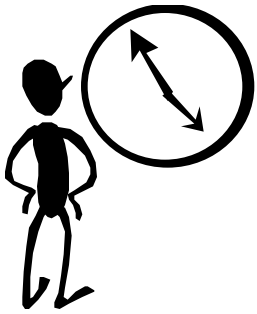


COMMUNITY CALL

Ministers: The People of God; Pastor: Rev. D. Matthew Stith
702 Sheyenne Str., P.O. 546, West Fargo, ND 58078 701-282-4135 E-mail: CPChurchWF@msn.com Web: <http://cpcwf.org>



PLEASE NOTE!

On October 26th, Daylight Savings Time

ends. Please remember to turn your clocks *back* one hour.

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN



...Part II: To New Jersey

As I have worked on this synopsis of the path that led Toni and I to West Fargo, it has become apparent that wrapping things up this month would be impossible. Here, then, is the next installment.

The shift from a teaching career in Indiana to seminary in New Jersey happened so suddenly, so easily, that it could only have been providential. It seems like one day I was randomly leafing through a Princeton Seminary catalogue that a friend had happened to leave out on his end table, and the next I had fired off applications, arranged campus visits, and more or less committed to the whole enterprise. A couple of months later, I had been accepted to Princeton, offered financial aid that would allow us to afford the program, and informed my principal and colleagues that I wouldn't be back for the next year of teaching. It was on to a whole new place, a whole new chapter in our continuing story.

(Continued on Page 2)

In this issue

Page

75th Anniversary	4
Annual Fall Bazaar	5
Christmas Carols?	6
Church Security	6
Clerk's Corner	7
DeJong Benefit	3
From the Pastor's Pen	1
Haunted Farm and Maze	6
Informing Your Church	5
October Calendar	8
October Dates	3
Quilters Call	3
Sunday School Calendar	2
Youth Program Schedule	4
Yum, Yum, Yum	4

(Continued from page 1)

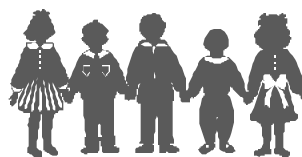
Toni and I packed our worldly goods on a 14-foot U-Haul truck with my two-door Honda Civic in tow (Those were the days!), and headed down the highway on August 31, 1995. The next day, we arrived at 208 Loetscher Place, the Seminary-owned apartment building that, unbeknownst to us at that time, would be our home for the next seven years. We had each begun establishing our own identities long since, moving out of our parents' homes, attending college, getting married, and working in our first jobs, but it was in Princeton, I think, that we forged our identity as a couple. Graduate school is a remarkable experience. One is thrown together with folks from all over the country and the world, with not a single previous acquaintance in the bunch, and presented with a series of grueling, even impossible tasks to accomplish. With everyone in the same boat, so to speak, especially with all of the young married couples in the bunch living in the same apartment complex, it is only natural that an intense common life develops, with lifelong friendships forming in only a matter of weeks.

The first three years in Princeton were devoted to the pursuit of my Master of Divinity (M. Div.) degree, the basic degree for ministry. I took courses in biblical studies, theology, church history, practical theology, speech and preaching—the whole laundry list of pastoral skills and knowledge. One amazing thing about this program is that, despite having taken nearly 100 credit hours of courses for a Master's degree, virtually everyone I've ever known to do an M. Div. has agreed: there were dozens of courses that we wish we could have taken, topics and people we never got around to studying. There's always more

to learn than there is time to learn it! In case this wasn't enough to occupy us, Toni and I also continued our involvement in sports, playing softball both at church and with a seminary team and basketball in seminary intramurals, as well as discovering a new athletic passion: intramural flag football.

While I focused on this first professional degree, Toni was establishing herself as a rising young professional in her own right, teaching middle school science and reading in the East Windsor schools, near Princeton. She not only taught, but was very active in providing outside activities for her students. Most notably, she founded and directed a Junior Red Cross Club, which provided opportunities for some 30 kids to do volunteer community service in a wide variety of settings. Once again, we thought that we had the future pretty well figured out: I would be looking for a church, and Toni would continue to teach. But two new wrinkles were awaiting us: Parenthood and the Ph.D.

