

# COMMUNITY CALL

Ministers: The People of God; Pastor: Rev. D. Matthew Stith  
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## HANDBELL CAMP


You are invited to attend Handbell Camp hosted by Carrie Leopold on August 9, 10, and 11. Campers enrolled in 2005 kindergarten through third grade will meet from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Fourth graders to 110 year olds (Exceptions for older students will be made upon request.) will meet from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Both groups will perform a short selection during worship on Sunday, August 14.

This is an open event. Everyone is welcome. Music sight-reading is not a prerequisite skill.

Join us in this great way to explore handbells with only a three day commitment!

Please sign up in advance (by July 31) on the list posted in the narthex or call Carrie at 282-9213.

## PASTOR'S PEN



Ah, summer! What with the warm weather, the trips to the lake, softball, golf, playing outside, cookouts and picnics, all the great traditions of this time of year, who can't find something to like about summer? I know one thing that many of the kids in our congregation would add to the list is going to camp. Whether it's Presbyterian Clearwater Forest, where many of our young people go, or

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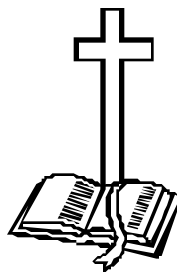
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another camp, this ritual of summer is the subject of much anticipation and the source of many fond memories each year. Many of us grownups have fond and lasting recollections of our own camp days, and some even maintain lifelong friendships that began at camp, years before. Have you ever wished you could go back to those ol' camp days?

Well, you actually can! Over Labor Day weekend, the Presbyterian churches of our part of the Presbytery are sponsoring a retreat for all ages at Clearwater Forest, a chance for everyone to share in a little bit of that camp experience, with all of the great activities that our kids always rave about, the first-class facilities that make PCF one of the top church camps in the nation, and the great company of our fellow Presbyterians from Fargo, Moorhead, Casselton, Hunter, Grandin, Baker, and elsewhere.

If it sounds interesting, please let me know as soon as you can so we can set aside space for you, but I want to focus for a bit on the last of those items that I listed. It is my sense that we are not always aware and appreciative of the great gift that we have as Presbyterians—that is, as those who are part of a Presbytery. Our church is governed by what, in technical terms, is called a "connectional polity." More simply, it means that we are not just a single, local organization, but that we are instead a part of something larger, connected to other Presbyterian churches by bonds of fellowship and government. We belong to a Presbytery so that, together with our brothers and sisters from other congregations, we may carry out God's mis-

sion on a larger scale than we are able to alone.



You may remember when one of our young people, Jenna Barentsen, got the opportunity to travel on a mission trip to Kenya last winter. This trip was only organized and made a reality through the work and resources of the Presbytery. What a tremendous opportunity this was to share the love of Christ and the fellowship of his church with brothers and sisters who we alone would never have even known about. More of such opportunities are coming soon, including a visit to us by friends from Kenya this fall.

There is, of course, much, much more to the Presbytery than just mission trips. What I hope that you take away from that example, or from any others in your own experience, is the reminder that our connection with other churches, in the Presbytery, Synod, or General Assembly, is something to be celebrated and embraced, on Labor Day weekend and every day, as an essential part of who God has called us to be in his service.

### TEACHER NEEDED



The Christian Education Committee is looking for an enthusiastic, young-at-heart individual ready for adventure. This person would be responsible for teaching our high school Sunday School for the upcoming year.

Interested? Please contact Becky De-Jong, Melanie Hansen, Debbie Matzke, Boots Misheski, Lisa Steffen, Toni Stith, or Gayle Thostenson.



## ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR

The Annual Fall Bazaar including potato lunch, craft and baked goods sale, jewelry sale, and white elephant sale will be held on Saturday, October 29th, in the church's fellowship hall.

Please begin thinking about items that you can make and/or bring for this sale. We need to replenish our treasury after spending \$1,200 for camp scholarships for the youth of the church.

If you have ideas for items that could be made as a group project, please let Delores Horn or Marlys Martin know.

This has always been a great success as we have such faithful people who take the time and effort to bring items to sell.

Baked goods, candy, canned fruit and vegetables, pickles, jams and jellies are just a few of the items that sell very well. Craft items also are good sellers, and the jewelry sale has been one of the highlights of the bazaar.

We will be serving baked potatoes with all the trimmings as we have the past few years. Make plans now to come and have lunch with us that day. Even the men will enjoy this lunch as there is nothing dainty about it.

Questions: Call Marlys Martin or Delores Horn.

## MUSIC NEEDS

In preparation for the new Sunday School year, the Christian Education Committee is updating our classrooms. We are in need of new or used portable cd/cassette players. If you would like to donate one or more to meet this need, please contact Melanie Hansen.



