



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

Inside this issue:

Memorials & Gifts	2
Focus Group Meetings	
Pastors Perspective	3
Calendar	4
Church Schedules	5
Worship Leaders General Assembly Delegate	6
Notes from around the Church Library News	7

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 worshipping 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!*

Office: 715.723.5717

Fax: 715.720.9460

Office manager:

fpc1admin@sbcglobal.net

Pastor: fpc1pastor@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.fpcchippewafalls.org

The Bell

Our church newsletter



Non-profit organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 241
Chippewa Falls, Wis.

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					June 2008 (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 8th we will commission Hannah Koepke to serve as Youth Advisory Delegate to the 218th 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”