



The Bell

May 2008

FIRST
Presbyterian
CHURCH

The Bell
A monthly newsletter

Worship Leaders Team...

One of the goals of your Worship Leaders team is that everyone should have a meaningful worship experience. To reach for this goal all worship leaders spend considerable time planning and putting together their service. We generally meet twice a month to discuss upcoming services, to coordinate the theme, music, and children's time. Additionally Barry leads a study session to better assist us in understanding and relating to the focus of that Sunday.

The newest challenge to worship leaders and the tech people is working with our Sunday Plus software. As worship leader on Easter Sunday it was a joy to see the congregation with their faces uplifted and singing to the glory of God. (Yes there were more people attending, but the volume of joyful singing was higher than one would expect.) It is definitely better to have worshipers looking at the screen and projecting voices out into the sanctuary rather than into a hymnal that absorbs the sound. As we learn to use these visual aids please speak up and ask questions or tell us what you think. This is what will help us create a service that is meaningful and enriching.

As a reflection on our goal of having worship be meaningful for those worshipping, it was brought to my attention that the church needed more large print hymnals. If concerns or problems are brought to people's attention, frequently they can be resolved. One problem I found is the large print hymnals look like all the other hymnals and there was no way to quickly spot them if someone wanted one. The concern was passed on to the sanctuary committee and they came up with a solution. All large print hymnals are now clearly marked with a bright red ribbon on the front of the hymnal. This makes it much easier to spot them for the worshipers and for those ushering.

In closing, as we try new things and you notice some changes, remember, we are striving to make your worship time meaningful and enriching. If you have questions or concerns please talk with any of the worship leaders. Jeannette Miller, chair; Erik Anderson, Holly Gintz, Barb Smith, Marcia Wirt, Paul Kosower, or Barry. The computer technicians are Rick Koepke, Angela Christensen and Jim Mandelert. Remember, all this work is done to the Glory of God.

Yours in Christ, Jeannette Miller, chair, Worship Leaders Team

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Points of Interest

Fishing Contest May 3
is open to all!

Excellence in
Education Banquet
May 7

Memorials and Gifts

(Through April 15)

Food Pantry

Tom & Jo Knoble
Andy & Patti Robarge

Endowment Fund

Dave & Connie Cooley

Flowers

Dick & Julie Stafford
Chuck & Chris Norseng
Barbara Wilcox
Bob & Melyssa Heintz

Per Capita

Richard & Julie Stafford
Paul & Bev Ippel

Memorials

Barry & Susan Boyer

OGHS Offering

Ellen Devine
Fred & Barb Cook
Barry & Susan Boyer
Peter Boyer
Marlys Daniels
Bob & Lea Dirks
Karen Elstran
Dick & Esther Frazier
Bob & Virginia Koepsel
Vance & Margi Kohl
Susan Maitland
Bob & Barb Meredith
Hess Morrison
Chuck & Marge Nichols
Chuck & Chris Norseng
Richard & Ruth Rosenow
Barbara Wilcox
Gail Willi
Marcia Wirt

Notice to all who make purchases for church-related needs from Gordy's County Market or Gordy's True Value Hardware...

As of June 1, there will be a new charge account at both of these stores. The old one will be cancelled. Please see the article on page 8 about the new procedure. If you have questions, please contact Barb Shorrel at 723-3966 (cell 563-4731).

Why? The Finance Team is trying to make our procedures more efficient. Reconciling the Gordy's statements with receipts has been a time-consuming process for the office staff. We hope that this new procedure will solve this problem.

Please do your best to follow the steps outlined in the insert. As always, call Barb or Dave on the Finance Team if you have any concerns. Let us know when you have a particular problem with any financial procedure so that we may look at it and make it better. Thanks for your cooperation.

Open Door Clinic Celebrates Two Years

Since that first clinic night on April 18 2006, the Open Door Clinic has had over 2200 visits by over 700 different people. We are now seeing between 25 and 30 patients most nights (our record is 37). It is all possible because of a wonderful group of volunteers willing to share their time and talent as well as many in our church and community willing give financial support.

A few weeks ago our very first patient, whose chart was # 000001 (we are now on chart # 000721), came up to me to tell me it would be her last visit. She is turning 65 and will be eligible for Medicare. She asked me to thank everyone involved in the clinic for the wonderful care she had received over the last 2 years "everyone has been real good to me". That same night we had 7 new patients who had never been to our clinic before.

