



# The Bell

November, 2018

Monthly Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

## NOTES FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

With Karel being in Holland spending time with his aged and ailing mother, Lynda Butek asked me to write some notes from the Pastor's desk, on any subject I chose.

I would like to tell you about our Sunday morning adult bible study course, "The Confessions of St. Augustine". When I enthusiastically announced "The Confessions" to the group, I was surprised at how few knew of St. Augustine. I will assume you too, are unfamiliar with his writings, so I'll give you a little back ground on Bishop Augustine of Hippo (354-430 c.e.).

Augustine was born in Thagaste, a Roman city in North Africa in what is now Algeria. His father was a pagan, and his mother was a Christian. For the first 31 years of Augustine's life he too was a pagan. At age 31 he had a conversion to Christianity, very similar to Paul's conversion, and with the same result, both Paul and Augustine were prolific Christian writers and Theologians.

"The Confessions" are 13 books, we would call them chapters, that are almost like eaves dropping on a prayer. The first 9 books are autobiographic, the last 4 books outline the structure of Christian institutions and the relationship between Christian and pagan thought and the controversies that arose over the proper understanding of God.

The course on "The Confessions" is 24 lectures. That will take us into late March or early April. If the interest is still there, I'd like to jump right into another classic writing by Augustine, The City of God, a story of the fall of the Roman Empire and Christianity in 410 c.e. and Christianity's struggle to rise from the ashes.

Everyone is welcome to attend. It's not necessary to commit to perfect attendance. If this sounds interesting to you, come Sunday morning, class starts at 9:00 in the library. Grab a cup of coffee and join us.

Gene

## **TIME FOR A CHANGE**

Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour before you go to bed on Saturday November 3. Daylight Savings time ends at 2:00 AM Sunday morning and you certainly wouldn't want to get to church early, now would you.

## **MORE CHANGES TO COME**

This time we're talking about the colors in the church.

We have been using green for growth during the summer and early fall and we will continue with that color during most of November. But on November 25 we will change to white for Christ the King Sunday.

Then it's purple for Advent.

## **IT'S BAZAAR/HAM LOAF DINNER TIME AGAIN**

While the annual PW Bazaar has been somewhat scaled back this year, it will still be a fun way to spend an afternoon and get that special gift too. The bazaar will be held on November 14, with shopping from 3 to 6:30 PM.

As usual volunteers are needed to help in various areas, including set up, kitchen help and serving and cleanup. Sign up sheets are available in the Narthex for those who can help.

The bazaar will include a bake and hot soup table, so baked goods will be welcome. The candy shop will welcome your homemade sweet treats. Trash "n' Treasures will be featured in the Library. All donations of your talents will be welcome.

Dinner will include the traditional ham loaf, scalloped potatoes, vegetables, cole slaw, roll, dessert and beverage for \$10.00. Dinner will be served from 4:30 to 6:30.

And, of course, we need shoppers so spread the news to your neighbors and friends.

## **FPC MAKES PLANS FOR THANKSGIVING**

For those people of the church and their friends who might be alone on Thanksgiving, we are planning a special meal in the church. This would be a potluck with dishes chosen ahead of time and a donation taken to cover the cost of the turkey and any other incidentals we might need.

If you are interested in having Thanksgiving in the church, please sign up in the Narthex. If you would like to have Thanksgiving in your own home and could host several church friends, please sign up for that instead. Remember, this is just for our church friends and their friends who might be alone at this time.

## **ORGAN WORK COMPLETE**

The repaired organ pipes have been returned to the church and the instrument is back up to its full potential.

Many thanks to those members who so generously contributed to this project. With their donations, we were able to have the repairs done without dipping into the Restricted Fund.

## **CHRISTMAS IS COMING!**

It's not too early to start thinking about Christmas decorations for the church and your home.

Once again, FPC is looking for people to purchase poinsettias to grace the sanctuary during Christmas before going home with the donors. The plants will cost \$9.00 as they did last year.

If you are interested in purchasing a plant, please fill out the form in this issue of the Bell and put the form and your check in the offering plate or send it to the church or put it in the office mail slot. Be sure to note Poinsettias in the memo line of your check.

Use the order form in this issue of the Bell or watch for more information in the Sunday bulletins.

## **SPEAKING OF CHANGES .....**

Probably one of the biggest changes facing our church this year is losing Barbara Sandford, who has been providing piano and organ music here for many years.

Barb and her husband, Tom, have decided to move (at least for the six cold months of the year) to Florida to be close to one of their sons and his family and take advantage of the warm weather. For some strange reason Tom doesn't like shoveling snow. During the summer, the Sandfords will move back to Wisconsin to be near their other son and his family and enjoy their cabin at the lake.

November 18 will be Barb's last day with us. It is with heavy hearts that we say "So long", not goodbye because we expect to see her again once the weather warms up.

Good luck in your future, Barb. We will miss you and the joy you have brought to us with your music.

