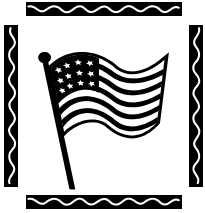


# COMMUNITY CALL

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



## REACH OUT TO OUR TROOPS

Have you wondered what you could do for a soldier serving in Iraq or elsewhere? Would you like to communicate with a soldier and let him/her know that you're thinking about them and keeping them in your prayers.

Veril Larson has supplied us with names and addresses for a few members of our North Dakota Air National Guard, also known as the Happy Hooligans. These names are located on the military board, located in the new part of the nar-thex.

Don't wait too long! Pick a name, and let someone know you care and appreciate their commitment. (Regular postage will get your letters where they need to go.)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

- Mar. 4 Memorization Sunday
- April 8 Easter-No Sunday School
- May 13 Memorization Sunday
- May 20 Sunday School's Last Day



## PASTOR'S PEN

As is becoming a tradition for me, I will have departed, by the time you read this, for a time of study leave at Princeton Seminary in New Jersey. As I did last year at this time, I will spend nearly a week in the library, catching up on my reading, writing an article for a Bible dictionary, and maybe even knocking together the beginnings of a book proposal. It seemed, initially, like a good, simple plan—a change of venue and an



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opportunity to recharge before the "Easter rush." However, like most good, simple plans, this one has gotten a good deal more complicated, almost of its own accord.

It happened this way: First, there was the Princeton trip, neatly scheduled on the week when Concordia has spring break, so as not to interfere with my teaching there. But then the Presbytery, or, more particularly, its Committee on Preparation for Ministry, on which I sit, came calling. I was tapped to be our Presbytery's representative to the group that will convene in Chicago the week after my study trip to grade ordination exams. I felt compelled to take up this chore, despite the ensuing complications, because it's important for the church that its future ministers be competent in the basic disciplines of their call, and these exams are one way the denomination has established to see that this is so. So I agreed, and my trip away from home was extended by 5 days and another flight, and came to require arrangements for a week of my Concordia class in my absence.

Of course, this extension had other consequences as well. I'm now going to be out of town on my son's birthday, so it became necessary to tack on a few vacation days at the end of the trip, so I could meet my family in Minneapolis (Toni and the kids are driving down from West Fargo, and my Mom and Dad, along with at least one of Joram's Indiana cousins, are driving up.) to celebrate the occasion. So I agreed, and my trip away from home was extended by 3 days and yet another change of flights.



All in all, quite a bit more of a production than I had anticipated. But, as I contemplate the nomadic existence before me for the next two weeks, I cannot find it in myself to dread it, complications and all. Instead, what I have been slowly realizing over the last few days is that each new wrinkle is actually an opportunity to serve God in a different and interesting way from those which make up my usual, week-to-week routine. In Princeton, I will follow the injunction of Scripture to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." By stretching my academic and intellectual side through study and writing, I honor and serve the One who put it there in the first place. In Chicago, I will be a part of the church's efforts to follow God's often-stated command to teach the people the ways and statutes and ordinances that are required to serve and follow him, serving God by helping to raise up others to serve him as well. And in Minneapolis, I will also be serving God, even as I relax and enjoy the company of my family. The words of the closing summation of Ecclesiastes come to mind: "Go, eat your bread with enjoyment, and drink your wine with a merry heart; for God has long ago approved what you do...Enjoy life with the wife whom you love." There is nothing any more important in life than for us to celebrate and enjoy the gifts God has given us, and the joy of family is among the greatest of these gifts.

So my hope for you as I set forth on my journeys of this month is that you also will see the many ways that are before you to serve God, and that you will also be so fortunate as to be able to take advantage of them. Blessings to you all.



## MARCH SESSION NOTES

Session and Trustees met on February 21, 2007.

Andrew Thostenson made a report for the POD Committee saying there are four contracts to settle for the new addition. The first is with the general contractor, and Andrew was expecting that to be settled in 1 1/2 weeks. The second is the fire suppression contract which is in order and final billing will be received in the beginning of March. The third is the electrical contract that has all the information in and will be settled the last week of February. Fourth is the mechanical contract which has a few issues yet to be discussed and worked out. Negotiations are progressing and an agreement is expected to be reached by the middle of March. Two things that need to be done yet are the removal of the temporary sidewalk which should be completed as soon as possible this spring and the sealing of the kitchen door and removal of that stairway. This will probably take place at the end of May.

