



The Bell

September 2009

FIRST
Presbyterian
CHURCH

The Bell
A monthly newsletter

Worship in September

Sunday September 6 9:30 AM

Worship Leader ~ Jeannette Miller
Faith Sharing ~ "Practicing What We Preach"
Text ~ James 1:17-27, Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Barb Sandford, Musician

Sunday September 13 9:30 AM **Back to Church Sunday**

Worship Leader ~ Barry Boyer
Faith Sharing ~ "Why I Love the Church"
Text ~ Ephesians 5:25-32, Psalm 95
Communion ~ Gary Polden, musician

Sunday September 20 9:30 AM

Worship Leader ~ Erik Anderson
Faith Sharing ~ "Now What Shall We Do?"
Text ~ Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21, Isaiah 58:1-12
Barb Sandford, Musician

Sunday September 27 9:30 AM

Worship Leader ~ Holly Gintz
Faith Sharing ~ Chelsea and Ruth Rosenow
Presenting a program on Chelsea's work in Bangkok
Gary Polden, musician

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Points of Interest

Genesis Sunday is
Sept. 13

Wed. Nite Meals begin
Sept. 16

Golf outing set for
Sept. 20.

Memorials and Gifts

(Through August 16)

Food Pantry

Karla Stein
Shaun & Angela Christensen

Flowers

Amy Horak
Bob & Ginny Koepsel

Designated Gifts

Presbyterian Men
Roger & Patty Stiles

Mortgage Retirement Fund

Dick & June Kemp

Deacons Fund

Art Schunk & Joyce Pugh
Erna Rath
Hess Morrison
Ron & Alice Schmidt
Jim & Kathi Mandelert
Presbyterian Men
Amy Horak
Barb Wilcox
Eric & Julie Haglund
Dick & Julie Stafford
Linda Schreiber
Barbara Taylor
Kathy & Randy Facklam

Address Changes

Noelle Chaltry
732 Maple
Chippewa Falls
456-2684
winoelle@hotmail.com
(there will also be a
church e-mail address
forthcoming)

FROM YOUR STEWARDSHIP TEAM...

CHUCK NORSENG, RON SCHMIDT, BARB SHORREL,
AND PASTOR BOYER

As we celebrate "Back to Church Sunday" on September 13, it is a reminder that the first day of fall can't be too far away. That also means that we will soon be asking for your stewardship commitment for 2010. This year we will kick off our appeal on October 11.

On that day we will have a special message, one in which you will all participate. You will be asked to bring \$1 and a non-perishable food item to worship on that day. You will be part of the message. More details will follow in a letter at the beginning of October. After worship we will continue the celebration with the Deacon's potluck.

We will conclude the stewardship appeal on November 8 when all households will be asked to return their financial promise for 2010.

In the meantime *please* pray about your giving, not only to your church, but in all areas of your life.

Thoughts to ponder:

from "Giving to God: The Bible's Good News About Living a Generous Life" by Mark Alan Powell

... **faithful stewardship** involves giving to God as ***an act of worship***. We give out of glad and generous hearts as an expression of love and devotion to the God who is so good to us...

... **faithful stewardship** involves giving to God as ***an expression of our faith***. We confess that all we are and everything we have belongs to God and we put this faith into action when we offer ourselves and our possessions to God to be used as God sees fit...

... **faithful stewardship** involves giving to God as ***a discipline for spiritual growth***. We practice a degree of renunciation and self-denial in recognition of the spiritual principle that "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). When we do this we discover that such giving becomes a bond that brings us closer to God and helps us to become the sort of people we most want to be.

Pastor's Perspective

"I love coming to worship; more than that, I need it. When I get up on Sunday morning and tell my wife I'm going to church, she is happy for me... and for herself," he continued. "So often, somewhere between when I wake up and when I begin that twenty minute drive to church, I will have had a run in with her. And I'll be convinced that she is the problem. Then I make that drive, and my anger and resentment just get bigger and bigger. But some time, in worship, God will get through and I'll get it: I'll have a mental and spiritual correction. And by the time I get back home," he said with a laugh, "I'll be a different person. Now my wife can't wait for me to come to church every week!" taken from the book Real Faith for Real Life by Michael Foss

"Worship liberates the personality by giving a new perspective to life, by integrating life with the multitude of life forms, by bringing in to the life the virtues of humility, loyalty, devotion, and rightness of attitude, thus refreshing and reviving our spirits."

