

The Bell

February, 2018

Monthly Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

Lenten Fellowship Suppers and Discussions

Our journey through Lent begins! As we travel the path through these forty days, we listen to the journey of Jesus. His path winds its way ultimately to the Upper Room, the Cross upon which he died, and to the empty tomb on that Easter morn. We are called upon to find meaning for ourselves in a mood which offers reflection, self-examination, meditation and commitment.

Lent can be, for each of us a time of growth. A time when we can take a look at ourselves, as we are, and work toward that which God wants us to become. Lent is a time for a spiritual journey. This year let each of us allow that journey to be a treasure hunt! Let us not stop hunting until we discover a deeper and richer relationships with God and with our neighbor. This journey can take on a variety turns when we pause and reach deep within ourselves to find our connections and our path.

Here are two ways that can help you in your Lenten journey.

1. What better way to do that than to take time out for prayer. It is in the experience of prayer, the reading of a devotion and hearing an accompanying scripture that we often clearly hear God's voice, the Holy Spirit nudging, speaking to us, convicting us and telling us we are loved. Then we are most able to refresh ourselves and to reconnect with the life-giving Spirit ready for the day. Please join us each Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 am, in the sanctuary, to begin your day with prayer.

2. After each fellowship supper on Wednesday nights, we are offering a video and discussion time. You are invited to meet the author of "The Shack" as he tells his life's story; join Eugene Peterson, author of "The Message" as you consider whether the Bible is relevant; meet a woman whose son's killing spree shocked a nation wrapped in forgiveness by the families of the victims; hear from a young dancer whose life and career hung in the balance after a drive-by shooting,

Each of the six Wednesday's during Lent we will hear a personal story and be invited into a discussion together. After our Wednesday fellowship dinners, you can participate once or in all six, whatever you would like. Here are the dates and topics.

February 21: Meet the author of "The Shack", Paul Young, who struggled with abuse, scandal, shame.

February 28: Amazing Grace- The mother of the shooter finds healing in the aftermath of the Amish schoolhouse massacre.

March 7: The struggle to forgive...finding a way forward

March 14: Dealing with difficult people. Secrets for everyday life from a hostage negotiator.

March 21: If Only...living with regret

March 28: The Bible...Real?, Relevant, Reliable?

In Christ, Pastor Karel

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 11

The supplementary meeting of the congregation will be held immediately following the service on Sunday, February 11.

The purpose of this meeting will be to review the 2017 annual report and the 2018 budget, review and vote on the minutes of the December 10 congregational meeting and a proposed change to the church by-laws and elect the 2018 nominating committee.

Nominations will be also accepted for the vacant position on the church Financial Review Committee.

The proposed church by-law change is shown below in italics.

A-3.000 ARTICLE III Congregational and Corporation Meetings

A-3.001 5) The annual meeting of the congregation and the corporation shall be held by the second Sunday of December. The fundamental purposes of the meeting are to receive the report of the nominating committee, and elect elders, deacons and members of the Financial Review team and Endowment Trust board *and approve changes in the pastor's call for the coming year.* The session may also report a tentative budget for the ensuing year. Other business as shall properly come before such a meeting may be transacted. (see Book of Order, G 7.0304).

A-3.002 6) A supplementary meeting of the congregation and corporation shall be held no later than the second Sunday in February to receive reports from all boards and organizations of the congregation for the previous year *and* elect at-large members to the nominating committee. ~~*and approve changes in the pastor's call.*~~ Other business as shall properly come before such a meeting may be transacted. (see Book of Order, G 7.0304).

This change reflects the need to have the pastor's call in place in December to be included in the budget for the coming year.

The minutes of the December 10 meeting are available in the church office for review as are copies of the 2017 Annual Report.

ELLEN DEVINE PASSES AWAY

The church is saddened by the loss of Ellen Devine who passed away on January 12. Ellen served as an Elder and long-time member of the choir.

Following the death of her first husband, Tom Devine, Ellen married Joe Mandelert. She and Joe shared a love of art and music and just being together.

She will be sorely missed by all who knew her and loved her. Ellen's family plans services in the spring. More information will be available then.

ASH WEDNESDAY FISH FRY AND SPECIAL SERVICE

The annual Ash Wednesday fish fry sponsored by the Presbyterian Men will be served on February 14 from 5:00 to 6:00 with the last dinners being served at 5:45.

The menu this year will feature fried fish, baked beans, cole slaw, rolls, dessert and beverage. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$5 for children 5 to 12 and children under five will eat free.

Reservation sheets and sign-up sheets to help set up, cook, serve and clean up are available in the Narthex.

Be sure to reserve your dinner early because this is always a very popular event that sells out early. Last year we ran short of fish and don't want to disappoint anyone so reservations are advised to be sure you are seated and served.

