

The Carillon

First Presbyterian Church
Phone: 269-964-3700
www.firstpresbc.org
Vol. 14

111 Capital Avenue N.E.

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August 2010

Issue 7



05



You asked for it!

Recently, I asked members of the congregation to fill out a card that asked the question, "If you could learn more about one aspect of the Christian life, what would it be?" My thanks go out to the many individuals who responded. So, what are the results?

The most frequently cited topic was knowledge of the Bible, followed by the Book of Revelation and "End Times," the struggles of faith, strengthening the Church, and a smattering of diverse topics such as spiritual disciplines and current issues. As a result, here is what we have planned so far for 2010 - 2011:

- ▶ UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE
10 week Wednesday Night study (9/15—12/1)
- ▶ CHRISTIAN LIFE SERIES FINDING THE HIDDEN TREASURE
Based on Proverbs 2:1-5 (9/19 -- 10/24)
- ▶ THE ENGAGING CHURCH ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9/26—11/7)

- ▶ ADVENT SERIES LOVE FINDS A VOICE IN BETHLEHEM (11/28--12/24)
- ▶ THE CASE FOR FAITH (Follow-up to Lee Strobel's, "The Case for Christ")
6 week Wednesday night study (1/5—2/16)
- ▶ LENTEN SERIES HOPE AS IT REALLY IS A SERIES ON THE BOOK OF REVELATION (2/13 - 4/17)

Yours in Christ's love,



Annual Church Picnic

August 8 is the date for this year's picnic at the Retreat Center.

Outdoor Worship begins at 10:00, with the picnic to follow.

Please bring a dish to share. Grilled burgers and franks and beverages will be provided.

If you'd like to help with the picnic, contact Sue Stetler—565-0547 or stetlers@comcast.net



One thing I have learned is that people at First Pres love to read and discuss good books. So when this announcement came to me from the Presbytery office, I knew we should join in! **"1 Parish + 1 Book + 1 Summer 2010"** Why a summer reading program? Because folks tend to miss church for travel or other leisure activities during the summer and begin to feel disconnected from their parishes (but refreshed) . . . and because summer is when we finally have time to read books! Reading the same great book together helps parish members feel more connected no matter where they roam, and gives them lots to talk about when they return to church. The bestseller *Forgiving Ararat* by Gita Nazareth has been selected for **1 Book + 1 Parish + 1 Summer**. This book has been receiving fantastic reviews from readers everywhere and of all denominations. Simply put, it's a modern allegory and parable about forgiveness—wrapped up inside a supernatural thriller like no other. That that makes *Forgiving Ararat* the perfect book to read during summer."

Because so many churches are taking part in this program, it's becoming hard to find. So, keep your eye out for it and remember to share. There are two copies available in the church library. An "End of Summer" potluck and book discussion will be held on September 1. Mark your calendars now and let's read together!





Lemonade Stand

Thank you to the following groups who have hosted the Lemonade Stand this summer: Session, Deborah Circle, Elizabeth Circle, Martha Circle, Miriam Circle, Priscilla Circle, Ruth Circle and the Deacons. We'll continue to serve cold lemonade and cookies outside the east door between services all summer. (In case of rain, we'll move into the Parlor.) Join us for the goodies and the good fellowship.

Lemonade Stand Hosts:

- 8/1 Trustees
- 8/8 **Church Picnic**
No lemonade stand
- 8/15 Chancel Choir
- 8/22 Youth Groups
- 8/29 Wednesday Bible Study



Summer Walkers and Exercisers—

Don't forget to submit your miles for July and August. All totals should be in by Labor Day.

Did we make it to the gulf to help with the clean-up?



Building Improvement Task Force Having a Busy Summer

Nan Jones, Chair

The Building Improvement Task Force is having a busy summer meeting with potential bidders for tuck pointing the church building and bidders interested in giving proposals for restoring the windows of the church. The windows are an exterior/interior project. Another company is in the process is doing an energy analysis of the lighting in the building.

