

# COMMUNITY CALL

Ministers: The People of God; Pastor: Rev. D. Matthew Stith  
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## NEW ADDITION DEDICATION



Come and see what God has done and join in the dedication of Community Presbyterian Church's Project Open Door on Sunday, January 14th, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Cake and refreshments will follow the dedication.

This historic event in the life of the church is one you will not want to miss. For those unable to drive and needing assistance, call Lee or Lia Dobrinz at: 281-3052 or 866-1680 or Steve or Sue Hanna at: 282-8946 or 261-3150.\* (*\*Please note correction.*)

## 2007 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 28, with Sunday, February 4, set as a storm date.

All committees and groups should have their yearly reports in by January 15 to give the clerk time to get the report distributed to the congregation a week before the meeting. These reports should reflect the activities of the committees and groups for the year of 2006.

Please make an effort to attend this important meeting of your church.

Delores Horn, Clerk of Session

## PASTOR'S PEN

This is a big month for us at Community Presbyterian Church. January of 2007 will be marked by three big events in the church's life, and I want to devote this month's column to reflecting, briefly, on each of them. The first, of which you have likely already heard, is the dedication of the Project Open Door addition to our building. This will take place as the final part of the worship service on Sunday, January 14. By this service, we will praise God for granting us the vision and the opportunity to embark on this project, and for guiding us and providing for us as we saw it through. We will also dedicate the new addition to his service, and



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ask for his blessing upon all of his people who will use it down through the generations. According to the City of West Fargo, we will be allowed to make full use of the building as soon as we receive a Certificate of Occupancy, but we will not truly be ready to use it until we have joyfully and seriously commended the building and its occupants to the One who made it possible. I can hardly wait.

The second big event of this January will be our hosting, on the 26th and 27th, of a meeting of the Presbytery of the Northern Plains. Our Presbyterian brothers and sisters from all across North Dakota and the Red River Valley will be joining together here, in our building, to worship God and to conduct the business of his church. This is the first opportunity we have had for many, many years to play host to a presbytery meeting, because, until the completion of Project Open Door, our lack of access for persons with disabilities disqualified us from participating in the life of the larger church in this way. I hope that as many of you as possible will take advantage of this opportunity to see the church in action on a different level than that to which we are accustomed. If you wish to help us extend our hospitality to the commissioners and guests at the meeting, there are a number of ways to do so, and either I or Delores Horn would be glad to hear from you. For more information, go to <http://www.northernplainspresbytery.com>.

The final event of which I am thinking might not seem, at first glance, to be as "big" or "exciting" as the first two. Indeed, it may seem, at first thought, to be nothing but a chore and a bother. The annual meeting of the congregation, in which the members of CPC will elect

new classes of elders and trustees, address the finances and other corporate business of the church, and otherwise prepare our ministry for the new year, will be held after worship on Sunday the 28th. And, while this event may lack some of the "wow factor" of the other two, I would argue that, in many ways, it is the most significant. By bringing the membership of the church together to order and conduct the church's ministry, by giving voice and vote to all our members, and by identifying elders and other leaders to shepherd us in the years to come, we take our place in the most ancient traditions of the church, doing what has been done among God's people since those first days after Jesus' ascension back in Jerusalem. It is an honor and a privilege for us to stand in the footsteps of Peter and James. We also reaffirm and embody what is best in our Reformed and Presbyterian heritage, honoring the example and teachings of Calvin, Knox, and our American Presbyterian forefathers and mothers. It is a humbling thing, but also a source of great joy and wonder, to see all that God has done and is still doing in our midst. May he continue to bless us and keep us always.

### **VALENTINE DINNER NEWS**

Keep your calendars open for Saturday, February 10th\* when Andrew and Janine Steele will treat us to a scrumptious Valentine Dinner. This is their way of saying "Thank you" to all of their church family who helped them after a fire occurred in their home this past summer.

Watch for sign-up sheets on the narthex bulletin boards and plan on attending this mouth-watering event.

*\*Please note date correction.*





## JANUARY CLERK'S CORNER

The Session and Trustees met on December 20th. The POD representatives met with them and reported that a preliminary walkthrough to inspect the building would be done on January 2nd. January 14th has been tentatively set as the date for dedication of the new building. The Trustees are working to ensure that the insurance policy will cover both the old and new portions of the church. The custodian's job description will be reviewed to make adjustments in lieu of the additional areas to be cared for.

The Session approved January 28th as the date for the 2007 Annual Meeting with February 4th as the storm date.

