

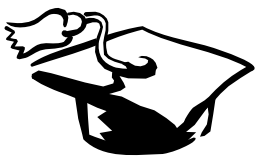
# COMMUNITY CALL

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

## UPCOMING SUNDAY SCHOOL EVENTS

Please join us on May 20th for a full morning of fun, worship, celebration, and fellowship. During Sunday School, children will celebrate their last day with special activities.

During the worship service, attendance awards will be distributed to Sunday School students. At this time appreciation will also be extended to all this year's Sunday School teachers.



Following the service, there will be a potluck along with cake honoring our graduating seniors. This year we will be recognizing Ann Corneliussen, Breanna Olson, and Tiffany Peihl. If you know of any other graduating seniors, please let the office know.



**PLEASE NOTE: On May 27, summer schedule will begin. Worship services will be held at 9:30 a.m.**

## PASTOR'S PEN

As some of you may know, my family has recently purchased a new van. We are very pleased with it, on the whole, and are enjoying the novelty of having enough room in our vehicle for the kids, their stuff, and maybe even a friend or two. It would also be safe to say that in the transition from my 1989 Toyota wagon to our 2006 Kia van the driving experience has improved, rather a lot. We've had the van for a few weeks now, and there is really only one thing I



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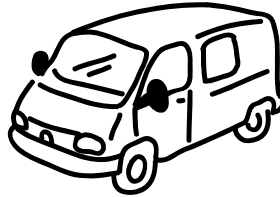
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I haven't been thrilled with—we don't seem to be getting the gas mileage we should.

I called the dealership about this, and they suggested that, since the van is under warranty, I should bring it in. I did so this morning, and, while they didn't find anything in particular wrong with it, they were able to upgrade the software that runs the computer that controls the drive train. Apparently, this will now enable the van to adapt to my driving patterns and tweak the settings of the engine to optimize fuel economy. I'm now officially intimidated by my vehicle.



This experience has started me thinking, though. Wouldn't it be nice if we could go in for a software upgrade, and as a result just start performing better in all the various aspects of life where we fall a bit short of optimal? Clearly, the current version of our "operating system" has far too many bugs in it, right?

Well, it unfortunately isn't quite that easy. It is surely true that we just don't work right sometimes. The past couple of weeks have provided us with horrifying and tragic examples of what can happen when a person completely breaks down, overwhelmed by the toxic combination of sinful impulses from within and malignant influences from without. The carnage at Virginia Tech, the continuing parade of suicide bombers in the Middle East, and the seemingly endless supply of awful incidents in the news from our own region and community attest to the fact that there is something badly broken in this world and its people.

And we need not look only at those "spectacular" incidents, either. Each one of us, each and every day, shows the

need for an "upgrade." We persistently fail to live as we know we should, sinning by our deeds, our words, our thoughts, or even just by the gradual, imperceptible erosion of our dedication and devotion to the life into which we have been called. None of us is getting the "mileage" that we should, and none of us has the knowledge or the power to fix the problem.

But there is hope. We are offered, indeed we are promised, something better than just an upgrade, more than just an incremental reduction in our inefficiencies and failures. Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 5, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation." Because we have been united with Jesus in baptism, given by grace a share in the benefits of his death and resurrection, we are promised that the entirety of our old, fatally flawed selves will be transformed, even replaced, by a brand new creation, one that has as its foundation not the alienation from God that our sins have wrought, but instead the reconciliation with God that Christ achieved. And when that new creation is fully realized in us, we will find that no further upgrade will ever be required.

Of course, in God's inscrutable wisdom, he has chosen to wait to fully realize our new creation. So, for the time being, we must make the best effort at our assigned mission—to spread the news of this re-creation to come—even in our current, faulty state. But knowing what is to come, trusting in the promise given by God, should, in the meantime, improve our living experience, rather a lot.



## APRIL CLERK'S CORNER

The Session met on Wednesday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m.

