



# The Bell

March 2008

FIRST  
Presbyterian  
CHURCH

The Bell  
A monthly newsletter

## Weekend Schedule with Tom Bandy

Feb 29- Mar 2      Friday morning through Sunday evening

**Friday** 9:00 All church staff

12:00 Worship team leaders

4:00 Women of the church

6:00 Fish fry and general presentation to the congregation

**Saturday** 8:00 Men of the church w/ coffee and rolls

9:30 Deacons and shepherds

10:30 Session w/ lunch

1:30 Individuals ?

**Sunday** 9:30 Mr. Bandy will preach for our worship service

10:45 Informal discussion in sanctuary

11:30 Light lunch (catered) in Fellowship Hall

12:00 or 12:30 Presentation to congregation summary/  
recommendations

3:00 Small group ministry

6:30 Presentation to area clergy and others

### Inside this issue:

Memorials & Gifts	2
Pastors Perspective	3
Calendar	4
Church Schedules	5
Brief Notes	6
Notes from around the Church Library News	7
Easter Lily Order Form	8
Youth News	9

### Points of Interest

Thrift Sale March 7-8

Youth Pancake  
Breakfast March 16

Easter Sunrise service  
set for 7:03 am.

## **Memorials and Gifts**

(Through Feb. 19)

### **Deacons Fund**

George & Sara Abendroth

### **Food Pantry**

Tom & Jo Knoble

### **Endowment Fund**

Ray & Patricia Andress

Steve Playter & Jinx Smith

Dave & Ann Gordon

### **Designated Gift**

Chuck & Chris Norseng

### **Flowers**

Bob & Verene Crane

Bob & Barb Meredith

### **Per Capita**

Jim & Kathi Mandelert

Larry Annett & Linda Franzel-Annett

Corinne & Earl Boos

Joe Mandelert

Jaime Ostrom

Chuck & Chris Norseng

Jon Behling & Sandi Frohling

Louis & Julie Rogers

Lorraine Gilbertson

Amy Horak

Dale & Mavis Babbitt

Bob & Barb Meredith

Matt & Sara Boughton

Barry & Susan Boyer

Peter Boyer

Holly Gintz

Eric & Julie Haglund

Marlys Daniels

George & Sara Abendroth

Paul & Wynne Cook

Ellen Devine

Hess Morrison

Chuck & Marge Nichols

Barbara Sutherland

Mike & Barb Tzanakis

Barb Wilcox

### **Memorials**

Anne Welke

Dick & June Kemp

Joe Mandelert

Doug & Bonnie Gullickson

# SAVE YOUR GORDY'S RECEIPTS

Save your receipts from Gordy's Country Market and Gordy's Ace Hardware. When we turn these in to Gordy's, we receive 1% of the total. That can add up to a very pretty figure on the income side of our budget. This money goes into the Operating/Mission Fund. It used to go to the Youth, but we now finance some of their activities through the Operating/Mission Fund.

A big thank you to Barb Wilcox who tallies the donated receipts four times per year (March, June, September, and December). This is a time-consuming task.

Here are some suggestions to help you remember to save those receipts and how to get them ready for Barb to tally.

- ❖ Have a designated place. When you come home from shopping, have a special envelope near where you put your groceries away (maybe on the fridge). Put the receipt in the envelope right away. (You can even use a recycled junk mail envelope—go green!)
- ❖ Please don't roll the receipts. They need to be flat so that they can be stacked.
- ❖ Get in the habit. The more often you remember to do something, the more often you will do it. Profound, huh?
- ❖ Make it a part of your grocery/hardware list.
- ❖ Periodically bring them to the church and put them in the box marked for them. It is usually out in Fellowship Hall on Sunday. If you can't find it, ask someone; or put the slips in an envelope in the office drop box.

Let's make it our goal to do this and see how much we can earn. We'll report back to you in the April Bell.



## **How are we doing on Per Capita?**

Thank you to all who have paid their per capita for 2008. We have received per capita donations from 57 households in our congregation. This represents about 42% of the households. These donations totaled \$2550. Our total commitment to the Presbytery for the year is \$6020. For each person on our membership role, including confirmed students, we owe \$25.