## BRIDAL SHOWER INVITATION



Please come and share in the excitement as we celebrate with Jessica Peihl! Jessica and her fiancé, Justin Hill, plan to be married September 17th. This is a wonderful opportunity to support this young bride as she begins a new chapter in her life.

### All are invited!!

Date: Wednesday, August 31  
 Location: Fellowship Hall  
 Time: 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
 R.S.V.P.: Carol Sterup (293-6603)  
 \*contributions of food/supplies are welcome\*



## A BLESSING WAITS FOR YOU!

Are you young-at-heart, wishing you could find an excuse to play like a teenager again? Well, your chance has arrived today! We need you to join in leading our church youth.

Our church has been so very blessed with a vibrant, growing ministry that we are expanding. Starting this fall, we will need to split into two groups in order to accommodate our middle and high school kids.

Our young adults are so eager to come together in God's house on Sunday evenings. Why not join Becky DeJong and Lisa Steffen in nurturing them in their walk with Christ?

For pictures and descriptions of the fun they've had this year, go to [cpcwf.org](http://cpcwf.org). Click on the 'Youth Activities' bar on the left and then on the Soul Train logo.

Ready to sign up? Contact Gayle, Toni, Lisa, Boots, Debbie, Melanie, or Becky.



## JUNE CLERK'S CORNER

The regular meeting of the Session and Trustees was held on Thursday, June 23, in the church conference

room.

Andrew Thostenson and Jim Bjorklund gave a report of the capital fund campaign for Project Open Door. They reported that at this time they had cash and pledges totaling \$320,785.00. Letters of thanks and acknowledgement will be written in July. They were given permission to spend up to \$5,000 for consulting fees for the architects. Greg Sterup was appointed as the Session representative on the Project Open Door Financial Committee. Andrew stated that they hope to have details of the financial package by the end of August.

The August Session meeting will be on August 24th as Pastor Stith will be out of town on the regularly scheduled date. The financial report and minutes were approved.

The Trustees reported that a new lawn mower has been purchased and is working out well. The Presbyterian Women were given permission to take part in the 14th Annual Church Bazaar at the Moorhead Center Mall on November 12 and 13. This will be in addition to our regular Fall Bazaar on October 29th here at the church. (More details are given elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Goodie Paulsen was given permission to use chairs, a high chair, and hymnals on August 6 & 7 for a celebration of her 90th birthday. Becky DeJong was given permission to use some tables for a garage sale on July 9th.

Sarah and Margaret Traylor were accepted for membership on their transfer from LaSalle First Presbyterian Church

of LaSalle, Colorado. They are wife and daughter, respectively, of Executive Presbyterian, Chuck Traylor. Let's make them welcome.

Mission yearbooks are to be ordered for the Session and the Christian Education Committee.

Our subscription to the Welcome Fargo-Moorhead Church Director was renewed for the coming year. This lists new persons who have moved to the community of Fargo, Moorhead, and West Fargo. It shows addresses and church affiliation, if any.

Pastor Stith requested that Session Members make an effort to get in touch with church members who have not been attending recently. Session approved this request and will make an effort to touch base with these members to see if there is a problem that needs addressing.

Contribution reports will be sent out in July for the first half of this year so that members can check to see if they are being credited with their pledges and to see if they are up to date on their giving.

Melissa Barenthsen was given permission to start a Women's Bible Study Group on Monday evenings at the church this fall. More details will be forthcoming from Melissa.

Two persons have expressed interest in the youth director position, and we are still hoping for someone in the congregation to step forward to take on this challenging position.

Carrie Leopold was given approval to purchase color-coded handbells for \$300 for the youth to use. She will begin the choir this fall. She tells us that you don't

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need to be able to read music in order to play since everything is color-coded.

The curriculum for this year's Sunday School has been selected. The Christian Education committee reported that Vacation Bible School was a big success.

Moderator Stith reported that he has been asked to consider being a co-leader for a mission trip to Kenya in 2006. This is just in the planning stages and no decision has been made as to whether or not he will accept the invitation.

75 persons were served Communion on June 12th. The PW has given \$100 to each of 11 young people to attend Summer Bible Camp. (Another \$100 is being given to a youth that we just learned about.)

Mary May Pederson and Lyle Galt, members of the church, passed away during the month of June.

Delores Horn, Clerk of Session

### THE YEAR IN REVIEW

What a wonderful year we have had in Sunday school. We studied about prophecy in Isaiah, Psalm 23, Handel's Messiah, Jesus' baptism, Jesus' washing the disciples feet, appearances of the Holy Spirit, and the Prince of Peace. The kids enjoyed having over 30 different teachers throughout the year! God is working through our Sunday School program to bring so many people together.

