



# The Bell

June 2008

FIRST  
Presbyterian  
CHURCH

The Bell  
A monthly newsletter

## Worship in June

### **Sunday June 1 9:30 AM**

Worship Leader ~ Barb Smith  
Preaching ~ Chuck Norseng on Transformation  
Music by Joe Mandelert, Janinne Kauffman and Erik Kauffman

### **Sunday June 8 9:30 AM**

Worship Leader ~ Jeannette Miller  
Faith Sharing ~ "Looking for Miracles"  
Text ~ Acts 10:44-47  
Commissioning of Hannah Koepke for General Assembly

### **Tuesday June 10 7:00 PM**

Care, Share, Prayer

### **Sunday June 15 9:30 AM**

Father's Day  
Worship Leader ~ Erik Anderson  
Faith Sharing ~ "Got Gifts?"  
Text ~ 1 Corinthians 12  
Music by Men's Group

### **Sunday June 22 9:30 AM**

Worship Leader ~ Holly Gintz  
Faith Sharing ~ "No Bargaining Chips with God"  
Text ~ Luke 10:25-37  
Music by Paul Ippel on violin

### **Tuesday June 24 7:00 PM**

Care, Share, Prayer

### **Sunday June 29 9:30 AM**

Faith Sharing ~ "Endurance"  
Text ~ 1 Peter 2,5  
Special Music

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#### **Points of Interest**

Deacon's Potluck June  
8 following worship

Boyers on vacation  
May 31-June 7

Paul Kosower on  
fishing trip May 27-  
June 4

Good News Gang Relay  
team to serve  
Strawberry Shortcake  
fundraiser on June 22

## **Memorials and Gifts**

(Through May 21)

### **Food Pantry**

Amy Horak  
Tom & Jo Knoble  
Bill Stafford  
Karla Stein

### **Deacons Fund**

Dave & Ann Gordon

### **Endowment Fund**

Sue Maitland

### **Flowers**

Jim & Kathi Mandelert  
Gary & Barb Shorrel  
Dick & Esther Frazier  
Hess Morrison  
Dick & Julie Stafford  
Tom & Jo Knoble  
Art Schunk & Joyce Pugh

### **Per Capita**

Jocelyn Campbell  
Barbara Taylor  
Steve Playter & Jinx Smith

## **Memorials**

Bob & Lea Dirks  
Dick & Julie Stafford  
Chuck & Chris Norseng  
Bob & Barb Meredith

### **Designated Gift**

Chuck & Chris Norseng

### **Pentecost Offering**

Chuck & Chris Norseng  
Louis & Julie Rogers  
Fred & Barb Cook  
Evelyn Jenson  
Joyce Connolly  
Barry & Susan Boyer  
Peter Boyer  
Shaun & Angela Christensen  
Bob & Verene Crane  
Ellen Devine  
Bob & Lea Dirks  
Dick & Esther Frazier  
Doug & Bonnie Gullickson  
Pat Hedrington  
Amy Horak  
Tom & Jo Knoble

Bob & Virginia Koepsel  
Vance & Margi Kohl  
Susan Maitland  
Mark & Marci Myrman  
Chuck & Chris Norseng  
Al & Margi Namejunas  
Ron & Alice Schmidt  
Art Schunk & Joyce Pugh  
Gary & Barb Shorrel  
Mike & Barb Tzanakis  
Gail Willi  
Erik & Traci Anderson  
Marlys Daniels  
Eric & Julie Haglund  
Dick & June Kemp  
Reid & Lisa Kennedy  
Roger & Mardi Lebeis  
Bob & Barb Meredith  
Hess Morrison  
Barbara Taylor  
Anne Welke  
Barbara Wilcox  
Roger & Patty Stiles

## **Establishing our identity**

Following the recommendation of the Bandy report, the Values, Beliefs, Vision and Mission Team is working to develop our identity as a congregation. This is the first step in establishing who we are, before we can move on to who we want to be.

