

The Good News

of First Presbyterian Church for July 2016

Sing to the Lord, you saints of his;
praise his holy name.
(Psalm 30.4 [NIV])

Come take a hike!

Mark Mueller will be partnering with the parish nursing ministry again this year to lead exciting group walks. The Walks will start at 1 p.m. on the fourth Sunday of each month July - October.

The walks are family friendly but geared towards physically active participants. Don't forget to bring a hat and water and wear sunscreen! If the activity needs to be cancelled, we will leave a message on the church's answering machine.

This is a fun way to get outdoors, learn some local history, and spend time with other church members. If you have questions, contact Mark at markmueller@chartermi.net.

July 24 / 1 p.m. - History Walk to St. Marys Park

We will start at the First Presbyterian Church parking lot and go up Fourth Street to St. Marys Park. On the way we will check out the outside of the Mayo Foundation House and Damon House.

August 28 / 1 p.m. - Trail Walk to Cascade Lakes

Meet at the soccer field parking lot behind Shorewood Senior Campus (2115 2nd Street SW) at 1 p.m. We will check out part of the Cascade Lakes trail system and see the future swimming beach.

September 25 / 1 p.m. - Hike along the Creek

Meet at Quarry Hill Nature Center (701 Silver Creek Road NE) at 1 p.m. We will hike along the creek and explore some of Quarry Hill Park.

October 23 / 1 p.m. - Park Hike at Root River

Meet at Root River Park (4012 80th Street SE) at 1 p.m. We will check out the old stagecoach bridge and the 90-foot tall limestone bluffs.

~ Mark Mueller and Ariel Boswell

Worship and picnic at Silver Lake Park July 17

On Sunday, July 17, our regular worship service will be at a different time and a different location and begin at 10:30 a.m. in the Three Links Pavilion at Silver Lake Park. No service will be held in our sanctuary that day! The pavilion is between the swimming pool and playground on the south side of 7th street, across from the lake. There is plenty of parking on either side of the pavilion.

After church we will have a cookout picnic. Hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, buns and condiments will be provided along with beverages and paper products. Please bring a salad, chips, vegetable/fruit or dessert to share. We also would welcome a small vase of flowers from your garden to place on tables.

There are several picnic tables under the pavilion but those who are able are encouraged to bring a few folding chairs to supplement our seating.

No childcare will be provided during the worship service or picnic.

If you have any popular yard games such as *Ladder Ball* and *Corn Hole* (bean bag toss), *bocce ball*, horseshoes, etc., and are willing to bring it to the church picnic, please contact Rev. Rowland or the church office (282-1618) so we can coordinate getting a few of each for this event.

In case of rain, we will hold our service and meal back at the church in the social hall.

~ Gayle Jones / Welcoming and Nurturing Committee

Celebration of Life Dinner August 21

The year 2016 will be the 14th year of our Celebration of Life dinner hosted by the Lowell Meyer family. This has become a summer ending tradition to gather, enjoy a wonderful fried chicken dinner, and fellowship. The dinner started as a celebration of the life of Sherry Meyer and continues so that all of us may celebrate the special people in our lives.

The dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the social hall...the first event in our newly remodeled kitchen. Each family is asked to bring a pie to share. Single guests are encouraged to partner with someone to bring one pie.

~ Gayle Jones / Welcoming and Nurturing Committee



July services of worship


July 3: Worship and communion at 9:30 a.m.

July 6: Worship and communion at Charter House at 2 p.m.

July 10, 24 and 31: Worship at 9:30 a.m.

July 17: Worship at Silver Lake Park at 10:30 a.m.

followed by food, fellowship, and games



A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

by Rev. T. J. Parlette

July 2016

A few Sundays ago, I preached on Elijah's experience in the wilderness and meeting God in the silence on Mount Horeb. In that sermon I introduced the idea of "forest bathing," something that Minnesotans have practiced for years. Forest bathing originated in Japan in the

1980's as over-worked, stressed out office workers were encouraged to take a day and get back into nature. Take a hike, sit quietly by a river, go for a paddle on a lake – what ever it is, get away from technology and back into the natural world. I hesitate to say it was "invented" in the 1980's, because I think lots of people, including most Minnesotans, have been doing this for a long time, there just wasn't an official name for it!

But now, this concept of forest bathing, or wilderness bathing, is receiving widespread support. There is a company called Earthwalk Ways in Fredericksburg, Virginia, that offers forest therapy packages. There's even a pediatrician at Unity Healthcare in Washington, D.C., named Robert Zarr, who gives prescriptions for time outside rather than pills – I'm not sure if the outdoor expenses are covered by insurance.

Journalist Jonathan Merritt has given us some theological background on how to think about God and the natural world. In his book **Green Like God: Unlocking the Divine Plan for our Planet**, Merritt writes that "*Christians believe that God has written two books – the world and the Word. These books – nature and the Bible – are different in both form and function. We have access to God's glory through the world around us, but we have access to God's grace in salvation through the Bible.*"

He goes on to make the point that "*God has chosen to commune with us, and God doesn't choose to do so just in church. While God's words flow from the lips of the ordained person standing behind a pulpit, they also resound from the many wonders of nature, which we rarely stop to admire... the world is like a seashell; we must willingly place our ears up to its cusp if we want to hear the Divine rumbling.*"

This summer I hope you'll take advantage of Rochester's outstanding outdoor resources and parks and listen for God's glory. Maybe you want to join us for one of the Sunday afternoon walks led by Mark Mueller. You can find a complete schedule and further information on page one of this very newsletter. In doing so, you will be filled with new life and strengthened for the journey of faith!