The financial report and minutes of the March meeting were approved as circulated. Cheryl Montgomery and Delores Horn reported that they had reviewed the giving records of the members and have made lists of those members who have either not contributed to the general fund or have not paid their per capita assessment. The Session approved including the information for each household regarding their pledge amounts and whether or not they had paid their per capita in the contribution reports to be sent out in May. They reported that one of the areas where per capita is not being paid is for adult children and confirmed youths. This will be addressed in a separate letter to the young adult members and to confirmed youths and their parents. It was felt that confirmed youth may not remember that part of their commitment as members of the church is to pay the per capita assessment.

Approval was given to hold a Blood Drive with the Bloodmobile in the church parking lot. More information will be made available when final plans are made. This will be coordinated by Bev Christopherson. If anyone is willing to help with telephoning members to set up donation times, please contact her. Linda Bishop was given permission to hold a free blood pressure check in the narthex after worship on various Sundays dates to be announced later. No records will be kept and readings will be kept confidential.

The Trustees presented a proposed lease with the Pre-School owner. It was approved with the stipulation that if any changes are made when it is discussed

with the Pre-School owner, the lease will need to be re-evaluated. The Quilters were given permission to hold a Baked Goods Sale on May 6th in the narthex to raise funds to purchase a sewing machine for the church to be used for any sewing projects that arise. The Service and Fellowship Committee was given approval to contact a paper supply dealer to work out prices for paper products used in the kitchen. They will try to use environmentally friendly products whenever it is economically feasible.

The Christian Education Committee had several requests approved: They will have a potluck after worship on May 20th marking the last day of Sunday School and Senior recognition. Soul Train was given permission to hold a Bingo Party on May 11th or 12th to raise funds to help finance the Triennium Trip for two youths from our church. More details on the Party will be furnished later. Curt Brophy was given permission for the Senior High Group to hold a fundraiser for youth group activities. This fundraiser would be in the form of "flamingo-ing" members of the church. Plastic flamingos would be placed in members' yards and to have them removed members would be required to pay a fee. Or if they wished to have them placed in another member's yard, they would pay for that also. If members do not want the flamingos put in their yard, they can take out an insurance policy to avoid this. More information will be provided later.

Andrew Thostenson was given permission to hold a Presbytery Committee on Ministry meeting on May 3rd in either the conference room or one of the larger classrooms from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Kari Jutila will hold a meeting prior to that also.

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The Session approved the request from a non-member to hold her daughter's wedding in our sanctuary on Saturday, August 4th, at 5:00 p.m. with the rehearsal to be held on Friday evening, August 3rd. This was approved providing that they follow the wedding policy and guidelines set up by the Session earlier this year. They would need to pay the appropriate fees, use the services of a wedding consultant and be allowed to arrange the furniture in the front of the church to meet their needs. Also approval hinges on a wedding consultant to be available to work with them. They are members of a local church but their home church is not large enough to accommodate the number of guests expected. The uncle of the bride, who is an ordained pastor, will conduct the service.

The Session approved paying airfare for Jenna Barentsen's mission trip to Kenya in the amount of \$1,800. At this time, Jenna is not receiving any assistance from the Presbytery or other churches in the Presbytery. The costs are becoming a burden to Jenna and her family. Session also approved that a special offering would be taken Sunday, April 22, following worship to help with the expenses of Jenna's mission trip.

\$150 was approved to pay the second installment of fees for the softball team.

Trustees were given approval to purchase a wider vacuum up to the amount of \$1,000, to purchase 6 new tables at \$100 each, and to purchase 32 new stackable chairs for the younger student classrooms at a cost of \$30 each. They reported that the new locks and keys have been ordered at a cost of approximately \$750. These will be paid for from the LeRoy Horn Memorial Fund.

They also were given permission to hold a brainstorming meeting on May 7th to begin planning for the landscaping of the church property. Members are encouraged to attend the meeting and present any ideas they have regarding the landscaping. The Trustees were requested to look into purchasing some "No Smoking" signs for the new bathrooms and the new entrance.