## Pastor's Perspective

Interest is building in developing a small group ministry for our church. A couple of gatherings at the Boyer home have brought together people who are expressing their interest in small group life and building community. Here is a working definition of a small group in the life of a church:

“A Christian small group is an intentional face to face gathering of three to twelve people on a regular time schedule with a common purpose of discovering and growing in the possibilities of the abundant life in Christ.” (Roberta Hestenes in Building Christian Community through Small Groups)

A couple of weeks ago I asked our worshippers to read a brief article on evangelism. It showed results of a four-year study of churches such as ours. It looked for growing churches and found that the great majority that were experiencing growth were those whose people could talk about and show the love of God. It was also found that most churches had numerous small groups. The groups all follow similar patterns. They meet regularly; and they pray, seek spiritual growth, build relationships, and share in an activity. Small groups are a place where people learn about the love of God and learn how to let others in on the secret that shouldn't be a secret!

Our consultant, Tom Bandy, talks about entry points into the life of a congregation. For people to join with us in worship and ministry, there have to be multiple ways to come into the fellowship. It used to be almost exclusively through a Sunday morning service. If you read the results of surveys by the Pew Foundation, published just this week in local newspapers, you will see that many of the old patterns are ineffective. We can no longer expect that folks will join us, or even visit us, just because we think they should want to.

Small groups, multiple worship services, mission activities – all provide different ways for people to connect with a congregation. For the most part, small groups are meant to grow and multiply. And, normally, they do. There is a preponderance of evidence that many unchurched people are drawn to Christ through the life and love of a small group.

The Pew Surveys says that people are not drawn to denominational churches.

They (Presbyterians included) are often inflexible, protective of old patterns and ways, looking inward more than outward, and lack enthusiasm for sharing some great news about a loving God and Christ that provide welcome relief from – you name it.

Mr. Bandy will address all of this during his visit with us. By now, you know the dates – Friday, Feb 29 – Sunday, Mar 2. A schedule of his time has been sent to all members.

Please take advantage of the many ways to learn how we might begin to be different and become more effective in our ministry. Let's make this church one that turns the corner and moves toward Christ and with Christ in mission.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:30 am-Worship 10:00 am-Faith Quest 11:30 am—Catered Lunch 12:00 pm-Tom Bandy Presentation 6:30 pm-Bandy Meets w/area clergy	3 3:00 pm-Drawing Grp 6:15 pm-Praise Team	4 10:00 am-Support Staff 4:00 pm-The Open Door Clinic (Sanctuary open for prayer)	5 6:30 am-Optimist Bkfst 9:00 am-Thrift Sale setup 4:00 pm-Confirmation & Combined yG 5:30 pm-Youth parent mtg & meal 6:30 pm-yG Mission Trip 6:30 pm—Celebration Singers	6 9:00 am—Thrift Sale setup 12:00 pm-Men’s Lunch	7 9:00 am-All Staff Meeting 9:00 am-4:00 pm-Thrift Sale 9:00 pm—yG Movies and lock-in.	8 9:00 am to Noon—Thrift Sale
9 9:30 am-Worship 10:00 am-Faith Quest 10:30 am-Fellowship	10 Home Communion 3:00 pm-Drawing Grp 6:15 pm-Praise Team	11 10:00 am-Support Staff 4:00 pm-The Open Door Clinic 7:00 pm-Care, Share, Prayer	12 6:30 am-Optimist Bkfst 9:00 am-Painting Group 4:00 pm-Confirmation & Combined yG 6:30 pm-Celebration Singers	13	14 9:00 am– All Staff Meeting	15 9:30 am-Deacons Mtg.
16 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 8:30 am-yG Pancake Breakfast 9:30 am-Worship 10:00 am-Faith Quest 10:30 am-Fellowship	17 3:00 pm-Drawing Group 6:15 pm-Praise Team	18 10:00 am-Support Staff 4:00 pm-The Open Door Clinic (Sanctuary open for prayer) 7:00 pm-Session	19 6:30 am-Optimist Bkfst 9:00 am-Painting Grp 6:30 pm—Celebration Singers	20 9:15 am-PW/Bible Study 7:00 pm-Presbyterian Men 7:00-Maundy Thursday @ Trinity Methodist	21 9:00 am-All Staff Meeting 10:00am-Good Friday @ Chippewa Manor 12:30 pm-Good Friday @ Central Lutheran	22 Easter Vigil Begins
23 <b>Easter Sunday</b> 7:03 am-Sunrise Service @ Mandelert deck 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Fellowship	24 3:00 pm-Drawing Grp 6:15 pm-Praise Team	25 10:00 am-Support Staff 4:00 pm-The Open Door Clinic 7:00 pm-Care, Share, Prayer	26 6:30 am-Optimist Bkfst 9:00 am-Painting Grp. 4:00 pm-Confirmation & Combined yG 6:30 pm-Celebration Singers	27	28 9:00 am-All Staff Meeting	29
30 9:30 am-Worship 10:00 am-Faith Quest 10:30 am-Fellowship	31 3:00 pm-Drawing Grp 6:15 pm-Praise Team					<b>March 2008</b>  (Page 4)