Next month: Four More Years!



2003-2004 SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

Sunday School Begins	Sept. 7
3rd Grade Bibles	Oct. 12
Hanging of the Greens	Nov. 30
Thanksgiving	Nov. 30
(No Sunday School)	
Christmas Program	Dec. 14
Potluck	
Christmas Break	Dec. 28
(No Sunday School)	Jan. 4
Sunday School Resumes	Jan. 11
Palm Sunday	Apr. 4
Senior Recognition	May 16
Sunday School's Last Day	May 16
Potluck	

OCTOBER DATES TO REMEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

- 10-2 Delores Horn
Peggy Rosenkranz
10-4 Stephanie Corneliussen
10-6 Sonda Pederson
Matt Stith
10-7 Jon Carlson
10-8 Denny Braaten
10-9 David Stedman
Brenda Witt
10-12 Roger Barenthsen
10-13 Carol Braaten
Thomas Pederson
10-14 Melissa Kellerman
10-15 Esther Nitschke
10-16 Rae Irene Kercher
Tom Pederson
10-17 Jenni Hummel
Brad Sterup
10-18 Joe Jameson
10-23 Jason Swart
10-26 Ron LaCoe
10-27 Robin Moe
10-28 Melissa Kassman
10-29 Cody LaCoe
Larry Peihl



ANNIVERSARIES

- 10-2-82 – Todd and Cheryl Montgomery
10-4-86 – Lee and Stephanie
Corneliussen
10-5-96 – Jeff and Jennifer Jaszkwiaak
10-9-47 – Tom and Joy Taffe
10-13-73 – Lynn and Yvonne Hummel
10-13-79 – Mike and Kathy Moe
10-14-95 - Ryan and Melissa Kellerman
10-30-54 – Wayne and Jo Radebaugh



TOM DEJONG BENEFIT

The Tom DeJong benefit was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who helped, cooked, ate, sewed, painted, golfed, ...

Here are the figures from the benefit:

Spaghetti dinner -	\$1,190
Golfing - entry fees -	382
putting contest	56
Silent Auction -	1,573
Donations -	7,730
Thrivent Match -	+ <u>2,125</u>
Total -	\$13,056

Congratulations to all who helped make this a success!

Lisa Steffen



CALLING ALL QUILTERS AND WANNA-BE QUILTERS

Summer's over, and it's time to get together again. We will be meeting on Monday evenings at 6:30, starting Oct. 6th.

If you made any 9-patch blocks, please bring them along. You don't have to be an expert quilter to join the fun. All are welcome.

Any questions? You can call Carol Sterup at 293-6603.



YUM, YUM, YUM

The food was incredible at our 75th anniversary potluck dinner. We would love to type up a list of all the recipes and share them with the congregation.

Please take a moment to jot down your recipe and bring it to church. Be sure to include your name. If you have other family favorites, feel free to share them too.

An envelope has been placed on the narthex bulletin board for the recipes. If you have any questions, contact Carol Sterup.

DID YOU KNOW...

Daisy Troop #194 will meet two Tuesdays per month in our church throughout the school year? The Daisies are the youngest Girl Scouts, preparing girls, aged 5 to 6, "to serve God and their country, to help people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout Law." If you have any questions or helpful ideas, please contact the leader, Toni Stith (282-2715).



YOUTH PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Attention all youth in grades 7-12. Please mark your calendars for Sunday evenings:

Oct. 5 - 6:15 - ???

Haunted House and Corn Maze (This is for the entire congregation.)

Oct. 12 - 6:30 - 8:30

Dinner, get acquainted, name our group, have fun

Oct. 19 - 6:30 - 8:30

Dinner, canned food scavenger hunt

Oct. 26

Hayride at Barenthsen's - time to be announced



75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Thanks to all who helped in the festivities of Community Presbyterian's 75th anniversary. In this case, many hands made for enjoyable and worthwhile work. Many members as well as visitors attended or participated in the various events at CPC during West Fest, and \$569.65 was raised to help young people from our sister presbytery in Chogoria, Kenya attend the 2004 Presbyterian Youth Triennium in Indiana.