Pastor Stith was given permission to take vacation on Sundays, June 3rd and August 19th. He will check into getting qualified pulpit supply since these are both Communion Sundays.

A total of 133 persons were served communion on April 4; 45 were served on Maundy Thursday, and 145 were served on Easter Sunday.

Delores Horn  
Clerk of Session

**LANDSCAPING MEETING**

Spring is in the air, so it is time to work out a plan to do some post-construction landscaping. The Trustees are inviting anyone who has ideas regarding landscaping to a brainstorming meeting on May 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the church.

The purpose of this meeting is to share ideas and to do some very preliminary planning regarding landscaping needs. Initially, we will be exploring what to do with the land surrounding the new addition. As for the land to the West, we'll put that on the back burner until the contractors complete the removal of the kitchen stairwell sometime in the early summer.

If you cannot make the meeting but have some suggestions on what you think should be done, then contact a trustee ahead of time, so your ideas can be brought up for discussion.



## DATES TO REMEMBER



### BIRTHDAYS

- 5-1 Lee Corneliussen  
 5-2 Tom Kassman  
 5-3 Gloria Ruhnke  
 Dwight Steffen  
 5-4 Dawn Chase  
 5-5 Faye Pyle  
 Henry Yokom  
 5-6 Steve Hanna  
 Marty Matzke  
 5-8 Jane Leben  
 5-9 Carolyn Meester  
 Cheryl Montgomery  
 5-10 Scott Hansen  
 Justin Videen  
 5-12 Renee Jameson  
 5-13 Larry Dobrinz  
 Don VanCleve  
 5-14 Skylar Pederson  
 5-16 Brady Kellerman  
 5-17 Edsel Kercher  
 5-18 Len Misheski  
 5-20 Greg Sterup  
 5-22 Ashley Chase  
 Olivia Dobrinz  
 Amy Leopold  
 Olivia Wilkinson  
 5-23 Melissa Eiter  
 5-24 Bev Christopherson  
 Andrew Steele  
 5-25 Gary E. Bahls Jr.  
 Barb Grossman  
 Mary Jo Moorhead  
 Sarah Traylor  
 5-26 Reed Montgomery  
 5-27 Vickie Meyer  
 5-28 Cole Chase  
 5-29 Melissa Barenthsen  
 Zarissa Hansen

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 5-11-79 – Clarence and  
 Mary Bastle  
 5-24-03 - Tim and Carly  
 Hager  
 5-29-66 – Len and Boots Misheski  
 5-29-93 – Jason and Jill Swart  
 5-29-04 - Seth and Alicia Whitcomb



## ATTENTION ALL SINGERS!



Do you enjoy singing? Have you ever sung in the choir? Do you like to sing in the shower? Would you love to sing with a group, but you just don't have time to make an extended commitment.

If you answered "yes" to any of the above questions, then, this note is for you. We are going to have a sing-along for all interested vocalists. We will practice on Thursday, May 17 at 7 p.m. and sing in church on the following Sunday.

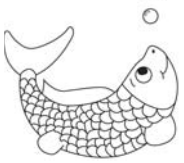
## HS SOUL TRAIN SCHEDULE

May	6	TBA
	13	Possible trip to the Cities
	20	Potluck and Baseball
July	12-14	Sonshine Concert in Wilmer MN
	16-24	Triennium Youth Conference



## MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUL TRAIN CALENDAR

May	6	6:30-8:30 – ???
	13	6:30-8:30 – Mother's Day Dinner
	20	Last youth group meeting



## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING FISHING RESULTS

Our fish for OGHS was down this year. We took in \$150.71—compared to last year's total of \$224.10. Our OGHS envelope totals were also down - we took in \$1,266.00 this year vs. \$1,486.00 last year. The grand total this year was \$1416.71, not quite reaching our goal of \$2000. Hopefully next year we can go back up in our donations. Thanks for all you gave to this major Presbyterian offering.

