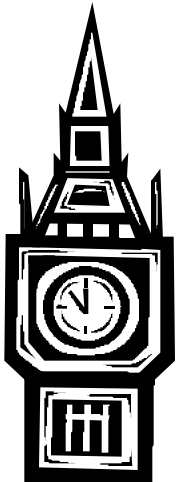


COMMUNITY CALL

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

NEW TIMES



With the arrival of a new school year, our hours change. Beginning September 11th, Community Presbyterian Church will be meeting at 9:00 a.m. for Sunday School for all ages and at 10:00 a.m. for worship.

Come, share some time with us as we worship and learn more about our most awesome God!

WEST FEST ACTIVITIES

On Saturday, September 17, there will be much happening at Community Presbyterian Church. We will be entering a float in the parade and hosting a carnival and barbecue with proceeds going to a Soul Train basketball hoop and Project Open Door. To get in on the action, check the narthex or contact Lee Dobrinz or Becky DeJong for details.



PASTOR'S PEN

I hear the drums echoing tonight...



If you recognize the little song snippet above, it probably means that you spent way too much time listening to the radio in the early '80s, like I did. It's from a song by a group called Toto, and it's been running through my head a lot lately. The name of the song? *Africa*.

So why am I walking around humming to myself about Africa these

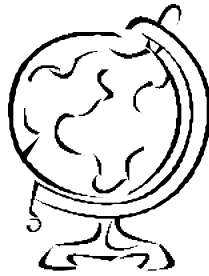
(Continued on page 2)

In this issue

	Page
Afternoon Circle	3
Blessings Wait	3
Fall Bazaars	3
Fall Cluster Meeting	7
Family Walk	9
Handbell Choir	5
Invitation to Women	6
July Clerk's Corner	4
Letter from Presbytery	8
Presbyterian Women	3
Project Open Door Update	7
September Calendar	11
September Dates	6
Teachers Needed	5
Ten Markers Need Match	10
Wanted:	5

(continued from page 1)

days? There are a number of reasons, and they all revolve around the partnership that our presbytery has with a presbytery in Kenya, a partnership that includes the matching of each of our congregations, us included, with a sister congregation in Kenya. We pray each week for our sister congregation, at Kajimpau, in the Tharaka mission area of Chogoria Presbytery, each week in the worship service, as well as praying for one of our fellow churches in the Northern Plains, and for their sister congregations. But that habit of prayer in itself is not enough to have the Toto song fixed in my mind. There are three exciting events coming up in the next year that are responsible for that.



In early October, a delegation of men and women from Chogoria Presbytery in Kenya will be visiting our presbytery. I am really excited for the chance to meet some of our partners in person for the first time. I am pleased to report that we at Community Presbyterian will most likely have the opportunity to host some or all of our Kenyan visitors for a few days during that time, to introduce them to the life of our church and community, and to show them some of our justly famous Northern Plains hospitality. More details will be coming soon, but for now I hope you'll join me in thinking up fun and exciting activities for our visitors (Riding a combine? Touring NDSU? Making lefse?).

At the presbytery meeting on October 7, in Bottineau, the Chogoria Partnership Ministry Team of our presbytery will be hosting a Harambee, to raise funds for the

computer center at the offices of the Chogoria Presbytery (For more information on the Harambee, see Moderator Kuhn's article on page 8. Then, once you've gotten excited about the idea, come back and finish this article...

...OK. Welcome back.). Our church's Mission Committee is hoping to line up a bus to take interested people to participate in the Harambee. If you think you might want to hitch a ride on the "Harambus," or if you have an idea for an item to donate, check in with me, Dave Ruhnke, or Dixon Moorhead.

This is the big one, as far as my personal enthusiasm goes. I have been asked by the Presbytery to be one of the co-leaders of a group trip to Chogoria next summer! The Session has approved my request to go on this trip, and so we are beginning our planning. The trip will focus on youth (which in Kenya means roughly the 16-23 age group), and so the presbytery's partial funding for trip participants will be directed to this age group, but anyone is welcome to come! I will have **lots** more information on this over the coming months.

