



The Bell

March 2009

FIRST
Presbyterian
CHURCH

The Bell
A monthly newsletter

Worship in March

Sunday March 1 9:30 AM

1st Sunday in Lent

Worship Leader ~ Barry Boyer

Faith Sharing ~ "Welcoming One Another"

Text ~ John 15:7

Communion, Gary Polden, Musician

Sunday March 8 9:30 AM

2nd Sunday in Lent

Worship Leader ~ Jeannette Miller

Faith Sharing ~ "Be Subject to One Another"

Text ~ Ephesians 5:21, Philippians 2:1-8

Baptism, Communion

Kathy Tanner, musician

Sunday March 15 9:30 AM

3rd Sunday in Lent

Worship Leader ~ Erik Anderson

Faith Sharing ~ "Be Subject to One Another" (pt 2)

Text ~ Ephesians 5:21, Philippians 2:1-8

Communion, Barb Sandford, Musician

Sunday March 22 9:30 AM

4th Sunday in Lent

Worship Leader ~ Holly Gintz

Faith Sharing ~ "Forbear One Another (Part 1)

Text ~ Ephesians 4:2, Psalm 78:37-39, Romans 3:21-26

Communion. Gary Polden, musician

Sunday, March 29 9:30 AM

5th Sunday in Lent

Worship Leader ~ Barry Boyer

Faith Sharing ~ "Forbear One Another" (part 2)

Text ~ Ephesians 4:2, Psalm 78:37-39, Romans 3:21-26

Communion

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Points of Interest

Annual Thrift Sale is
March 6 & 7

New directory to be
published in March.

Memorials and Gifts

(Through March 15)

Food Pantry

Jo Knoble
Karla Stein
Linda Schreiber

Deacons Fund

Jim & Kathi Mandelert
Linda Schreiber
Art Schunk & Joyce Pugh
Paul & Wynne Cook

Flowers

Vance & Margi Kohl
Roger & Patty Stiles
Bob & Melyssa Heintz

Memorials

Sally Glasener
Barry & Susan Boyer
Steve Playter & Jinx Smith
Chuck & Chris Norseng
Mark & Marcie Myrman

Mortgage Retirement Fund

Dick & June Kemp

Endowment Fund

Dorothy Munds
Richard & Barbara Hedrington
Bob & Barb Meredith
Dick & Julie Stafford
George & Sara Abendroth
Hess Morrison
Joane Knoble
Roger & Mardi Lebeis
Ray & Pat Andress
Vance & Margi Kohl
Dale & Mavis Babbitt
Bob & Lea Dirks
Sue Maitland
Amy Horak
Jayson & Barb Smith
Ron & Alice Schmidt
Holly Gintz
Dave & Ann Gordon

Designated Gift

Chuck & Chris Norseng

Per Capita

Phyllis Wyss
Jim & Kathi Mandelert
Barbara Wilcox
Jim & Deb Biegig
Erik & Deborah Dickson
Chuck & Marge Nichols
Pat Hedrington
Corine Boos
Bruce & Jeannette Miller
Ellen Devine
George & Peggy Fleming
Bill & Deborah McDougall
Gary & Barb Shorrel
Reid & Lisa Kennedy
George & Sara Abendroth
Jo Knoble
Bob & Lea Dirks
Julie & Rees Anderson
Amy Horak
Kathy & Randy Facklam
Holly Gintz
Doug & Bonnie Gullickson
Mike & Barb Tzanakis

All Church Thrift Sale March 6 and 7, 2009

The All Church Thrift Sale is scheduled for Friday, March 6 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and Saturday, March 7 from 9:00 am to Noon. The Thrifts Sale is a church mission project. Prices are set low so that people can afford to buy and the profits are distributed to local mission projects. The Presbyterian Women are coordinating the event. Co-chairs are Patty Stiles and Marcie Myrman.

- ✦ Help is especially needed on Tuesday, March 3 at 6:30 pm to bring sale items up from the basement.
 - ✦ Strong arms are needed on Wednesday, March 4 at 9:00 to set up tables.
- Volunteers are needed on Saturday, March 7 to pack up the unsold items and deliver them to one of the thrift stores.

