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SUMMER 2010

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

There is one gift that I think God should give all ministers, but for whatever reason very few of us have it: the gift of remembering names. I'm terrible at it, and while hearing you say them on your way out of church is somewhat helpful, I'm only catching maybe one or two more each week.

What would really help would be a perfectly new and totally complete pictorial directory, but God never seems to be sending those from on high either. And to be honest, the current directory is fairly functional. But for some of you, it's hard to morph your two year olds into kindergarteners, and when someone mentions a name, I can only find maybe half of you in the directory. I would really love to at least have one updated picture of each family to be able keep learning your names, pray for each family unit, and be able to connect one family member to another. Seeing as it's the digital age and all, how great and easy would it be for you to simply **email** me a picture of your family unit? I promise, I will not reproduce or publish your picture—and it does not have to be something fancy. Just a snap shot or two with names emailed to jessfpc@verizon.net. Or you can bring in a printed copy on a Sunday morning as well.

I get that some of you could simply email me a quick sentence that says—we look the same as the directory picture. That's cool. My husband Tom and I do not have children so we, of course, look exactly the same as we did eleven years ago as well, right? But for those of you who do not have a picture in the directory or have had significant changes in your family so that the picture or your kids might look very different, please do me this huge favor and help me out with learning your names.

Grace and peace,
Jess

GRADUATES TO BE HONORED

on June 6

On Sunday morning, June 6, our church family will be pleased to honor our church's youth who are graduating from area high schools. Graduating from Oregon High School this year are Lindsay Arndt, Grace Ledin, Kaitlyn McGuigan, Eva Meyer and Amanda Quam. We wish each of these young adults God's blessings for their future, and we share in their pride as they graduate in June.

VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL

We're Going Fishing

That's right! We are going to get "caught" by Jesus at Vacation Church School. On June 22, our Netherwood property will be full of fisher people, big and small. Our day will include the stories of "Jonah", "Jesus Calls the First Disciples" and "Jesus Feeds 5000". There will be crafts, snacks, games, snacks, guest speakers, snacks, water fun and the FPC "secret recipe" gorp! There is plenty of planning going on right now in anticipation of a great day for our 19 registered fisher people.

In advance, we will thank Norm, because he makes us feel so welcome and will apologize for the amount of sand that will be tracked into his home! Any questions about Vacation Church School – call Judy Belanus at 455-1221.

SUMMER CHOIR... will be singing on June 13 and July 11. If you would like to participate, arrive at church at 8:30 AM for rehearsal. All are welcome to sing.

BONFIRE!

Mark your calendars now! Summer bonfire at the new church property! (5271 Netherwood Road) We will gather on Saturday, July 17th, at 6:30 PM. Bring a lawn chair and your own beverages. The Fellowship Committee will provide the s'mores.

YOUTH TRIENNIUM 2010

On Monday, July 19, we are starting out on a new adventure for First Presbyterian. 14 youth and 2 adult chaperones will be joining a group from the John Knox Presbytery for the Presbyterian Youth Triennium. It is much like Montreat but BIGGER, up to 5,000 youth from around the country will be participating in the event held at Purdue University.

Our journey will begin on the 19th with a lock in for everyone in the John Knox group. We will travel by bus to Purdue on the July 20th and return on July 24th. We will stay in the dorms, eat college food, participate in worship and the small group activities.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 1st when we will be telling you all about our experiences.

SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP

Come to church early, or stay after worship, for a cup of coffee/juice and a treat! This time of church family fellowship has become quite popular with young and not-so-young alike ... if you haven't participated, give it a try!

FINANCIAL UPDATE –

April 30, 2010

GENERAL FUND

Amount pledged year to date:	\$44,064.64
Pledges received year to date:	\$38,264.00
Per Capita bill:	\$6,171.55
Received to date:	\$2,592.60

BUILDING APPEAL

Amount committed:	\$809,252.00
Pledges received to date:	\$715,636.64

Thank you for your financial gifts to the First Presbyterian Church!

PICK IT UP; PUT IT BACK

Just like at home ... if you move something at church from one room to another, please remember to return it to where you found it when you are finished using it. This will make it much easier to keep track of the church's belongings.

Thanks!

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Would you like a chance to play with the youngest members of our congregation? We're in need of volunteers to supervise the nursery during services. We need volunteers for the summer as well as during the school year. Most school year volunteers were only scheduled for 3 Sundays. If interested or if you have questions, please contact Renee at mikeandrenee@charter.net or at 835-8557.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED!