So now you know why Africa (and *Africa*) is on my mind. I plan to use this space, over the coming months, to introduce you to more aspects of our partnership with our Kenyan brothers and sisters, and hopefully get you as fired up about this part of the ministry to which God has called us as I am!

Kwaheri!



FALL BAZAARS

Remember that we will be having two bazaars this fall: our Annual Bazaar on October 29th at the church and the Annual Moorhead Center Mall Church Bazaar to be held there on November 12th & 13th.

The bazaar at the church will feature the Baked Potato Lunch again as well as rolls and coffee during the bazaar. During September, we are hoping to have a couple of work nights to make crafts for the bazaars. More details will be in the October newsletter.

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 at 526-3317.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Marlys Martin and Delores Horn continue to serve as co-moderators for the PW again this year due to lack of volunteers. Please let them know if there is enough interest to hold a regular meeting to discuss ways that we can help raise money for the Project Open Door.

PW has a busy year coming up with the two bazaars, the Women's Cluster Event, the Christmas Cookie and Candy Sale and the Spring Brunch. It would be nice to have some new ladies to present their ideas for these events and any others that the ladies would like to initiate.

LET THE SINGING BEGIN!

Attention all vocalists. Sight-readers and shower soloists. Choir will begin on Thursday, Sept. 15, at 7:00 p.m. Join us in making a joyful noise.



AFTERNOON CIRCLE

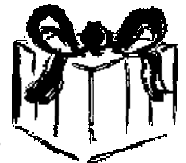


The Afternoon Circle will begin the 2005-2006 meetings on September 13th. The meetings are held at Jiggs Restaurant at 12:30 p.m. where we each pay for our own lunch and then have a short PW Meeting, followed by our Bible Study topic.

Our book this year is from the Horizons Bible Study series entitled "What She Said, Quotable Women in Scripture." We will start with Lesson 5 carrying on from where we left off in the spring.

Currently, we have between 15 and 20 members. All women of the church are welcome and invited to join the group.

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. Click on the 'Youth Activities' bar on the left and then on the Soul Train logo.

Ready to sign up? Contact Gayle Thostenson, Toni Stith, Lisa Steffen, Boots Misheski, Debbie Matzke, Melanie Hansen, or Becky DeJong.



JULY CLERK'S CORNER

The Session met on Wednesday, July 20. A request from Tom Pederson and Jen Walling to have their son, Skylar Thomas baptized on August 7th was approved. Also approved was a request from Derek and Carrie Leopold to have their daughter, Amy Joyce, and son, Isaac Jude, baptized on August 28th.

Approval was given to Toni Stith to hold a Brownie Girl Scout event at the church on August 2nd. Approval was given to hold a bridal shower for Jessica Peihl on August 31st from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. hosted by Carol Sterup and Bonnie Thompson.

The Quilters were given permission to sell chances on a Christmas Quilt during the Fall Bazaar and the Christmas Cookie Sales. Profits to be used to buy quilting supplies for the quilts that are made for brides, etc. They also were given approval to have a raffle for a quilt with the proceeds to go to Project Open Door. Sales of tickets would be from February 1st until the last day of Sunday School when a drawing would be held during the spring potluck dinner. Carol Sterup will take care of getting a city permit.

Carrie Leopold was given approval to hold a hand bell camp on August 9, 10 and 11th at the church for persons who wish to learn to play the bells. They were given permission to present a short selection during Worship Service on August 14th.

The Personnel Committee reported that there has been tentative interest from a

member of the congregation regarding the Youth Leader position.

David Ruhnke reported that a mailing publicizing the fall activities of the church will be going out to residents of the West Fargo area shortly. Mission projects for July are school supplies and the August project will be Churches United for the Homeless. The September and October projects will be geared toward the upcoming visit of members from Presbyterian Churches in Kenya. The quilters have donated a quilt to be auctioned for this cause at the Presbytery meeting in Bottineau in October.

