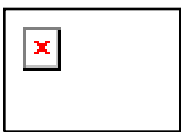


COMMUNITY CALL

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

TURN TRASH INTO TREASURE

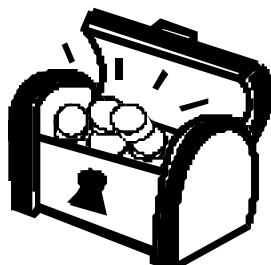
We are asking for your help to turn trash into treasure. The Christian Education Committee has begun to collect UPC labels of *Our Family* products (found at SunMart stores) as a way to raise additional funds for our 2007 Vacation Bible School. For every



UPC label we turn in, the church will receive five cents. For every 500 labels we turn in, we will receive \$25.00. As a bonus, we'll receive an extra \$25.00 with our first submission.

We are not asking anyone to change their spending habits. However, if you do purchase *Our Family* products, instead of throwing the label in the trash, would you please help us by clipping the UPC label and bringing them to church. We have a Labels for Learning basket waiting to be filled on the countertop of the coffee bar in the new part of the narthex.

What do you think, can we collect 500 labels? What about 1000? Why not start clipping and get our 2007 VBS off to a good start?



PASTOR'S PEN

Over the last weekend in January, I, like some of you, had the unique opportunity to spend time in three very different gatherings of God's people, one after the other. On Thursday, the 25th, many from our church family gathered here to celebrate that life of LeRoy Horn, husband of our beloved Clerk of Session, Delores Horn, who died the weekend before. Like all funerals, this gathering was a mixture of mourning and smiles, of tears and comfort. The grief of Delores and her family was, I hope, tempered in some small way by the way their family, friends, and fellow people of God



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gathered around them on this occasion, lifting them up in prayer and fellowship. This, after all, is why we gather on these occasions—so that the prayers and love and companionship of all might be conveyed to those who need them most in such times.

The next two days, our church hosted the regular January meeting of the Presbytery of the Northern Plains. Some 100-plus ministers, elders, and others from Presbyterian churches across North Dakota and the Red River Valley were present, and they came together to worship, to learn about the PC(USA)'s Self-Development of People programs, and to conduct the business of the church. This gathering took meals together, prayed and worshiped, and elected and installed new leaders and officers for many of the presbytery's ministries and functions. In fact, our own Elder Dixon Moorhead was installed as Moderator of the Presbytery for 2007! Be sure to offer him your congratulations and/or condolences. The sense of energy, vitality, and connection that makes us and our congregation a part of the larger church was everywhere over those two days, and it was good. This, after all, is why we gather on these occasions—so that the churches might realize and benefit from the larger union, the church universal, of which God has made us a part.

And, to top the weekend off, on Sunday afternoon, the 28th, some of our members attended and participated in the 3rd annual West Fargo Ministerial Association Christian Music Festival. Upwards of 300 people were present in the Sanctuary of the Lutheran Church of the Cross, as musicians and singers from most of the churches in West Fargo offered up songs of praise and worship of



almost every type and description. It was wonderful to see, hear, and feel the truth of our essential unity with our brothers and sisters of other denominations within the community: Lutherans, Catholics, Methodists, and even some of us Presbyterians took the stage, and it became manifestly clear that we were all praising the same God, joined together by the same Lord Jesus Christ, and energized by the same Holy Spirit. This, after all, is why we gather on these occasions—to praise God in the great congregation of the elect, the one, true church which is found in every place and time, in every denomination and congregation.

It was quite a weekend, marked by gatherings of God's people in almost every imaginable context. But the common thread, the unity that binds together all the diversity that was on display, is simply this: As God's people, we gather. We are not alone in the world, not solo flyers in our faith and our life before God. Jesus has called and commanded us to be one with each other, and the Holy Spirit binds and unites us one with another. We are, as Paul said, Christ's body. And this, after all, is why we gather on all occasions—because it is as a body that we have been created, and it is together that we best give praise and worship to God, and love and service to one another.

PRESBYTERY THANKS

Thank you all who helped with the Presbytery meeting in January. We asked the Presbytery "to come see what the Lord has done," and you delivered! Not only did the Presbytery see the new narthex, but they also saw a congregation that reflects the light of Christ in action. Thank you again on behalf of Presbytery. You made me proud.

Bless you all, Dixon



FEBRUARY CLERK'S CORNER

The Session and Trustees met on January 17, 2007.