For those who missed out on the fun or for those who would like to reminisce, a complete collection of photos from the festivities, a slide show featuring our church's present and past, a video of the past, and a copy of the 75th anniversary booklet will soon be posted on the church's website (<http://cpcwf.org>) and be made available on computer disc. Anniversary booklets can still be found in the church narthex, and t-shirts may be obtained through Marlys Martin or Boots Misheski.

Also, don't forget to check out the letters sent from past ministers or their families on the bulletin board in the narthex.





ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR, BAKE SALE, AND WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

October 11th is the day chosen this year for the fall bazaar. We hope members are working on crafts for the bazaar, going through costume jewelry, setting aside items for the white elephant sale, and planning what food items they will bring.

Because the potato bar lunch was such a big hit over the last two years, it will be held again this year. (We know the potatoes are fresh as we pick them from the fields in September.) We hope to have several different types of toppings for them. If you have a favorite topping that hasn't shown up, please let Marlys Martin or Delores Horn know. We will try to include it. Coffee and rolls, muffins, bars, etc. will also be available in the morning.

A sign up sheet will be posted in the narthex beginning September 28th so that anyone who wishes to help with either the Friday night setup and pricing or the Saturday sales and cleanup may sign up. It is because we have such good support from our members that this annual event is such a success.

Please bring items to the church between 6:30 and 8:00 p.m. on Friday, October 10th or by 8:30 a.m. on Saturday the 11th. If you have questions, please contact Marlys Martin at 282-3740 or Delores Horn at 282-4501.

Items not sold on Saturday will be for sale on Sunday, October 12th after church. White elephant items not sold will be taken to the New Life Center store unless donors pick them up. If it is a problem to bring your white elephant items or crafts on the 10th you may bring them to the church kitchen on Sunday, October 5th.

KEEP YOUR CHURCH INFORMED

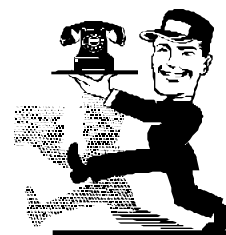
You may have heard someone say, "The pastor never came to see me or even called when I was sick." Or "My brother died, and the pastor never called or mentioned it in church."

Did you let the pastor or someone at church know when you were ill or when there was a death in your family? We are all guilty of assuming that people know when we have problems in our lives but the reality is that this is a large community, and unless we let others know that we have problems, they cannot acknowledge them.

Please let your church know when someone in your family is seriously ill, has had an accident, or there is a death in the family. When family members have names different than members of the church, we do not always find out about them. Hospitals no longer notify churches when members are hospitalized unless you ask them to do so. It is part of the new privacy law.

We also like to hear of the good things that happen in the lives of the members of the congregation. Take the time to let someone know if there is a birth, a wedding, or other happy event in your life.

If there are ways that you feel the church can help in situations other than those mentioned, please let someone know or ask for help. We can't help if we don't know about the problem.





CHURCH SECURITY

As many of you know, several items have been taken from the church recently.

For those people who have keys to any of the doors, please be sure to lock up after you unlock a door. Also do not leave the upstairs doors unlocked and unattended. Remember that if you unlock the back door with a key, it has to be relocked with the key.

If you are the last person to leave the church please check all doors to see that they are locked. Also that all lights are turned out.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE NARTHEX?

If you've been gone for the summer months, you may notice some changes in the upper floor of the church. In addition to a remodeling of the church offices and narthex by the trustees, there are new bulletin boards, a church name plaque, and a stained glass window. These additions are thanks to the craftsmanship of Jim Bjorklund and Greg and Carol Sterup.

Why not take some time to thank God and them for the work of their hands.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2003-2004

Teaching positions are filling up fast. Don't miss your chance to get to know the children of your church. We need four (4) teachers every month.