Greg Sterup reported that a total of \$352,670.00 has been donated or pledged toward Project Open Door. Andrew Thostenson and his committee are working on the financing plan for the project during August.

Christian Education Committee stated that the youth group would like to take charge of the fundraising events for West Fest. Lee Dobrinz will coordinate efforts to have a float again this year.

Pastor Stith reported that plans are being set up to host members of the team of Presbyterians from Kenya who will be here during fall Presbytery. He also stated that a church softball team is being assembled to play in a church league next summer.

49 persons were served Communion on July 1st. Letters are being sent to parents of youth who have graduated from high school for whom we do not have current addresses. The following persons were placed on the inactive list: Matthew and Patrick Brostrom.

Delores Horn
Clerk of Session



CARING-SHARING OUR CHURCH FAMILY IS HERE TO HELP!

Remember if you have any special needs or know of anyone needing help in recovering from illness, surgery, or other needs we want to help you. Just let Lee Dobrinz (lidobrinz@msn.com or 281-3052) or Vicki Peihl (356-0458 or peihls@juno.com) know of any concerns, and it will be discreetly handled from there. Meals can be brought in, rides given, etc. Let us know how the church can help you out.



JULY MISSION - SCHOOL SUPPLIES

What a great group of people we have in our church! Over \$250 of supplies were brought in during July to donate to the YWCA school supply drive. It was hard to believe that over 2500 kids in our area needed help. Once again our church continues to help those less fortunate. Keep up the good giving!

TEACHERS NEEDED

The Christian Education Committee is looking for enthusiastic, young-at-heart individuals ready for adventure. These persons would be responsible for teaching our high school Sunday School for the upcoming year. Sign up for a month, a semester, or all year, or co-teach with a friend if you like. What we need are people who take to heart Christ's teaching ready to share it with our youth.



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

HANDBELL CHOIR

It is time for a new season of Handbell Choir to begin! If you're interested in discovering the musical talent you weren't sure you had or utilizing the talents you were given, then this is the place to be! Practices will begin on Wednesday, September 14. Junior choir ringers, grades kindergarten through third, will meet from 7:00 - 7:30 p.m. The senior choir, fourth grade through and INCLUDING adult will meet from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

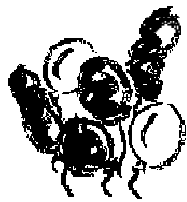
Sight reading is NOT required however, having fun is! I hope you will join us as I will be there with bells on!

Please sign up a.s.a.p. on the sheet in the narthex or call Carrie at 282-9213.



WANTED: CPC REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE NEW LIFE CENTER

The Mission Committee is looking for an individual to act as CPC's representative to the New Life Center. The woman accepting this call would participate in a noon luncheon on a monthly basis and act as a liaison for the church regarding what's happening at the New Life Center. In the past, several Presbyterian Women have served in this role including Ardis Sherwood and Gloria Ruhnke to mention just two. If you would be interested in meeting this call, visit with Ardis or Gloria (Ardis at 282-7994) and Gloria, see below) about the specifics of the position and then contact Dave Ruhnke, Chair of the Mission Committee with your interest (282-2636 or DAVE@butler-machinery.com).



SEPTEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

- 9-1 Andrea Corneliussen
- 9-3 Clyde Van Cleve
- 9-4 Ryan Bastle
- 9-6 Bruce Steele
- 9-9 John Wilkinson
- 9-11 Jenna Barenthsen
- 9-12 Gordy Pederson
- 9-13 Ann Chale
Parker Nelson
- 9-15 Danielle Swart
- 9-16 Dale Matzke
- 9-16 Vicky Whitcomb
- 9-17 Lee Dobrinz
Ed Sheeley
- 9-17 Shelly VanCleve
- 9-18 Paula Wilkinson
- 9-19 Debbie Matzke
- 9-21 Jordan Faircloth
Everett Paulsen
- 9-23 Uneva Dobrinz
- 9-24 Verdie Roberts
- 9-25 Joan Hall
Louise Johnson
Ted Martin
Jerad Wilkinson
- 9-27 Billie Jo Hayes