The traditional Ash Wednesday service featuring communion and the imposition of ashes will follow at 6:15 allowing a quiet time following dinner.

As in the past, this service will be held in conjunction with Trinity United Methodist Church and will include Methodist Pastor, Terri Koca, who will preach. The choir from the Methodist church will join our own Celebration Singers under the direction of Methodist choir director, Bill Bocian.

FPC PLANS SPECIAL LENTEN SERVICE

In addition to the February 14 Ash Wednesday Service, the annual Chippewa Falls Ecumenical Good Friday service will be held in our church on March 30. The Good Friday service is held every year in a different church and this year it falls to FPC.

Traditionally this service includes pastors and choirs from FPC, Trinity United Methodist, Zion Methodist, Our Saviour's Lutheran, Central Lutheran, English Lutheran Church of Bateman, Christ Episcopal Church and the Chippewa Manor.

Watch the March Bell for additional information on this and other Lenten services.

FLOWERS, FLOWERS, FLOWERS OR NO FLOWERS

If you have attended church during January, you may have noticed the absence of flowers on the chancel. We had almost no one sign up to donate flowers in January and no flowers purchased at all for February.

If flowers aren't purchased and donated, the church will not fill the gap and we will have no flowers in the church on Sunday.

**First Presbyterian Church
Shepherd List/Spring 2018**

Contact: Bonnie Gullickson (bonniegullick@gmail.com) 715-723-2076

Team 1 Margi Kohl	Team 2 Mary Jo Reemstma	Team 3 Beth Cripe	Team 4 Pat Andress	Team 5 Corine Boos	Team 6 Bonnie Gullickson	Team 7 Kathi Mandelert	Team 8 Gene Peissig
Erik Anderson	Larry Annett	Judy Brist	Sara Abendroth	Kathy Borofka	Andrea Brovold	Tim Anderson	Carol Ament
Traci Anderson	Linda Franzel-Annett	Betty Coleman	George Abendroth	Mark Borofka	Steve Brovold	Lillyanna DeWilde	John Ament
Julie Anderson	Bob Bodeau	Keith Coleman	Bob Denman	Holly Gintz	Andrew Brovold	Dan Duffenbach	Diane Comerford
Rees Anderson	Lois Bodeau	James Drace	Bill McDougall	Gerald Giedd	Brooke Brovold	Karolynne Duffenbach	Elizabeth Cripe
Avory Anderson	Jeff Buckli	Robert Hoover	Deb McDougall	Janice Giedd	Lynda Butek	Esther Frazier	Rick Koepke
Anfin Anderson	Deb Buckli	Carla Ingalls	Chuck Norseng	Dick Kemp	Bill Butek	Julie Johnson	Jan Hilton-Koepke
Alex Beighley	Gwen Bauman	Jo Knoble	Chris Norseng	June Kemp	Lea Dirks	Scott Johnson	Pat Pople
Karen Beighley	Tom Lacina	Sue Maitland	Shari OConnell	Allan Peterson	Bonnie Gullickson	Mason Johnson	Josh Ruhe
Ken Beighley	Evelyn Jensen	Hess Morrison	Jon OConnell	Ruth Rosenow	Doug Gullickson	Samuel Johnson	Addie Ruhe
Jon Beighley	John Jensen	Al Namejunas	Jennifer Radke	Rich Rosenow	Susan Gutknecht	Jim Mandelert	Alvina Drumm
Mary Flater	Mitch Mandelert	Margi Namejunas	Alana Radke-Gomez	Chelsea Rosenow	David Gutknecht	Jeannette Miller	Joe Teske
Beth Flater	Barbara Sandford	Marge Nichols	Alivia Radke	Kathy Torres	Patricia Gutknecht	Lilly Krenz	Courtney Erickson
Tim Hager	Louise White	Barbara Sandford	Jesse Torres	Jesse Torres	Karel Hanhart	Ryan Reemtsma	Jean Peissig
Becky Hager	Tom Smith	Louise White	Keion Twyman	Terry Wiedenhoeft	Linda Hanhart	Sara Reemtsma	Isabelle Harmon
Alexander Hager	Winston Baker		Tricia Radke	Christina Wiedenhoeft	Kevin Litten	Amelia Reemtsma	Emersyn Ackerlund
Rachel Hager			Kobe Twyman	Felix Wiedenhoeft	Patricia McGuire	Sadie Reemtsma	Charlie Karker
Michael Hager			Carmi Simonson	Allan Wolfe	Barb MacNaughton	Mary Jo Reemtsma	Richard Teske
Merle Harberts			Matt Simonson	Roxie Wolfe	Gary Shorrel	Paul Parsons	Marlys Daniels
Vance Kohl			Jackson Simonson	Tina Barkell	Barb Shorrel	Bernice Anderson	
Gary Reich			Owen Simonson	Kimi Vaughn	Ellen Teske		
Jackie Reich			Ray Andress	Shelly Svee	Todd Teske		
Jinx Smith				Bradley Davies			
Margi Kohl							
Darin Flater							
Prayer Chain:	If you have a prayer request, please call Margi Kohl at: 715-720-8926(h) or 523-0493(c).						