It seems like all the members of the task force are beginning to feel like they are certainly in a learning curve as they walk around the building with representatives of tuck pointing firms, window restoration firms and other companies. Along the way, members of the task force have visited churches in Marshall and Kalamazoo who have done similar work, and another trip is planned by more members of the task force to a Kalamazoo church.

With touring other churches, information is sought and approaches to work such as is needed in our church, information on contractors is learned and references are checked out. All a part of the process to be better

prepared when bids are received for work here.

From the early meeting, when a complete interior tour of the building was done, to a later meeting when an exterior tour was done, many thoughts and ideas have come forth. As the thought processes work, the list of priorities seem to change. At the meetings, every two weeks, discussions are held on projects to emphasize, company responses after inquiries from Jenny Moore and/or members of the task force. Jenny is an ex-officio member of the task force, as is Pastor Carlson.

At the regular meeting of the Session in June, members of the task force gave Session members an update on what is being done regarding tours, prioritized lists, contractors and bidding.

Any decisions made by the Building Improvement Task Force will have to be taken to Session for approval and then, ultimately, to Trustees for the funding.

The continued goal is the focus of the mission of the task force: *Projects that need to be done for the safety, security and maintenance of the building; and, Projects that will have the most positive impact on our ministry and outreach.*



Don't Forget Your Pledge this Summer



Stephen Ministry
Jan Ritter
Stephen Ministry Coordinator

**Who Benefits from Stephen Ministry?
Part II: Our Pastors**

This is second in a series of articles on “Who Benefits from Stephen Ministry?” **Today’s article focuses on how our pastors benefit.** Last month’s article focused on those who need care; future articles will explain how it benefits lay people and our entire congregation.

How do our pastors benefit from having Stephen Ministry at First Pres?

- Pastors no longer shoulder the entire burden of caring in the congregation, as if the pastors were the only ones able, willing or called to do this ministry
- Receive support and care from the lay people who are part of the congregation’s Stephen Ministry Team
- Reach more members of the congregation with quality Christian care
- Experience renewed joy and satisfaction as they equip others and so extend the reach of their own ministries
- Have more time to focus on the ministries that only the pastor can do

We are blessed that Pastor Carlson and Pastor Weatherwax have each taken Stephen Ministry Leadership training. Feel free to ask them for more information on our program. To inquire about receiving care for yourself or refer someone else for care, please contact Jan Ritter, our Stephen Ministry Coordinator, in the church office.



Facilities Committee

Kathy Baker, Chair

NOOKS, CRANNIES and CORNERS SALE is HISTORY!!!

Except for some computer monitors and office equipment that need a new home, you'd never know that our Fellowship Hall was FILLED with great finds for three weeks in June. The purpose of this sale was to do a thorough cleaning of storage areas in our church and offer the finds to church members and the community. Many members and shoppers walked away with great deals - a lady from Cherry Hill Manor purchased about 10 forks so that she could have people over for dinner; items were given to Operation Christmas Child to become a part of boxes that are sent at Christmas to children in foreign countries; Dave Mason found study materials for his

Jail Ministry program; the Salvation Army became the new home for several boxes of glasses.

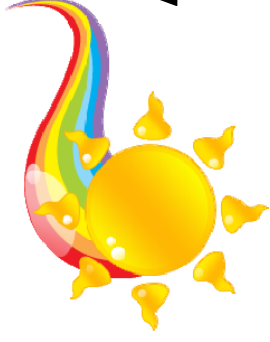
The items that were left were given to the Bibles for Mission Thrift Store and Habitat for Humanity ReStore - so almost everything had a new home at the end. We took in \$915.75, which went into the capital fund.

