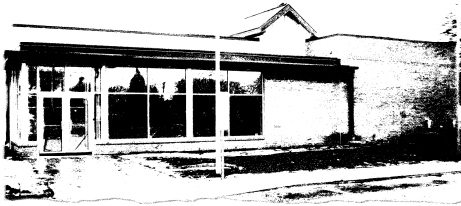


COMMUNITY CALL

Ministers: The People of God; Pastor: Rev. D. Matthew Stith
702 Sheyenne St., P.O. 546, West Fargo, ND 58078 701-282-4135 E-mail: office@cpcwf.org Web: http://cpcwf.org

2008 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday,

January 20, with Sunday, January 27, set as a storm date.

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

Delores Horn, Clerk of Session

SAVE THE DATE

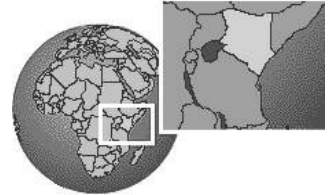
April 11-12-13 is the Jamestown Retreat. It is an amazing experience. Our goal is to have all 6th-12th graders make this event a priority in their schedules. "I can't play in the volleyball tournament because I have a church retreat." "I can't go to the sleepover because I want to go to a church retreat." "I can't ... _____ because I have a church retreat." Put God first for this remarkable experience.



Specific details will be coming soon.

Becky, Lisa and Curt

BLAIR'S AFRICAN NEWS



Dear Family and Friends,

Happy New Year from the other side of the world! I do wish the New Year were a little happier in Kenya; your thoughts and prayers for the nation are much appreciated. Since it's not really the job of a guest in Kenya to become a political commentator, I'm going to let you read the news and tell you more about
(Continued on page 2)

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the personal side of the holidays.

It was very strange to spend a Christmas away from home, although I was surrounded with love and laughter on the 25th. All the volunteers got together at our coordinator's home for American food (homemade macaroni and cheese!) and a great mix of international company. With the emphasis of Christmas not so solidly placed on shopping, it was also a great experience to distill the personal meaning of Christmas. I got to read my Bible at home, do personal prayers and really meditate on the message. Although, I must say I really missed CPC's candle light service. Yes, yes, I missed you too, Mom and Dad.

Yet I didn't miss my Dad for long, because he and Grace came to visit on December 26! We spent election day in Nairobi, where everything was basically shut down for voting, and then spent the next three days in the Masai Mara, hanging out with lions and the one other Dutch family at our campsite. We arrived back in town as things were heating up post-election, but Dad and Grace took off safely, and I have been ridiculously safe as well.

Yet, obviously that is not the case for many people in the nation right now, and let me close this update with another request for prayer. Let's lift up our Kenyan partners now and remember how interconnected we are as God's children.

Thank you and again Happy New Year!

Love,
Blair

EDITOR'S NOTE: Blair is currently serv-

ing in Nairobi, Kenya with the PC (USA)'s Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program. For more news about her work in Africa, Go to Blair Moorhead's blog at:

<http://blairinkenya.blogspot.com/>

CHRISTMAS QUILT

The drawing for Christmas quilt was on Sunday, December 16th, following the Sunday School program.

The winner of this beautiful quilt was Amy Matzke. Congratulations Amy and thanks to you and all others who bought chances for the quilt. All monies collected will go to fund the Quilters many projects which include wedding quilts, mission quilts, prayer quilts, and military blocks.

THANK YOU!

The Soul Train would like to thank everyone for their generous support of the Christmas bake sale. We made \$475.00 to help with our projects throughout the year. We were told that when you buy baked goods from the church only the bank account gets bigger and not the waistlines.

Have a Blessed New Year,
Becky, Lisa, and Curt.

2008 HEAD USHERS 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	Wil Petik



NOVEMBER CLERK'S CORNER

Session met on November 28, 2007. Brandon Smith, confirmand, and Greg Sterup, mentor, attended the meeting as part of the confirmation process.