Andrew Thostenson sent a report from the POD Committee saying that the cost overruns were still within the contingency budget. There are three change orders that need to be paid, but he feels that there should be enough money to take care of them. The first full mortgage payment is due February 25th. The final draw of the PC(USA) loan was made in January.

The trustees provided a rebuilt copier for the office as we were having problems with the old one. Each current elder was given a new electronic key to the front door of the church. The new elders will be given one at the February meeting. The Decorating Committee is looking for furniture for the narthex. It has been decided that only new furniture that has been selected by the committee and approved by the Session will be used there.

The following Communion schedule was approved: February 4, March 4, April 1-Palm Sunday, April 5-Maundy Thursday, April 8-Easter, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 2, and December 25-Christmas Day.

Lora Wehrung has been hired as bookkeeper/office assistant beginning January 22nd. She will work approximately 15 hours a week. Hours she will work have tentatively been set for 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Blair Moorhead's application for mission service with the PC (USA) was approved. The 2007 Proposed Church Budget was presented to the Session and will be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting.

Discussion is underway to switch the internet service from DSL to Idea One as this would result in quicker and better service. The cost each month would be \$150 with a one time installation fee of \$250. Andrew Thostenson was given authority to check to see what Idea One can provide in the way of telephone service. He also will be looking for a flat screen monitor for the church office. This will take up less space in the office than the current monitor.

Larry Peihl will be working with Bob Wenzloff in regard to his salary and work load now that the new addition is complete. He will also look into how much new cleaning equipment will be needed.

\$500 was given to Linda Bass, Teen Moms by the Mission Committee as she has to raise a portion of her salary each month. A letter was read from her saying that the Teen Mom who received the baby supplies from the church was very grateful and couldn't understand why complete strangers were willing to do this for her. Linda Bass told her that it as just something that Christians do in the name of Jesus.

A special meeting of the Session will be held on Sunday, January 21st, following worship to finalize plans as to where to store things in the new addition and also some new uses for some of the space in the current building.

A request to change the number of trustees from 9 to 6 in the bylaws was approved, so that it can be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting and that the bylaws will conform to the current policy. Also a request will be made to form a committee to update and revise the church bylaws. A suggestion will also be made at the annual

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meeting for a church historian to be in charge of preserving church history.

Larry Peihl will check to see if it is feasible to seek a sales tax exemption for the church.

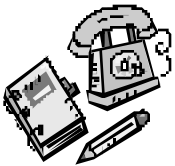
More adults and older teens are needed to staff the younger children's church activities. Contact person for this is Toni Stith. Bible School will be in August and Toni Stith will coordinate it.

The elders were reminded that the Presbytery of the Northern Plains will be meeting at our church on January 26 and 27. This is the first time in nearly 30 years that we have been able to host this meeting because we are now accessible to all persons.

Pastor Stith was given approval for a day of vacation for March 11th. Arrangements have been made to have Executive Presbyter of our presbytery, Chuck Traylor, fill the pulpit on March 4 and to celebrate Communion on that day. Also Dixon Moorhead has agreed to fill the pulpit on March 11th.

A total of 40 persons were served Communion on Christmas Day, and 111 persons were served on January 7. A total of 189 persons attended Dedication Sunday for the new addition on January 14th.

Delores Horn, Clerk of Session



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 update or correct what was previously in print.

SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES

A special meeting of the Session occurred on Sunday, January 20, 2007, following the worship service.

Attention was paid to how space in the new and old areas of the church should be put into use. Lee Dobrinz provided a plan which had been compiled through discussions with members, staff, and users of the church facility. Of special concern was the storage of communion elements. It was decided that a locked area would be provided for these items in the new pantry next to the kitchen. The group also agreed with the suggestion that preschool Sunday School music be moved downstairs to a room with a piano. The remainder of the plan was endorsed by Session. For more information about this report, please see Lee Dobrinz or Delores Horn, the Clerk of the Session.

Debbie Matzke requested and was granted approval to solicit for donations for new play dough and toys for the younger children's church.

The January, 2007 Presbytery of the Northern Plains meetings to be held at our facility were discussed. It was decided that no new furnishing for the newer part of the building were necessary for this meeting. Further study of the situation was to be made by both the Design Committee and Session before furnishings would be purchased. David Ruhnke was to serve as a delegate to the upcoming presbytery meetings while a new elder would be designated as the delegate to future meetings.

Melissa Barentsen
Member of Session

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT



The Annual Meeting of Community Presbyterian Church was held on January 28, 2007 following worship in the sanctuary.