ANNIVERSARIES

- 9-3-49 – Roy and Louise Johnson
- 9-7-63 – Delbert and Donna Jenner
- 9-10-60 – Jim and Marlys Martin
- 9-15-90 - Shane and Jennifer Clennon
- 9-18-54 – Dale and Gail Matzke
- 9-21-96 - Ken and Julie Faircloth
- 9-22-79 – Bob and Deb Olson
- 9-23-89 - Kevin and Connie Bruse
- 9-25-93 – Brent and Carolyn Talley
- 9-26-97 - Derek and Carrie Leopold
- 9-29-79 – Veril and Dawn Larson

AN INVITATION TO WOMEN

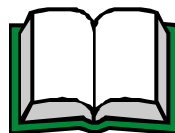


Have you ever read Proverbs 31: 10-31? Are you a woman of strong character, great wisdom, multiple skills, and great compassion? I know I can't do it all and fall short, and I feel very inadequate when I read this passage.

So what does a godly woman look like today? What does God expect of us? This fall, I am inviting you to explore God's plan for women in a Bible Study on Monday nights at 7:00 p.m., starting September 19th.

We will be studying "The Godly Woman," a Bible study based on Titus 2: 3-5, written by Fargo resident, Marilynn Moe.

Come learn how to discover strength and dignity that comes from the study and reflection of God's word.

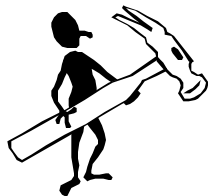


To order study materials or if you have any questions, please call Melissa Barenthsen at 232-8595.

ACOLYTES NEEDED

It's time to share in worship with a family member or friend. Experience the light of God with His family. Sign up to be a candle lighter in the church with that special someone. For more details, see the sign-up sheet in the narthex.





PROJECT OPEN DOOR UPDATE

While many folks took the summer off, there has been lots of activity regarding Project Open Door (POD). So, here are some facts to get you up to speed:

- At the time of this writing, we have a bit more than \$360,000 gifted and pledged!
- At the time of this writing, we have about \$144,000 in POD's dedicated account. \$112,000 is in an eight month certificate of deposit, and the balance is in a money market fund.
- We have completed an analysis of our cash inflows and outflows so we can reasonably predict our borrowing needs.
- We have secured the Presbytery of the Northern Plain's support in applying for a loan from the PCUSA's Building and Loan Fund.
- We have visited with our architect, and we have put together a timeline regarding when certain activities need to occur in order to complete the project before the end of 2006.
- We put together a Design Committee under Jim Bjorklund's leadership, and it will begin work about the time this newsletter is distributed.

The next several months will be spent finalizing our financing and preparing a request for bids to go out to contractors in January/February of 2006.

Meanwhile, what can you do to support this endeavor?

- If you have not made a financial commitment to POD, do so now. No amount is too trivial. Everything helps.
- If you have pledged funds to POD, make certain your payments are kept up to date. Diligence on your part will keep our borrowing costs down.
- Be prepared to respond to requests from the Design Committee for input.
- Support fund raising activities with your time and money. Many groups, like Soul Train or Presbyterian Women, are planning fund raisers. Do what you can to help them.
- Pray!

FALL CLUSTER MEETING FOR PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



The Fall Cluster meeting for Presbyterian Women will be held on October 15th at the Moorhead Presbyterian Church. The program starts at 8:30 with registration and coffee. There will be Bible Study and Worship at 9:00 a.m., a break at 10:00 for coffee and refreshments, and at 10:30 a presentation by the Fargo Women will be held regarding the war in Iraq and what we can do for our service men and women.

A noon luncheon will be hosted by the Moorhead PW with proceeds going to Jamestown College and the Red Lake Falls Early Childhood Development Program. West Fargo is in charge of name tags for the event. More information and signup sheets for attendees will be available later in September.