The Trustees reported that a custodial cart was purchased for janitorial use. They are looking into the needs and concerns of the janitorial staff to see if any additional equipment or supplies are needed.

Lee Dobrinz submitted a report from the Finishes Sub-Committee of POD outlining the furnishing and decorating needs and ideas for the new addition. The session approved the purchase of six matching chairs for this area. Four of these chairs will be paid for with memorial funds and the other two paid from the general fund. It was approved for Lee and the committee to put together a

master list of items needed and options available. This list will be brought before the Session for final approval.

Memorial funds from Leroy Horn will be used to provide electronic locks and keys for the secretary's office, Matt's office, and the conference room to match the entry key already available for access to the building. This will enable one key to be used for entry to these areas simplifying the key system and providing a system for identifying church usage.

Communion will be served March 4th.

The request of Peggy Sola to have her name removed from the membership role was approved. Tom and Joe Anundson will be contacted by Vicki Reidinger as to their membership intentions. Tonya Sweeney was granted a letter of transfer to Westminster Presbyterian Church of Casselton.

Approval was made to the church statistical report for submittal to the Presbytery.

A request from Creative Learning Preschool to hold a limited summer program was approved.

Final approval was made for the 2007 budget.

Elder committee assignments are as follows:

Personnel Committee - Vicki Reidinger  
 Mission Committee - Vicky Whitcomb  
 Service and Fellowship - Melissa Eiter  
 Stewardship Committee - Steve Hanna  
 Christian Education - Boots Misheski  
 Worship Committee - Anne Merrill  
 Nominating Committee - Melissa Bar-  
 enthsen  
 Trustee Liaison - Larry Peihl  
 Congregational Care Committee - Jim  
 Johnson

**(Continued to page 4)**

**(Continued from page 3)**

Committee reports were given.

Permission was given for Matt to chair the Presbytery Chogoria Partnership Ministry Team.

116 persons were served communion on 2/4/07. The funeral for Leroy Horn was held in the sanctuary on 1/25/07 with burial at Sunset Memorial Gardens, Fargo, ND.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Barentsen

**MABEL-DOMINOES-  
DOMINOES-MABEL**



Does anything else need to be said? On March 19th, Mabel and anyone else interested will be meeting at 7:00 to play dominoes. Depending on how many people sign-up, we will either meet at the church or at Carol's house. Please sign-up in the narthex.

See Becky or Carol or Mabel with any questions.



**HIGH  
SCHOOL  
SOUL  
TRAIN**

February was a busy month. In our times together we were able to watch movies, go skiing, and enjoy one another from week to week. In March we have some fun events planned for just the high school youth and some that both Becky, Lisa, and I are looking forward too.

First, we have another self-defense class. Next, we are going to try to take a group to Grand Forks again for a Newsboys concert. This concert will cost \$23.50, and we will be going with other churches in the West Fargo area. The

same weekend as the concert, we have the Father's Day Dinner. We would first like to invite all the fathers to this March 11th event. We hope to have a great meal prepared for the teens and fathers as well as some fun and remotely embarrassing activities planned for all. Last in March will be the YMCA extreme overnight.

In April we will be volunteering the youth to be involved in the Sunrise Service. This service will be similar to the one held last year, and we will be needing the youth to read scripture as well as having them play music. We will be getting them this information sometime early March.

Lastly, if your youth is at all interested in going to the Youth Triennium, they need to take a step of faith and make a decision. Since our youth will be riding with Dave Thompson, we need to reserve their spot on the bus that will be going to Purdue.