Our gratitude to the following for their helping before, during and after the sale- you made the job so much easier. Pastor Pat, Jenny Moore, Tim Batterson, Judy Gronewold, Susan Hickman, Robin Johnkoski, Doug, Sally & Carl McCune, Mary Burg, Nancy Chapman, Laura Martinez; Margy Roberts, Sue Keitel, Sue Stetler, Cheryl & Bill Luts, Carolyn Warner, Loretta Gold, Jeff Wolf, Bob Moore, Mike Scheid, Arden Hetletvedt, and Nan Spindler -- you will never know how much your willingness to help meant.

John & Gerrie ter Avest celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 24. Happy Anniversary!

First Church Calendar

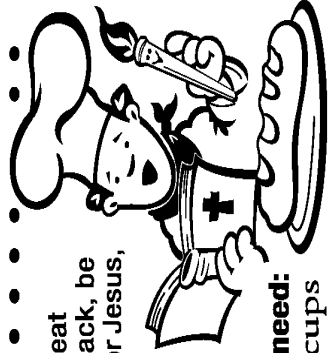
First Presbyterian Church
111 Capital Avenue NE Battle Creek, Michigan 49017 269-964-3700 firstpresbc.org



August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship 9 & 10:45A Healing Prayers 10:15A Lemonade Stand 10:15A Jail Ministry 1:15P	2 Retreat Center Com. 5:30P Concert 5P Bombers baseball game 6:05P	3 Stephen Ministry Building Task Force 6:30P	4 Staff Meeting 11A	5 Church at Prayer 7A Senior Pastors' Prayer 8A	6	7
8 Annual Church Picnic 10A	9 Choir Camp 9A Session 7P	10 Choir Camp 9A	11 Choir Camp 9A Staff Meeting 11A	12 Church at Prayer 7A Senior Pastors' Prayer 8A Choir Camp 9A	13 Choir Camp 9A	14
15 Worship 9 & 10:45A Lemonade Stand 10:15A Jail Ministry 1:15P	16	17	18 Staff Mtg. 11:00A	19 Church at Prayer 7A Senior Pastors' Prayer 8A Men's Fellowship 7P	20	21
22 Worship 9 & 10:45A Lemonade Stand 10:15A	23	24	25 Staff Meeting 11A Bible Study Movie Night 5P	26 Church at Prayer 7A Senior Pastors' Prayer 8A PW Coordinating Team 11:30A	27	28
29 Worship 9 & 10:45A Lemonade Stand 10:15A	30	31	Sept. 1 PW Bible Study 9:30A Staff Meeting 11A	Sept. 2 Church at Prayer 7A Senior Pastors' Prayer 8A	Sept. 3 <i>Office Closed</i>	Sept. 4

BREAD Painting



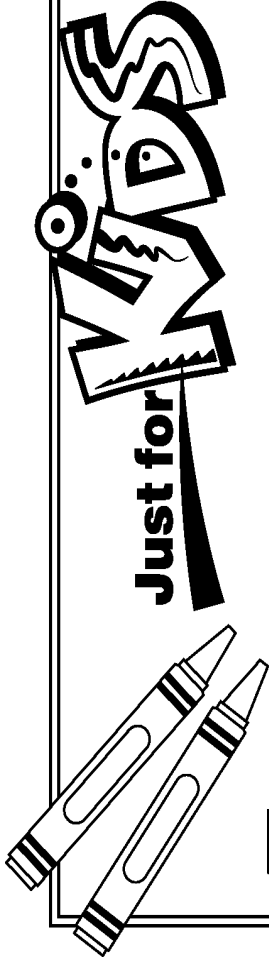
When you eat this fun snack, be thankful for Jesus, who is our Bread of Life.

What you need:

- Small cups
- Milk
- Food coloring
- Clean artist brush
- Slice of bread
- Toaster or toaster oven
- Butter (optional)

What you do:

1. Decide how many colors you want to use, and set aside one cup for each color.
2. Pour about 1/4 cup of milk into each cup.
3. Add drops of food coloring until you get a bright color.
4. Using a brush, paint a picture or write words (such as a Bible verse) on the slice of bread. Make sure not to get the bread too soaked.
5. When you're finished painting, toast your bread. You can top it with a bit of butter. Enjoy!