The team is forming focus groups to discuss the lists that were compiled at the congregational gathering in April. The first round of meetings will be to go over the Core Values. We are seeking everyone's input on the Core Values list. We have scheduled five focus group meetings for next week. We will be looking at Bedrock Beliefs later in the summer.

The focus groups are scheduled for:

Sunday, June 1-4:00 pm  
Sunday, June 1-6:30 pm  
Wednesday, June 4-10:00 am  
Wednesday, June 4-6:30 pm  
Saturday, June 7-8:30 am

We hope you find one of these times convenient for you. You can sign up this Sunday morning following worship, or by contacting one of the team members:

Gail Buchanan @ 726-1689 or gb21park@sbcglobal.net  
Kathi Mandelert @ 723-5992 or park140@charter.net

## Pastor's Perspective

### Barry's Megabyte~

Early in June, several focus groups, composed of church members, will meet to help us refine our core values. Following that, we will create interview teams who will talk with inactive members and non-members who use our church and visit here. Gail Buchanan, Pat Linden and Kathi Mandelert are doing a great job of mobilizing these groups and creating a path to the finish line, we hope in October.

The purpose of all this is to build consensus among our members about who we are and who we hope to become. What words and concepts truly say who we are?

Are we a joyful people? Would others say we are grateful or courageous or accepting or always reaching out or compassionate or serving others or have high integrity or ..

Do we have a heart for the stranger? What do others think of us? Do our behaviors reflect the values we say are important to us.

Bill Easum of EasumBandy Associates tell the story of a group of grandparents who desperately want their grandchildren to attend worship. When some of the grandchildren say they enjoy Christian rap music and wonder if there could be some in church, the grandparents brace and say "no, not in our church." What values are the grandparents really expressing?

The question for us, too, is, "What are our true values and how do we communicate them?"

Sometime this summer we will begin working to clarify our bedrock beliefs. What psalms, songs, scriptures, confessions, do we turn to in times of crisis. What wisdom or, biblical story do we regularly turn in times of stress. For example, I carry the words of the hymn, "Be Thou My Vision" with me. We have a Celtic style plaque with those words on the wall by our front door. You probably have something like that that you turn to often. Are there some that many of us share and don't know about? Won't it be fun

when we discover these, our bedrock beliefs. Does your belief in eternal life comfort you? Or does that fact that Jesus died for you empower you and reassure you? Is the Bible your favorite text and always first on your list? How about the belief that "God is always with us? Or that you always have a community of worship to turn to? Do you pray before anything else?

The premise is that once we are clear about our values and our bedrock beliefs, great things can begin to happen. We will be on the same page. We won't lose energy to conflicts over what is right or wrong in our church life. We will be able to operate freely with new ideas and new mission initiatives. We will assess everything we do by our values, beliefs, vision and mission. Everything Presbyterian Women and Men do. Everything the worship team does, the session, youth and staff. We will trust each other and communicate more easily because we know what our values are and what our most important beliefs are. When we have a vision of our purpose and destiny as a congregation, we will charge ahead into the mission fields with Jesus.

We have such a great future ahead of us. We always have, but we have tried to get to the future on our own terms. A little commitment, a little participation, a little worship, you know, on our own terms. Yet the Christian life has always been about living on God's terms. Really love God, really love you neighbor, really love yourself, really do justice, really serve...

Now as more of us are praying and reading the Bible and seeking out small group fellowship and telling others about Jesus and worshiping on Sundays and delving into the hard work of leadership, we are beginning to understand God's terms. Jesus is beckoning us, the Holy Spirit is infusing us and together we will work to help change lives of folks who are afraid to die, who live with guilt and condemnation, struggle with emptiness and meaninglessness.

Know anyone like that?

# FIRST Presbyterian CHURCH

130 West Central Street  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729-2345

*Worshiping in our beautiful new  
building in the heart of the downtown.  
We are in the city for good!*

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fpc1admin@sbcglobal.net

Pastor: fpc1pastor@sbcglobal.net

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## The Bell

Our church newsletter



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### You are cordially invited...