The need continues. Thank you for continuing to support the clinic.

Deb Bieging

Pastor's Perspective

Keeping Transformation Going

On Saturday, April 5, thirty-two church members attended a day-long meeting to launch our work in establishing a new identity as we transform from a declining church to a thriving congregation. Key parts of our new identity will be our values, beliefs, vision and mission. These are the pieces that, knitted together, will help us be clear about who we are and where we are going as a congregation. The group worked hard, had fun and was very productive. We are grateful to St. Joseph's Hospital for providing a room and refreshments for us.

Identity-formation now rests in the hands of Gail Buchanan, Kathi Mandelert and Pat Linden as they involve you and others in further discerning these building blocks for our future: our core values, bedrock beliefs, motivating vision and mission. This will be the framework for congregational life and growth. As we work through this together, we will shape an identity that we can all accept and grow into. The management team's goal is to have these four pieces in a useful form by October. There are several steps to take before then and they will lead the way.

In late March, we received the final report and recommendations from Rev. Tom Bandy, our consultant who has worked with us since mid-winter. The session has read through the report and recommendations of the Bandy report and will have a special meeting to discuss it on May 3 or 4. We found that the report has recommendations that greatly affect each of our staff members. It was critical that each one of them have a chance to see the report, as it relates to them, and be reassured that, so far, everything is being treated as recommendations. As of April 20, that has been accomplished. Now the session feels it can share more with the congregation.

In addition to the staff recommendations, the report sets out a course of action over the next couple of years. This includes things like starting a second worship service on Sunday mornings; developing a strong system of small groups; and identifying a signature outreach ministry (the clinic does not fit here because it is not a ministry of our church).

Deeper faith formation is a strong undercurrent in all of the recommendations. We need to move beyond being good church people to becoming fully-devoted disciples of Jesus Christ. Many are discovering what it means to have Jesus in your heart.

I am amazed at how many of our church members are responding to this clarion call for transformation. I hear it in your voices, see it in your faces and sense it in your growing commitment to spiritual formation. Several synonyms arose at the meeting on the 5th – including reawakening, growth, discovery, journey, hunger, and sponge (as in soaking up God's Word and love and then giving it back with a little nudge or squeeze).

We should all be encouraged by new life in our session, too. They have added new members, reorganized and reinvigorated a committee system, incorporated a new meeting style, and members are readily sharing thoughts and ideas. Emails are flying and I am having a hard time keeping up!

I do appreciate your patience with the session as they work through the consultant's report. Having shared first with the staff, the session will find ways to help all of us understand the content and put it to good use.

We are at a pivotal point in the life story of our congregation. It is true that we could fall flat on our faces; never to get up again. But what I believe will happen is that we will take Jesus' hand and allow him to lead us into the promised land. A land populated by disciples and seekers growing in the love of the Lord, filled with servants of a motivating vision and strategic mission. The people will be coached and mentored by gifted leaders. And as we take Jesus' hand, we will stretch to take the hands of the broken, the lost, the lonely, anxious, victimized and the thankful, and introduce them to Jesus. We will become a vital and thriving congregation.

- Barry

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: center;">May 2008</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Page 4)</p>				1 12:00 pm-Men's Lunch	2 5:30 pm-Wedding Rehearsal	3 Fishing Contest 3:30 pm-Andrea Pugh/ Steve Brovold wedding
4 9:30 am-Worship 10:00 am-Faith Quest 10:30 am-Fellowship 2:15 pm-Piano Recital 4:00 pm-Small Group	5 3:00 pm-Drawing Grp 6:15 pm-Praise Team	6 9:30 am-Support Staff 11:00 am-Finance Team 4:00 pm-The Open Door Clinic (Sanctuary open for prayer) 7:00 pm-Worship Leaders	7 6:30 am-Optimist Brkfst 6:00 pm-Communication Team 6:30 pm-Celebration Singers 6:30 pm-Excellence in Education Banquet	8 2:00 pm-Mae Rowan Service 5:30 pm-Clinic Board	9 9:00 am-All Staff	10 9:30 am-Deacons 6:00 pm-Peace Lutheran Worship-EC
11 Mother's Day Pentecost 9:30 am-Worship 10:00 am-Faith Quest 10:30 am-Fellowship 5:00 pm-Small Group	12 3:00 pm-Drawing Group 6:15 pm-Praise Team	13 9:30 am-Support Staff 4:00 pm-The Open Door Clinic 7:00 pm-Care, Share, Prayer	14 6:30 am-Optimist Brkfst 9:00 am-Painting Grp 6:30 pm-Celebration Singers (last rehearsal)	15 Presbytery Meeting @ Two Harbors 9:15 am-PW/Bible Study 7:00 pm-Presbyterian Men	16 9:00 am-All Staff	17
18 9:30 am-Worship 10:00 am-Faith Quest (last day) 10:30 am-Fellowship 4:00 pm-Small Group	19 3:00 pm-Drawing Grp 6:15 pm-Praise Team	20 9:30 am-Support Staff 4:00 pm-The Open Door Clinic (Sanctuary open for prayer) 7:00 pm-Session	21 6:30 am-Optimist Brkfst 9:00 am-Painting Grp	22	23 9:00 am-All Staff	24
25 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Fellowship 4:00 pm-Small Group	26 Memorial Day Office Closed	27 9:30 am-Support Staff 4:00 pm-The Open Door Clinic 7:00 pm-Care, Share, Prayer	28 6:30 am-Optimist Brkfst 9:00 am-Painting Grp	29	30 9:00 am-All Staff	31