The financial report showed that \$3,000 is needed to be paid by the end of the year to complete payment of the per capita assessment. The bank note at this time was at \$15,082.93. About \$30,000 would be needed to end the year without debt. The increases in expenses were mainly due to personnel, per-capita, and expenses associated with the building addition. The treasurer, then, presented preliminary ideas for the 2008 budget based on actual expenses from 2006 and 2007.

Stewardship Committee reported on their work on the Capital Campaign. Session approved incorporating a mission component into the campaign, and they approved removing financing of any landscaping work. Session also asked that Stewardship provide a prioritized list of recommendations regarding the use of funds from the proposed capital campaign for the December meeting.

Miranda Schmidt was removed from the rolls at her request. A bake sale by the youth group was approved for Dec. 9 & 16. Communion dates for 2008 will be as follows: Jan. 13, Feb. 3, March 2, March 20, April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, Aug. 3, Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7, and Dec. 25. Carrie Leopold was given permission to host the 2nd Annual Handbell Concert on Sunday, April 6 (alternate date of April 13), at 3:00 p.m.

The Presbytery Mission Committee's request to solicit funds on Dec. 2 for

Edwin, a Chogoria Kenyan pastor, was approved. Edwin has been offered a 2 year scholarship to study at Erskine Theological Seminary in S.C., but will need to raise the funds for his airfare by himself. The Mission Committee will send the funds and, then, ask churches to contribute since Edwin will have to be there by Jan. 2nd to start his studies.

A request from the Brilliant, Ravishing, Audacious Society to use the fellowship hall on Jan. 7 at 7:00 p.m. for a Secret Angel Party was approved.

Nominating Committee presented the names for positions of Elders, Deacons and Building Trustees. One more elder and one more trustee are needed before the next meeting when Session will approve the names to be submitted to the congregation at the Annual Meeting.

The Revised Corporate By-Laws were approved for recommendation of congregational approval. The Personnel Committee consists of Vicki Riedinger, Chair, Marlys Martin, Brent Montgomery, and Lia Dobrinz with Mary Holte as their Presbytery liaison. They are currently getting job descriptions together for the various jobs of the church employees.

The Mission Committee reported that giving is down this year from previous years. \$500 was given to Andy and Carrie Downer for their Cameroon Mission. One table was filled for the Youth for Christ Banquet. The goal is two tables for next year.

Attendance awards for the Sunday School will be presented in January. Jamestown Retreat is April 11-13. All youth are encouraged to attend. Bonnie Thompson is heading up the Youth Christmas program. Curt Brophy and Dawn Larson are planning a winter ski trip.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

New Head Ushers are being sought for 2008. New welcome folders have been ordered. Another training session will be offered in January for interested persons.

Matt will be on vacation on Dec. 25 and Jan. 7. Dave Ruhnke and Chuck Traylor will preach in his absence. Matt will serve as moderator for the Casselton Church as their pastor has accepted a call to a Duluth church.

Clerk reported that 121 people were served communion on Nov. 4. A funeral for Ann Pyle was held at the West Funeral Home on Nov. 4.

Melissa Barenthsen, Clerk Pro-Tem

**PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT**

It's that time of year when we must pay the Per Capita Assessment to Presbytery of the Northern Plains. The amount to be paid for 2008 is \$36.48 per member or \$10,798.08 for Community Presbyterian Church.

Each member is responsible for paying their own Per Capita Assessment. If members do not pay their assessment it must come out of the General Fund!

If you are unable to support your church in any other way financially, it would be much appreciated if you could pay this amount. Not paying this amount means that you are asking other members to make the payment for you.

If you cannot pay the total amount at one time you may make payments until the total is paid. If you divide the amount into thirds, the amount for each pay period would be \$12.16.

Your church really needs you to step up and take care of this obligation!

**FOCUS ON MISSION:
TEEN MOMS**

Teen Moms is the focus for January. If this mission touches your heart, please bring baby clothes, diapers, wipes, Christian books or CD's/videos and place them in the blue tote in the narthex.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Every third Saturday of every month, a group of dedicated people from our congregation help to prepare and serve lunch at the Salvation Army. Some of these people have been volunteering their time for years, but now because of health problems are not able to continue in this important mission. It is time for some new faces to step forward and help out. All you need to bring are willing hands, a few kind words, and a friendly smile and commit to a few hours one day per month. This would be a great way for parents to introduce their preteen/teenage children to the satisfaction of volunteering time and talents to a good cause. If interested, ask a member of the Mission Committee for more details.