Roswell C. Long

"With God on my side I'm fearless, afraid of no one and nothing.

I'm asking God for one thing, only one thing: to live with him in his house my whole life long. I'll contemplate his beauty, I'll study at his feet. That's the only quiet, secure place in a noisy world, the perfect getaway, far from the buzz of traffic."

verses from Psalm 27, attributed to King David

Back to Church Sunday, September 13, is coming fast. Back to church, back to school, along with fall colors and sports, trips to the orchards, hunting plans, bazaars, church choir, Wednesday meals, youth groups – all is soon ours to enjoy again.

A great team, the 3M's, is planning an exciting Back to Church Sunday (formerly Genesis Sunday) for us. The "3Ms" are Mardi Leibeis, Marcie Myrman and Melyssa Heintz. They are getting many involved in telling the story of our congregation; our ministries and missions. There are a lot of folks in a lot of worship, ministry and mission around here. It is pretty awesome.

Worship is central to a Back to Church Sunday. Worship, for a follower of Jesus, is not optional. It is essential. One of the benefits of weekly worship is that it serves as a "weekly compass" to reorient our lives toward things that are good and true. The fellow above, in his own words, experienced a mental and spiritual correction. It isn't necessarily dramatic, but you can see where a weekly touchpoint with things that are fulfilling and true is just what the doctor ordered (and your spouse, too!).

I find it especially interesting that all of the stories and quotes above are about and by men. I point this out because I know that it is often the women who are the motivators for family worship. Former President Calvin Coolidge is quoted as saying, "It is only when men begin to worship that they begin to grow." In various ways, these fellows speak to the value in worshipping God. How about it guys?

I invite you, men, women and children, to worship and fellowship on Sunday, September 13. It will be a great Sunday morning experience. We will begin our Sunday School and confirmation classes on the 13th. You will get to meet our children and youth ministries director, Noelle Chaltry. You will be invited to involvement with growth groups; a mission trip to Texas in January; a few weeks of teaching in our Sunday School and, a men's luncheon group with a handyman ministry, just to name a few.

Our vision is that we and others will meet Jesus together at this church. We will grow to know and love him more and more. In doing so, we will grow in love and acceptance for ourselves and others around us. Life will have greater purpose and clarity. We will grow into wholeness and peace, men and women alike. You are never too old to grow closer; gain hope; love more.

*First Presbyterian Church is all about
Faith, Purpose, Community*

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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Church Staff

Barry Boyer, pastor
Tim Anderson, clerk of session
Cherie Andringa, office manager/financial secretary
Noelle Chaltry, children & youth ministry
Gary Polden, Barb Sandford, Barb Smith, music ministry
Holly Gintz, treasurer
Bob Lindsley, 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
, church librarian
Susan Boyer, Esther Frazier, Lorraine Gilbertson, Margi Kohl, Hess Morrison, Steve Playter, Jackie Reich, Art Schunk, Jinx Smith, office assistants

Church Board

Tim Anderson *Sonia Anderson*
Jon Behling *Bob Denman*
Dave Gordon *Eric Haglund*
Jan Hilton-Koepke *Reid Kennedy*
Susan Maitland *Bruce Miller*
Ruth Rosenow *Ron Schmidt*
Barb Shorrel
Barry Boyer

Board of Deacons

Corine Boos *Verene Crane*
Dick Kemp *Margi Kohl*
Barb Meredith *Patty Stiles*
Anne Welke

September Schedules

September 6– Sunday

Ushers—

Team 2

Fellowship Hosts—

Sara Abendroth

Nursery—

Susan Boyer & Makaya Ruhe

Flower Providers—

Rich & Ruth Rosenow in celebration of their 33rd anniversary

September 13-Sunday

Ushers—

Team 3

Communion Servers—

Sonia Anderson, Tim Anderson, Jon Behling, Bob Denman, Dave Gordon, Eric Haglund

Fellowship Hosts—

Back to Church Sunday Group

Nursery—

Kathy & Jenna Facklam

Flower Providers—

Hess Morrison in honor of great-grandson Andrew Louis Buckli's baptism last month