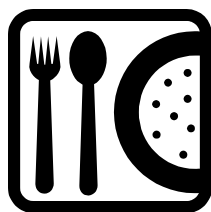
**HS SOUL TRAIN  
SCHEDULE**

Mar	4	5:30-8:30	Self-defense Round II
	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 and sign-up in the narthex
	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

**MIDDLE  
SCHOOL  
SOUL  
TRAIN  
CALENDAR**



Mar 4	5:30-8:30 – Self-defense
11	6:30-8:30 – Father's Day Dinner
18	6:30-8:30 – Bingo
25	10 p.m. to 7 a.m. - YMCA Sleepover – sign-up in narthex
April 1	EEE – 2-4 p.m.
8	Easter Sunrise Service
15	Jamestown Retreat – flyers and sign-up in narthex
22	6:30-8:30 – Interviews and dinner
29	6:30-8:30 – <u>T</u> hink <u>A</u> bout <u>G</u> od – 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: April 1, 22, 29; May 6, 13.

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

Thank you.

**MARCH DATES  
TO REMEMBER**

**BIRTHDAYS**

3-3	Christopher Green Julia Pederson Karen Steele
3-5	Joram Stith
3-6	Ken Faircloth
3-8	Troy Montgomery
3-9	Amy Matzke
3-10	Claire DeJong
3-13	Becki Donahue Kristi Hummel
3-15	Irene Martin
3-16	Dustin Smith
3-19	Derrick LaCoe
3-21	Patrick Talley Melissa Van Cleve
3-22	Bonnie Thompson
3-23	Ryan Kellerman
3-24	Dawn Larson Clifford Sheeley
3-25	Michelle Ohm
3-26	Samantha Pyle Keith Sebelius
3-27	Patrick Richard
3-28	Sam Barenthsen Tom Taffe
3-29	Jessica Hill
3-30	Jordan Birrenkott



**ANNIVERSARIES**

3-3-79	– Cliff and Gail Sheeley
3-4-78	– Bruce and Vicki Riedinger
3-5-51	– Ted and Evelyn Martin
3-7-70	– Lowell and Nan Wiese
3-14-64	– Chuck and Bonnie

Thompson

## TRUSTEE TALK

This is the first regular monthly report regarding what's up with the Trustees.



The Trustees met with Session on February 21. This marked the last time that they will meet together as the joint meetings were ruled out of order when our church records were reviewed by the Presbytery in January. For now, Trustees will meet monthly on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. A report will be made to Session the following week by Larry Peihl, the elder who is responsible for overseeing Trustee activities.

On February 21 (following the joint meeting), Trustees met to take up a variety of matters:

- A request by the Christian Education Committee regarding placing clocks in the new classrooms was reported as fulfilled by Scott Meyer.
- A discussion of the recent purchase of a janitors cart was reviewed, and Bob Wenzloff (one of our janitors) reported that it was working very well.
- Andrew Thostenson reported that Bob Wenzloff, Gary Duggan, and our mechanical contractor for POD met that afternoon to review the operation of our new heating / cooling, and sump systems. Andrew reported that the systems were operating correctly and he felt that we now had sufficient information to adjust and troubleshoot problems when need be.
- Bob Wenzloff asked that we consider purchasing a new vacuum cleaner with a much wider suction head (20 to 25 inches) than is currently available with our exiting systems (10 to 12 inches). After considerable discussion, Bob was asked to obtain additional prices, determine if we could trade in one of our existing vacuum cleaners, and then give us an estimate on how much janitor time would be saved by going to the larger head. Once that is done, the Trustees will review this information at the March meeting and make a decision on whether to recommend a new system purchase.
- Trustees performed an annual review on Bob and Debbie Wenzloff and reviewed their current compensations. The Trustees, upon a motion from Bob Olson and a second by Bob Gault, unanimously approved a new compensation package for our janitors and will forward those recommendations on to elder Vicki Reidinger, Chair of the Personnel Committee. Their goal is to have Session take action upon this matter at their next regular meeting in March.
- Bob Wenzloff reported that he was concerned about cleanup issues following pre-school and other extracurricular activities held at the church. The Trustees decided to review the terms of our lease with the pre-school and determine if adjustments needed to be made. Also, Bob was instructed that if others who use the church do not clean up appropriately that he should report specifics to the Trustees so necessary action could be taken.
- A brief discussion was held regarding holding regular spring and fall "cleanup / work days" for the entire church membership participation. (The previous success of doing this during POD construction demonstrated that the membership was eager to lend a hand.) The Trustees decided to take this up at their March meeting to develop more concrete proposals regarding dates and the scope of the work that would be tackled on these work days.