NEW MEMBERS AND IDEAS NEEDED!

Would you like to offer your time, talents, and ideas to help the less fortunate in the West Fargo-Fargo communities? Have you an idea for a mission project that you would like us to consider? If so, please, prayerfully consider becoming a member of the Mission Committee. We are looking for a couple new members to join us in that kind of important work right here at Community Presbyterian Church. If you are interested, please contact Vicki Whitcomb, Mission Committee Chair. Other members are Mary Jo Moorhead, Brenda Bjorklund, Kevin Galt, Dave Ruhnke, and Bonnie Thompson.



DECEMBER CLERK'S CORNER

Session met on Dec. 19, 2007.

Cheryl Montgomery, Treasurer, presented the Financial Report. She pointed out the following: all bills have been paid through the end of the year, \$2,000 was added to the bank note, and payroll will be due on Jan. 1, 2008.

The Stewardship Committee presented the suggested budget for 2008. Minor modifications were made in various committee budgets, but eventually Session approved the budget with the exception of personnel expense changes.

The Personnel Committee gave their recommendations on salary levels for employees in 2008. Session approved, with some modifications, their proposals. This was, then, incorporated into the budget for 2008.

Stewardship presented their prioritized list of items to be funded by the capital campaign. Session approved their goals, but elevated the work on the annex roof toward the top of the list (along with meeting our mortgage obligations).

The date for the Annual Meeting was set for January 20th with January 27th as the storm date.

Lowell Wiese has requested to be placed on the inactive roll. He will be contacted before a final decision is made. A request from Becky (Hummel) Donahue to be removed from church rolls was approved.

The upcoming Presbytery events will be held at CPC: Session Records Committee on Jan. 13 at 2:30 p.m.; Presbytery video-conference on Jan. 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. People will be needed

to help with these events. A special meeting of Session will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. for Session to approve of the proposed budget to be presented to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting.

The organ will be cleaned and the person doing this will show Dawn and Sue how to make better use of the organ. Trustees are putting together a job description for the janitorial staff. Our insurance company is advising the church to have a sexual misconduct policy in place. The Personnel Committee will research this. Toni Stith has accepted the position of Sunday School Superintendent which makes it necessary to find teachers for the middle and high school classes which she has been teaching. New members are needed for the Mission Committee.

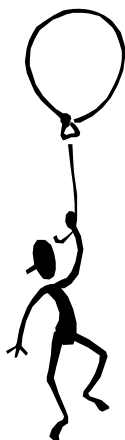
Melissa Eiter, SAF Chair requested that it be recorded to show that the church is lost without Delores Horn. The same sentiment was agreed to by all.

Melissa Barenthsen presented the following names for approval for the office of Deacon: Mary Jo Moorhead, Linda Bishop, Jim Bjorklund, Karen Steele, Shirlene Johnson, and Susan Gross. Terms will be determined by Melissa after discussion with the nominees. The following names were presented for approval for the office of Elder: Larry Peihl, Carolyn Meester, and Chuck Richard. The following names were presented for approval for Building and Grounds Trustees: Don Van Cleve and Lynn Hummel. All names were approved for submission to the congregation at the Annual Meeting.

Melissa Barenthsen
Clerk Pro-Tem

JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

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



YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIAL REPORT



Budgeted 2007 giving:
\$141,430.00 / 52 weeks at
\$2719.80/week

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>BUDGETED GIVING TO DATE</u>	<u>ACTUAL GIVING TO DATE</u>
12/31/07	\$154,703.00	\$143,606.00

These figures do not include the mortgage payments which were funded from the building fund money market (Project Open Door giving).