Donations of items to sell (including clean clothing in good condition) can be brought to the church anytime between now and Wednesday, March 4. Items brought before the 4th can be put in the basement in the PW storage room.

If you can help, contact Ann Gordon at 715-723-2647 or andvgordon@aol.com.

Pastor's Perspective

You can just feel it. Our motivation to *meet Jesus* is intensifying. Many are enthused with our worship and our new energy. Our elders will be praying during worship each Sunday that we can stay the course, and leadership and commitment will continue to grow. To be a church that is engaged with *meeting Jesus* and helping others to *meet Jesus*, we need to keep stretching and challenging ourselves. *Meeting Jesus* is our new vision that will move us ahead and into new life. We really feel that God is leading and confirming the vision.

Here is an invitation to a related challenge that is easy and achievable for all. A challenge that will draw us *toward Jesus* and help us become better *acquainted with Him*. Lent is the season of the church year that leads to Easter. It began with Ash Wednesday (just past). Traditionally, Lent is a time for reflection and sacrifice. That there are forty days in Lent provides a nice backdrop for a challenge for each of us.

Let's covenant together to read the four gospels; Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Read one of the four every ten days. Folks in worship on February 22 heard this challenge and have a leg up on others. The forty days has already begun but if you missed the Ash Wednesday start, it will be real easy to catch up. We will check each Sunday in worship to see how people are doing. We will celebrate our accomplishment on Easter Sunday as four people will tell of how they were touched by their reading the stories. How they met Jesus anew.

Each of the gospels presents the story of Jesus' life, ministry, death and resurrection from a different view. Matthew, Mark and Luke have much in common, but there are enough differences to make reading each one interesting and valuable

in *getting to know Jesus*. For example, the birth stories are presented differently; one has more parables than the others; one has more lengthy narratives; each has some different people. John is most different. His gospel is less concerned about detail and chronology and is much more expressive and passionate. It's as if the author wills us to believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior.

So let's count on everyone accepting this challenge and celebrate on Easter Sunday.

On another subject, the January mission trip that several of us made to Gulfport, Mississippi is causing quite a stir in our presbytery. During worship on Sunday, March 15, people from our church are going to report on the adventure with pictures and stories.

This reporting is being repeated in churches throughout the presbytery. Eleven congregations were represented in the crew of 40. Nine workers were from our church. They were Jim and Deb Biegging, Barb MacNaughton, Erik and Ky Anderson, Laurel and Barry Boyer, Paul Cook, and Louie Rogers. Some of the 40 are going again in March with a large crew of UM-Duluth students and staff.

At a recent presbytery meeting, another report was made. The energy and stories are stirring interest in another presbytery-sponsored trip next winter. Want to go? The need is tremendous and the people are wonderful!

Worship on the 15th; catch some more of the spirit; talk to folks who went in January; and see what happens. We learned that the camp welcomes groups as small as three persons. It doesn't have to be such a big production. But it sure is a lot of fun when a large group works together.

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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The Bell

Our church newsletter



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Drivers Wanted....

If you have a couple of hours a week to spare, or even more, please consider being a driver to deliver Mobile Meals to homebound people. You could volunteer for a regular route, or sign on as a substitute driver. If you are interested in this fulfilling opportunity, call the coordinator, Jenny, at 723-0486 Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 am to noon.

Church Staff

Barry Boyer, pastor
Tim Anderson, clerk of session
Cherie Andringa, office manager/financial secretary
Becky Hager, Karolynne Duffenbach, children's ministry
Holly Gintz, treasurer
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
Susan Boyer, Esther Frazier, Lorraine Gilbertson, Ginny Koepsel, Margi Kohl, Hess Morrison, Steve Playter, Jackie Reich, Jinx Smith, Barbara Taylor, office assistants

Church Board

<i>Tim Anderson</i>	<i>Sonia Anderson</i>
<i>Jon Behling</i>	<i>Bob Denman</i>
<i>Dave Gordon</i>	<i>Eric Haglund</i>
<i>Jan Hilton-Koepke</i>	<i>Reid Kennedy</i>
<i>Susan Maitland</i>	<i>Bruce Miller</i>
<i>Ruth Rosenow</i>	<i>Ron Schmidt</i>
<i>Barb Shorrel</i>	