Looking for people who are willing to take an active role in helping to provide fellowship activities for our congregation. The Fellowship Committee currently meets the 2nd Thursday of each month for less than an hour, but not at all during the summer. If you are willing to help out, please contact Renee Martell at 835-8557 or Melissa Evers at 835-5760. A great way to help strengthen our congregation!

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING!

Many people have signed up on our "May is Volunteer Month" bulletin board to help with ushering, coffee fellowship, summer liturgist, communion stewards, childcare, and Sunday School teachers/helpers for next year. Wow! Thank you very much! If you have not yet had a chance to sign-up, please call the church office at 835-3082 and Karen would be happy to tell you which dates and jobs are still open.

THANK YOU!

The people of Haiti and other third world countries thank all who generously contributed to our recent drive for Hygiene Kits. Your contributions made it possible to complete 108 Hygiene Kits from FPC!!

Special thanks to the members of the Women's Evening Circle and their "special helper" who assembled and packed the kits and to Char Hansen, who delivered them to a warehouse in Elgin, Illinois, thus saving us the cost of shipping them to the warehouse.

PENNIES FOR PEACE

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in support of this worthy cause. Along with the March coffee bar donations, our grand total for the Central Asia Institute is \$262.64!! Your donations are a restricted donation, where 100% of funds raised will be used for overseas program support. Thanks, too, to the Christian Education Committee and Sunday School teachers who helped me with this project!!

HOSPITAL

Sandy Miles has been in the hospital recently. The church family is asked to keep her in prayer.

SYMPATHY

The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are offered to the following people who have lost loved ones in recent weeks:

Dorothy Davidson on the death of her cousin

Andrea Loeffelholz, Shawn & Mariah Isola on the death of Andrea's uncle
Mike and Christy Archer on the death of Christy's uncle

HANDBELL RESURRECTION

I would like to resurrect the handbells with a newly formed group this Fall. I will need 8 **committed** ringers, rehearsals would be Wednesdays @ 6-7:00 PM, high school students through adults welcome, experience with a musical instrument or able to read music, new or experienced ringers are welcome. Think about it over the summer, clear your Wednesday 6:00 PM hour and let's make some music together. We will want to be ready to ***RING FOR JOY*** when we get into that new building. We will have an organizational meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 8th @ 6:00 PM. If you are interested or have questions please contact Char Hanson, 835-5934

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Education Chair, Wendy Goist Jones gave this "Minute" on Teacher Appreciation Sunday, May 2nd.

This is a minute, 60 seconds, for Christian Education but we all know we are learning for a lifetime, starting at any age. It takes a village to raise a child but an entire loving church family to teach about the importance of God's love in our lives.

With that being said we only have 40 sec. left so here we go.....On behalf of the Christian Education Committee we would like to thank all "43" volunteers as listed below for their part in our church's education. (that's a lot of people)

Years ago one used to have to commit to an entire year of teaching every week, then it changed to a half year commitment. Times have changed and so has our culture. We are busier and stretched thinner all the time. Are you aware that volunteers are now asked to teach a class of our children for only a one 6 week block? We also had quest speakers for the High School and Adult Sunday school classes that shared about God's presence in the work place and in their everyday lives. Most of the speakers, volunteered for just one Sunday.

It takes a lot of people to keep the program running smoothly and there is always room for more. Beginning the early part of the summer we will be asking for your participation in our church family's education. Think about what **your part will be** next year to help show the importance of God's love in all of our lives.

You said at the baptism of our youth that you would promise to raise our kids in the Christian Faith. So it's time for all of us to step up to the plate and do our part.

TIMES UP...

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY 2009/2010

The congregation would like to thank and honor the following people for their ministry in Christian Education. We are grateful for their commitment of time and dedication to the education of the youth and adults in our church family.

Adult Sunday School Planning Committee members:

Stephen Johnson, Sue McGuigan,
Jessica Barmack, Ralph Stomquist,
Mike Fahey

Children's Choir Director:

Char Hanson

Christmas Play Director:

Lori Johnson

Youth Group Leaders:

Jen and Scott Williams

Teachers:

Judy Belanus, Susan Johnston,
Wendy McNall, Doug Brethauer,
Wendy Goist Jones, Bev Meyer,
Laura Cameron, Nadine Krenz,
Tom Mielke, Linda Clark,
Dolly Ledin, Susan Niebauer,
Connie Jenson, Renee Martell
Lori Johnson, Mark McNall

Guest Speakers for the 4th – High School Class:

Jeff Jones, Bev Mares, John Palmer,
Dolly Ledin, Dave Mares, Luis
Dario Villalobos Castro, Grace
Ledin, Sue McGuigan

Guest Speakers for the Adult Class:

