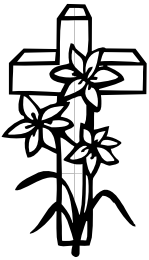


# COMMUNITY CALL

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

## EASTER PROGRAMS



Join us on Maundy Thursday, April 5, when we will gather together at 7 p.m. for a Tenebrae service including the observance of the Lord's Supper.

The church will be filled with activity on Easter, April 8, starting with a Sunrise service sponsored by Soul Train at 8:00 a.m., followed by breakfast served in the fellowship hall. Worshipers are encouraged to stay for the 10:00 a.m. service where we will rejoice in God's victory over sin and death and celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

## PW SPRING LUNCHEON



Watch the bulletins for news about the Spring Luncheon sponsored by Presbyterian Women. The date of April 28 has been tentatively set. The women decided to try a luncheon rather than a brunch this year. Final plans for the event have not yet been made. Save that date as there is always good food, entertainment, and a speaker.

## PASTOR'S PEN

The change of seasons is always an interesting time. There are all sorts of signs that the cycle of winter, spring, summer, and fall is once again on the march. My daughter has been particularly alert to these signs of late. She came running into the house the other day to tell me, excitedly, that she had spotted a flock of geese flying north. "That's a good sign," I told her. Then, just yesterday, as we pulled into the parking lot at school, she saw two robins in the grass. Another good sign. There



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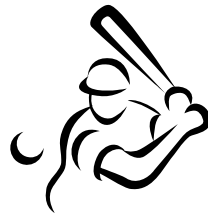
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are buds on the trees, the snow has (pretty much) melted, and the temperatures are finally starting to rise. And, of course, the most important sign of the coming of spring is on deck for Monday, April 2: Opening Day for Major League Baseball, as my beloved (and usually hapless) Cincinnati Reds start off another campaign. I am, as you most likely know, a big baseball fan, and for me, the beginning of the season is always a harbinger of hope and renewal. Every team starts with a clean slate, with none of the disappointments or triumphs of the past having any real impact on the prospects for the future. As the cliché goes, "Everyone is undefeated on Opening Day."

Of course, no team is going to stay undefeated. Half of them won't even make it out of their first game without a loss, a blemish on the record. But that one glorious day when the teams trot onto the beautifully manicured field in their spotless uniforms, and the national anthem is sung, and the umpire shouts "Play Ball!" is a day of pure promise, pure hope, pure renewal. It's one of my favorite days of the whole year.

Of course, we in the Church have some other pretty big days that come around as the season turns to Spring. It is at more or less this time every year that we celebrate Palm Sunday, the commemoration of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The waving of palms in the hands of our Sunday School kids is as sure a sign of the spring as the flight of geese back north (not to mention as loud!). Four and five days later, as sure as leaves eventually follow the buds on the trees, come Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, on which we in this church remember our Lord's institution of the



Sacrament of Communion and his death by crucifixion for our sake, respectively. And, of course, the biggest spring day of them all follows shortly: Easter Sunday. It is, for sure, another one of the rituals of the season that we dress up especially nicely, come to church, and celebrate the Resurrection, Christ's rising from the grave in victory over sin and death. It is as familiar, as predictable, and as wonderful as the melting of the snows, the (eventual) greening of the lawns, and the return of the robins.

But I wonder, sometimes, if we don't lose something when we focus too much on the cyclical, repeated elements of the Easter season. Yes, it is worthwhile and valuable to observe and celebrate the cycle of the seasons, as God has ordained it to be. But, at the same time, Easter is, first and foremost, about something undeniably, radically new, something that never happened before: Death failed to hold Jesus, and his rising again broke the cycle of sin and punishment that had bound all of creation forever. Not to be flippant, but that first Easter was very much like Opening Day: When it came, right then, all of our past failures and triumphs no longer counted. We, by virtue of Jesus' great sacrifice, his payment of what we owe, started off that day undefeated. Easter means a clean slate.

Of course, just like the Reds, our records don't stay unblemished. Along with what victories we achieve in life (always and only by God's gracious help), we inevitably suffer, and will continue to suffer, defeats. But Easter reminds us that, because of what Jesus did for us, because of God's great love and mercy, we are forgiven, and we get another chance to start anew.