Barry Boyer

Board of Deacons

<i>Corine Boos</i>	<i>Verene Crane</i>
<i>Dick Kemp</i>	<i>Margi Kohl</i>
<i>Barb Meredith</i>	<i>Patty Stiles</i>
<i>Anne Welke</i>	

March Schedules

March 1– Sunday

Ushers—

Team 1

Communion Servers—

Jon Behling, Ron Schmidt, Barb Shorrel, Sonia Anderson, Tim Anderson

Fellowship Hosts—

Margi Kohl & Jinx Smith

Nursery—

Kathy & Jenna Facklam

Flower Providers—

Doug & Bonnie Gullickson in loving memory of Mabel Viets.

March 4-Wednesday

Snacks at 4:00—Boyer/Ruhe Family

There will be NO Family Supper due to the Thrift Sale set-up.

March 8-Sunday

Ushers—

Team 2

Communion Servers—

Jon Behling, Bob Denman, Dave Gordon, Eric Haglund, Jan Hilton-Koepke

Fellowship Hosts—

Sonia Anderson

Nursery—

Alice Schmidt & Lisa Tzanakis

Flower Providers—

Donor Opportunity

March 11-Wednesday

Snacks at 4:00—Cooley Family

5:30 Family Supper will be provided by the Presbyterian Men

March 15-Sunday

Ushers—

Team 3

Communion Servers—

Reid Kennedy, Sue Maitland, Bruce Miller, Ruth Rosenow, Ron Schmidt

Fellowship Hosts—

Pat Linden & Gail Buchanan

Nursery—

Barbara Paterick & Katie Page

Flower Providers—

Donor Opportunity

March 18-Wednesday

Snacks at 4:00—McDougall Family

5:30 Family Supper will be provided by Susan Boyer and Karen Beighley serving hot dogs.

March 22-Sunday

Ushers—

Team 4

Communion Servers—

Barb Shorrel, Sonia Anderson, Tim Anderson, Jon Behling, Bob Denman

Fellowship Hosts—

Jo Knoble & Anne Welke

Nursery—

Melyssa Heintz & Barb MacNaughton

Flower Providers—

Donor Opportunity

March 25-Wednesday

Snacks at 4:00—Haglund Family

5:30 Family Supper will be provided by Erik Anderson, Jan Hilton-Koepke and Kathi Mandelert serving grilled burgers.

March 29-Sunday

Ushers—

Team 5

Communion Servers—

Dave Gordon, Eric Haglund, Jan Hilton-Koepke, Reid Kennedy, Sue Maitland

Fellowship Hosts—

TBD

Nursery—

Rick & Lauren Keopke

Flower Providers—

Donor Opportunity

Brief Notes

Many thanks to Bill and Deb McDougall who hosted two nights of discussion of the popular book, The Shack, by William Young. Their warm hospitality and interest in the book set a great context for sharing thoughts about a very engaging and challenging story about God and man in relationship.

The Hospitality Team did a great job in preparing the nametags and display now available for worship and church events. Dave Gordon, Gail Buchanan, Kathi Mandelert and Jeff Buckli pulled the load and made it happen. Used for the first time on Sunday, February 22, they were very well received. Over the next couple of weeks, we hope to fine tune the roster and have everyone accounted for. The initial list was generated from names in the September church directory. There are several additions since then.

In this issue of the BELL you will find a page taken from our denomination's 2009 Mission Yearbook of Prayer. It is the story of the Open Door Clinic, hosted by our church. The story was written by clinic board chair, and elder, Bob Denman. He is also our church's delegate to the Presbytery of Northern Waters.

On Saturday, February 7th, the session and deacons held a wonderful retreat at the St. Bede Center, south of Eau Claire. We wish to thank Presbyterian Women who paid our bill at St Bede Center for the space, our meal and refreshments. A highlight of the retreat was the presentation and presence of Pastor Rick Hoyme from Central Lutheran. He told the story of the transformation that is taking place at Central. We were inspired and encouraged. We left the retreat full of ideas and a greater sense of teamwork.