The following fee schedule was approved for funerals. The custodial fee is \$74 for sanctuary use and \$75 for fellowship hall use. A donation of \$100 for a funeral service and \$25 each for a prayer service and a graveside/committal is suggested for pastoral duties. Organist/pianist fees are \$60 for a funeral service and \$25 for a separate rehearsal with the soloist. Fees for a soloist range between \$30 and \$50 to be negotiated with soloist.

Rick Chase was approved to become a member of the church as soon as he publicly states his reaffirmation of faith. He is the husband of Dawn Vail Chase.

The Session decided to ask representatives of groups who wish space in either the new or old portions of the church building to meet with the Session on Wednesday, January 3rd at 7:00 p.m., so that the amount of space requested for each will be known.

A change in the contract with Curt Brophy, youth director, was approved. Under the new contract he will be a 12

month employee working 24 hours a month at a salary of \$12.50 per hour. Permission was given for the Moorhead Youth Group to present a skit on January 21st during worship to prepare the congregation for the Youth Group's February 4th food pantry mission project.

The Church Personnel Evaluations & Mission Statement will be reviewed during the year. The Session will take a more visible role in this process.

The taking of an offering on Christmas was approved with the funds to be used for the general fund. Communion for March was rescheduled from March 4th to March 11th. Pastor Stith was given permission for additional leave time to read ordination examinations representing the Presbytery on March 4th - March 8th in Chicago. He will take a week of study leave from February 26th to March 4th.

Christmas basket recipients have been very appreciative of the baskets they received from the Congregational Care Committee. The advertisement for bookkeeper/office assistant will be run for two more weeks since a qualified applicant has not been found.

The Session approved presenting the following names to the congregation at the annual meeting to serve as officers: Elders: Vickie Riedinger, Melissa Eiter, and Vicky Whitcomb; Trustees: Andrew Thostenson and Robert Galt; Nominating Committee: Marlys Martin, Carol Sterup, and Lynn Hummel (An elder will be chosen later to serve as chair of this committee); and Treasurer: Cheryl Montgomery. The Session also approved the recommendation that a committee be formed to revise the By-Laws of the church to be voted on at the 2008 annual meeting.

The Trustees were instructed to look  
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into leasing a new copier as the current one has been in use several years and has been having problems lately.

The Clerk reported that 131 persons were served Communion on December 3rd. A total of \$465.25 was realized from the Candy and Cookie Sale.

Delores Horn, Clerk of Session

**JANUARY  
DATES  
TO REMEMBER**

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 1-1 Jessie LaCoe
- 1-4 Wil Petik
- 1-5 Evan Thostenson
- 1-8 Craig Pederson  
Ross Montgomery
- 1-10 Elizabeth Meyer
- 1-11 Kristina Sterup  
Nan Wiese
- 1-12 Isaac Leopold
- 1-12 Richard Whitcomb
- 1-15 Ronda Green
- 1-18 Grace Moorhead
- 1-19 Donna Gertz
- 1-21 Jenna Olson
- 1-22 Derek Leopold
- 1-23 Austin Montgomery
- 1-24 Nancy Stedman
- 1-26 Gail Matzke
- 1-27 Jennifer Clennon
- 1-28 Brenda Bjorklund
- 1-28 Brian Matzke
- 1-29 LaVerne Dahl  
Kaylee Jo Sharbono
- 1-30 Julie Faircloth  
Pat Langfitt  
Matthew Pyle
- 1-31 Cooper Pederson



**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1-9-82 – Brent and Boots Montgomery
- 1-16-81 - Martin and LaVerne Dahl
- 1-19-57 – Edwin and Harriet Diede

**JANUARY MISSION:  
TEEN MOMS**



Teen Moms is our focus for the month of January. In talking with Linda Bass, they could really use Christian books and videos or children's Bibles. Other needs are diapers in medium sizes and baby wipes. Bring in your donation now and place it in the blue tote. Thanks!

If you have time to volunteer, they are looking for people to watch children on Tuesday nights for about 1 1/2 hours while the Teen Moms meet for Bible study. All they ask is that the volunteers be high school aged or older. If you can help please call Linda at 729-3039. It's a good way to give Teen Moms extra support!

**BLUE TOTE OVERFLOWS WITH  
NEW LIFE CENTER DONATIONS!**

How many ways can we say thank you? Here's what you all donated for the New Life Center in November: 15 pairs of thermal pants, 9 crew thermal shirts, 10 sets of gloves, 10 warm caps, 37 sets of socks, and 1 package of briefs! It was all very much appreciated!

**PER CAPITA**

2007 per capita is due at the Presbytery of the Northern Plains office soon. Community Presbyterian's obligations for this total \$9.263. The per capita per adult member this year is \$31.40. Adult members include all of those who have been confirmed in the church along with adults who have joined the church in another manner.