**Joe Mandelert and Ellen Devine are getting married June 28 at First Presbyterian Church at 1:30 pm. A dessert reception will follow immediately after the ceremony. We would love to have you attend if you can. Call or e-mail if you would like to come:**

**Ellen-723-7374/ellendevine@att.net**

**Joe-723-9500/**

**madmechan@sbcglobal.net**

**Let us know by June 20 please—we need to know how many delicious desserts to provide!**

**~Ellen & Joe**

### Church Staff

*Barry Boyer, pastor*

*Tim Anderson, clerk of session*

*Cherie Andringa, office manager/financial secretary*

*Paul Kosower, minister of music*

*Ali Knoll, Youth director*

*Becky Hager, Karolynne Duffenbach, children's ministry*

*Holly Gintz, treasurer*

*Jeff Teubert, custodian*

*Jim Mandelert, technical elder*

*Sara Abendroth, Barbara Meredith, Caregiver leaders*

*Jeannette Miller, worship team leader*

*Kathi Mandelert, Bell editor*

*Sara Abendroth, child care coordinator*

*Marlys Daniels, Presbyterian Women*

*Pat Linden, Presbyterian Men*

*Margi Kohl, church librarian*

*Barb Smith, music librarian*

*Susan Boyer, Esther Frazier, Lorraine Gilbertson, Tom & Jo*

*Knoble, Ginny Koepsel, Margi Kohl, Hess Morrison, Steve*

*Playter, Jackie Reich, Jinx Smith, Barbara Taylor, office assistants*

### Church Board

*Tim Anderson*

*Erik Anderson*

*Sonia Anderson*

*Gail Buchanan*

*Bob Denman*

*Dave Gordon*

*Jan Hilton-Koepke*

*Susan Maitland*

*Joe Mandelert*

*Ruth Rosenow*

*Barb Shorrel*

*Barb Smith*

*Barry Boyer*

### Board of Deacons

*Verene Crane*

*Dick Kemp*

*Hannah Koepke*

*Margi Kohl*

*Barb Meredith*

*Patti Robarge*

*Patty Stiles*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Fellowship	2 9:00 am-Counting Team 3:00 pm-Drawing Grp 6:15 pm-Praise Team	3 9:30 am-Support Staff 4:00-The Open Door Clinic (Sanctuary open for prayer)	4 6:30-Optimist Breakfast 6:30 pm-Communications Team	5 12:00 pm-Men's Lunch 6:00 pm-Valley Art Assoc. Picnic	6	7
8 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Fellowship 5:00 pm-Small Group	9 9:00 am-Counting Team 3:00 pm-Drawing Grp 6:15 pm-Praise Team	10 9:30 am-Support Staff 11:00 am-Finance Team 4:00 pm-The Open Door Clinic 7:00 pm-Care, Share, Prayer	11 6:30 am-Optimist Bkfst 9:00 am-Painting Group	12	13 9:00 am- All Staff Meeting	14 9:30 am-Deacons
15 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Fellowship 5:00 pm-Small Group	16 9:00 am-Counting Team 3:00 pm-Drawing Group 6:15 pm-Praise Team	17 9:30 am-Support Staff 4:00 pm-The Open Door Clinic (Sanctuary open for prayer) 7:00 pm-Session	18 6:30 am-Optimist Bkfst 9:00 am-Painting Grp	19 7:00 pm-Presbyterian Men	20 9:00 am-All Staff Meeting	21
22 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Fellowship 5:00 pm-Small Group	23 9:00 am-Counting Team 3:00 pm-Drawing Grp 6:15 pm-Praise Team	24 9:30 am-Support Staff 4:00 pm-The Open Door Clinic 7:00 pm-Care, Share, Prayer	25 6:30 am-Optimist Bkfst 9:00 am-Painting Grp.	26	27 9:00 am-All Staff Meeting	28 1:30 pm-Ellen Devine / Joe Mandelert Wedding & Reception
29 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Fellowship 5:00 pm-Small Group	30 9:00 am-Counting Team 3:00 pm-Drawing Grp 6:15 pm-Praise Team					<b>June 2008</b>  (Page 4)