We knew 2007 would be a unique year moving into and maintaining our new addition. These expenses would come from the general fund and would include such things as additional janitor hours to move into the new space, additional janitorial supplies to fill our new space, an interest payment to PCUSA before our mortgage payments began, and of course an increase in heat & lights and building insurance, just to name a few. No furnishings, landscaping, or sanctuary remodeling came from the general fund.

Our members' general giving (as generous as we were to Project Open Door and other projects needing completion) came slightly short of our expenses, leaving a bank note of \$11,600 at the end of the year.

ANNIVERSARIES

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



2007-2008 SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

- Mar. 23 Easter-No Sunday School
- May 18 Last Day of Sunday School
Senior Recognition

PLEASE NOTE:
February Community Call's deadline will be Sunday, January 27, 2008.



MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUL TRAIN SCHEDULE

- Jan. 13 -4:00-6:00 -go to the Moorhead church for dinner. Meet at our church at 3:30.
- Jan. 20 -No school on Monday
No meeting
- Jan. 27 -6:30-8:30 - dinner and interviews - choose people / questions
- Feb. 3 -Super Bowl Sunday - time and place TBA
- Mar. 30 -YMCA Lock-in
- Apr. 11-13 -Jamestown Retreat

FALL VISITORS

One autumn morning we received a visit at the church from two past members that were visiting their brother!



It was my delight to visit with Calvin McCamy and his sister Pat McCamy Hill. Calvin is now living in Edgewater, Maryland, and Pat is from Dallas, Texas.

Calvin and Pat were interested in looking for two of the stained glass windows in the sanctuary that were given in memory of their parents, Benjamin and Della.

Calvin and Pat reminisced about church services in the basement of the old grade school (now the West Fargo School Districts business office, the Leidal Center). They mentioned many church families they remember. Pat specifically asked about Dolores Stensetter (Dolores Meyer).

After spending time looking around the church, they bought two cookbooks and bid us farewell!

The church office has their addresses if anyone would like to send them a note hello.

Cheryl Montgomery

DECEMBER TRUSTEE TALK



December 12---Ray Christopherson, Bob Galt, Scott Meyer, Bob Olson, and Andrew Thostenson were in attendance. Larry Peihl for Session and custodian Bob Wenzloff, were also in attendance. Derrick Leopold was absent.

The trustees reviewed the final bills on the sanctuary remodel and separated out electrical expenses to be charged to the general fund versus the special SUS fund.

Scott reported that the lighting switch changeover had been made in the sanctuary by Prosper Electric. Andrew reported that the lights over the pulpit area had all been switched over to compact florescent bulbs.

Larry and Andrew reported on the retrofit of the snow blower with an electric start kit. Bob Wenzloff reported that it was working great!

The trustees reviewed the performance of the custodial staff for the previous year and agreed upon a salary recommendation to be given to the Personnel Committee. As part of this review, Bob Wenzloff suggested developing a checklist of cleaning recommendations that groups who use the church should abide by. Andrew agreed to work on this checklist and make proposals at the next meeting of the trustees.

Bob Galt and Scot Meyer reported on their research regarding new cabinets for the office. It was decided that this matter be tabled until January when Delores Horn could be consulted regarding her ideas.

The next meeting of the trustees will be 7:00 pm on January 9, 2008.

BELLS OF THE LAKES CONCERT JANUARY 19!



Bells of the Lakes will present a concert of handbell music at Lutheran Church of the Cross on Saturday, January 19, 2008, at 7:00 PM. Bells of the Lakes is an auditioned community handbell ensemble of fourteen ringers from Minneapolis/St. Paul and is under the direction of William H. Mathis, Minister of Music and Fine Arts at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church in Minneapolis.

The concert program will consist of original handbell compositions, hymn arrangements, and transcriptions of works not originally written for handbells. Included in the concert are Jalousie, a tango for bells and accordion; Toccata No. 2, a commissioned piece by Kevin McChesney; and Pictures at an Exhibition, arranged by William Mathis.

Bells of the Lakes has performed at the International Handbell Symposium in 2000, the Pinnacle Symposium in 2002, and the AGEHR Area VII Festival. In July 2006, the ensemble performed the closing concert at the AGEHR Directors' Seminar in Milwaukee, WI. The ensemble performs on five octaves of Schulmerich handbells, five octaves of Malmark chimes, and bass chimes down through the seventh octave. (See www.bellsofthelakes.org for more information.)