# March Schedules

## **March 2**

### **Ushers—**

Joyce Pugh, Patricia Pople

### **Communion Servers—**

Dave Gordon, Jan Hilton-Koepke, Sue Maitland, Joe Mandelert, Ruth Rosenow

### **Fellowship Hosts—**

Patty & Roger Stiles

### **Nursery—**

Sandi Frohling, Lisa Tzanakis

### **Flower Providers—**

Doug & Bonnie Gullickson and Elaine Thompson in memory of Mabel Viets.

## **March 5**

**Snacks @ 4:00—**Haglund Family

## **March 9**

### **Ushers—**

Mark & Kathy Borofka

### **Communion Servers—**

Barb Shorrel, Barb Smith, Erik Anderson, Sonia Anderson, Tim Anderson

### **Fellowship Hosts—**

Chuck & Chris Norseng

### **Nursery—**

Gary & Laura Reich

### **Flower Providers—**

Verene Crane praising God for six family birthdays.

## **March 12**

**Snacks @ 4:00—**Samse Family

## **March 16**

### **Ushers—**

Dick & June Kemp

### **Communion Servers—**

Gail Buchanan, Bob Denman, Dave Gordon, Jan Hilton-Koepke, Sue Maitland

### **Fellowship Hosts—**

Ann & Dave Gordon

### **Nursery—**

Bob & Lindsey Wundrow

### **Flower Providers—**

Patti & Andy Robarge for family and friends.

## **March 23**

### **Ushers—**

Doug & Bonnie Gullickson, Connie Cooley

### **Communion Servers—**

Joe Mandelert, Ruth Rosenow, Barb Shorrel, Barb Smith, Erik Anderson, Sonia Anderson

### **Fellowship Hosts—**

TBD

### **Nursery—**

Not staffed, room open to parents

### **Flowers Providers—**

Robert & Melyssa Heintz - celebrating Spring.

## **March 26**

**Snacks @ 4:00—**Beighley Family

**Cooking Team—**Andy & Patti Robarge,

Melyssa Heintz—Baked Potato Bar

## **March 30**

### **Ushers—**

Rick & Jan Koepke

### **Communion Servers—**

Tim Anderson, Gail Buchanan, Bob Denman, Dave Gordon

### **Fellowship Hosts—**

Pat & Michael Linden

### **Nursery—**

Ruth Rosenow, Katie Page

### **Flowers Providers—**

Verene Crane

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



**RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED**

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

## **THRIFT SALE!**

**First Presbyterian Church  
130 W. Central**

**Friday, March 7—9 to 4  
Saturday, March 8—9 to 12**

**NO EARLY SALES!**

**Good used clothing, shoes, books,  
magazines, toys, kitchen ware,  
Boutique items and  
much miscellaneous.**

### **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  
Joe Gunn, 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**

<i>Tim Anderson</i>	<i>Erik Anderson</i>
<i>Sonia Anderson</i>	<i>Gail Buchanan</i>
<i>Bob Denman</i>	<i>Dave Gordon</i>
<i>Jan Hilton-Koepke</i>	<i>Susan Maitland</i>
<i>Joe Mandelert</i>	<i>Ruth Rosenow</i>
<i>Barb Shorrel</i>	<i>Barb Smith</i>

*Barry Boyer*

### **Board of Deacons**

<i>Verene Crane</i>	<i>Dick Kemp</i>
<i>Hannah Koepke</i>	<i>Margi Kohl</i>
<i>Barb Meredith</i>	<i>Patti Robarge</i>
<i>Patty Stiles</i>	

## Brief Notes

### SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET DRIVE 2008

Thank you to all who have responded to our plea for additional funds for the Operating/Mission Fund. Cherie tells me that she has received inquiries on how to proceed. If you wish to give an extra amount beyond what you indicated on your estimate of giving card, please write the check to First Presbyterian Church and on the memo line indicate Budget Drive '08.