**(Continued on page 7)**

**(Continued from page 6)**

•The Trustees also explored, very briefly, the need for landscaping in the spring along with maintenance of both parking lots. These matters were tabled until the March meeting.

Submitted by Andrew A. Thostenson  
Trustee

### PROJECT OPEN DOOR UPDATE



Very little construction took place in February, but our mechanical contractor did replace some ceiling tiles in the fellowship hall, re-enforce some duct work in our old furnace room, install an adjustable vent in the secretary office, and they have ordered replacement vents for the ones that were improperly installed in our foyer. They also conducted a training with church members on the operation and maintenance of our new heating / cooling and sump systems.

Larry Peihl began constructing a sheet-rock wall to divide the old chair / table room in two (This will create a new pantry for the kitchen and an office for the pre-school.). Kevin Galt also installed a security camera for the front door and an indicator light in the narthex to determine when the front door is locked or unlocked.

On the financial front, at the time of this writing, only two of our four contractors have submitted satisfactory paperwork to settle contracts. They are Red River Electric and Allied Fire and Safety. Therefore, we will pay them their retained earnings and release them from their bonds. We have some outstanding issues with our general contractor, but these seem to be working out, and we expect paperwork from them any day in order to settle their contract. As for our mechanical contractor, we still have out-

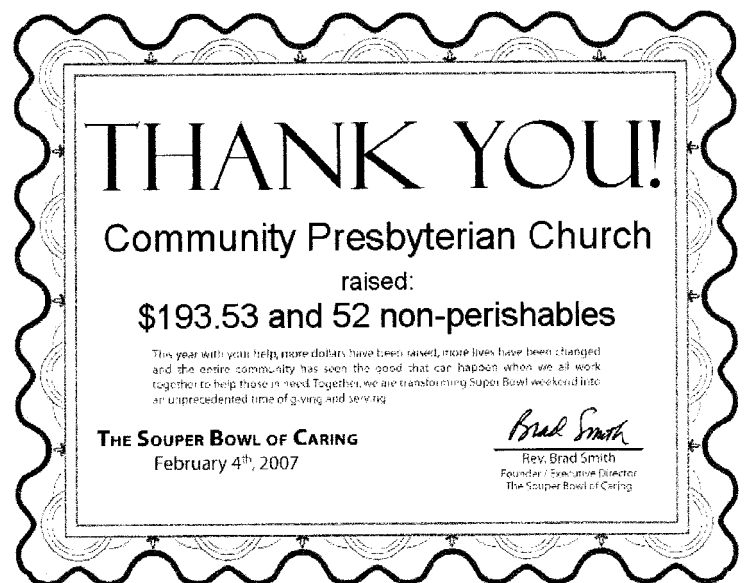
standing concerns. After a meeting with them to review our disagreements, we made a proposal to them on February 23rd to settle their contract. We are waiting for a response.

The POD furnishing committee is working and made proposals to Session at their February meeting. Once spring comes, landscaping will need to be tackled, our sign will need to be re-done, painting of fire pipes will ensue, and some wood working will likely be undertaken. Oh, we also need to put some signs up so folks can find the new rest-rooms and classroom.

It is thrilling to see how many, many people are enjoying our new space and how they are working mightily to make it welcoming and inviting for our members, friends, and visitors. Surely, this enthusiasm is a blessing from God, so let us continue to thank and praise Him in our prayers.

### THANKS FOR SOUP

The following was presented to CPC's Soul Train for their efforts in collecting funds on *Souper Bowl Sunday*, February 4th. Monies collected went to the Dorothy Day Food Pantry in Moorhead.





## NEW LIFE CENTER CENTENIAL CELEBRATION

The New Life Center is celebrating 100 years of ministry to homeless people in the Fargo-Moorhead area. The event is being held on Thursday, April 12th, at 7:00 p.m. at West Acres Holiday Inn. The evening will consist of dinner, music with Kathie Brekke and the Apostles, and an inspirational message from author, Mike Yankoski. Mike lived as a homeless person, by choice, in order to better understand the plight of the homeless person and how the church and Christians were interacting with this often despised segment of American society.