May Schedules

May 4

Ushers—

Confirmation Class

Communion Servers—

Tim Anderson, Gail Buchanan, Bob Denman, Dave Gordon

Fellowship Hosts—

Koepke Family

Nursery—

Bev Ippel, Jenna Facklam

Flower Providers—

Gary & Barb Shorrel in celebration of the marriage of Kelly Shorrel & Rob Kress on May 3.

May 11

Ushers—

Pat Linden, Tom Knoble, Chuck Nichols

Communion Servers—

Jan Hilton-Koepke, Sue Maitland, Joe Mandelert, Ruth Rosenow, Barb Shorrel, Barb Smith

Fellowship Hosts—

Susan Boyer

Nursery—

Sara Abendroth, Jo Knoble

Flower Providers—

Kathi Mandelert to celebrate Jim's birthday today

May 18

Ushers—

Sue Maitland, Anne Welke, Jean Lewis

Communion Servers—

Erik Anderson, Sonia Anderson, Tim Anderson, Gail Buchanan

Fellowship Hosts—

George & Sara Abendroth

Nursery—

Sonia Anderson & Hannah Koepke

Flower Providers—

Dick Kemp in celebration of June's birthday on May 17.

May 25

Ushers—

George & Sara Abendroth

Fellowship Hosts—

Jo & Tom Knoble

Nursery—

Ann Gordon & Christine Tzanakis

Flowers Providers—

Esther & Richard Frazier

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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Our church newsletter



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Gordy's Receipts Quarterly Report

Barb Wilcox turned in receipts from Gordy's for the first quarter of this year adding \$415 of income to our church budget. **We can do better.**

Remember to turn in your receipts from purchases made at any of Gordy's stores excluding the gas station. That includes purchases made at any of the grocery stores, hardware stores, and the greenhouse.

Barb appreciates that you have been keeping the receipts flat instead of rolling them up. We hope that you have found a method of remembering and turning in the receipts that works for you.

If you haven't been doing this, get on board.

And a big thank you to Gordy!

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	

*Care,
Share,
and Prayer*

*Come-meet in the chancel of the sanctuary.
We care for one another by listening.
We share our needs and wants for ourselves and others.
Our prayers are made together.*

*Scripture is read. Soft music plays.
A candle burns. Silence is appreciated.
The sacrament of communion is often celebrated.
God's presence is usually felt.
There might be two or ten or more of us.*

*You are welcome and encouraged to come.
Please bring a friend. Churchy or not, all are made to feel needed and included.*

*Care, Share and Prayer is on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at
7:00 pm
Come in the narthex door. You will hear the music.
You may notice the aroma of incense.*

Notes from around the church.....

Library News...

Dear Readers: As I write this on April 9, the snow is nearly gone and more is in the forecast. I've heard lots of theories but still don't know why an adult female cardinal insists on launching herself into our picture window all morning every morning. Definitely not one of the joys of spring.

I have a few books this time that I'm excited about. Gail Willi was so impressed by an author that she heard on tv one day that she suggested we buy his book for the library. His name is Randall Balmer and the book is *God In The Whitehouse: How Faith Shaped the Presidency from John F. Kennedy to George W. bush*. This looks like a very good book. Gail purchased it and is donating it to the library when she has finished reading it. Maybe she'll give us further information on it. It will be shelved NON FIC. Thanks, Gail.