Ghana Update – Stephanie Smith has been in Accra, Ghana for a little over a month now. She is attending classes at the University of Ghana and has started her internship. She will be working at an orphanage for boys, ages 4-15, teaching them math and English. We have already mailed one package to her with school supplies in it as that type of thing is in very short supply. Another will go out this week. She is living with a family and their relatives in what is called a compound. There are approximately 17 family members living there. She attends church with them every Sunday. They are Methodist and the service typically lasts three hours. Part is in Twi, part in English, and the rest in another African language. She says the service is filled with lots of music and singing. If you wish to write her, the address is: Stephanie Smith, c/o Kwasi Gyasi-Gyamrah, Private Mail Bag 31, University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana, West Africa.

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS invites you to the Seventh Annual Marianna Scott Scholarship Recital, to be held on Sunday, March 8, at 3:00 PM at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 310 Broadway, Eau Claire. Performers will include Judy Leis, Elaine Mann and others, and special guests Stadtpfeiffer Brass Quintet and Jan Smith, oboe.

DIRECTORY INFO NEEDED

We are in the process of updating the church directory, for publication in early March. Any changes should be sent to the church office by March 1.

Thanks ! Kathi

ALL ARE CHALLENGED TO READ THE FOUR GOSPELS DURING LENT

Our vision is to "Meet Jesus." What better way than to read about Jesus in the Bible. During Lent, Pastor Boyer is asking each church member to read through the four gospels, **Matthew, Mark, Luke and John**. There are forty days in Lent leading to Easter on April 12. Read a gospel every ten days and you will have finished by Easter.

Each of the gospels tells the story of Jesus' life, ministry, death and resurrection in a little different way. John is the most different. Getting to know about Jesus is the first step in meeting Jesus.

Notes from around the church.....

Library News...

Dear Readers - Is this spring? I'd like to order a little more sunshine but the warmer temperatures are very welcome.

However, as I write this in mid February, I know winter is NOT over. I was gone the Sunday of the potluck but I heard great things about it. Aren't those fun and valuable times?

We had some very nice books donated anonymously this month and we thank the donors. Look for Fuel Stop, Finding Power, Energy & Support for Life's Journey by Joan Fleming. The Ya-Yas meet the Red Hatters in this uplifting book, shelved at (10). When God Winks at You is written by Squire Rushnell. How God speaks to you through the power of coincidence. (18) On the Safe Side by Paula Statman. Teach your child to be safe, strong and street smart. (19)

Longing for More is by Ruth Haley Barton. A woman's path to transformation in Christ. (18) In our Strange Gardens by Michael Quint. A little gem of a book, tender and funny, that breaks your heart. (NON-FIC) Learning to Know God and to love his friends is a devotional daybook by Neva Coyle. (12) The Heart of Christianity, rediscovering a life of faith is by Marcus J. Borg. How we can be passionate believers today. (7) The Be (Happy) Attitudes is by Robert Schuller. Eight positive attitudes that can transform your life. (NON-FIC) A Leader's Guide to Reflective Practice is by Judy Brown and shelved at (12).

Stop in the library and take a look around. I'm sure there's something you'd enjoy or find useful.

Happy Reading - *Your librarian - Margi Kohl*

Finance Committee...

The Finance Committee needs one or two people to take over sorting, counting and redeeming Gordy's grocery receipts. As you know, Gordy's pays us a 1% cash rebate on the sub totals from grocery receipts that we turn in. It's a very easy job that anyone can do. It only takes a couple of hours a month. When I do it, I'm usually watching television at the same time

Gordy's has issued very simple and clear instructions and I could show you in 10 minutes or

less how to do it. Barb Wilcox has done this task for a long time, but now has to pass it on. Many thanks to Barb for all her effort.

If you can help out, please call Barb Shorrel at 404-7404 or Margi Kohl at 720-8926.

~ Thanks, Margi

St. Patrick's Irish Feast...

Chalice of Mercy welcomes all faiths to a St. Patrick's Irish Feast being held on Saturday, March 14 at Notre Dame Parish Life Center, 117 Allen St. in Chippewa Falls. Time is 6:45 to 8:30 PM.