The financial statements and treasurer's reports were approved. The proposed budget for 2007 was presented for the congregation's review and input. The proposed budget will be submitted to the Session for approval at the February meeting.

The membership report showed that at the end of 2005 there were 294 active members and at the end of 2006 we have 295 members. All committee and other reports were approved.

Dawn Larson and Carrie Leopold were thanked for their time and work on music for the church.

The congregation approved the terms of call submitted by the Session. It included an increase of \$1,400 each in salary and the housing allowance. This raise was required by Presbytery to bring Pastor Stith's salary part of the way up to the amount required by the Presbytery for pastors with Pastor Stith's education and experience. The total for the terms of call will be \$63,844.49 which reflects increases in the following due to raises in the salary and the housing allowance: Social Security matching, Board of Pensions major medical dues, and Board of Pensions retirement dues.

Vickie Riedinger, Melissa Eiter and Vicky Whitcomb were elected as elders for terms of three years each. Marj Meester, Carol Sterup, and Lynn Hummel were elected to the Nominating Committee for a term of one year. Andrew Thostenson and Robert Galt were elected as trustees

for a term of three years each. Cheryl Montgomery was elected treasurer for a term of one year. Dale Matzke was elected to a three year term on the Endowment Committee.

In new business, the congregation approved changing the bylaws of the church to provide for six trustees instead of the nine now required. This was done to reflect the number actually elected to the Board of Trustees. A committee is being set up to review and revise the church bylaws. Anyone wishing to serve on this committee is requested to contact Melissa Barentsen or Pastor Stith.

A suggestion was made to have a church historian/historians to record the activities of the church. There is no one place where people can go to review the history of the church. The congregation was asked to let Delores Horn or Pastor Stith know if they would be willing to serve in this capacity. It could be one person or more.

The meeting closed with prayer by Moderator Stith.

Delores Horn, Clerk

INTRODUCING

Lora Wehrung is our new bookkeeper/office assistant. She plans to

be in the office during the mornings on Monday through Friday. When Lora is there, you can plan on the front door being open. Please take a moment to welcome her, introduce yourself, and give her all the help she needs.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

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



- Feb. 4 Super Bowl party – at Talley's
- 10 Valentine's Day Dinner – helping Steele's– details TBA
- 16 Skiing – look for sign-up sheets
- 23-24 6:00-30 hour famine
- 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 accepted challenge by the HS!!
- May 6 6:30-8:30 – ???
- 13 6:30-8:30 – Mother's Day Dinner
- 20 Last youth group meeting

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. The dates for the dinners are: March 11, 18; April 1, 22, 29; May 6, 13.

If you could help please let Becky (281-8122) or Lisa (282-5308) know.

Thank you.

FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER



BIRTHDAYS

- 2-3 Lowell Wiese
- 2-5 Cody Matzke
- 2-6 David Misheski
- 2-7 Tom Birrenkott
Dolores Kinslow
- 2-8 Riley Clennon
Ann Corneliusen
Jack Smith
- 2-9 Dean Hall
Blair Moorhead
- 2-10 Linda Bishop
- 2-11 Tammy Nelson
- 2-12 Gwen Keller
- 2-13 Christopher Green II
- 2-14 Randy Meyer
- 2-16 Stephanie Barenthsen
- 2-17 Kevin Galt
- 2-18 James Binger
- 2-19 Esther Hemm
Alex Talley
- 2-20 Clarence Bastle
- 2-21 Scott Meyer
- 2-24 Lia Dobrinz
- 2-25 Lisa Osborne
- 2-26 Patrick Steele

ANNIVERSARIES

- 2-6-32 – Tom and Julia Pederson
- 2-19-81 – Dixon and Mary Jo Moorhead
- 2-24-79 – Scott and Vickie Meyer

IT'S A DATE!!!



The Brilliant Ravishing Audacious Society will be going to the movies. We would like to invite everyone and anyone who is interested to join us. We will be going to movie "Dream Girls" on Monday, February 12th. We will go to the early show at 6:45 (If the time changes we will make an announcement.). Mabel will be there, too!!!

Please sign up in the narthex so we know how many seats to save.

HIGH SCHOOL SOUL TRAIN



Soul Train is just getting started. The coming months will be busy, but with the help of both the youth and the congregation, our meeting times should be a blast. As the new year has kicked off, a lot of opportunities for teenagers have arisen, and I hope the youth take advantage of each and every one of those being offered.