We are already looking forward to next year and have made some exciting changes. These are the classes that we will be offering:

Preschool - ages 3-5 – This class will meet every Sunday for Bible stories, crafts, and creative playtime.

Elementary - grades K-5<sup>th</sup> - These classes will meet every Sunday. They will study one unit, which includes four lessons for four weeks and then have a 'Game Sunday' that will include memorization, Bible work, and, of course, games! We will need three teachers every month to sign up for four weeks of teaching.

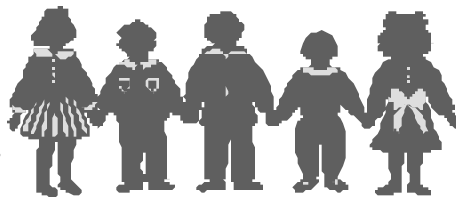
Junior high - 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade - This class will meet every Sunday with a more in-depth study of God's word. Music will still be a part of their curriculum, although not every week. We will need one or two teachers for this class.

Senior High - grades 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> - This class will meet every Sunday. They will study God's word as well as work on mission projects and teaching Sunday school. We will need one or two teachers for this class.

The members of the Christian Education Committee include Boots Misheski, Becky DeJong, Lisa Steffen, Gayle Thostenson, Debbie Matzke, and Melanie Hansen. We are working together to teach the word of God to our children.

Please look to your hearts, to the children, to the church, and to God and help us fill these teaching positions for next year. Sign up sheets will be posted in the narthex. Please ask any Christian Education Committee member if you have questions.

Thank you,  
The Christian  
Education  
Committee



**SUMMER DATES  
TO REMEMBER**

**JULY**

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 7-2 Jo Radebaugh
- 7-3 Tiffany Peihl
- 7-4 Carly Hager
- 7-5 Mark Hayes  
Bob Olson
- 7-6 Logan Jaszkwiaak
- 7-7 Leann Montgomery
- 7-8 Taylor Birrenkott  
Curtis Hemm  
Dolores Meyer
- 7-9 Michelle Jenner  
Dixie Pederson
- 7-14 Alicia Whitcomb
- 7-16 Cami Birrenkott  
Shane Clennon
- 7-17 Roy Johnson  
Marj Meester
- 7-19 Boots Misheski
- 7-20 Don Rehling
- 7-22 Tammy Bahls
- 7-24 Judy Pederson
- 7-27 Jim Bjorklund
- 7-28 Nick Peihl
- 7-30 Yvonne Hummel

**ANNIVERSARIES**

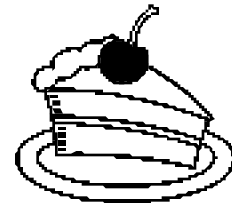
- 7-2-60 – Gary and Carol Duggan
- 7-20-68 – Dave and Gloria Ruhnke
- 7-23-94 – Matt and Toni Stith
- 7-27-52 – Don and Greta Rehling
- 7-27-02 - Andrew and Janine Steele



**AUGUST**

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 8-1 Gayle Thostenson
- 8-3 Goodie Paulsen
- 8-4 LeRoy Bowman
- 8-6 Christian Steffen
- 8-7 Brandon Videen
- 8-8 McKenna Ohm  
Brandon Smith
- 8-9 Donna Jenner
- 8-11 David Hemm  
Judy McLeod
- 8-12 Paige Pederson
- 8-15 Carol Sterup  
Chuck Thompson
- 8-18 Dixie Smith  
Mayim Stith
- 8-23 Arlyn Meyer  
Paula Sebelius
- 8-24 Tara Sheeley
- 8-25 Brett Colliton  
Greta Rehling  
Tona Sweeney
- 8-28 Stephani Steffen
- 8-30 Erica Bahls  
Marlys Martin
- 8-31 Esther Bowman  
Nancy Kassman  
Lisa Steffen



**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 8-2-68 – Gordy and Judy Pederson
- 8-7-50 – LeRoy and Esther Bowman
- 8-9-59 – Dean and Joan Hall
- 8-11-81 – Roger and Melissa  
Barenthsen
- 8-11-62 – Anneus and Marj Meester
- 8-15-00 – Allen and Arlyn Meyer
- 8-18-73 – Bob and Susan Gross
- 8-20-66 – Rae and Edsel Kercher
- 8-21-60 – Jim and Brenda Bjorklund

**CHURCH  
INFORMATION BOARD**



If you have something that should be shown on the church information board (nursing home residents, college students, etc.), please leave the information in the secretary's office or give it to Delores Hom or Pastor Matt. They will see that it gets posted.



