United Parish 801 Main Box 175 Bottineau, ND 58318 Facebook We are on the web www.unitedparishbottineau.com **Newsletter News:** Send unitedparishbottineau@gmail.com **Deadline for September Newsletter is** August 24 - looking for articles Church office - 228-2800 Secretary - 228-8123



Please inform the church of your email address. The newsletter can be sent to you instead of mailed. Also, notices can be sent.

Meals on Wheels Sign up

Dates are August 3rd thru Sept. 11.

I will bring the sheets to worship at **Tommy Turtle Park** and will have them at the church or you may call me at 228-8123.





Services will be at-Tommy Turtle Park at 10:00 a.m.

Church

on August 2, 9th and 16th.

UNITED PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Peace as a Fruit of the Spirit

by Joel E. Smit

As the pastor of my local congregation, I raise my hands each Sunday and pronounce the benediction on the people of God, often using the Aaronic blessing from Numbers 6: "The LORD bless you and keep you . . . the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace" (vv. 24–26). Yet, everyone leaves the worship service and enters a world that is anything but peaceful. Our personal lives are chaotic, stressful, and filled with worry, and almost immediately, those words of blessing seem to fade as we navigate our days, trying to juggle what life throws our way. We love the idea of peace, but it is often elusive and seemingly far from us.

Typically, people's sense of peace is based on how they are feeling, or it is dictated by their circumstances. This wrong metric leads to people thinking that more peace can be achieved simply by self-effort or by obtaining better life conditions. However, the peace that the Bible speaks of has little to do with the daily experiences of life—or how we feel about them.

The familiar Hebrew word for peace, *shalom*, conveys the idea of wholeness; it refers to wellness in both body and soul. The New Testament writers, while maintaining the idea of shalom, rightly emphasize the need for harmony and unity in our relationships with one another. These two concepts together demonstrate that neither the internal peace within nor the external peace without is innate in this fallen world. Rather, each is a "good and perfect gift from above" (James 1:17). The Holy Spirit imparts the gift of peace as a fruit of true belief and a benefit of our redemption in Christ.

So, how can we reclaim this gift in our lives? Again, the solution is not to look within or to conjure up peaceful, easy feelings but rather to look externally to God and recognize who He is. He is the God of peace, the source of all that we need. He will give in abundance so that none of His children will lack. Here are several reasons that our peace is secure and should abound more and more.

Up Beat

AUGUST, 2020



United Parish Fellowship

Norma Welin - Sharon Marquardt

United Parish Memorial Fund Norma Welin - Linda Bullinger Dennis Egge - Linda Bullinger Presbyterain Church Helen Kippen -Joy Saunders Norma Welin - Leann Bremner Marlys Kippen United Parish Building Fund Norma Welin - Karol Patterson

Norma Welin - Karol Patterson Marty Wheeler - Karol Patterson Young Priest Tries A New Religious Approach



Father Brian, an elderly Catholic priest, was speaking to Father Karl, a younger priest, saying, 'You had a good idea to replace the first four pews with plush bucket theatre seats. It worked like a charm. The front of the church always fills first now.'



Anniversaries 2 – Larry & Karen Larson

- 6 John & Peggy Gregg
- 11 Doug & Leann Bremner
- 15 Robert & Brenda Marquardt
- 17 Noel & Amy Sand
- 26 Samantha & David Hertzberg
- 30 Mel & Bev Hamnes

Father Karl nods, and the old priest continues, 'And you told me adding a little more beat to the music would bring young people back to church, so I supported you when you brought in that rock 'n' roll gospel choir. Now our services are consistently packed to the rafters.' 'Thank you, Father Brian,' answers the young priest. 'I am pleased that you are open to the new ideas of youth.' 'All of these ideas have been well and good,' comments Father Brian wisely. But I'm afraid you've gone too far with the drive-thru confessional.' 'But, Father Brian,' protests the young Father Karl, 'My confessions have nearly doubled since I began that!' 'Indeed,' replies the elderly priest, 'And I

appreciate that. But the flashing neon sign,



Toot 'n Tell or Go to Hell" cannot stay on the church roof.'

August Birthdays

- 5 Troy Marsden
- 21 Donna Reinholz
- 23 Luella Bjornseth
- 27 Lloyd Nelson