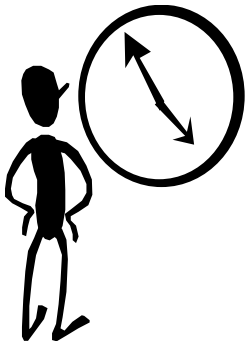


COMMUNITY CALL

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



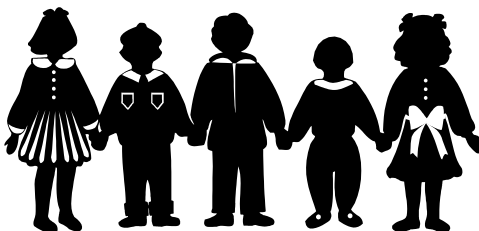
PLEASE NOTE!

On October 31st at 2 a.m., Daylight Saving Time ends. Please remember to turn your clocks *back* one hour.



SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

- Nov. 13 Memorization Sunday
- Nov. 27 Thanksgiving weekend
Adult S. School only
- Dec. 25 Christmas
No Sunday School
- Jan. 1 New Year's Day
No Sunday School
- Jan. 22 Memorization Sunday
- Feb. 26 Memorization Sunday
- Apr. 2 Memorization Sunday
- Apr. 16 Easter
No Sunday School
- May 14 Memorization Sunday
- May 28 Carnival
***Last Day of
Sunday School***



PASTOR'S PEN

Our "company" has gone back to their homes, and, as the saying goes, "We done good." Our congregation, as most of you know, hosted two gentlemen from the Chogoria Presbytery in Kenya for a week at the beginning of October. Eliud Murungi and Frederick Ngige were delightful guests, contributing to a wonderful worship service and charming the many members of CPC who were fortunate enough to spend some time with them. Special thanks are in order for the Barentsen family, who hosted Frederick and Eliud in their home and provided a lot of transportation throughout the week; and for all who hosted meals and



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activities: Jim and Brenda Bjorklund, the Meyer family, Toni Stith, Roy and Louise Johnson, Dixon Moorhead, Dave Ruhnke, Bonnie Thompson, and a host of others (who I hope will not be offended at not being mentioned by name here!). I know, and have been told, that West Fargo and CPC will be well-remembered by these two brothers of ours from the other side of the world, and I am proud of our congregation's hospitality.

The rest of the time that our Kenyan visitors spent in the Presbytery of the Northern Plains went well, also. Despite some nasty weather and iffy driving conditions, the turnout at the Presbytery meeting in Bottineau on the 7th was outstanding. At the Harambee, the Kenyan-style auction/celebration/worship service that was held there to raise funds for the Chogoria Presbytery Computer College that is one of our sister Presbytery's big ministries yielded a mind-blowing haul of \$10,000, enough to fully outfit the college with computers and also to expand the facility enough to offer secretarial and accounting classes. This will dramatically increase the number of lives that will be transformed by this ministry, as people, many with limited funds and/or access to education are given marketable job skills and training that they could never get otherwise. The Computer College is a demonstration of the Kingdom of God coming close at hand, as the Gospel of Mark says, and now we are a part of it. Once again, my thanks to all who donated items for sale, and to those who made the trek to Bottineau to participate. I am also proud of our generosity.

There are many amazing things in store for our partnership with Chogoria. There has been talk of joint leadership training activities, of international youth re-

treats, where young people from the Northern Plains and from Chogoria could get to know one another and join together in worship and spiritual development, and much more. I am especially excited about some opportunities that may arise to participate in Chogoria's mission efforts in the Tharaka mission area, where our sister congregation is located. Tharaka is the poorest and most rugged area of the Chogoria presbytery, and the mission work there is not easy. Our brothers and sisters have a bold vision for this ministry, though, and, hopefully, we will soon have the chance to take part in supporting and even participating in this work. As the plans for next summer's trip to Kenya get firmed up, I hope to have more to say on this subject, but for now, let us rejoice that God so richly blessed our time together with the emissaries of our partner Presbytery, and pray that he will continue to inspire us to work together in serving him, in Kenya, on the Northern Plains, and in all the world.

YOUTH FOR CHRIST BANQUET



Our church has a table for ten people to attend this banquet on Tuesday, November 1 at 6:15 p.m. There will be great food and fun along with a chance to learn more about Youth for Christ.

Call Dave Ruhnke at 282-2636 to reserve your tickets. Tickets are at no cost.

THANK YOU!

Soul Train would like to give a HUGE thank you to Marty and Debbie Matzke for donating pumpkins for our fundraiser. We appreciate all the support that you give us. We would also like to thank all the parent volunteers and youth who put in their time and muscles to make this a success. We were able to raise \$430.00!!!



OCTOBER CLERK'S CORNER

The Session and Trustees met on Wednesday, October 19th at 7:00 p.m. The Project Open Door Committee reported on the work of the Design Committee and also their progress towards obtaining financing from the PCUSA building and loan group. (For more information, see the Project Open Door Update on page 5 of this newsletter.)