Menu consists of corned beef and cabbage, Irish stew, honey chicken with lemon and garlic, baked salmon, roasted sweet potatoes, Dublin green salad, Irish apple cake and more!

All profits will be used toward fulfilling Chalice of Mercy's mission to provide quality health care to the poor and orphans of Ukraine. Over \$300,000 in medical equipment has already been donated to our mission. Proceeds from this dinner will go towards costs to package and ship the equipment to Ukraine.

Cost of the meal is \$17 for adults, children under 12 free, family of four is \$50.00. Call Valentyna at 715-456-4187 with any questions.

Hospice Volunteers Needed...

Home Hospice of St. Joseph's Hospital announced a free Spring Home Hospice Volunteer Training Program. The training will be held at St. Joseph's Hospital on Saturday, March 14 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm and on Saturday, March 21 from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm in McDonald Hall. Both sessions are required for the training. Male volunteers are especially encouraged to attend. If you have any questions please call Kris Martineau, Hospice Volunteer Supervisor at 726-3485. Pre-registration is required. Please call St. Joseph's Home Hospice at 800-726-3485 (long distance) or 726-3485 (local calls). Please register early.

Welcome New Members

Over the last few months we have welcomed into our midst several new members. Here is an brief introduction to them.

Steve and Laurie Lindsay, and their children Kyle and twins Brandon and Ryan. Steve is director of managed care at Sacred Heart Hospital and does weight lifting in his spare time. Laurie is a loan officer at Utilities Credit Union in Eau Claire and like to read. The family lives in Eau Claire, where Kyle attends Northstar Middle School and Brandon and Ryan attend Locust Lane Elementary.

Erik and Deborah Dickson reside in Chippewa Falls with their children Tanner, Zander and Ryan. Erik is a physician at Marshfield Clinic in Cornell and Deborah is a flight nurse with the Mayo Clinic.

Norman and Mary Ellen Keller moved to the area from Whitefish Bay in 1988, and are now retired. Norm enjoys golfing and woodworking and Mary Ellen likes to garden and do rug hooking. They are both motorcyclists and enjoy traveling. They have traveled extensively in Europe, as well as trips to Russia, Australia and New Zealand, Nova Scotia, Alaska and Panama. They have three sons and two grandchildren.

Larry and Dianne Wallenstein live in Chippewa Falls, and were married in our church last summer. Dianne is a customer reception specialist at the Chippewa County Courthouse. She enjoys quilting, crafts and needlework. Larry is a recent transplant from South Dakota and loves to fish and hunt.

Carmi Simonson joined our congregation last September. She is married to Matt Simonson and they have a son Jackson, who will turn one year old in May. Carmi is a veterinarian at Northside Pet Hospital in Eau Claire.

Young Adult Eco-Stewards Sought

Applications are being sought for the Eco-Stewards program of the Presbyterian Conservation Corps (PCC), a Christian community responding to God's call through applied eco-stewardship. The PPC is looking for Eco-Steward applicants from ages 18-24 years old who demonstrate interest in church, camp, and environmental concerns. The application deadline is May 1, 2009. To download the application, go to [http://](http://w.presbyterianconservationcorps.org/2009.html)

w.presbyterianconservationcorps.org/2009.html. Each program will comprise of two components at different sites: 1. Eco-Stewards Training (3-4 days) and 2. Eco-Stewards Hand-On Program (3-4 days). The two programs are as follows: West: July 5-12 at Highlands Camp in Allenspark, CO and Greenwood Farm in Hardin, MT and Midwest: August 2-9 at Stronghold Retreat Center in Oregon, IL and Chicago, IL. PCC will transport participants between each site, but participants are responsible for travel to the training, and from the program component.

A joint program of Presbyterian Conservation Corps and Presbyterian Church Camp and Conference Association, the Eco-Stewards program seeks to train and inspire young adults in the ways of eco-stewardship within the wider context of our Christian faith. The overarching goal of this new initiative is to help inspire Presbyterian Church, USA churches and their members to become better caretakers of planet earth, our God given island home.