Bisi Adeniyi, Corynn Hanson,
Jeff Jones, Katie McGuigan,
Jessica Barmack, Dave Hanson,
George Jura, Sue McGuigan,
Carlene Bechen, Shawn Isola,
Dolly Ledin, Tom Niebauer,
Ted Belanus, Steve Jenson,
Grace Ledin, Robert Ray, Mike
Fahey, Lori Johnson, Dave Mares,
Dan Yeatzel, Jenny Fiore, Mike
Johnson, Bev Mares, Luis Dario
Villalobos Castro, Char Hanson,
Stephen Johnson, Brian McGuigan

Christian Education Committee Members:

Judy Belanus, Lori Johnson, Char
Hanson, Wendy Goist Jones

ESPN (Extra Special Preschool/ Kindergarten News)

We did a lot of growing this year in Sunday School!! One of us grew out of 2 pant sizes, our feet grew, our new teeth grew and we amazed our teacher at how tall we all got. We also grew academically learning to read, learning letters and learning really hard math. And we grew at church, learning more about God's love for us.

Our last project was also about growing – plants!! We painted flower pots and then planted flowers in them to give to our parents. Have you ever noticed how hard it is not to wipe your painty fingers on your shirt? Ahhhhh, paint and dirt, these are a few of our favorite things!

The best part of Sunday School is probably just seeing our friends and having fun together. Oh, and don't forget the donut holes! Have a great summer and see you in church!

POT LUCK FLOWER BOX is open for planting.

If you have any leftover annual flower or bedding plants and wish to put them in the courtyard flower boxes or concrete planters, please do so. I will keep them watered and fed throughout the growing season and we can ALL ENJOY their beauty. It was fun watching the box fill in last year, often times under the cover of darkness....sneaky gardeners!

CLOTHING DONATION BOXES

The clothing donation containers have been moved from the basement. They are now located right outside the last door on your left before the Session room. There is a small landing at the top of the stairs and the red and green containers are marked for clothing donations.

NEW PHONE NUMBERS

Harry & Annette Hayter - 205-2275
Sandy Miles - 630-0059

MORE GRADUATES...

Andrew James Krenz will graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, on May 16, 2010, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History. He will continue his education next fall, working toward his dream of being a middle school teacher. Andrew is currently working at UW Memorial Union and Hacks Sports Page and coaches Boys High School Club Soccer.

Amanda Quam will be graduating from Oregon High School next month and then attending MATC starting this fall. For the last 11 years, she has taken dance (ballet, jazz, tap, modern, hip hop, and advanced hip hop) and during that time also earned a brown belt in karate. Amanda has been to Montreat twice and is looking forward to the Triennium this summer. She has helped flood victims in LaFarge, WI and volunteered at homeless shelters, Habitat for Humanity, the Salvation Army and the Oregon/Brooklyn Food Pantry. Amanda has worked at the Oregon Burger King for the past 2 years.

FOOD PANTRY

Summer Stock-Up Marathon

The Oregon/Brooklyn Food Pantry is sincerely grateful for the continued support of our church sponsors, as well as our community partners. We continue to provide help to 110 to 140 families each month, even in the summer. The summer has always presented additional challenges because the school, sports teams, organizations, and other church food drives dwindle enough that we would have to buy much more food without your continued help.

Beginning in June, we Presbyterians are asked to donate the following each month:

June	Canned Fruits
July	Cereal
August	Peanut Butter, canned or boxed meals
September	Canned vegetables

BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE

On Thursday, May 13th the Capital Area Regional Planning Committee, in a late night session, approved Resolution CARPC no. 010-7 amending the Dane County Land Use and Transportation Plan and Dane County Water Quality Plan by revising the Oregon Urban Service Area boundary and environmental Corridors in the Town of Oregon. By doing this CARPC gave the Village of Oregon permission to extend their Urban Services Area to include FPC's property on Netherwood Road. This is very good news!

We have been working toward this goal for several years and now we can continue to move forward.

The next step will be to file a petition for Direct Annexation by Unanimous Approval with The Wisc. Dept. of Administration. Then the Village of Oregon Planning Commission will review the petition and compare it to the Oregon Comprehensive Plan recommendations, particularly the Future Land use Map. Then we go before the Village Board for final approval. This is probably about two months worth of meetings but it is part of the process and we will get through it.

Both the site and building plan will also need to be approved by the Planning Committee and the Village Board. Then we will go out for bids on the site work and approximately thirty days later we will get hard numbers on all phases of the building project itself.

We hope to break ground by November and have the building complete by August of 2011.

We look forward to keeping you informed as this project continues to move forward.

Respectfully,
Your Building Committee.