THE BREAD OF LIFE

Jesus knew that people would starve without physical bread to eat and water to drink. But he also knew they would die spiritually if they weren't fed by him.

Find and circle all the words horizontally. Then, starting on the top line and moving across from left to right, read John 6:35 (NIV) and write the Bible verse on the dashes.

JOHN 6:35

WORD LIST

am and be believes
bread comes I in
he hungry go He
life me me never
to never the of will
who will thirsty who

t e l r s u v w a m x y z a b t h e i
j k l m b r e a d n p o f q r l i f e
d H e e f g h i w h o j k l m n p q r
b c d f c o m e s g h i j t o k l m e
n w i l l o p q r s t u n e v e r v w
z y z b c a g o b c d e f g h i j k l
m h u n g r y n a n d o p q r s t u v
w x y z a b c d e f g h i j h e k l m
w h o n o b e l i e v e s p q r s t u
v w x y z i n a b c d e f g h i j k l
m n o p q r s t m e u v w x y z a b c
d e f w i l l i g h i j k l m n o p q r
s t u v w x y n e v e r z a b c d b e
f g h i j k l m n o p q t h i r s t y

“ _____

_____”

Answer: "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35, NIV



**OFF THE PRES
Youth Ministries
“Good News You Can Use!”**

Laura Martinez
Director of Youth Ministries

Have I Lost My Muchness?

Have you seen the new Alice in Wonderland movie? It has been chided for being a bit dark, but I must confess, I really liked it. I have reflected on it time and time again, especially the part about Alice having lost her “muchness.”

Throughout the film, characters ask if the Alice they are seeing is the *right* Alice. Upon meeting her, the Mad Hatter proclaims that she is indeed *the* Alice, but not as much. He tells Alice she has lost her “muchness.” She no longer has the passion, the drive, she once had. Life has taken its toll on her and she is timid, hesitant to stand for what is right, to fight for the life she was meant to live.

Tell me, Christian, have you lost *your* muchness? I have been asking myself that question a lot lately. Where is my passion for the things of Christ? Where is my drive and desire to follow Him to the ends of the earth? Where is my sense of adventure and willingness to risk it all for the cause of Christ, to be a champion for my King’s honor? Where is yours?

Muchness doesn’t come from cowering in a corner or trying to blend in, never making any waves. It comes from knowing our King, from

listening to His words, and being in His presence. It comes from seeing people through His eyes and realizing how desperately they need to know about Him. It comes from His Holy Spirit stirring up our hearts and giving us courage to step out and do the one small task He has set before us.

With each act of obedience we become stronger despite opposition. Our resolve grows and suddenly in the quietness of the moment as we face our biggest fears, the very depth of our soul cries out, “Lost my muchness, have I?” And we rise to put on the armor of God and defeat our enemy.

I want to find my muchness again.
Do you?

**Alpha Introductory
BBQ
Mill Race Park
5:45 p.m.
September 8**

(Bring your own lawn chairs —
and your friends!)



Play Ball!

Bomber’s Baseball- August 2, Brown Stadium at 6:05 p.m. A double-header (2 seven inning games)

It’s Faith and Family Night, tickets are \$2.00 for a group of 20 people. Sign up on the bulletin board in the main hallway.

A free Christian music concert will precede the game at 5 p.m.



In Loving Memory

Mary Fran Heinze	June 11, 2010
Ruth Swan	June 14, 2010
Jean Bahlman	June 23, 2010
Orville Baker	July 8, 2010
Maylis Smith	July 8, 2010

Thank You!

Danke schoen, gracias, merci beaucoup—not enough English words to express our thanks to First Pres for their prayers, flowers and cards. We are grateful for your loving concern.