## WANTED: NEW SCHOOL SUPPLIES IN JUNE AND JULY!



Yes, we know that school is almost out for the summer. Perhaps your kids have an unopened pack of markers or paper or other new school supply item left. Save it - for our June and July mission project this year will be collecting for the YWCA School Backpack program. With the smaller amount of people in church during the summer, we thought this worthwhile program should start sooner. Also these supplies need to be delivered before the month of July is over.

These are the items they run short of the quickest:

Backpacks, 2 inch binders, highlighters, loose leaf paper (either wide or narrow lined), colored pencils, markers. They can also use scissors, red pens, folders, glue, and notebooks. Please bring your new donations in before July 20. Thanks you and have a wonderful summer!

## MISSION OF THE MONTH: PRESBYTERIAN CLEARWATER FOREST



For several years we have not only been sending our kids to Clearwater Forest, we have also been supporting them as one of our monthly mission projects. In the recent past we have set a goal of raising enough money to buy a certain number of items from their annual shopping list – last year it was life jackets. This year, Clearwater Forest is hoping to build two new docks, and we would like to help them do it. We would like to raise \$500 to go toward the cost of building the docks. Your contributions during the month of May will help us reach this goal.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY! HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL BABY!!!



We don't want to miss any of these very special days. If you have a new addition to your family or you are new members to the church, let us know so that we can add your name and dates to our birthday and anniversary lists. Full lists will be posted in the narthex through the month of May. Everyone, please check them to make sure that all is correct.

Thanks,  
Becky DeJong (281-8122)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE



May 13	Memorization Sunday
May 20	Sunday School's Last Day Senior Recognition Potluck



## THANK YOU

The Middle School Youth Group would like to thank everybody who brought candy for our Easter Egg Hunt. We had about 25 kids turn out.

Also, thanks for all the egg bakes and the help we received to make the Easter Breakfast a huge success.

## WATCH OUT FOR THE BIRDS!!!

The HS Soul Train will be finishing the year with a fundraiser. The kids will be taking the opportunity to 'flamingo' people's yards with Florida born flamingos who are pinker than pink and quite real. The only way to get these beautiful ornaments, who have a tendency of covering a yard, off of your property will be to pay a small fee. A suggested fee of five dollars will be attached for us to clean up after ourselves. But do not worry, you have the one time opportunity to buy Flamingo Insurance for ten dollars. This way, your yard will be taken off our list of possible flamingo hits. For the first week of May you can take advantage of this insurance. But after the first week, the insurance will no longer be for sale, and those who decided not to purchase this saving insurance will be free game for our High School Soul Train.

Proceeds of this event will primarily go to helping Stephani Steffen and Emma DeJong make their way to Triennium and any other costs included. Any proceeds given above and beyond this effort will go into the Youth Fund to ever help the kids continue to experience fellowship and fun.

Now, be prepared: The Flamingos are coming!



## OUR CHURCH LADIES CAN COOK. LET'S LET EVERYONE KNOW



We've been enjoying the recipes in the Presbyterian Women's cookbook among ourselves and have purchased enough ourselves to have paid for the printing. Every cookbook sold now is direct profit to Project Open Door.

Please stop by the cookbook table each Sunday to check out or purchase a number of cookbooks.

Some ideas for selling them are:

- \*Selling to friends at work and compare recipes as you make them. (This is fun!)
- \*Selling to friends at coffee for the same reason.
- \*Remind them to buy for birthday, shower or Mother's Day gifts with towels or kitchen things along with it.
- \*Lots of ladies collect cookbooks. You know who they are.
- \*Leave some copies at your beautician's shop if she'll take orders for you.

Use your imagination and let's sell some cookbooks!