## **CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS FOR THE GUTKNECHTS**

David Gutknecht's sister-in-law, Mary Gutknecht of Pagosa Springs, Colorado passed away unexpectedly on Monday, October 15 from a brain aneurism. Surviving her is husband Robert and daughters, Cynthia, Pamela and their families. Mary was 83. Our condolences go to the Gutknecht family.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL FALL HAM LOAF DINNER

WEDNESDAY, NOV 14      4:30 -6:30 P.M.

MENU

HAM LOAF      SCALLOPED POTATOES

COLE SLAW      VEGATABLES

DESSERT      ROLL      BEVERAGE

MEAL \$10.00

TAKE OUT MEALS ALSO AVAILABLE

ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR

SHOPPING BEGINS AT 3 PM

CANDY BOOTH

TRASH 'N' TREASURES

BAKED GOODS/HOT SOUPS

JOIN US AT

130 W. CENTRAL STREET    CHIPPEWA FALLS

## **BEST WISHES**

Our congratulations and best wishes go out to the following people who are celebrating birthdays and/or anniversaries in November:

November 2 Tim Hager  
November 3 Vance Kohl, Kobe Twyman  
November 7 Bonnie Gullickson  
November 8 Lea Dirks, Tracia Radke, Owen Simonson  
November 10 Julie Anderson  
November 11 Holly Gintz  
November 14 Kathi Mandelert  
November 15 Kathy and Randy Facklam  
November 16 Dan Duffenbach  
November 17 Josh Ruhe, Carmi Simonson  
November 19 Ryan Reemtsma  
November 22 Patricia McGuire  
November 25 Andrew Brovold  
November 26 Jean Peissig, Mary Rosenau  
November 27 Karel and Linda Hanhart

## **FOOD FOR MORE CHALLENGE LAGS BEHIND LAST YEAR**

It's that time of year again. The Feed My People Food For More Challenge is upon us!

We have until October 28 to raise AT LEAST \$6,000 to meet the \$10,000 goal we have set for ourselves. To date we have raised only \$4,000.

Feed My People will match one pound of food for each dollar raised UP TO \$5,000. Last year we set our sights at \$10,000 and exceeded this goal. Can you help us meet our goal again?

## **PRESBYTERIANS LEND THEIR HANDS AGAIN**

Many thanks to those from our church who helped with the October 11 Joy Day. They included Bonnie and Doug Gullickson, Holly Gintz, Margi Kohl, Corine Boos, Anne Welke and Barb Meredith.

These volunteers made sandwiches, bars, helped serve food to the 45 people who came and, of course, helped with cleanup.

On October 22, Ellen and Todd Teske, Marlys Daniels and Anne Welke served 30 people at Barnabas House. Thank you to Corine Boos and Margi Kohl for making the dessert.

We always enjoy serving this group. If anyone would like to help or could make a dessert, please contact Anne Welke.

# POINSETTIAS

We are now taking orders for poinsettias that will grace the chancel area this Christmas season. The cost is \$9.00 per plant. Please fill out the order form. Return to the church office with your payment as soon as possible. Submit your order:

- 1) during office hours (9 to 2:00 Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday)
  - 2) by mailing to the church
  - 3) or, put order and payment in offering plate on Sunday
- (Remember to write "poinsettia" in memo blank on your check.)

The plants may be picked up after the Christmas Eve service. Of the plants not picked up, some will be saved for the following Sunday and others distributed in the community.

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I want to purchase (how many) \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettias for display in our church chancel during the Advent/Christmas weekend.

I would like designation(s) in the church bulletin to read:

In Memory of:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

In Appreciation for:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

In Celebration of:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

(other title) \_\_\_\_\_:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

From:

\_\_\_\_\_

Return to:	First Presbyterian Church	Phone: 715-723-5717	Amount paid _____
	130 West Central Street		Check # _____
	Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin 54729-2345		Cash _____

## **TRUNK OR TREAT**

We are having a fundraiser to raise money for toilet paper to give out at the food pantry. Marjorie Kritchman and Tiffany Wogahn from the Food Pantry are working with Kevin Litten to put on a Trunk or Treat event on Halloween. We have purposely timed it to be at the same time as the downtown trick or treating hours, 3pm-5pm.

Trunk or Treat is meant to provide a safe & fun trick-or-treating experience for kids. This event takes place in our parking lot where kids go car-to-car to get their treats instead of door-to-door. We have reached out to various agencies and small business to see if they'd like to hand candy out of their trunks in our (Gordy's) parking lot. It's basically free advertising for them as they can give information to the parents while the kids get the candy.

In addition we'll have cookies, warm drinks, and a really fun photo booth with a green screen in the Narthex. This will allow different kinds of backgrounds to be used! Gordy's is allowing us to section off part of their parking lot closest to the church so the kids will have a safe place to go from car-to-car. We will also be giving out headstone trophies to the top three best decorated trunks. The kids will place their votes when they've finished seeing all the trunks.

The businesses or agencies will give us a free-will donation this year to participate. It's our first year and we have no idea what to expect. Weather will play a big role. If this event is a success, we can expand it next year to include games and perhaps even a bake table inside.