# June Schedules

## **June 1**

### **Ushers—**

Bruce & Jeanette Miller

### **Communion Servers—**

Bob Denman, Dave Gordon, Sue Maitland,  
Jan Hilton-Koepke, Joe Mandelert

### **Fellowship Hosts—**

Rosenow & Freeman families

### **Nursery—**

Barb Sutherland, Katie Page

### **Flower Providers—**

Hess Morrison in celebration of the  
birthdays of Matt & Jason Buckli

## **June 8**

### **Ushers—**

Joe Mandelert, Ellen Devine, Marlys  
Daniels, Tim Holmes

### **Fellowship Hosts—**

Deacon's Pot Luck

### **Nursery—**

Sara Abendroth, Lisa Tzanakis

### **Flower Providers—**

Hess Morrison in honor of Jeff Buckli's  
birthday and Deb & Jeff's anniversary

## **June 15**

### **Ushers—**

Paul & Wynne Cook

### **Fellowship Hosts—**

Mark & Marcie Myrman

### **Nursery—**

Rich Koepke & Hannah Koepke

### **Flower Providers—**

Arthur Schunk Jr. in memory of my father  
Arthur Schunk

## **June 22**

### **Ushers—**

Erik & Traci Anderson

### **Fellowship Hosts—**

Good News Gang Relay Team

### **Nursery—**

Alice Schmidt & Erika Cooley

### **Flowers Providers—**

Dick Kemp in celebration of Dick & June's  
anniversary on the 24th.

## **June 29**

### **Ushers—**

Tim & Sonia Anderson

### **Fellowship Hosts—**

Vance & Margi Kohl

### **Nursery—**

Wynne Cook & Jaime Ostrom

### **Flowers Providers—**

Vance & Margi Kohl in celebration of their  
golden anniversary today!

## Information from your Worship Leaders

At last, the weather, trees and flowers are bringing out the beauty of spring! We are past mid-May and the intense pace of this spring time increases as we look forward to several activities that are winding down. That isn't so with our spiritual life, this is something that is with us 52 weeks of the year.

As worship leaders our goal is to "Create a meaningful worship experience for everyone". In the past few months our congregation has done a lot of thinking, soul searching and several kinds of self examination as we have been challenged to look at how we worship and just what we believe. The changes the worship leaders have made were intended to make a smoother running worship service. We are interested in having input from all of you telling us what you think of our changes.

There is **one item that you can be assured of, the Sunday bulletin will not be eliminated!** As we adapt to the use of the video screens and other changes, the number of pages in the bulletin may decrease; but it won't disappear. Our bulletin is not only a key to following the worship service, but additionally is a source for up-to-date news of what is happening at our church. It also is mailed out to our members that are shut-ins, keeping them abreast of our activities. It is an important voice for all of us.

Please share with us your thoughts on these changes. With your help we can do it. Talk with Erik Anderson, Holly Gintz, Barb Smith or Jeannette Miller

## Hannah Koepke to General Assembly

During worship on June 8<sup>th</sup> we will commission Hannah Koepke to serve as Youth Advisory Delegate to the 218<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) From June 19 through 28, in San Jose, California, she will join a couple of hundred youth and several thousand adults from here and abroad in celebrating mission and making decisions about the future for our denomination. She is representing our Presbytery of Northern Waters; elected at its February meeting.

Hannah is a deacon in our church. She has attended worship regularly until recently because of work. She has been a stalwart in the nursery and the prime mover in our monthly potlucks after worship. We thank Bob Denman for suggesting Hannah for this position. The deacons have given Hannah some spending money. Hannah's other expenses are covered by the PCUSA.