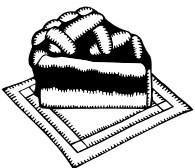
This is a celebration for everyone, not a fundraiser, but reservations are required. The cost of each ticket is \$12.00. For ticket information, call the New Life Center at 235-4453.

## PRAYER BREAKFAST/ EVENING DESSERT

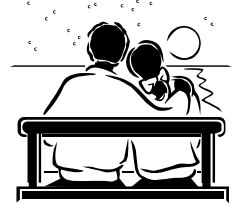


Everyone make plans now to attend the New Life Center Prayer Breakfast or Evening Dessert this spring. Please note the following changes: the evening event will be held on Thursday, May 3, at 7:30 p.m., and the prayer breakfast will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, May 4. Both events will be held in the Great Hall at the Fargo Holiday Inn. Author, recording artist, and Bible study teacher, Jennifer Rothschild, will be the speaker.

Breakfast tickets are \$15.00 while dessert tickets cost \$8.00. Reservations are required. For breakfast ticket information, contact Reta Gage at 239-0428. For evening dessert information, contact Jewell Fiskness at 233-6497.



## LIVING UP IN A DOWN WORLD: MAKING RELATIONSHIPS WORK



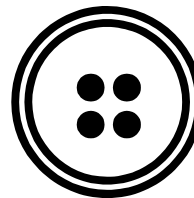
Rev. Dr. Bob Edwards will be leading a Relational Skills Weekend for Married and single adults beginning on Friday, March 30th, at 6:00 p.m. and concluding on Saturday, March 31st, at noon. The event will be held at First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead, 2900 South 5th St., Moorhead, Minnesota.

This Relational Skills Weekend is sponsored by the area Presbyterian churches. The cost is \$25 per couple or \$15 for singles. To register for this event, call First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead at 233-1192.

AmericInn, located next to the church, has arranged for special discount rates for those who attend this event. For reservations there, call 287-7100. Make your room reservations by March 16th, asking for the Presbyterian Church block of rooms.

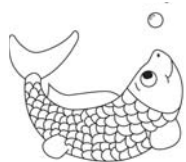
For more information, see the flyer on the narthex bulletin board.

## CRAFTERS WANTED



Don't have 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, March 17th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Come, join us in the fellowship hall and finish or at least start those projects you want to get done.



**SPRING INTO THE MARCH  
MISSION:  
HELP SUPPORT ONE  
GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

You can give a person fish to eat OR you can teach them how to fish. Self-Development of People is one of 3 missions supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) - to give our brothers and sisters around the world HOPE for a brighter future.

Disaster Strikes! Hurricanes in the southern US, a tsunami in Asia, etc. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is the second of three missions supported by OGHS- witnessing the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic events.

37 million Americans live in a state of poverty, hunger and hardship. The Presbyterian Hunger Program works to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes, responding with compassion and justice to poor and hungry people in local communities in the United States.

In Matthew 25:35-36, Christ said, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

What can you do? Take home a fish, fill it with coins, and return it on Palm Sunday. Take the special envelope, write a check for a few dollars, put in the offering plate. Last year's offering was \$1800 from our church for One Great Hour of Sharing. Let's try for \$2000 this year.

Thank you for your support of this very worthy cause!



**BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS**

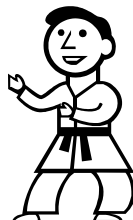
The Teen moms will sure be busy reading to their kids thanks to your generosity of donating 90 books to our January mission! You also gave 8 video tape movies, 5 DVD movies, 4 packages of diapers, and 6 packages of wipes. What a wonderful way for Teen Moms to spend time with their kids!

**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. We are currently studying the fruits of the Spirit. In the next study, beginning in April, we will be viewing Walking the Bible: A Journey by Land through the Five Books of Moses.

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



**HI-YA, KARATE CHOP AGAIN!!!**

Scott Stenshoel is coming back on March 4th from 5:30—8:30 p.m. He will continue to instruct us in other forms of self-defense. This is a Soul Train event, but we are inviting anyone who wants to hear what he has to say to come and listen. He will give common sense tips on safety, as well as, show us some simple techniques for self-defense. Dinner will be served, so please sign up in the narthex, so we know how many to plan for.