Play Ball!



## MARCH CLERK'S CORNER

The Session approved changing our telephone service from Qwest to Ideaone and installing lines for teleconferencing. This will save approximately \$50 a month and give better service.

The Project Open Door Committee reported that there should be some money in the POD account for landscaping, furnishings and other needs for the new addition. Bills are now being paid. The windows on the south side of the narthex and the one by the coat racks must be replaced. The glass is not the correct strength that was ordered. Landscaping, drainage in back of the church, a garden on the south side of the addition, and a sign for the church were discussed. Committees will be formed to work on these items. Interested people can contact Jim Bjorklund.

The Leopold's request to have Lydia Pearl Leopold baptized on Easter Sunday was approved. She was born on March 19 in Fargo.

Plans for the open house for Goodie Paulsen are going ahead. Members of Session were asked to assist Delores Horn in this event.

The Presbyterian Women was given permission to hold a spring luncheon rather than a spring brunch this year. The date has tentatively been set for April 28. More details will be available later.

The summer preschool program will be held on various dates in June, July and August. The preschool was asked by parents to have a summer program.

The hourly wage for the custodians, Bob & Deb Wenzloff was approved. They will be paid \$10.50 per hour, and they work approximately 10-15 hours a week. They have worked at the church for 18

years. A two week paid vacation was also approved based on 10-15 hours a week, and two additional paid week ends off were approved. The Trustees will take care of getting the work at the church done when they are on vacation.

The trustees received approval for an All-Church Clean-up Day on May 5. Please don your work clothes and come help make our church fresh and clean.

The Quilters have received \$25 from Wal-Mart to help pay for materials for Prayer Quilts. They were given permission to apply for a Community Grant from Wal-Mart to help pay for their quilting supplies.

Tom & Joseph Anundson's request to be dropped from membership in the church was approved.

Andrew Thostenson will negotiate a new lease agreement with Mandy Ratcliffe, owner of the Creative Learning Preschool held in the fellowship hall, and will bring it to Session in April for approval. He will make sure that she has the proper liability insurance policy.

Vicki Peihl, Vicky Whitcomb, and Mary Jo Moorhead are going to serve as historians for the church. If you have items that you feel should be saved, please bring them to any of these ladies. We thank them for volunteering for this important job.

Vacation Bible School will be held August 5-9 with a dinner at 6:00 p.m. and classes from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This year there will be an adult class in addition to the other regular classes. May 20th will be the last day of Sunday School for this year and there will be a potluck on that Sunday.

The Christian Education Committee will pay \$35.00 of the \$65 registration fee

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for youths attending the Jamestown Retreat. PW has agreed to pay the remaining \$30 so that youth can go without having to pay the registration fee. The church will pay \$200 towards the expenses for the two youth who have indicated that they will be attending the Youth Triennium this summer.

The Chogoria Partnership Team met on March 17th in Jamestown. They are planning a trip to Kenya possibly in July or August of 2008.

122 persons were served Communion on March 4.

Delores Horn, Clerk of Session

**HS  
SOUL TRAIN  
SCHEDULE**



- 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

**BLANKETS TO WARM  
OUR HEARTS**



There is always a good feeling deep inside when you know you have done a good deed. Through the donations of the Cuddle-Up program and the hard work of the MS Soul Train, 10 fleece blankets have been assembled and sent to PATH. PATH delivers these blankets to the young people in our community that are in need of some comfort and security.

Thank you for caring about strangers.



**APRIL SHOWERS  
INTO MISSIONS**

Let's shower the blue tote in the narthex this April.

- WHAT: Tuna and Soup
- WHEN: Month of April
- WHO: Emergency Food Pantry of Fargo
- WHY: Their biggest need is right now.
- WHERE: 1438 Tenth St. N., Fargo

Let's go for 100 cans this month. Bring in your cans of soup and tuna now! We can do it with your help!

**WANT AN ELECTRONIC  
CPC DIRECTORY?**



Have you ever been typing away on your computer and wanted to quickly and easily look up another member's e-mail address or telephone number, but could not find your hard copy of the CPC Directory? The solution is at hand.