Hannah's mother, elder Jan Hilton-Koepke, is also attending as an interested observer. Presbyterian Women have made a generous contribution to Jan's airfare. Together, Hannah and Jan have been scanning the tons of material provided in preparation for the assembly.

We will look forward to a full report when they return.

## Notes from around the church.....

### Library News...

Dear Readers - I believe "spring has sprung" and soon warm weather will be with us and then I'll be complaining that it's too hot.

I am excited about several things this month. Sara Abendroth loaned me the tape of Godspell which our church put on over 10 years ago. I watched it and loved it even though I didn't recognize a lot of the stars. What talent and dedication went into that play. Sara will loan the tape to anyone interested in watching it.

I found two books in the library and assume they are donations. One is Healing Ministry, A Practical Guide by Leo Thomas, O.P. This book looks like it might fall right in with Tom Bandy's suggestions. I shelved it at (14). Christian Caregiving, a Way of Life by Kenneth C. Haugk was in the library and Reid Kennedy's name is in the book so we thank him. It also follows Bandy's suggestions to some degree. It's also at (14).

Susan Boyer's brother, Mark Diers, is Manager at Borders and he generously donated 14 very interesting looking books. I won't try to tell you about all of them in this column but I'll get them on the shelves and tell you about a few each month. Our sincere thanks to Mark. Stories Behind Women of Extraordinary Faith by Ace Collins includes stories of Harriet Tubman, Mother Teresa, Lottie Moon and many others. It's (NON-FIC.) Chicken Soup for the Soul presents Teens Talkin' Faith is by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen and Michelle L. Trujillo. (17) I'm Fine with God...It's Christians I Can't Stand by Bruce Bickel and Stan Jantz looks like a very controversial book to me and I hope to read it before too long. It's at (17). In Lee Strobel's The Case For The Real Jesus, he investigates current attacks on the identity of Christ. Shelved at (6). It's no secret that I prefer fiction and read more for entertainment than knowledge. The fictions Mark picked out for us look like just what I like to read and I'm anxious to get to them. However, I already have lots of books waiting for my attention.

I hope you got to the party for the youngsters the last day of Faith Quest. They looked to be having a great time and it's just too bad more of them weren't there. And the hot dogs were good, too.

*Happy Reading - Your Librarian - Margi Kohl*

### Faith Quest News...

First off, a big thank you to all the kids who came to Sunday School throughout the year! We may be small in numbers, but we are big in fun! Sunday School will start back up in September. Hope everyone has a wonderful Summer. I have been asked if our church does a Summer Vacation Bible School. The answer is no. The reason being there are not enough children to justify a Summer Vacation Bible School. There are numerous Vacation Bible Schools at various local churches. Call Becky if you would like further information regarding Vacation Bible Schools at 723-6464.

Secondly, I would like to thank all the kids that came to our end of Sunday School Carnival!!! I think all that came enjoyed the hot dogs, caramel corn, cotton candy, and the healthy apples and carrots! The bounce house was a huge hit and I think there were some adults wishing they were just a little shorter! A special thank you to Sara Abendroth for her hard work on extra fun food and helping set up and clean up. Also to Jan, Hannah, and Lauren Koepke for helping with the kid games, handing out prizes, taking pictures, watching the kids and staying late to help clean up! We couldn't have done it without Sara, Jan, Hannah and Lauren's help. THANK YOU! Hopefully next year will be just as fun and crazy! Have a great summer and we will see you all in the fall.

*~Becky Hager & Karolynne Duffenbach*

### Address Changes...

Melissa Gutknecht  
W7771 Meadow Way  
Homan, WI 54636

Ali Knoll  
5716 N. Shore Dr.  
Eau Claire, WI 54703

“Dear Barry and congregation:

I just wanted to thank the church for sponsoring my table at the Excellence in Education Banquet. I had a great time with Mr. Norseng and Julia. I'd also like to thank you for the cross and card that I received. I really like the cross, it's very cool!

*~Laura Reich”*