See you there!  
Becky, Lisa, and Curt

**OFFERING:  
YEAR-TO-DATE GIVING**

As of February 21, 2007, the year-to-date giving to CPC's general fund has been \$26,334.97. Per capita funds collected total at \$3,344.10 of the \$9,263 2007 CPC per capita responsibility.

# - A Sharing Calendar

# One great hour of sharing

SUNDAY

One Great Hour of Sharing® brings hope and help to our neighbors around the world. Put one coin in your fish bank for every year of your age.

MONDAY

70% of those suffering from hunger in the world are women and girls. Give one coin for every woman or girl in your family.

TUESDAY

Over 40% of people in the least developed countries live on less than \$1/day. Give one dollar's worth of coins.

WEDNESDAY

A dairy farming project in Pakistan is helping a village of 4,000 create a stable and growing source of income. Give one coin for each glass or carton of milk you drink today.

THURSDAY

About 85% of the world's young people live in developing countries. Give one coin for each person under 18 in your household.

FRIDAY

Many people in developing countries spend hours every day collecting and carrying water. Give one coin for every faucet in your home.

SATURDAY

Over 350 million children must work, sometimes over 15 hours a day. Give one coin for every hour of TV you watch today.

SUNDAY

In some places, something as simple as a drinking cup is a luxury. Give one coin for each glass in your cupboard.

MONDAY

Two children are orphaned by AIDS every 60 seconds. Give one coin for every parent you have.

TUESDAY

In western and central Africa, only 4% of our neighbors have a phone. Give a coin for every time you talked on the phone today.

WEDNESDAY

In south Asia, only 36% of women have skilled help when giving birth. Give one coin for every family you know with a healthy baby.

THURSDAY

Refugee programs offer shelter, food and safety, and give people a chance to begin rebuilding their lives. Give one coin for every time you have moved.

FRIDAY

850 million people are malnourished, most as a result of chronic hunger. Prepare a family meal without spending more than \$1, and give one coin for each family member.

SATURDAY

A program in Laos helps rural children obtain basic education that can help improve their lives and the future of their communities. Give one coin for every page you read today.

SUNDAY

More money is spent on pet food in the US & Europe than the \$13 billion needed to meet the basic health and nutrition needs of the world's poorest people. Give the cost of one bag or can of pet food.

MONDAY

In sub-Saharan Africa, only one person in 100 is an internet user. Give one coin for each minute you spend online today.

TUESDAY

Women in Bangladesh are using a micro-credit loan to create a weaving business that will help 800 tribal women earn income making blankets. Give one coin for every blanket in your home.

WEDNESDAY

Your One Great Hour of Sharing gift is helping volunteers clean and rebuild homes after Hurricane Katrina. Give one coin for every room in your home.

THURSDAY

The war in Sudan is the world's longest-running civil war: 35 of the last 46 years. Give one coin for each year of peace in Sudan.

FRIDAY

More than 2 billion of our neighbors around the world lack adequate toilet facilities. Give one coin for every time you go to the bathroom today.

SATURDAY

People in 60 countries live with the threat of landmines buried near their homes and in their fields. Give a coin for every day you walk safely in a yard or park this week.

SUNDAY

In the least developed countries, only 45% of women can read and write. Give one coin for every book, magazine or newspaper you looked at today.

MONDAY

Drought has recently killed up to 60% of livestock in some regions of Kenya. Give one coin for every pet in your home.

TUESDAY

One of every six people on the planet lacks access to safe water. Count the number of people in church today, divide by six, and give one coin for each person.

WEDNESDAY

Church World Service helps disaster victims both in the US and in other countries. Give one coin for every major disaster you can recall in recent years.

THURSDAY

In South Asia, only 61% of students who enter school will reach fifth grade. Give one coin for every year of education you've had.

FRIDAY

In Egypt, about 10% of 10- to 14-year-olds work, and nearly 65% percent of poor families send at least one child to work. Give one coin for each hour you spend doing chores this week.

SATURDAY

The Good Samaritan gave the innkeeper two days' wages to care for the man who had been beaten. Will you give two hours' wages to One Great Hour of Sharing®?