Please pay your per capita assessment as soon as you are able so that this obligation can be paid.



**SOUL TRAIN THANKS**

Soul Train would like to wish everyone a joyous holiday season. It is a time to reflect back on all the special times that we have had so far and look forward to many more. Our meetings could not have been so enjoyable and gone so smoothly without the help of our church family. We would like to thank the following people for helping with meals, driving, and giving us ideas, supplies and support.

- Tom and Cathy Birrenkott
- Kadra Brophy
- Lee and Lia Dobrinz
- Steve and Sue Hanna
- Dawn Larson
- Jim and Marlys Martin
- Marty and Debbie Matzke
- Anneus and Marj Meester
- Terry and Carolyn Meester
- Cheryl Montgomery
- Michelle Ohm
- Jackie Petik
- Gloria Ruhnke
- Scott Stenshoel
- Andrew Steele
- Karen Steele
- Dwight Steffen
- Carol Sterup
- Toni Stith
- Brent and Carey Talley

...and anyone else I forgot - sorry...

Have a great holiday season and we will be back again in January.

Merry Christmas,  
Becky, Lisa and Curt

**2006-2007  
SUNDAY SCHOOL  
SCHEDULE**



- Jan. 28 Memorization Sunday
- Mar. 4 Memorization Sunday
- April 8 Easter-No Sunday School
- May 13 Memorization Sunday
- May 20 Last Day of Sunday School



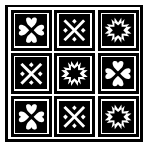
**MIDDLE  
SCHOOL  
SOUL TRAIN  
CALENDAR**

- Jan. 21 6:30-8:30 – dinner and 7-Up
- 28 6:30 -8:30 - ???
- Feb. 4 Super Bowl party – at Talley’s – details TBA
- 11 Valentine’s Day Dinner – helping Steele’s– details TBA
- 18 skiing – look for sign-up sheets
- 25 6:30-8:30 – ???
- Mar 4 6:30-8:30 – ???
- 11 6:30-8:30 – Father’s Day Dinner
- 18 6:30-8:30 – Bingo
- 25 YMCA Sleepover–details TBA
- April 1 Easter Egg Extravaganza – details TBA
- 8 Easter Sunrise Service
- 15 Jamestown Retreat – flyers coming soon
- 22 6:30-8:30 – ???
- 29 6:30-8:30 – Think About God – yet another challenge to the HS!!
- May 6 6:30-8:30 – ???
- 13 6:30-8:30 – Mother’s Day Dinner

**DINNERS REQUESTED  
FOR SOUL TRAIN**

We are looking for people that would be interested in serving dinner for the MS Soul Train. We have 20 very polite and hungry people who like to enjoy conversation and fellowship over a scrumptious meal. If you could help please let Becky (281-8122) or Lisa (282-5308) know. Thank you.

- Jan. 21, 28
- Feb. 25
- March 4, 11, 18
- April 1, 22, 29
- May 6, 13, 20



## CHRISTMAS QUILT

The drawing for the Christmas quilt was held on Sunday, December 17, during the coffee time in the fellowship hall. The winner was Lance Schiltz.

The Quilters made \$166 dollars from this venture which they will use to pay for quilting expenses for the next year. Thanks to all who contributed to this worthy cause.

## THE BIG GAME IS FEBRUARY 4TH, 2007



The Souper Bowl of Caring is a youth-led, grassroots movement of caring, the result of thousands of young people joining together to fight hunger and poverty in their communities. Since 1990, \$33 million has been raised for charities across the country. Every penny raised on Souper Bowl Sunday is donated directly to the charity each individual group chooses. Those charities provide shelter to the homeless, food to the hungry, and compassion to the lonely. Individual totals will be added to all of the other collections across the country so a national total can be reported to the media!

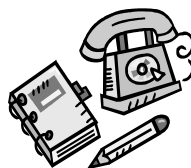
On Sunday, January 21st, the youth from the Moorhead Presbyterian Church will be performing a short skit to tell us more about Souper Bowl Sunday. On Sunday, February 4th, we will be collecting money for this worthwhile movement. Funds will go to the Dorothy Day Food Pantry.

**THANKS SO MUCH** for remembering me with the fruit basket, nuts and wonderful banana bread.



Also.....I want to thank so many of you who have been working so hard in the "Open Door Project." I appreciate it. Can't wait to see it finished.