So far the public feedback looks like they're all as excited as we are! You're welcome to come down and join us for some spooky fun and yummy treats. Happy Halloween!

## **PAINTING OF ORIGINAL FPC HANGS IN CHURCH**

The Presbyterian Church of Chippewa Falls was the first Protestant church in Chippewa Falls and was organized in 1855. Worshippers originally met every other week in an old log cabin school on the east side of Duncan Creek where it meets with the Chippewa River. The building was called the "log cabin school church." Eventually that building was destroyed by a fire.

In 1856 a new church was erected on our present church site. The land and much of the lumber was donated by H.S. Allen who owned a local lumber company. The Galloway sisters sponsored parties, dances, basket socials and various other types of entertainments to raise money for this building. The new church was built with volunteer labor.

This new building was also used by the Episcopalians and Methodists until they could build their own houses of worship. In 1883 the building was moved up Island street so that the current church could be built.

Our former historian, Bruce Miller, found an actual photo of the first church building and asked Evelyn Jenson to paint it. Not long before her passing, she gave the painting to the church and it has been hung on the stairs leading to Fellowship Hall.

# News from the Mission Team...

Submitted by Barb Shorrel

This past month we promoted several mission projects.

On October 7, World Communion Sunday, we collected our denomination's Peace and Global Witness Offering.

- You contributed a total of \$655.
- We sent \$491.25 of that total to the Presbytery for distribution to mission projects of the PC(USA) and our Synod.
- We kept 25% of the offering to use locally. We sent \$163.75 to the Family Support Center here in Chippewa Falls to help them continue their work of helping families in our community.
- THANKS!

There's a lot happening this month at the Food Pantry:

- We are promoting the Feed My People Match Challenge to help to fund our Food Pantry mission. Please see the article on the Food Pantry for more information. THE LAST DAY TO CONTRIBUTE IS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28.
- Gordy's Turkey Give Away Punch Card: Gordy's is offering a free turkey if you have a completed punch card. For every \$10 you spend, you will receive a stamp on the card. If you shop at Gordy's and do not want the turkey yourself, we encourage you to participate and give your card, completed or not, to the lady at the welcome desk. The Food Pantry volunteers will combine all the cards to make completed cards. They will give them to clients who can use them to get a free 14 lb. turkey. The last day to get your turkey stamp is November 23, but you can still get a turkey through November 30.
- I hope that you have seen the PowerPoint presentation about the Food Pantry. It has been shown a couple of times during worship, but will be shown again on October 28. I hope that you will consider being a volunteer. Thanks, Tiffany, for a job well done on the PowerPoint.

An opportunity to help our troops...

We are helping the Chippewa Valley YMCA to collect items for care packages to send to our troops overseas. See the list posted on the tower for suggested items. Do you know someone serving overseas? Fill out the form to add that person's name to the list to receive a care package and drop it off at the Y. Bring your items to worship on Sunday and add it to the box in the sanctuary. We will see that the items are delivered to the Y by the deadline, Friday, Nov. 9.

Noisy Sunday—September 30

You contributed \$130 to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to help people affected by Hurricane Florence.

Upcoming: On December 23 we collect the Christmas Joy Offering.  
On December 16, we will have Alternate Gift Sunday.

# November Schedules

## November 4 – Sunday

**Hospitality Team** – Team 8  
Led by Gene Peissig and Beth Cripe

**Communion Servers** – Beth Cripe, Erik Anderson, Mitch Mandelert, Kevin Litten, Bob Denman

**Welcome Desk** – Margi Kohl

**Flower Provider** – Bob Denman given for his father, Ray Powell Denman's birthday

## November 7 – Wednesday

**Soup by Team 1** - Corine Boos, Margi Kohl and Lynda Butek

## November 11 – Sunday

**Hospitality Team** – Team 1  
Led by Margi Kohl and Dick Kemp

**Welcome Desk** – Barb Meredith

**Flower Providers**– Gary and Barb Shorrel in honor of our veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice

## November 14 – Wednesday

**Hamloaf Dinner by PW**

## November 18 - Sunday

**Hospitality Team** – Team 2  
Led by Mary Jo Reemtsma and Lynda Butek

**Welcome Desk** – Jean Peissig

**Flower Provider** – Open

## November 21 – Wednesday

**No meal - Thanksgiving**

## November 25 - Sunday

**Hospitality Team** – Team 3  
Led by Gary Shorrel and Corine Boos

**Welcome Desk** – Anne Welke

**Flower Provider** – Jinx Smith in loving memory of Doug and Steve

## November 28 – Wednesday

**Erik's Surprise by Team 2** - Erik Anderson, Kathi Mandelert and Rick Koepke

## **WE STILL HAVE SCRIP CARDS AVAILABLE**

We have scrip cards for Gordy's and KwikTrip. Remember, these make nice, quick Christmas gifts for your post-person, paper-person and others on your gift list. See Corine for more information.