The first few are events with other churches in the area. Both bowling and the Newsboys concert are being planned with a collection of churches in the West Fargo area. We hope to bring all these kids, who attend school together, to see for themselves the broad group of kids they know who are also going to churches in the area. Then, the ski trip, the YMCA sleep over, and Jamestown retreat are all planned with other churches of the Presbytery of the Northern Plains. These events will lead to the Youth Triennium this summer at the Purdue campus.

The Youth Triennium is held every three years and is a huge Presbyterian retreat. This conference brings over 6,000 people from all around the world and would be a great experience for anyone between the ages of 15-18. At the same time, if teenagers in this age range want to go with the other kids in the area, we will need to begin to sign up. This way we can let Dave Thompson know how many of the kids will be interested in riding the bus that he is taking to the conference. If you or your teen is interested in attending this event, please contact me for more information. I will be printing out information from the internet and getting it to the kids interested.

Lastly, Kadra, the youth, and I are all trying to put together a field trip to 'The Cities.' This would consist of a weekend worth of fun and activities. I will be looking into several opportunities including Valley Fair, Club 3 Degrees (a Christian music club), Feed my Starving Children, and possibly staying at local churches. Please look for more information about this possible trip in May.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has given a helping hand with the youth. Whether it has been through sharing rides, meals, or at the very least being supportive of the youth, we are very much appreciate of the family at CPC. We are looking into opportunities to give back to both the community and the church.

HS SOUL TRAIN SCHEDULE

Feb. 4	5:00	Super Bowl Party at Stith's
	9	9:30-11:30 Bowling at West Acres
	16-17	Skiing-Talk to Curt about prices, sign-up, deadlines
	23-24	30 HR Famine
Mar 4	6:30-8:30	D&D
	9	Newsboys concert at Alerus Center
	11	6:30-8:30 Fathers Day Dinner
	18	6:30-8:30 D&D
	25	YMCA Sleepover-details TBA
April 1		TBA
	8	Easter Sunrise Service
	15	Jamestown Retreat: Flyers coming soon
	22	6:30-8:30 D&D
	29	6:30-8:30 Think About God Yet another accepted challenge by the HS
May 6		Possible trip to the Cities
July 16-24		Triennium Youth Conference



PROJECT OPEN DOOR UPDATE

Three key activities are underway at the time of this writing, some visible, and others hardly noticeable.

First, the construction phase of the project is winding down. There are some small issues yet to be resolved, but for the most part, the project is substantially complete. The only exception is the demolition of the temporary south sidewalk and the sealing of the kitchen stairway (to be done in the spring when the ground firms up.) The contractors and our architect are now working through the paperwork to finish out our contracts.

The second big deal is reviewing our contracts to make our last payments. In order to meet our obligations, we borrowed our final draw from the PCUSA in mid January. We expect to use these funds (along with pledges and gifts) to finish out our contracts and to begin making mortgage payments in February. This seems straight forward, but there is much more to this than meets the eye. Inevitably, this involves evaluating and responding to contractor requests for additional funds for work done over and above the original contracts. These are what they call "change orders" in the construction trade. Some are easy, for example: we wanted an access door to the sub floor area under the SE corner of the new narthex, we got it, and now we have to pay for it since it was not specified in the original contract. Others are more complicated, like some of the work done to get our existing boiler system to work in concert with our new forced air natural gas heating and cooling plants. This work is less clear-cut, so change orders in these areas are naturally going to require a more complicated response. Regardless, to date,

only two of our four contractors have even submitted final paper work to us for review, so it seems likely that we will not have all our contracts settled until the end of February or even into early March.

The third big issue is settling in to our new addition. This involves space allocation (which the Session ratified in mid-January), the development of a furnishing proposal for Session (which is ongoing and being led by Lee Dobrinz), setting up shelves, moving in (which occurred in late January), buying janitor supplies, setting up computers in the Welcome Center and the Youth room, and stocking the new library. All this aside, the good news is that we are in our new space without having to hassle with construction chaos.

In the meantime, as one of our members said to me the other day, "For now, let's just live in it for a while, all the things we need to still do will become obvious in God's good time." Indeed.

SOUL TRAIN FIGHTS HUNGER



The Soul Train has joined an international youth movement to fight hunger!! They will be participating in the 30 Hour Famine. This year, thousands of groups in more than 21 countries - more than 1 million teens - will participate in the 30 Hour Famine with one goal in mind: to help children living in some of the most deplorable conditions on earth.

During this time of fasting, they will be working on a community service project, participating in Bible Study, and growing in the fellowship of Christ.