We have the directory in PDF electronic file format complete with easy navigation links for you to find your way through all 49 pages. Best of all, all you have to do is send Gayle Thostenson an e-mail (atgtet@cablone.net) or call her at 492-0630, and she will send it to you.

Please note, in order to view the file, you will need Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.0 or higher installed. This is a free download from Adobe. Go to Adobe's download website to get the reader program at:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
SCHEDULE**

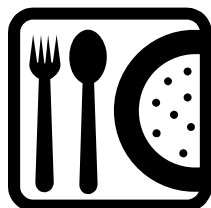
- April 8 Easter-No Sunday School
- May 13 Memorization Sunday
- May 20 Sunday School's Last Day



## MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUL TRAIN SCHEDULE



April 1	1:20-4 p.m. EEE
8	Easter Sonrise Service
15	Jamestown Retreat – flyers and sign-up in narthex
22	6:30-8:30 – Interviews and dinner
29	6:30-8:30 – <u>Think About God</u> – 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

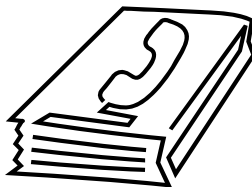
We are looking for people who would be interested in serving dinner for the MS Soul Train. We have 20 very polite and hungry people who like to enjoy conversation and fellowship over a scrumptious meal. The dates for the dinners are: April 29; May 6, 13.

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

Thank you.

### DIRECTORIES

The 2007 Directories are now available in the church narthex (they have a lavender cover). Please review your information carefully and let Delores Horn know if something is not accurate. We try hard to get everything correct, but errors do happen.



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### BIRTHDAYS

4-1	Susan Gross
4-2	Becky DeJong Erin Green Molly Nelson
4-5	Trinity Jaskowiak
4-5	Veril Larson
4-6	Josh Corneliussen
4-6	Brent Talley
4-8	Hazel Yokom
4-10	Dustin Richard
4-13	Jon Whitcomb Krista Whitcomb Leah Whitcomb
4-14	Cathy Birrenkott
4-16	Bryan Riedinger
4-18	Kathy LaCoe
4-19	Beverly Montgomery Mandi Montgomery
4-20	Ruby Hendrickson Lynn Hummel
4-22	Kaylee VanCleve
4-23	Zaryn Hansen
4-25	Audrey Binger
4-26	Debra Olson Kevin Bruse
4-27	Andrew Thostenson Emma DeJong
4-28	Lorna Wilkinson
4-30	Delbert Jenner Carolyn Talley



### ANNIVERSARIES

4-2-77	– Greg and Carol Sterup
4-3-54	– Bill and Beverly Montgomery
4-9-88	– Dwight and Lisa Steffen
4-12-95	– David and Nancy Stedman
4-13-68	– Denny and Carol Braaten
4-21-79	– Larry and Vicki Peihl
4-21-89	– Gary and Tammy Bahls
4-27-02	– Jon and LeAnn Carlson
4-27-02	– Craig and Dixie Pederson
4-30-66	– Larry and Uneva Dobrinz

## MARCH TRUSTEE TALK

The trustees met on Wednesday, March 14th, at 7:00 pm. Ray Christopherson, Bob Galt, Scott Meyer, Bob Olson, and Andrew Thostenson were in attendance. Larry Peihl, Session liaison elder, and Jim Bjorklund met with the trustees as well.



Jim and Scott reported on water seepage into the office and the old bathrooms. The rapid thaw, along with ice dams and downspout problems, caused these leaks. No significant harm occurred, but it did cause damage to one of the office lights. Scott Meyer offered to follow up on this. (As of March 25, the light in the office has been repaired; the roof was inspected by a professional and found to be okay. Scott is checking on estimates for replacing the roof in the next couple of years.)

Jim reported that work is needed to be done on some of the windows in the new narthex. (See POD report on page 7 for more details.) It was reported that Jim Bjorklund and Gary Duggan will paint the sprinkler pipes and the patched walls in the old narthex. It was reported that the dividing wall in the storage area off the kitchen has been completed and the front half has been turned over to preschool for their use.