Cookbooks are \$10.00 each



## CHURCH SPRING CLEANING

It's time to make the church shine! So, put on your grubby clothes, bring cleaning supplies, roll up your sleeves, and let's clean! You can show up on Saturday, May 5th at 9:00 a.m. and work side by side with your fellow CPC-ers *OR* you can pick a job from the list displayed in the narthex to do on your own, with your family, your friends, or your group the week of April 30th through May 5th.

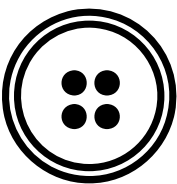


## ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE: BETTER THAN EVER!

On April 14th, the Presbyterian Men hosted their Annual Rummage Sale at the Veterans Memorial Arena. The sale netted \$1,453.67 to be designated to Project Open Door. The figure is an all-time high for this event mainly due to the generosity of our parishioners contributions and the hard work of many of our members. A sincere thank you to the men and women who donated their time and talents to this project

## SPRING BAKED GOODS SALE

Sunday, May 6, the Quilters will be sponsoring a baked goods sale for the purpose of purchasing a church sewing machine. This will be used at the church by the Quilters when they meet every Tuesday to work on prayer , wedding , and mission quilts. Please bring your best culinary creations or your appetite and wallet on this day to help the Quilters fund this worthy project.



## 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, May 19th, 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. If you plan to come, please call Karen Steele (277-8843), so she can plan a snack.

## THANK YOU!

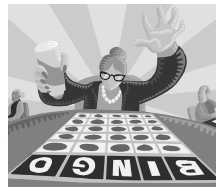
Thanks to everyone for helping me get moved. It went so fine. The trip went very well and Cindi got back to work by Tues.



Thanks too for cards. The lovely coffee party for me. The special feeling of good will and caring from everyone. I miss you all already. Still have a few very busy days ahead, but it's all shaping up and will be fine I'm sure.

Thanks again all of you. You are a great church family.

Greetings from Goodie [Paulsen] in Iowa



**B-17, O-70, G-47,  
I-21, N-33  
BINGO!!!**

Are you ready for BINGO night at the church? It will be held on Friday, May 11th, from 6:30-9:00. There will be a three card limit. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Everyone is asked to bring a wrapped "white elephant" gift (Bring something from home – don't buy anything.)

BINGO is free – donations to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium are extra!!! Emma DeJong and Stephani Steffen are going to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium in July this summer. They will be sponsoring this evening of fun and excitement for your pure enjoyment and maybe for a donation to help pay for their trip.

Bring your lucky trinkets and we will see you at BINGO night!!!!

## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Interested in going to Bible Camp this summer? Scholarships of \$100 per child are available through the Presbyterian Women. For more information, call Delores Horn at 282-4501.

## APRIL TRUSTEE TALK

Trustee Talk for May 2007

The trustees met on April 11th. Bob Galt was absent with the flu. Bob Wenzloff and Larry Peihl also attended the meeting.



Scott Meyer reported that Lee's Roofing examined the flat roof on the old annex and did not find any obvious issues that would require immediate attention. However, they said they would get us estimates regarding replacing the roof. Scott said he would follow-up on getting those figures.

Andrew reported that the leak in the office has not surfaced after several major rain events, and the light was repaired for the cost of the ballast (about \$30).

A discussion of some of the basement leaks then ensued, and it was agreed that trenching and adjustments to the downspouts would be adequate short term solutions. Long term, this should be addressed when we landscape the west and north sides of the church later this summer.

Bob Wenzloff reported that he had completed retrofitting the water faucets for the two primary sinks in the kitchen. Bob also reported on his research regarding the purchasing of a wider vacuum. The trustees voted to support his findings and his request. Larry will take this up with the Session.

Andrew, Bob Wenzloff, and Larry reported on some post POD construction issues (windows, plumbing, and elevator adjustments). Andrew and Jim Bjorklund will continue to monitor these items with our contractors.