Theresa Tilly was removed from the church records as she has joined Trinity Presbyterian Church, Prescott, Arizona. Mark, Billie, Shannon and Mallory Hayes request to transfer to Fargo First Presbyterian Church was approved.

Lia Dobrinz' request to join the church was tabled until the November meeting so that she can attend that Session meeting. Because Missouri Synod Lutheran Churches do not transfer members, she will be required to make an affirmation of faith before her request can be approved.

Pastor Stith is looking into changing internet service providers in an effort to have a less expensive system.

At his request, Adam Vail was placed on the inactive list. An elder will meet with Kyle and Melissa Kassman regarding their request to be placed on the inactive list.

Marcy Bahls is receiving intensive chemotherapy treatments this week Friends of Marcy have started a trust fund in her name at Gate City Bank to accumulate funds to help with her medical expenses. The church will decide what we will do for the family after they have been consulted as to what would be the most help.

Pastor Stith reported that Tom DeJong

has been hospitalized with a pelvic infection and he and his family need our prayers and help. The Congregational Care Committee will consult with the family as to what aid the family needs. Tom and Joy Taffe will not be in church until next spring as their meal schedule on Sunday conflicts with our church time.

The Stewardship Committee is working on the Stewardship Drive and working with the bookkeeper to be sure that each committee is charged with the proper expenses.

The Sunday School Christmas program will be held on December 18th at 3 p.m. with a potluck dinner to follow. The Youth Group will be selling calendars again this year.

The Worship Committee has decided that the Christmas Tree will not be put up in the sanctuary this year. Because of space needed for the Christmas program, it was decided that the tree would be a hazard to the children. Hopefully when the new addition is done there will be room in the narthex to put up the tree. The Christmas cantata will be held on December 11th at 2:30 p.m. Guests are asked to bring treats (sweet) to be shared after the cantata. The church will be decorated for Christmas on November 20th after worship. Help would be appreciated. The Christmas eve service has been scheduled for 5:00 p.m. because it falls on a Saturday.

Dave Ruhnke has free tickets for the Youth for Christ Report to the People dinner on November 1st at the Ramada Inn. Please see him to get your ticket.

The Mission Committee was given permission to make the following donations: November mission is Salvation Army; December mission is the Giving

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Tree, \$1,000 to the Computer Training Center in Kenya, \$500 to Teen Moms, and \$200 to pay expenses for the people from the High Rise to attend the Concordia Christmas Concert. They plan to do another mailing to inform the community of the Christmas activities in the church.

Pastor Stith stated that the confirmation process is being changed this year. The youth will be confirmed in September instead of May to allow a summer community service component to be added. This change will allow confirmands to have year-round educational contact with the church, encouraging continued participation and attendance after confirmation.

115 persons were served communion on October 2. Abigail Sharbono was baptized on October 16th.

Delores Horn, Clerk of Session

CAN YOU GIVE A MONTH?

When a person is baptized in the church, we as a congregation assume the responsibility to nurture that person in the Christian life. This is something we promise as a whole and as individuals when we recite the liturgy of the sacrament of baptism.

With this in mind, won't you consider spending some time with some of those baptized members? Maybe you could spend a month of Sunday mornings with a class of elementary students or high schoolers as a Sunday School or Children's Church teacher. Or perhaps you could volunteer your help with Soul Train.

Listen for Christ's Call.

For more information, check the bulletin board in the narthex or contact Becky DeJong, Melanie Hansen, Debbie Matzke, Boots Misheski, Lisa Steffen, Toni Stith, or Gayle Thostenson.

**NEW LIFE CENTER
CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

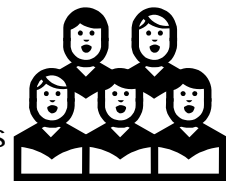
The New Life Center would like Christmas gifts for homeless men at the center. Suggested gift items are: stocking caps, gloves, and large to extra large underwear. A box will be put in the narthex of the church to collect these.

Gifts need to be to the church by December 4th in order for gifts to be taken to the December 9th meeting.

**MEN'S ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS CHORUS**

Stay *tuned* for the men's annual Christmas chorus.

Announcements will be posted in the church bulletin.

**MOORHEAD CENTER
MALL BAZAAR**

Don't forget the bazaar at the Moorhead Center Mall on Saturday, November 12th all day and on Sunday, November 13th from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. We will need help staffing the tables and also help to take the items to the Mall and to set everything up. The profits from this will go to Project Open Door.

**PRAYER CHAIN**

Sharing our needs and concerns in prayer with our church family brings us closer to one another and lightens our load. If you have a prayer concern for any person or need, please Carol Sterup at 293-6603.

Also, it's never too late to join the prayer chain. Please call Carol or e-mail Gayle Thostenson (atgtet@msn.com) to become a member.





PROJECT OPEN DOOR UPDATE

There has been considerable activity on Project Open Door (POD) this past month with most of the action centered around the Design Committee (DC).