Teachers needed:

October	Sorry, filled
November	Sorry, filled
January	> 2
February	> 1
March	> 3
April	> 4



HAUNTED FARM AND CORN MAZE



On Sunday, October 5th, all ages are invited to go on a group outing to the Haunted Farm and Corn Maze near Comstock, Minnesota—ask a friend and come if you dare!!!

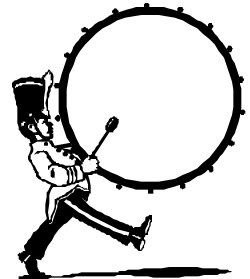
Schedule:

6:15—meet at church
 7:00—arrive at Corn Maze
 *** not haunted on Sundays***
 9:00—go to Haunted House
 always haunted

Cost:

\$11.00/person—
 if we can get 15-20 people
 Otherwise it will be \$15.00/person

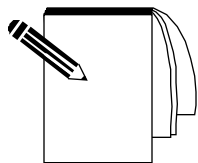
CHRISTMAS CAROLS?



Hark, the Herald
 ...boughs of holly,
 Fa-la-la-la-la ...
 O little town of ...
 We three Kings...
 Joy to the ... manger.

HELP!!! We need you. We are looking for one or two people to direct this year's Christmas pageant. If you can keep your songs straight, then this is the opportunity for you.

Call Lisa Silent Night (282-5308) or Becky Deck the Halls (281-8122).



CLERK'S CORNER

The Session met on Wednesday night, September 18th, and assigned elders to chair several committees of the church. The committees and their chairs are as follows: Worship-Bonnie Thompson, Christian Education-Boots Misheski, Mission/Evangelism/Outreach-David Ruhnke, Fellowship-Susan Gross, Congregational Care-Kathy Moe, Stewardship-Dixon Moorhead, Nominating-Greg Sterup, and Personnel-Yvonne Hummel. Todd Montgomery was appointed as liaison for the Session with the Board of Trustees. Anyone who is interested in serving on any of these committees is urged to contact the chair person and let them know of your interest.

Dawn Vail Chase was reactivated to membership and her daughter, Ashley Elizabeth, will be baptized October 12. Dawn's husband Rick will be meeting with the new members class when it meets during the spring semester.

Seth Whitcomb and Alicia Funeau's request to use the sanctuary for their wedding on May 29, 2004 was provisionally approved pending the scheduling of counseling and the availability of Pastor Stith to perform the ceremony.

The Session approved having a new pictorial directory done by Olan Mills. This is tentatively scheduled for April 22, 23, and 24, 2004. This way we will catch the snowbirds when they return and should get it done before vacations start and people begin going to the lake for the summer. The Fellowship Committee will be in charge, and if you wish to help please contact Susan Gross or Delores

Horn.

The Session approved a request from Toni Stith to sponsor Daisy Troop #194. They will be meeting in the church twice a month on Tuesday evenings. Daisy Troops are for girls, ages 5 to 6 years, who are too young to be in Brownies or Girl Scouts. Anyone interested in more information is asked to contact Toni Stith. Sponsorship does not necessarily include financial assistance; however, the church may consider helping with service projects, field trips, etc.

The Session approved a request for reimbursement of moving expenses for Pastor Stith in the amount of \$2,500.

The Session voted to pass a resolution of appreciation to Boots Misheski and her committee for the hard work they have put in to make the West Fest and 75th Anniversary Celebration a success. By the time this is printed, the events will be over, and I'm sure everyone will be impressed with their work. Out of 200 t-shirts, they have distributed 175 and have ordered more of the larger sizes.

Delores Horn
Clerk of Session

GIFT FROM PRESBYTERY

The Presbytery of the Northern Plains has presented Community Presbyterian Church with a 75th anniversary gift in the form of a book. It is entitled Presbyterians on the Northern Plains: A History by Stanley Norman Murray of Grand Forks. It is available in the library for members to check out and read.