## SUMMER MISSIONS

### Quick July Mission - School Supplies!

No, none of us want to think of fall coming and school starting yet, but the United Way needs school supplies by August 1st, so they can sort and distribute the items to the kids in need before school starts. July 31st is the deadline for the church to collect school supplies. Last year, the United Way ran out of supplies and had to ask for more help from the community. Let's see how much our church can donate to this worthwhile cause!

Walmart already has their school supplies on sale, and Target and K-mart are setting up their school aisles now. Items needed are backpacks, folders, notebooks, loose-leaf paper, pens, pencils, 24 ct. crayons, markers, scissors, and glue.

As always, cash donations are also welcome - just place them in the mission envelopes in the church pew and put that in the weekly offering. Thank you!

### August Mission - Churches United for the Homeless

For the month of August we are collecting toiletries for the Churches United. A partial list of ideas for this mission is: shampoo, conditioner, hair brushes and combs, first aid cream and band-aids, deodorant, disposable razors, toilet paper, padlocks, (for bikes and/or lockers), and their critical need was for large size diapers (sizes 3-4-5). Thank you!

## 2005 PER CAPITA



So far we have received just a little over half of the amount needed for our per capita assessment. If you have not paid this it is not too late to do so. We need to get this paid so it does not need to come out of the general fund. We have a balance of about \$3700.00 left to be paid.

More people have paid than in past years but we need cooperation from all members to take care of this bill. Remember, if you do not pay your share (\$24.08 per member) it will need to come out of the general fund which means that someone else is paying your share. This is your church, and if you want and need the services that are provided you must do your share.

## THANKS!



Yumm! Remember those delicious Girl Scout cookies?

Thanks to all who purchased Girl Scout cookies from our church sponsored Brownie Troop! The girls in the troop under the supervision of Toni Stith and her helpers used the profits of \$140 from the cookie sales to buy food for the Food Pantry. The Brownie troop then took their food along with the food our church donated (over \$300) to the food pantry. The girls were given a tour and told about how the food pantry works.

The Brownies hope to continue to work closely with the church mission projects. Thanks to all who support our mission and the Brownies!



**\$347,725**

The figure listed above is the amount gifted and pledged to date (July 11, 2005) for Project Open Door. Hallelujah; praise God!

This sum is truly remarkable in that it far exceeds the most wise predictions of even the most enthusiastic proponent of this enterprise. But then, God does have a way of putting things into perspective, *"For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom."*

So, where do we go from here? Before we move on, it is important to realize that just because the formal capital campaign is over, it is never too late for people to step up and gift and/or pledge. Any amount, small, large, or in between, will be welcome. It all helps to reduce our borrowing needs.

Getting back to the question, the summer months will be spent putting together a financing package and a comprehensive building plan. Both will take considerable effort, and ultimately they will require big decisions by the Session. Then, in the fall, detailed drawings will be completed and construction bids will be solicited by early winter. The goal is to then select a contractor in time for construction to begin as soon as practicable in the spring of 2006.

So, there is still plenty of work to be done, and, as always, we ask for both your prayers and your volunteer help to see this through. Jim Bjorklund (282-4942 or [bjork@i29.net](mailto:bjork@i29.net)) will be organizing the building planning group and Andrew Thostenson (492-0630 or [athosten@ndsuent.nodak.edu](mailto:athosten@ndsuent.nodak.edu))



will be lining out the financing package. If you believe you can add to either of these major tasks, please give them a call or e-mail them.



### **BAZAAR AT MOORHEAD CENTER MALL**

The PW has been asked to take part in the 14th Annual Church Bazaar on November 12 & 13 at the Moorhead Center Mall. This will be a first for us and we hope to be successful in having lots of items to sell. The profits will be donated to the Project Open Door Fund.

All kinds of items can be brought for this just like our own bazaar except that we will not sell jewelry or white elephant items. We cannot sell cream pies or items that need to be refrigerated. Contrary to previous announcements, lefse can be made and sold. Again, if there are questions please contact Delores Horn or Marlys Martin.



### **PAST DUE PER CAPITA PAID!**

For the past several years we have had an unpaid per capita assessment on the books at our regional Presbytery of the Northern Plains. This happened several years ago when we did not have the money to pay the entire bill.

NOW, thanks to the Men's Rummage Sale and an anonymous donor, this bill has been paid. (This is not the bill for 2005! It is for a time prior to 2000 when we couldn't pay the full assessment.) Thanks to all who helped with the Rummage Sale either by donating or working and especially to the donor who made up the balance owed.