Rev. Paul Kuhn, Moderator of the Presbytery of the Northern Plains, writes:

Celebrate and expand our Partnership in a special "Harambee" event on Friday, October 7, beginning at 5:00 PM with supper and continuing with worship, presentation of gifts, an auction of gifts, music and fellowship. Don't be surprised! This will NOT be a usual Presbytery event! You don't want to miss it! Bring your choir, your youth group, your confirmation class, whoever you can for a cross-cultural celebration!! Rev. Edwin Kaburu Mwirabua will be preaching at the worship service.

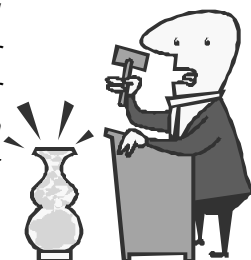
Jambo!! (that's Swahili for Hello!)

Exciting times are ahead for our Chogoria Partnership! Those of you who were in attendance at the Jamestown Presbytery meeting have heard the news already that a delegation of our brothers and sisters in Christ from Chogoria will be with us in October. We continue to prepare for the visit of some of our brothers and sisters in Christ from Chogoria Presbytery. We expect that Mr. Fredrick Ngige Mukindia, Mr. Eliud Murungi Murianki, Mrs. Kellen Gatakaka Mbabu (Woman's Guild Organizer), Miss Doreen Kageni Njagi (Youth Representative), Mr. Junius Peter Gitonga (PCMF), and Rev. Edwin Kaburu Mwirabua (Moderator). They will meet with us at the October Presbytery meeting in Bottineau and will tour the Presbytery for about two weeks.

One element of our Presbytery meeting will be a Northern Plains attempt at a "Harambee." A Harambee is a Kenyan institution that is a combination worship service, church dinner, and fundraiser/auction - all to support some good cause within the Presbytery. People

come together giving thanks to God and offering the best they have in support of their brothers and sisters in Christ.

Perhaps it is to raise funds to build a church building, or to pay the school fees of an orphan, or to build a school building or to dig a well. People bring what they can; sometimes several thousand Kenya shillings, sometimes a spool of thread, perhaps a goat, or whatever.



The items are brought to the host and are held up and announced. The giver is applauded and thanked. After all the items are announced, an auction takes place of all the non-cash goods, with proceeds going to support that cause.

Our Harambee will be to raise funds in support of our Chogoria Partnership. We have, in conjunction with our Chogoria partners, begun to provide a computer lab to train people there in computer competence. Our Harambee goal is to fund an additional 10 computers for the lab at approximately \$1,000 each!

The Chogoria Partnership Committee is asking you to do several things:

- 1) donate to the Harambee – either cash or some item such as a weekend in a local bed and breakfast, a bushel of wheat or canola, a cow, a new TV or appliance, a homemade quilt; in short, anything that is worthy of offering in the service of God. Contact the Presbytery office or a member of the Chogoria Partnership Committee if you will be bringing a non-cash donation so that we can compile a list to publicize beforehand.
- 2) come to the Presbytery meeting to participate in worship, table fellowship, and the fundraising. Come to

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

give and/or prepare to bid on what others have brought.

- 3) consider if you would like to host some of our visitors for a day or two in October.
- 4) pray for our Partners, our Partnership, and the upcoming visit, and especially for your sister congregation.



Please prayerfully consider how you and your congregation should participate in this joyous venture! Please contact a member of the Chogoria Partnership Committee with your questions, comments, or pledges of participation.

- Sharon Secor, Fargo
701 232-1732
- Paul Kuhn, Rolla/St. John
701 477-0899
- Marsha Odom, Crookston, MN
218 281-7105
- Ray Branstiter, Cooperstown
701 797-3611
- Jenna Barentsen, West Fargo
701 219-0129
- Matt Stith, West Fargo
701 282-4135
- Mark Frueh, Minot/Westhope
701 852-0315
- Steve Reed, Jamestown
701 252-5013

NEW ROBE FOR PASTOR STITH

A member of the congregation gave funds to purchase a lightweight robe for Pastor Stith to use during the summer. His original robe is of a much heavier material and is quite warm during the summer months. Thanks to the donor!



