FINANCIAL REPORT—Month Ending 7/31/2025

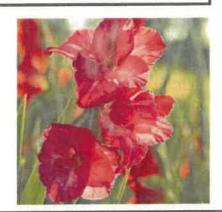
Monthly requirement to meet our budget \$12,502.94

Total Income \$ 14743.15
Total Expenses \$ 8974.16
Net Income \$ 5768.99
Thank you for supporting our church

Sunday W	orship Attend-
ance	
20	25
July 6	24
July 13	25
July 20	25
July 27	30



10 Jeannine Brooks 23 Libby Underhill



	Liturgist	Greeter
Sept. 7	Jan Burger	Linnea Mostad
Sept 14	Libby Underhill	Nancy Weber
Sept 21	Mary Hayes	Duane Hayes
Sept 28	Libby Underhill	Barb McGregor

Kitchen: Chair: Brenda Miller with helpers, Ruth Andersen, Jan Burger, Carol Waughtal

Communion setup: Kathy Burger

Serving Communion: Palmer Berg, Ken Paulson



5:30 at Chop House **Supper Club**



Supper Club will be meeting on Thursday, September 18 at 5:30pm.

Please call Dianne Roholt directly at 444-2859 for your reservations!

This is an evening full of joy, laughter and good food.

All are welcome!



Mary Martha Circle
Will meet on the 17th
Of September at
1:30pm at Raphaels



Every Sunday after the The Church Service



Laughs And Giggles

Our fourth grader celebrated his birthday on crutches, so he couldn't carry the cupcakes into school without help. I asked our sixth-grader, Noah, to help his brother carry them in. "I could," he said, "but I'd prefer not to. " Spotting a teaching moment, my husband asked Noah, "What would Jesus do?" Noah answered, "Jesus would heal him so he could carry his own cupcakes." — Rachel Nichols

Several children found a dead robin. Feeling that a proper burial should
be performed, they secured a small
box and some cotton batting, dug a
hole in the back yard, and made ready
to dispose of the deceased. The minister's 5-year-old son was chosen to say
the prayer. And so with great dignity,
he intoned, "Glory be to the Father...and unto the Son...and into the
hole he goes."

Muldoon lived alone in the Irish countryside with only a pet dog for company. One day the dog died, and Muldoon went to the parish priest and asked, "Father, me dog is dead. Could ya' be saying' a mass for the poor creature?"

Father Patrick replied, "I'm afraid not; we cannot have services for an animal in the church. But there are some Baptists down the lane, and there's no tellin' what they believe. Maybe they'll do something for the creature."

Muldoon said, "I'll go right away Father. Do ya' think \$5,000 is enough to donate to them for the service?"

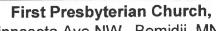
Father Patrick exclaimed, "Sweet Mary, Mother of Jesus! Why did ya' not tell me the dog was Catholic?

Sundays 10:00 am Worship 11:00am Fellow ship





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
HAPPY LABOR DAY	1 Labor Day Office Closed	2 School Starts	3 Calvery Chapel 6:30-8pm	4	5	6
7 Pastor Chip/ Communion Fellowship	8 Scouts 7pm	9 VA 10-3	10 Calvery Chapel 6:30-8pm VA 9-12pm	9/17	12	13
14 Pastor Chip Fellowship	15 Scouts 7pm	16 Session 1pm	17 Calvery Chapel 6:30-8pm Mary Martha Circle 1:30pm At Raphaels	18 Supper Club At the Chop House at 5:30	19	20
21 Pastor Chip/ Fellowship	22 Scouts 7pm	23 VA 10-3pm	24 Calvery Chapel 6:30-8pm VA 9-12pm	25	26	27
28 Pastor Chip/ Fellowship	29 Scouts 7pm	30				



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