Ginny Koepsel donated a copy of Jan Karon's *Home to Holly Springs*. For those of us who enjoyed the *Mitford Series*, this is good news. Ginny wasn't sure she liked it so I had to read it immediately. This book is very different from the *Mitford Series* and I did like it. It turns out Father Tim had a strange and very complicated childhood and his trip back home to Holly Springs is full of surprises. I think you'll like it. This is FIC. Thanks, Ginny.

Someone left a copy of *The Will of God* by Leslie D. Weatherhead. He declares that the phrase "the will of God" is used too loosely. It's shelved at 21.

Next month I'll have another book to tell you about which follows the trilogy Esther Frazier wrote about last month. Maybe she will have read the new one and will report again.

Enjoy spring.

Happy reading - your librarian - Margi Kohl

Reminder . . . It is necessary to use separate checks for the Operating Mission Fund, Mortgage Retirement Fund and/or Restricted Funds. Using the designated envelopes (in your box of offering envelopes) for each Fund assures that your contribution will be recorded correctly. Thank you.

Nursery News...

Thanks, again, to all the wonderful nursery volunteers! You are appreciated by me and all the parents and grandparents of young children -- visitors and members!

Just a reminder -- if you cannot serve on your scheduled Sunday, switch with another volunteer. If you cannot find someone who can switch with you, call me (382-4322). Please do not just leave a message for me as I may be out-of-town, but then call the church office and request that a sign be placed on the nursery door to alert parents that the nursery will be not be staffed for the day. I hope this won't happen too often -- most volunteers are very willing to switch Sundays! Thank you so much!

~Sara Abendroth

Food Pantry Needs...

We maintain an active food pantry here at the Church. Donations of non-perishable food items or cash are appreciated. You may place your donated food items in the Food Pantry 'bucket' in the narthex. *We are currently in need of ...Boxed or packaged food items are a wonderful addition to canned foods: Mac & cheese, hamburger helper, pasta salads, pasta casseroles, bags of plain pasta and/or cereal. Many appreciate your contributions; many offer their thanks!*

Address Changes...

Rick Koepke correct e-mail:
koepker@charter.net

Laura Stearns
15971 Flotilla Trl
St. Paul, MN 55124

To all members of First Presbyterian Church:

We have chosen to no longer use the verbal charge number at Gordy's. Please follow the new procedure outlined below. Please help us by educating yourself about which budgeted line item your purchase(s) will be charged. Copies of the budget will be included with the charge card. This information is needed to accurately complete the voucher. All purchasers of goods and services must submit a voucher to the Office Manager for all purchases.

To make a purchase at Gordy's County Market or Gordy's True Value, please follow one of the procedures listed below. If you are making a purchase for Presbyterian Women or Presbyterian Men, please see your treasurer for instructions.

Thank you.

Your Finance Team

How to make a purchase at Gordy's County Market or Gordy's True Value using the account charge card:

1. You will notify the Office Manager (Cherie) via phone, email, or by stopping in the office that you need the charge card. If you expect to pick up the card after office hours, you must arrange a pick up place and time with Cherie.
2. Be sure to know the answer to the following questions. If not, ask.
 - What is the line item of the budget for this purchase?
 - Will you need more than one voucher, one for the hardware store and one for the grocery store?
3. You will receive the card and a voucher in an envelope.
4. After you have made your purchases, fill out the voucher. Note the line item of the budget and sign your name on the receipt.
5. Return the charge card, the completed voucher, and the receipts signed by you to the church office in the envelope provided.
6. If the office is closed, put the envelope in the mail slot next to the secretary's door.
7. **Cards are not to be kept.**

How to be reimbursed for purchases made using your own funds for purchases:

1. Be sure to tell Gordy's that this purchase is for First Presbyterian Church and that this would be tax exempt. They have that number on file.
2. Make your purchases being sure to keep all receipts.
3. Obtain a voucher. (They are saved on the copier at church. However, if you are making purchases often, keep a supply on hand.)
4. Fill out the voucher completely. **Include each line item from the budget for the purchases made.** If you are unsure, please contact the Office Manager or a member of the Finance Team.
5. Sign the receipts.
6. Return the completed voucher and the signed receipts to the church office.
7. Vouchers submitted by 8:00 am on Tuesday will be paid Wednesday and in the mail on Thursday except holiday weeks. Please have your reimbursement requests in the office as soon as possible after the purchase so that any questions that arise may be resolved quickly.