### 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.

### THE SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION

Is extended to the family of Helen Barnes. Helen died February 5 at Wissota Health. The funeral service was held in our sanctuary, with burial at Calvary Cemetery. Husband Bill and the entire family is very grateful for the loving friendships held with many in our congregation over so many years. If you wish to send cards to Bill and the family, please use the following address: Greg Barnes, 6925 South Shore Drive, Altoona, WI 54720

### NURSERY SCHEDULE

Nursery volunteer staffing schedule for the next 6 months has been mailed to all Nursery Attendants and helpers. The currently published schedule goes through the end of August 2008. New helpers are always welcome in our midst, so please feel free to call Sara Abendroth 382-4322 (sfabendroth@yahoo.com) with the new names of people who might like to help out. Nursery attendants and helpers are asked to be in the nursery by 9:10 am. \*Nursery is for infants through age 2. (Since physical space in the room is limited, and the activity and busyness of older children can sometimes be too much for the babies, children age 3 and older will be allowed only if there is enough room, enough staff, and they are well behaved. This is at the discretion of the volunteers.) Once again, THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

### POTLUCK SUCCESS

A big thanks goes out to everyone who brought food and helped out at the potluck on Sunday, February 10, especially Erik Anderson who ran the dishwasher.! Quite a large crowd participated, especially with the weather being so cold. There was plenty of food and desserts, and everything went great ~ *Hannah Koepke, deacon*

## Congratulations!!!

The mortgage has been refinanced with Northwestern Bank and our monthly payments for the next three years will be \$4,050 per month. This is down from the \$6,000 per month we have paid for the last three years.

This is a result of our congregation's generosity and desire to reduce our indebtedness so we reduced the interest we will pay on our remodeling costs. During the last 13 months besides making our monthly mortgage payments we reduced the principal by \$163,000.

This was made possible by the payments to the 2005-2007 Building Fund contributions and early payment of pledges to the 2008 building fund campaign. Based on commitments made to the 2008 Retire the Mortgage Fund in addition to making monthly mortgage payments we should have funds to reduce the principal this year by about \$120,000.

This will have a major impact again on the monthly payments and should reduce them to about \$3,000 per month. This is important because in 2009 Session has decided to include our mortgage payments in the Mission and Operating Budget. This will require our 2009 stewardship campaign will need to raise an additional \$36,000.

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

### Library News...

Dear Readers - I still love winter but I'm ready for some above zero readings in the mornings. It's a good time for me to sit and read though. Right now, I'm working my way through the recommended reading pertinent to Tom Bandy's visit. I'm just finishing *If It Could Happen Here* and then I'll be on to *Kicking Habits* and *The Uncommon Lectionary*. With a little luck (and speed) I'll get done before he gets here. However, these would be good reading after his visit, too. I think we should all read them and there are copies of most at church.

We had a very generous anonymous gift of children's books and we thank whoever donated them. Look for *Devotions for the Sandbox Set* by Jane Morton, *Little Golden Books' Prayers for Children*, *Jesus is For Me* by Christine Tangvald, *The 11th Commandment* by the Children of America, *You Are Special* by Max Lucado. (26) Also given by this donor, see *Win Grins* and *Influence Little People* by Clint Kelly (19), *God Came Near* by Max Lucado (18) plus the *Prayer of Jabez* and *Secrets of the Vine* by Bruce Wilkinson (12). I have read *The Prayer of Jabez* more than once and I'm not sure I understand it. Read it and help me out.

Prayer by Philip Yancey (12) was left anonymously in the library. While I haven't had time to read it, I intend to do so. I think many of us are totally unsure of how we should pray and I hope this has some answers. Some questions are "If God knows everything, what's the point of prayer?" and "does God hear our prayers even if we aren't particularly sincere or original?"

I'm two issues behind in reading my *Readers Digest* and *Taste of Home* magazines. Is there someone I could share them with when I've finished? I hate just dropping them into the recycling and I haven't room to store them.

Enjoy winter and remember spring is just around the corner.

*Happy Reading! Margi Kohl, your librarian*

\* \* \* \* \*

### Calling all Faith Quest Kids...

Colds, flu, snow'd in, below zero weather—it's been a rough winter. GOOD NEWS! The Lenten season has begun! "LENT" is derived from the middle english "LENTE", which means SPRINGTIME! Lent is the 40 days before Easter, for repentance and renewal. Come to Sunday School and let's prepare for Easter TOGETHER!

*Love in Christ, Becky & Karolynne*



At the Ash  
Wednesday service  
with Trinity  
Methodist we  
collected \$359.25 for  
Habitat for  
Humanity.

### Address Change:

Gretchen Groseth  
Chippewa Manor Nursing Home #212  
222 Chapman Rd.  
Chippewa Falls WI 54729

Help Wanted—

Wednesday, March 5 and Thursday  
March 6, setting up for the Thrift  
Sale. Work starts around 9 am each  
day. See you there!