Grazie! John & Edie Burgess



The Deacons' Beacon

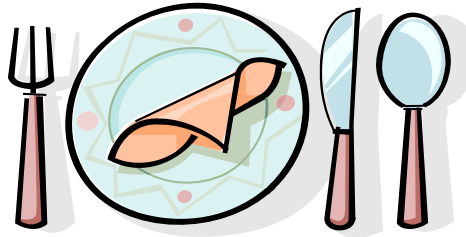
Your Board of Deacons met in June to elect new officers and firm up plans for the 2010-2011 church calendar year. Each year, Deacons who have served their three-year term leave the board and new members begin their terms. That way, we have continuity from year to year.

This year we have returning Deacons—individuals who have served terms previously and liked the “job” so well they decided to “re-enlist.” Welcome to all Deacons!

If you know of any First Church members serving in the military or new college students, please contact the church office. We like to provide packages from home for those two groups.

Every so often, a member needs assistance. Deacons will provide rides to and from doctor appointments and bring meals to the homes of those who aren't able to prepare food for themselves. Please call the church office if you're in need of such services, or if you know of someone who's given their consent to receive such help.

You'll see Deacons greeting you on Sunday mornings and they'll be delivering flowers to those who can't come to church.



Volunteers Needed!

Thank You to those who have recently helped host and/or provided food for our funeral luncheons. We are in need of more volunteers to assist our hostesses and provide dishes for funeral luncheons/receptions, please contact Sally Fisher at 979-5255 or sally_fisher@comcast.net



Christian Education

Patricia Weatherwax
Christian Ed. Director

Rally Day- September 19th- WOW!

Alan Smola, an amazing young magician will entertain us with his family friendly show. It's for *all* ages and of course guests are welcome to join in the fun. Check him out online and plan now to attend.

Sunday School classes will begin on September 26th. Watch for news about classes in the next Carillon, and look for displays September 12 in the parlor.

***The Church Office
will be closed
September 3—September 6.***

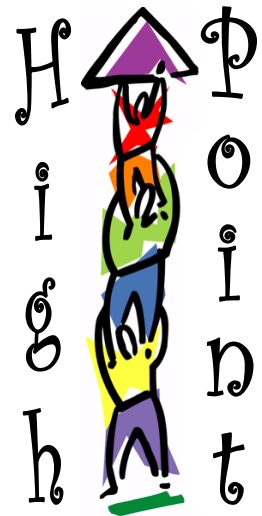
***Regular office hours
(8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.)
will resume September 7.***

Thank You!

Thank you for all your concerns when Clint was ill. The cards, phone calls, visits and most of all the prayers.

The flowers from Sunday morning were beautiful and much appreciated.

**God bless,
Clint & Barb Smith**



HIGH POINT resumes at 5:45 p.m. on September 15th! A great year of education, food and fun is being planned for the whole family. (Check Pastor Jeff's article on page 2 for some of the special adult classes that will be offered this year.)


Bulletin Board

Outdoor Worship
&
Church Picnic
Sunday, August 8
10:00 a.m.
Retreat Center

Bring a dish to share

Church at Prayer
Thursday Mornings
7:00
Chapel

Choir Camp
August 9 — 13
First Congregational
Church



Men's Fellowship
Thursday
August 19
7:00 p.m.
Youth Center

Healing Prayers

Sunday, August 1
at 10:15 a.m.

Chapel

Battle Creek Bombers
Baseball Game

August 2
7:05 p.m.

C. O. Brown Stadium
Tickets: \$2.00



June 6—September 5

**First Gathering—9:00 a.m.
Sanctuary**

**Heart of Praise—10:45 a.m.
Youth Center**

Issue 7 August 2010

Marty Shroll, Editor

The Carillon is a free monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church
111 Capital Avenue, NE, Battle Creek, MI 49017

Mission Statement: First Presbyterian Church exists to share God's love and grace with all people
and celebrate the truth of Jesus Christ.

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