September 16-Wednesday

Snacks at 4:00-Beighley Family

Family Supper—Burgers on the grill by the team of Erik Anderson, Jan Hilton-Koepke and Kathi Mandelert

September 20-Sunday

Ushers—

Team 4

Fellowship Hosts—

Susan Boyer

Nursery—

Alice Schmidt & Lisa Tzanakis

Flower Providers—

Sonia and Tim Anderson in celebration of their 26th anniversary on the 29th

September 23-Wednesday

Snacks at 4:00-Boyer/Ruhe Family

Family Supper—will be prepared by Noelle and the youth group

September 27-Sunday

Ushers—

Team 5

Fellowship Hosts—

Open

Nursery—

Barbara Paterick & Julie Anderson

Flower Providers—

Gail Willi to thank God for all the gifts he gave on this date in 1950—it was the first day of the rest of my life.

September 30-Wednesday

Snacks at 4:00-Haglund Family

Family Supper—the team of Marlys Daniels and Dianne Commerford will make chili.

Brief Notes



School is Starting... Can you devote a ½ hour?

The Chippewa Area Mentor Program is looking for caring and dependable adults to serve as mentors for students in grades K-12 at all Chippewa Area Public and Catholic Schools. Mentors meet with students at school for a ½ hour, one day a week. It doesn't take special skills to be a mentor-just a willingness to *listen*, offer *encouragement*, and *share* what you've learned about life. To learn more about mentoring or to obtain an application, please log onto: cfsd.chipfalls.k12.wi.us/mentor or call 726-2400 ext. 2474.

ATTENTION SINGERS!!! The Celebration Singers (Adult Choir) will begin rehearsing on September 2, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. We meet every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and also again on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. If you enjoy singing, please join us and share your talents. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Barb Smith at 726-9152. Hope to see you!

Thanks!
Barb

Attention: New Members. Do you have a copy of the Church Cookbook?

In 2005, the Presbyterian Women created a cookbook titled *Recipes Through the Ages 1855-2005*. The cookbook was a celebration of our church's 150th Anniversary.

Many people have purchased copies of this excellent resource. For those of you who may have joined the church during the last four years, you may not know about our cookbook. We have complimentary copies available for you. Contact Ann Gordon at 715-723-2647 or e-mail her at andvgordon@aol.com for your free copy.

Copies of the cookbook continue to be available for purchase. They make great gifts!

Meet Noelle

Noelle Chaltry is our new Children and Youth Ministries Director. Noelle is a graduate of Lakeland College where she focused on accounting. She is originally from Menomonee, Michigan where she grew up attending their First Presbyterian Church. She was very active in their youth activities and programs. Noelle has been living in Chippewa Falls a little over a year with her daughter Jillian and their two dogs. In her free time, she enjoys gardening, cooking, reading, scrapbooking, biking and getting out and about with Jillian.

Notes from around the church.....

Library News...

Dear Readers - It's hot and humid as I write this and I'd much rather be sitting reading a book but have to get this final article to Kathi. This is the second installment of a large anonymous donation of books and we are grateful for them. I'm holding three fiction books to read while I recover and then I'll shelve them.

Thanks to Cherie Andringa for donating *The Power of Now* by Eckhart Tolle, shelved at (18).

Also we have *Light for My Path* by Barbour Press (5), *Joy For a Woman's Soul* (12), *The Soul of Success* by Jennifer Read Hawthorne (15), *A Return to Love* by Marianne Williamson (18), *Lord, I Need Grace to Make It* written by Kay Arthur (18). Her name is *Woman* by Gien Karsen (5), *Outrageous Mercy* by William P. Farley (7).

Also, *Discovering the Laws of Life* by John Marks Templeton (7), *The Worth of a Man* by Dave Drovecky (NON FIC), *Faces in the Crowd* (12), *How to Find God* (4), *Bible Prophecy for Yourself* by Tim LaHaye (5).

I've kept *Slow Waltz in Cedar Bend* by Robert James Waller (FIC), *Showers in Season* by Beverly LaHaye and Terri Blackstock (FIC) and *the Dark Sun Rises* by Denise Williamson (FIC).