Goodie Paulsen



## DIRECTORY OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES

It is time to start working on the 2007 Church Directory. If you have had an address or telephone number change, please get the information to the church office. A copy of the current directory will be placed in the narthex so that you can change information.

## YOUR HELP IS NEEDED



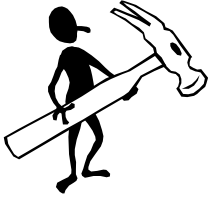
On January 26 and 27, Community Presbyterian Church will be hosting a Presbytery of the Northern Plains meeting. We will need people to help with many aspects of being hosts: greeters, registration desk workers, people to give directions, people to prepare and serve coffee breaks, meals, etc. We would like both men and women to sign up to with this event.

We have not hosted a presbytery meeting for many years. It is a big undertaking, but also an opportunity to open our doors and share our beautiful new addition. If you can help, please let Delores Horn know as soon as possible.



## 2007 HEAD USHER LIST

January	Dwight Steffen
February	Dale Matzke
March	Bob Gross
April	Dave Ruhnke
May	Brent Montgomery
June	Larry Peihl
July	Jack Smith
August	Chuck Thompson
September	Don Van Cleve
October	Jim Bjorklund
November	Derek Leopold
December	Will Petik



## PROJECT OPEN DOOR

By the time you read this report, the dedication of the POD building addition will likely have been completed.

So, it is difficult to report on the happenings when so much is going on and at such a rapid pace. Let's try.

First, only the fine detail work needs to be done, otherwise, the project is substantially complete. The only exceptions for the contractors are the removal of the temporary sidewalk to the old south door and the sealing and filling of the kitchen door and stairway. Both of those items will be deferred until spring.

Second, our cash flow has been solid to date. Timely gifts, both expected and unexpected, coupled with drawn out contractor billings allowed us to borrow less funds in December than anticipated. Looking ahead we will take our final draw from the PCUSA in January and this coupled with gifts should allow us to meet our January and February billings. Our cost overruns to date are within our budget. However, as we get to the end of both the construction and the contracts, we will likely be doing some wrangling (especially with respect to our mechanical contractor). Thus, we still have some hurdles, so your prayers and your gifts will continue to be welcomed.

Finally, while the contractors and the temporary storage containers will soon leave, there is still considerable work that needs to be done, such as:

- How will we use the new space?
- What furnishings will we need?
- What things, like shelves and racks, will we want to build?
- What painting will we want to undertake in older portions of the church (especially where

fire pipes and vent ducts are exposed)?

Will we want to put a false ceiling in the old downstairs' hallway?

What about landscaping in the spring?

The questions and the work that they entail mean that there will be plenty of activity, probably for the next year. But, all those aside, let us rejoice in knowing that another milestone in the life of the church has been achieved. Because, on January 14th, 2007, the doors will be open. Rejoice. Praise God!



## CHRISTMAS DINNER THANKS

Thanks to all our church families who served at the Salvation Army Christmas Dinner on Christmas Eve. Your service contributed the evening's success. We all reflected--as best we could--the light of Christ to those whom we fed.

We served about 180 meals to the Meals on Wheels people and over 100 meals to our own sit down patrons.

God bless you all,  
Dixon

## GET COOKING!

If you haven't received your copy yet, CPC Presbyterian Women cookbooks are still available. Even better, we have sold enough cookbooks to pay for the printing, so that any additional sales will be deposited in the Project Open Door account.

The books are twelve dollars each; after one buys five or more, the cookbooks are ten dollars each. Cookbooks are available for sale after worship or contact Carol Duggan (282-4887).



## Stewardship Campaign 2007

### Luke 6:38

*Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.*

Your written pledges will help the Session to efficiently plan for the ministry and mission of Community Presbyterian Church in 2007.

If you have not yet responded, we urge you to let us know in January how you plan to support the ministry and mission of the church.

**It is critical for our church's financial planning that each member or family complete the following pledge form and either mail it to the church or put it in the offering plate.**



Name or Envelope #: \_\_\_\_\_

### Giving Commitment:

I/We intend to provide financial support for Community Presbyterian Church's general fund in 2007 in the amount of:

\$\_\_\_\_\_ per wk/mo/yr.\*

I/We intend to provide financial support for the Presbyterian Church USA through our per capita support in 2007

\$\_\_\_\_\_

**Note that our church's obligation for 2007 per capita for each confirmed or professing member will be \$31.40. Per capita supports the local, regional, and global work of the Presbytery, the Synod, and the Presbyterian Church (USA). You are asked to contribute this amount in addition to your ordinary giving.**

*\*Please circle to indicate if you anticipate fulfilling your pledge in weekly, monthly or yearly installments.*