If you enjoy handbells and handchimes music, this is a concert you do not want to miss. A freewill offering will be taken to help cover Bells of the Lakes' touring expenses. Lutheran Church of the Cross is located at 1402 16th Street East in West Fargo. Everyone is invited to attend!

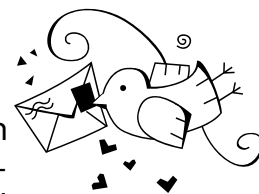
RINGING IN THANKS

The following people joyfully rang the bells on December 1, 2007 for the Salvation Army:

Ardis Sherwood, Ann Pyle, Dave and Gloria Ruhnke, Tammy Bahls and family, Dale and Gail Matzke, Carolyn Talley, Larry and Vicki Peihl, Bev Christopherson, the Thostenson family, Jim and Brenda Bjorklund, Jim and Marlys Martin, Bruce Riedinger, Carolyn Meester, Rick and Dawn Chase, Toni Stith and Girl Scout Troop 194, Gary Duggan, Dean and Joan Hall, Jim and Audrey Binger, Roger and Melissa Bar-enthsen, Susan and Bob Gross, and the DeJong family.

Many thanks,
Louise Johnson,
Coordinator

GREETING CARDS



I have personally been sending birthday and anniversary cards to all those persons who have been listed in the Community Call each month. I am sorry but I am going to have to discontinue this practice. I have really enjoyed doing this but due to helping my daughter and husband with the expenses associated with their new house I will not be able to continue this at this time.

Delores Horn

NOTE OF THANKS

Thanks to all who participated in the Christmas cantata. It was enjoyed by many. If you missed this awesome live performance, you can catch it at cpcwf.org.

Dawn Larson



**INTERVIEWS
BY MS SOUL TRAIN:
MARTY MATZKE**

Personal Information

Birth date - May 6, 1961
 Birth place - Fargo, ND
 High school - graduated from
 West Fargo, ND
 Occupation - Diesel mechanic
 Married - Debbie in the Commu-
 nity Presbyterian Church
 on June 11, 1983
 Children and Grandchildren -
 Brian and Angie Matzke -
 Erika
 Cody
 Amy
 Joined Community Presbyterian
 Church - about 25 years ago

Favorites

Sound - a rooster crowing
 Food - steak, turkey and mashed
 potatoes and gravy
 Sport to play and watch - hunting
 and football
 TV show - any old western

Would You Rather

How well do you know Marty? Try to guess which answer he chose for each of the following questions. His answers will be at the end of the interview.

- ... give up your computer or your pet?
- ... have a kangaroo or koala as your pet?
- ... be a tree or live in a tree?
- ... be blind or deaf?
- ... spend the day surfing the internet or the ocean?

~~~~~

Do you know Marty Matzke? Well, I got to interview him. So I learned some things I did not know about him. Here is what he said.

He does not play an instrument, but if he could learn any instrument, it would



be the harmonica. Next, I asked him if he was a messy or neat person. He said, "When I was little I was very messy, but now I am average." He is glad he changed because it would be very hard to

find tools at work. Then I asked him what gets him really mad, and he said when people talk on their cell phones as they drive. I asked why it gets him mad; he said they should be concentrating on the road. Then I asked if he remembers any of the games he played when he was in school. "Yes, I remember playing kickball in grade school," and he still remembers how to play it. His favorite game was Gorilla Ball - where you're on your knees on the wrestling mats on the gym floor throwing balls in the net. Marty seems big and tough now, but when he was little he was scared of the abominable snowman on Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. Finally, I asked him about his pet peeves, and he said his major pet peeve was when children do not respect their parents.

It was great to interview him. I learned so many new things. The best part of the interview was that he is my uncle.

Interviewed by:

Patrick Talley  
 6th grade  
 April 22, 2007

~~~~~

"Would You Rather" answers:

(Would you Rather answers: computer, kangaroo, tree, deaf, ocean)