I want to thank you for all your kind words and support. I hope someone will step up soon to take over the librarian's job.

Happy Reading - Margi Kohl

NEW OPERATING TEAM BEGINS

In July the Session approved the formation of an Operations Team to oversee the daily operations of the church pertaining to personnel, property, and financial matters. The impetus for creating the team is to give the session more time and energy for truly leading our church.

The Operating Team will be the "go to people" to handle the day-to-day problems that arise in our church; such as scheduling building use, office issues, building and grounds issues, financial issues (both budgeted and unbudgeted), and some personnel issues. We will follow the policies and procedures established by the Session for these areas. (We have a big book of policies and procedures in the office. Many of these policies have recently been updated.) We will report to the Session each month on what has transpired for that month.

The current members of the Operating Team are knowledgeable and active in the areas mentioned above: Ruth Rosenow from Personnel; Dave Gordon from Property; and Barb Shorrel from Finance; and Pastor Boyer. We meet every other Monday. Our first meetings are to figure out how we will operate.

We will give you an update in the October Bell. In the meantime, if you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact one of the members listed above.



ANNUAL PRESBY GOLF
SUNDAY, SEPT 20th
GOLF 1:00 PM WISSOTA GOLF CLUB
COOKOUT 4:00 pm @ ABENDROTHS

Scramble Golf – You don't have to be a good golfer to have fun. Prizes – including the “Beat Barry’s Drive” Event. Almost anyone can win!

Excellent food – Presby Men will provide brats, chicken sandwiches, potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans, drinks. If you can – bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert to share.

The sign up sheet is in the Church Narthex. Separate lists for Golf & Cookout, and Cookout Only. For golf – sign up as an individual – and we will arrange foursomes – or bracket yourself with someone you want to play with. Any questions call George Abendroth at 382-4322 or Pat Linden’s cell 715-577-0016.

Cost for Golf \$15.85 – Golf & Cart \$24.30

LIBRARIAN NEEDED

After several years of serving as your librarian, I find it necessary to step down from that position. This is a volunteer position that needs to change leadership occasionally to keep fresh enthusiasm and ambition.

I worked at my own pace and mostly at home. I enjoyed doing it and read many good books that I found while checking them in.

Please think it over and see if this might be something you would enjoy. I would be happy to teach you what I know at your convenience. I've particularly enjoyed writing for the Bell and would like to continue to do that in some capacity. I'm thinking maybe a gossip column....

Your librarian - Margi Kohl

First Presbyterian Church has something to celebrate.

Our mortgage balance is now below \$500,000. To be specific it is \$495,481.

It was just seven years ago that our remodeling was completed at a cost of \$1,677,092. Our first Capital Fund campaign covered \$477,092 of this cost and in 2003 we took out our first mortgage for \$1,200,000. Our second Capital Fund campaign allowed use to pay down the principal by \$220,000 and resulted in a new mortgage for \$980,000 with a lower monthly payment. We continued to make principal payments through 2007. Our final Capital Fund campaign for 2008 resulted in reducing the mortgage principle by \$130,450 and a reduced monthly payment again. The finance team has continued to make principal payments as money becomes available and we now make our mortgage payments from the Operating and Mission Budget. The result is a mortgage balance of \$495,481. Nice going First Presbyterian members and friends. This progress assures our church will be able to focus on our mission to “Help God change His world to what He intended”

Genesis/Back to Church Sunday

Invite a friend...bring the kids...It's Back to Church Sunday on September 13 in Fellowship Hall!

A dedicated committee is making plans to TRANSFORM Genesis Sunday into a welcome "Back to Church" Event. A back to school theme will be used to encourage everyone who has been away for the summer (or longer...or not so long) to get involved in the activities/small groups with First Presbyterian Church.

Opportunities for door prizes and awards for group presentation creativity will provide incentives to stop by and listen to what each has to offer. School lunchroom fare will be provided by the fellowship team.

Perhaps one of the most interesting reasons people return to church is that someone simply invited them back! So extend that invitation to young people and the not so young...former members and guests. This special "Back to Church" Sunday will set the stage for Christ centered involvement for ALL throughout the year.

Genesis Sunday Committee—

Mardi Lebeis

Melyssa Heintz

Marci Myrman