The DC has been examining different layouts to accommodate ideas from various committees and members of the church. They also are considering costs and eye appeal. As a result, they have chosen a plan that does not call for an extension of the sanctuary roof (which would have covered the stained-glass window picturing Christ). An artist rendering of the latest design is in the narthex.

The floor plan has changed modestly from last spring, but not dramatically. Again, detailed drawings are available in the narthex for review.

The DC is also concerned about the impact that the recent hurricanes along the Gulf Coast have and will have on material costs. So, they are exploring different building concepts and alternate construction materials with the architect to deal with this.

Finally, the DC, in consultation with the architect and the City of West Fargo engineer, are exploring fire control needs for the new addition as well as retrofitting the existing structure with the latest fire suppression measures. Unfortunately, it is likely, that in order to be in compliance with the latest codes, a significant expense will have to be incurred in this area.

On the finance front, we received the good news that our Presbytery will support our application to the PCUSA General Assembly building and loan fund. Further, because their finance package looks much more attractive than our

commercial lending option, we are going to continue to pursue this opportunity. If we are successful, we could save several thousand dollars a year in interest expenses. We will not get definitive word back on our loan application until mid to late December, but at the time of this writing, we are optimistic that this will come to pass. Since our cash position is solid, waiting until then to decide how to finance the project will not be a problem.

While we have not been billed for architectural expenses, soil hydrological analysis, or surveying expenses to date, we will be billed in November for these charges. As for new gifts or pledges, we have not seen any new funds committed over the past month.

Crucial decisions are likely over the next several weeks as the DC will need to authorize the architect to go ahead with detailed drawings in order to be able to ask for bids in January. Pray earnestly for the folks on the DC, your Session, and your church for wisdom, perseverance, and ingenuity.

JOIN THE CHRISTMAS CHOIR!!



The Senior Choir will be practicing for the upcoming CHRISTMAS CANTATA each Thursday evening from 7:00-8:00. We will be performing a service of lessons and carols called: Emmanuel (God with Us!). This wonderful Lloyd Larson collection features both traditional and contemporary songs, tied together with biblical readings which tell the Christmas story.

JUNIOR CHOIR ALERT



Fourth through eighth graders who love to sing are invited to join the Junior Choir Friday, November 4th from 7 to 9 p.m. at the church. Join the fun in making a joyful noise!

NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

- 11-1 Chris Larson
 11-3 Mary Bastle
 Dave Ruhnke
 11-5 Jarrett Meester
 Ardis Sherwood
 11-6 Amy Grossman
 11-8 Adam Montgomery
 Joy Taffe
 11-9 Jackie Petik
 11-10 Jim Martin
 Susan McIntyre
 Vicki Peihl
 11-12 Olivia Clennon
 11-13 Carrie Leopold
 11-14 Seth Whitcomb
 11-15 Tina Bastle
 Breanna Olson
 Heidi Reidinger
 11-17 Mary DeJong
 11-18 Brianne Montgomery
 11-19 Kayla Videen
 11-20 Jennifer Jazzkowiak
 Chuck Traylor
 11-21 Marcella Bahls
 Brent Montgomery
 11-22 Jill Swart
 11-24 Harriet Diede
 Bob Gross
 Jean Sheeley
 11-28 Kyle Kassman

ANNIVERSARIES

- 11-13-94 – Troy and Leann Montgomery
 11-29-74 – Jon and Vicky Whitcomb
 11-29-86 – Tom and Becky DeJong

CUDDLE-UP MISSION



In September, the church donated thirty cuddle-ups to Cass County Social Services.

Special thanks to all those who have donated time and money to this cause.



SOUL TRAIN SCHEDULE



We want anyone who is in 6th-12th grade to come and join us for great times. Here is a tentative schedule for the next couple of months. All meetings are at the church from 6:30-8:30 unless otherwise noted. See you there, Becky (281-8122) and Lisa (282-5308)

- Nov. 6 - games - some embarrassing
 13 - meet at church at 4:30 p.m.
 invited to Moorhead church
 20 - Giving Tree
 27 - Thanksgiving - no meeting
 Dec. 4 - TO BE ANNOUNCED
 11 - progressive dinner
 18 - presents for the hi-rise

Please note that we will be selling calendars again this year for \$6.00. We will take preorders on Sunday, October 31 and Sunday, November 7. The calendars usually only take a week to come in so you would have them in plenty of time for holiday gift giving.



NOVEMBER MISSION: SALVATION ARMY

We help them out in December with the Christmas meal and ringing the bells already, but the Salvation Army has needs for the year round.

How can we support them? Basic needs are regular canned goods such as soups, corn, beans, or other vegetables as they are gearing up for the Thanksgiving meal. They can also use volunteers for serving the Thanksgiving meal.

Plus, we would love to fill up our playpen this November with any toys for the BIG toy drive they sponsor. You can bring in either toys or canned goods for November.

In December, the Giving Tree will be our focus mission. Thanks for all your caring and sharing this year!