Scott shared some recent notices and mail from the city, the county, and our snow removal service. Essentially, the church will have to pay a new road im-

provement special over the next 15 years beginning in early 2008. (Note, currently the church does not have any specials to pay against—we paid off our specials in 2005.) Also, the Cass County Emergency Management Director asked if we would be interested in serving as an emergency shelter in the event of some catastrophe. Andrew will follow up on this to find out what it would entail. As for the snow removal bill, the Trustees authorized payment.

Larry reported that the trim for the fellowship hall and boiler room doorways would be ready for installation in the next couple of weeks. The locks would be ready for installation then as well.

The Trustees reviewed a draft lease agreement with Creative Learning Preschool (CLP). Some minor changes were made. Larry will take this up with the Session and then Andrew will then take it up with CLP.

Treasurer Cheryl Montgomery provided a dedicated account breakdown for the Trustees to review and asked if the Trustees would follow up by using some of these funds to purchase and install additional shelving and cupboards for the office. Scott will follow up on this with Cheryl, Lora (our secretary), and Delores (our clerk) to decide on what they want and then get some cost estimates.

Bob led a discussion of what would be helpful for people to do for spring cleanup on May 5th. Andrew will write up a list of jobs for people to do independently during the week leading up to spring cleanup, and Bob and the Trustees will oversee the cleaning at the church starting at 9:00 am at the church on the 5th.

Andrew, after investigating Christian  
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education and fellowship hall needs, presented a plan to purchase additional folding tables (six) and stacking medium height chairs (about 30) for children. The Trustees supported this request, and Larry will take this up with Session.

Andrew requested that the Trustees sponsor a meeting on May 7th to solicit ideas from the membership regarding landscaping. The Trustees approved this idea, and Larry will present this to Session.

Andrew and Larry reported that a member had been seriously injured by walking into the closure cylinder on the west door. The Trustees agreed to replace the closure and retrofit the door with a see-through window, so people could avoid striking someone on the other side when in use. Larry will follow up on the closer; Bob Olson will follow-up on the window.

**FARGO MARATHON**

Our church has been given the privilege of manning the Mile 23 aid station at the Fargo Marathon on May 19 this year. The good news is that's about a mile north of where we were last year. The bad news is that we won't see our first runner until 10:15 (if it is Alberto Salazar in his prime) or, more likely about 10:25 or later (but WE will be there much, much earlier!!).

We have shirts for 30 volunteers, so we should handily outnumber the runners when they come by. Details to come much later, but start rounding up people, shirt sizes, banners, and let me know. We will have prizes for the last water and ERG people that lose feeling in their fingers this year. Here we go!

Regards,

Dixon Moorhead

H: 277-1414, W: 232-8283

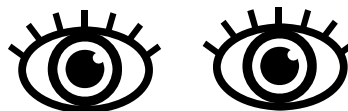
**YEAR-TO-DATE  
FINANCIAL REPORT**

Budgeted 2007 giving: \$157,328.49  
Or 52 weeks \$3,025.55/week

As of April 18, the year-to-date actual giving to CPC's general fund is at \$44,658 compared to the \$45,383 budgeted for the same time period.

These figures do not include the \$20,000 mortgage payment budget which is being funded from the building fund money market.

The bank note is back at \$2,500, where we started the year, due to a recent \$2,000 draw to cover bills.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
IS COMING SOON!**

Watch upcoming Community Calls and church bulletins to find out how you can participate in this year's Vacation Bible School. This year's VBS, to be held Sunday through Thursday, August 5th through 9th, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. will begin with a meal and continue with learning for all ages. This week of fellowship, worship, fun, and learning is one no one will want to miss. So keep your eyes open and be ready to sign up soon.

**JACK ATTACK**

The 3rd Annual Jack Attack on Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) will be held on Saturday, June 2nd, at Lindenwood Park. The 5K Walk/Run is in honor of Jack Gellner. All money raised goes directly to research for finding a cure for SMA.

For more information, contact Kristi Gellner at 282-2146.