You can support the Youth Group by praying for them and their growth in Christ.

If you have questions about this youth project, call Toni Stith at 282-2715.



THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone in the church who has been so wonderful, helpful, and considerate to our family during the period following LeRoy's death. All the help was deeply appreciated. We received many donations of food that we used for the family and friends who came to the house. The church members truly are family. Pastor Matt's visits to the hospital were very comforting to the entire family. Many people remarked on the beautiful music during the service, on the service itself, and on the delicious lunch. They especially liked that the lunch was served before the Committal Service as it gave everyone a chance to speak to the family and to visit with each other.

Thank you to the Quilters for the Prayer Quilt for LeRoy and myself. Everyone who came to the funeral complimented us on the beautiful new narthex and on the way the church responded to this event. I deeply appreciate 'my church family.'

The memorials that have been given will be used to purchase locks and keys so that the doors of the current church building will be the same as the front door of the new addition. Any remaining money will be used to help pay for items selected by the decorating committee to furnish the narthex.

Delores Horn, Vickie and Lyle Grossnickle, and Kristi and Damien Dixon, Grant and Evan Dixon.

BIBLE STUDY MEETS

On Wednesdays from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., you are invited to join a Bible Study in the conference room. The current session is studying the Holy Spirit.

Contact Bonnie Thompson (282-0469) for more information.

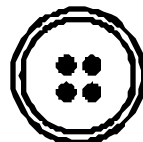


LOVE IS IN THE AIR: YWCA MISSION



February makes everyone think of Valentine's day with hearts, so let's open our hearts and share our love this month with items for the YWCA Women's Shelter. They have a variety of needs, so when you are out and about (It has to warm up sometime this month!), you can pick up any of the following for our blue tote: boxes of rice, Hamburger Helper, tomato-based sauces, cooking oil, pasta, toilet paper, deodorant, Q-tips, zip lock bags, feminine hygiene products, dixie cups, phone cards, L or XL new undergarments, or gently used plates or silverware.

Thank you for sharing your love for these women.



CRAFTERS WANTED

Don't have any time to finish those craft projects you started this fall. Need to work on a baby quilt for the new arrival. Want to spend some time organizing those vacation pictures. Now you have time!!!

Craft night at Community Presbyterian Church will be Saturday, February 17th, from 7:00 to 9:00pm. Come join us for the night and finish or at least start all of those projects you want to get done. For more information, please contact Melissa Eiter at 433-0558.

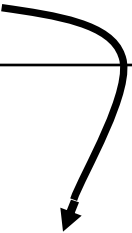
PER CAPITA

2007 per capita is due at the Presbytery of the Northern Plains office soon. CPC's obligations for this is \$9,263. The per capita per adult member this year is \$31.40. Adult members include those who have been confirmed in the church or adults who have joined the church in another way.

Please pay your per capita assessment as soon as you are able, so CPC's bill can be paid.



Below is a letter addressed to our congregation in the event of the new addition's dedication. (George is a former CPC Pastor from the 1970's & 80's.) Since it did not arrive in time to be included in the dedication service, it is included below for the reading of all.



January 14, 2007

The Rev. Matthew Stith
Community Presbyterian Church
Box 546
West Fargo, ND 58078

Dear friends at Community Presbyterian Church;

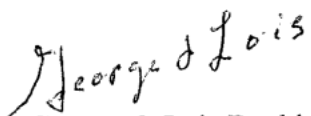
Thank you for the invitation to attend the opening of the doors to the new project today. We had thought it might work out and we would have been able to surprise you and others by coming this day, but it didn't work out as we thought it would.

We rejoice with you and the members of Community Presbyterian on the completion of this project. May it be just that, the opening of new doors in the church and in the community. As I look at the history of the church I recall some very special times when the church came together. The first building that is now near the old high school and then the current building in 1960. And now in 2007 the completion of project Open Door. They were projects that brought the church together. Great stories and great memories. Congratulations on a job well done. I am sure the service today and the dedication were special events in the lives of the many people who have worked so hard and given sacrificially to the project. Congratulations and to God be the glory.

Now comes the new challenge to put the facilities to use to the glory of God. May the Lord bless your efforts to His glory and praise.

We hope there will be a time in the future to travel in that directions and stop by for a visit to see the project and rejoice with you. May the Lord richly bless your ministry there as pastor along with the many people we have come to know and appreciate over these many years.

Cordially yours;


George & Lois Buchin