GORDY'S SCRIP CARDS AVAILABLE

We now have scrip cards from Gordy's and Kwik Trip.

They can be purchased before and after service on Sunday from Kathi Mandelert, Margi Kohl or Corine Boos and during regular office hours from the church office. Corine will be in the church on Mondays from 9 to 10:45 to sell cards too.

Gordy's cards are available in denominations of \$25, \$50 and \$100. The Kwik Trip cards are in \$50 and \$100 amounts.

Your use of these cards has made a real difference to the income side of our church budget. Many thanks to those of you who waited patiently for the Gordy's cards to return as well as to those who purchased the Kwik Trip cards.

Any questions concerning either plan should be directed to Corine Boos.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

February birthdays and anniversaries include:

Feb 1 Bonnie and Doug Gullickson and
Margi Namejunas

Feb 6 Julie Johnson

Feb 7 Beth Cripe

Feb 10 Esther Frazier

Feb 11 Amelia Reemtsma

Feb 12 Barbara Hedrington

Feb 16 Patricia Gutknecht

Feb 20 Ivory Anderson

Feb 22 Jackie Reich

Feb 23 Barbara Meredith

Feb 25 John Jensen

BRING YOUR SOAPS

Our collection point for the Lather with Love campaign will be the special marked box in the Narthex. Please place your laundry detergent, dishwashing soap, shampoo and hand soap in that box for the February Mission Coalition drive.

FPC RECEIVES ITS NEWEST MEMBER

The Session accepted new member, Winston Baker, on January 17. Winston is familiar to many of us having worked with Gene Peissig for several years. Now he is an active member and will appear before the congregation in the next few weeks.

Even before becoming a member, Winston has made a mark here at FPC. Winston currently works with Gene Peissig to keep us safe and make us beautiful. He serves on the Property Committee, works with the Food Pantry and sings baritone in the choir.

FEBRUARY 2018 MINISTRY PROJECT

"LATHER WITH LOVE"



*WE'RE COLLECTING
LAUNDRY DETERGENT,
DISHWASHING SOAP,*



SHAMPOO,



*AND HAND SOAP
FOR THE LOCAL
FOOD PANTRIES.*



This is a joint mission project of a group of local churches and community non-profits known as the **CHIPPEWA FALLS MISSION COALITION**. Our goal is to work together on Social Ministry Projects for the community, as well as help each other with our individual Social Ministry Projects.

For the month of **FEBRUARY** the Chippewa Falls Mission Coalition is collecting laundry detergent, dishwashing soap, shampoo, and hand soap for the various local food pantries. This was an urgent need identified by those food pantries.

Please share your blessings by helping others in need. Please place "*Lather with Love*" items in designated area.

Thank You!

February Schedules

February 4 – Sunday

Hospitality Team – Team 1

Led by Margi Kohl and Dick Kemp

Communion Servers – Mitch Mandelert,
Gary Shorrel, Corine Boos, Beth Cripe, Kevin
Litten

Worship Leader – Jeannette Miller

Welcome Desk – Marlys Daniels

Flower Provider –

February 7 – Wednesday

Barbeques by Team 6 – Anne Welke and
Bonnie Gullickson

February 11 – Sunday

Hospitality Team – Team 2

Led by Lynda Butek and Mary Jo Reemtsma

Worship Leader – Esther Frazier

Welcome Desk – Barbara Meredith

Flower Provider –

February 14 – Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Fish Fry – Presbyterian
Men

Communion Servers – Dick Kemp, Gene
Peissig, Lynda Butek, Jean Peissig

Worship Leader – Gene Peissig

February 18 – Sunday

Hospitality Team – Team 3

Led by Gary Shorrel and Corine Boos

Worship Leader – Erik Anderson

Welcome Desk – Holly Gintz

Flower Provider –

February 21 – Wednesday

Grilled Burgers by Team 2 – Erik
Anderson, Kathi Mandelert and Rick Koepke

February 25 - Sunday

Hospitality Team – Team 4

Led by Jeannette Miller and Jean Peissig

Worship Leader – Terry Wiedenhoeft

Welcome Desk – Bonnie Gullickson

Flower Provider –

February 28 – Wednesday

Chef's Choice by Team 3 – Kevin Litten
and Marlys Daniels