PER CAPITA

We are still short about half the amount that we need to pay our per capita for this year. Please pay this (\$24.08 per member) as soon as possible so that it doesn't have to be paid out of the general fund. The per capita that was not paid in previous years has now been paid from money from the Spring Presbyterian Men's Rummage Sale and a large donation by a member of our church.

**FAMILY WALK FOR OPEN DOOR
SEPT. 7 AT 7 P.M.**



Are you ready for some family fun at our church? How about a pizza party? Your whole family is invited, but there is a catch! After eating that yummy pizza, we want to help you wear it off by walking! Yes, walking in a designated area and hanging door hangers on doors in that area. Afterwards we can all meet back at the church for treats if you desire.

So how can you get in on the fun? Call Brenda Bjorklund at 282-4942 by Tuesday, Sept. 6, to let her know how many of your family will be there. Then show up at the church on Wednesday, Sept. 7, by 6 p.m. While you are eating, there will be leaders explaining where the walks will take place.

Our church is inviting new people to West Fargo to come check out our church by hanging signs on doors. We hope to distribute 500 door hangers so the more that show, the quicker it will be done. In any case, it will be a fun time for all to get out and enjoy the fresh air! See you on Wednesday, Sept. 7, at 6 pm sharp!

2 OF EACH: 1 – B – DR – C – DQ 10 MARKERS THAT NEED TO MATCH!

For people like Todd Montgomery with Hodgkins Lymphoma, a marrow or stem cell transplant is needed using a donor's stem cells, not his own this time. However, such a transplant is possible only when the patient and donor have matching tissue types.

Nearly 30% of patients in need will find a matched donor within their immediate family. The other 70% of patients, like Todd, must have an unrelated donor. Our transplant center has been searching the National Marrow Donor Program's Registry of volunteer marrow and blood stem cell donors in the hope of finding a match.

In the meantime, so many friends have asked if they could be a donor for Todd.

We have been told by doctors and professionals in the field that finding a match with friends locally would be "very unlikely," "very slim," "a waste of time." The possibility of finding a match would be a long shot due to Todd's rare tissue type. They all agree that the best way to find Todd a donor is patiently waiting for our transplant center to continue to search the registry since new donor volunteers are added daily.

HOWEVER, it's been three months since our original donor backed out and six months total since we learned Todd needed a donor stem cell transplant. If you are still interested in having your blood tested for HLA typing, there are blue folders at the church you can pick up from Matt or the church office, or contact Cheryl.

The folder explains a stem cell transplant and explains, in detail, the two

different methods of having your blood "typed" for a match. The National Marrow Donor Program will type your blood by sending you a draw kit to take to a local clinic and return them. This costs \$65, will have results in eight weeks, and will be in the National Registry for all patients worldwide to have access to.

A private lab will also send you a draw kit to take to a local clinic and return to them. This is \$115 for results in 3-4 weeks, or \$250 for results in 1 week.

Also, Meritcare's Roger Maris Cancer Center will hold a donor drive with the National Marrow Donor Program here in Fargo on Friday, September 30. Trained personnel will be on hand to draw your blood. The registration fee of \$65 will be waived at this drive, so there will be no cost to you. The results will still take eight weeks, so we are looking at three months from now knowing if you'd match Todd. At any rate, your typing will be in the National Registry for all patients worldwide to have access to.

There are a few limitations:

- *You must be between the age of 18 to 61.
- *You must be in good health.
- *Your ethnic background means you have more of the same traits as the recipient. Todd is German/Scottish. You may be able to match even if you are German, or a German mix of Northern European descent.

We want to thank you for your interest in being a donor for Todd. As you can see, it's just not a simple visit to a blood bank to get your blood drawn. If you do pursue this, pick up a folder from Matt and call Cheryl (282-6150) or any of Todd's family with questions.