The trustees reviewed the new compensation package for our janitors and Larry agreed to press Session to act on it at their March 21 meeting.

Andrew distributed copies of the 2000-2001 lease agreement with Creative Learning Preschool (CLP). He reported that the agreement has not been updated or signed since then, and it was never transferred to the new owner. Andrew agreed to update the agreement and distribute it to the trustees for

comment. Once the trustees weigh in, the proposed agreement will be shared with the new owner of CLP and Session.

The trustees will look into replacing the door and frame to the old boiler room and frame the fellowship hall doorway. The plan is to remove the old fellowship hall doors and not replace them. All of this would be finished to match the new construction trim. Larry, Bob, Ray, and Bob committed to this.

It was reported by Larry that new locks to match the new addition have been ordered for the older portion of the building. They should be professionally installed next month.

Finally, the trustees are calling for a general membership work day/cleanup day for May 5. Members are encouraged to put this on their calendars to help and to submit ideas for jobs that need to be done. The trustees will then put together a list of tasks at their April meeting and details will then be shared with the membership. If you have an idea of something that needs work around the church, contact any one of the trustees listed below with your ideas:

Ray Christopherson, 793-3935 or  
rnb@cableone.net

Robert Galt, 293-1011 or r.galt@I29.net

Derek Leopold, 282-9213 or  
notuffda@aol.com

Scott Meyer, 282-8704 or  
black\_cats8@msn.com or  
Scott.m.meyer@ndsu.edu

Bob Olson, 282-6311 or  
rdolson11@msn.com

Andrew Thostenson, 492-0630 or  
andrew.thostenson@ndsu.edu

Larry Peihl, Session Liaison,  
356-0458 or lpeihl@csdubois.com

The next meeting of the trustees will be April 11 at 7:00 pm.

## APRIL PROJECT OPEN DOOR UPDATE



This will be the last regular Project Open Door Update for the Community Call. From here on out, reports on what is happening will be covered in other regular columns in the Community Call as well as special updates as the situation merits.

We have made our final payments for all four of our contractors and our architect. Our contracts have been settled. As we sit here today, we have about 15 or 16 monthly mortgage payments available in the POD fund. As of February, we started paying our mortgage. Additional pledges and gifts are also expected into the end of the capital campaign (December 31, 2007.) Financially, POD is on solid footing. Another capital campaign will be needed to service the debt into 2008 and beyond and the stewardship committee is in conversation about this.

Construction wise, we are still fussing with some of the vents being replaced in the foyer and we are working with our general contractor, MinKo, to address deficiencies with regards to some of the window panes due to improper installation. Adjustments also need to be made to the main glass doors facing Sheyenne Street, but again, MinKo has been diligent about this and we are working well with them.

Late in the spring, MinKo will also be removing the temporary sidewalk to the SE Door and working on the demolition and sealing of the kitchen stairway and door. When those tasks are completed, MinKo will invoice us for the work and we will pay them as we agreed when we settled our contract.

POD items that will need to be handled over the next several months by the

membership will include:

- Landscaping
- Building a sign
- Furnishing and decorating
- Painting in the old narthex

On a personal note, Jim Bjorklund and Andrew Thostenson would like to thank the congregation for supporting this project and our leadership with such enthusiasm. It was a real privilege and we are humbled by all of your kind words towards us.

### PM RUMMAGE SALE



On Saturday, April 14, the Presbyterian Men will again be conducting a church rummage sale as part of a community wide event. The sale will be held at the Veteran's Memorial Arena from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. on that day.

We need your contributions to help make this project a success. Donated items can be brought to the southwest door of the arena which is at the delivery entrance to the high school anytime after 1 p.m. and until 8 p.m. Friday, April 13.

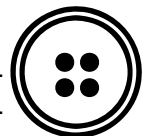
If you are unable to deliver donated items, we will gladly pick them up. Just call or leave a message at 282-4942.

### SENIORS WANTED



On Sunday, May 20, we will honor our seniors as they graduate from high school. If you know of a senior who will be graduating this year, please let us know. Contact the church office as soon as possible.

### CRAFTERS WANTED



Craft night at Community Presbyterian Church will be Saturday April 21st 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.