Peace,



Bible Study ~ Wednesdays / 6:30-7:30 p.m. Sheldon Jackson Lounge

The Wednesday Bible Study will continue through the summer on an every other week schedule. The studies aren't dependent on having attended a previous class, so you are welcome to come whenever you can. The class is led by Al Depman.

July 13 and 27; August 10 and 24

Stewardship Alive!

On fire for God

English preacher W.E. Sangster (1900-1960) served on an interview panel for ministry applicants. When a nervous candidate stepped forward, he admitted he was rather shy and not likely to ever set the River Thames on fire.

"My dear young brother," Sangster responded, "I am not interested to know if you can set the Thames on fire. What I want to know is this: If I picked you up by the scruff of your neck and dropped you into the Thames, would it sizzle?"

~ Newsletter/Newsletter 7/2016

Financial Statement / May 2016

General Operating Budget

Balance (4/30/16)	\$ 46,801.97
Receipts (May)	+ 76,931.97
Disbursements (May)	- 60,599.44
Balance (5/31/16)	\$ 62,834.50



First Presbyterian Church
512 SW 3rd Street
Post Office Box 906
Rochester, MN 55903
Telephone: 507/282-1618

FAX: 507/288-0809; e-mail: RochesterFPC@msn.com

The Good News is published the first of each month for members and friends of First Presbyterian Church (FPC).

The newsletter tells the story of the church, promotes its programs, and publicizes opportunities to live out one's faith.

Church Staff

Pastor	Thomas J. (T.J.) Parlette
Associate Pastor	Jay P. Rowland
Director of Music	Lee J. Afdahl
Coordinator of Youth and Christian Education	Rick L. Morris
Office Administrator	Susan K. Kruger
Facility Manager	Harry E. Coleman
Custodian	Vera B. Herr
Music Assistant	Kathleen M. Kruger
Part-time custodians/security	Steven Aug, Sally Evans, Tami Rinn, Eric Schwartzbauer
Child Care Workers	Valerie Asleson, Kelly Bock, Margie Schaaaf
Newsletter Editor	Carol J. Evans
Parish Associates	

Anneliese Opitz, Roger Ring, Carol Shaffer, James Walker

Sunday services of worship: 9:30 a.m. through Labor Day Sunday

Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.;

Friday, 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; Saturday, office closed

Visit our WEB site at www.FPCRochester.org.

The mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Rochester is to reflect God's love for all people by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

June 12, 2016

"...getting to know you"



Ellis Bloomfield (PO Box 39 / Wanamingo 55983 – 507-824-2629) is joining First Presbyterian by transfer of letter from Trinity Lutheran Church in Wanamingo, where he was a lay minister. Ellis was born in Illinois and in his career spent four years in the Air Force, 2½ years teaching in Tanzania, and was in the weekly newspaper and printing business. He is now retired. Boating, flying,

reading, music, politics, and writing are among his leisure activities.

Dawn Gonsalves (PO Box 39 / Wanamingo 55983 – 434-960-6010) was born in Jamaica and came to America with her mother and father and four siblings. Before moving to Wanamingo she lived in Florida, Virginia, and California. Her hobbies include baking, cross stitching, running, and arts and crafts.

Margie Schaaf (2734 Spyglass Court NW / Rochester 55901 – 507-206-0725) is already well-known to many of you as the supervisor of our nursery and Kids Zone on Sunday morning. Although now retired, she taught in the Rochester Public School system for 17 years. Margie says she enjoys people and loves to be active. By virtue of her position in the nursery, she is already serving on our Christian Education Committee. She stays active with gardening, letter writing, Sudoku puzzles, reading, playing cards, babysitting her grandchildren, volunteering, cooking, and baking.

Capital Campaign inches toward goal

Pledge by pledge we're getting there! With \$261,948 now accounted for, we're 84% of the way to making our goal of \$320,000.

Because of your generosity we have been able to complete all the components of the project without needing to take out a commercial loan. Hours and hours of volunteer labor, an interest-free loan from the church's capital reserve fund, a grant from the capital reserve fund, and generous up-front donations from our members gave us the resources to do that.

If you haven't taken the opportunity to see what's been going on in the social hall, multipurpose room, music room, or kitchen, you need to do that. \$320,000 is a small price to pay for what we've gotten. Please do your part to help finish covering the \$320,000 by returning your pledge card today. And thank you to the many people who have already responded. You're a treasure and we appreciate you very much!

~ Carol Evans / Church Treasurer

Jesus is the light of the world ...

FPC Mission Team heads to North Dakota for Vacation Bible School

Ten members of First Presbyterian Church are going to Spirit Lake Indian Reservation in North Dakota the end of August. Their goal is three-fold:

From August 27 to 29 the mission team will provide Vacation Bible School to children from kindergarten through 5th grade who live on the Reservation. Classes will be held at the Bdecan Presbyterian Church in Tokio and include Bible stories, crafts, music and games and a service project (planting some flowers and flowering bushes by the Bdecan Presbyterian Church). We will provide the children with breakfast bars and juice and a hearty/healthy lunch. Last year, we provided VBS at a community activity center in Tokio, but this year are meeting at the Bdecan Presbyterian Church to enter into more of a partnership with the members of that church. We hope to increase the awareness of the children that VBS is all about Jesus, not just a fun activity. Our overall theme is "Jesus is the Light of the World."

Saturday, July 30, we will lead a joint Presbyterian Women's meeting with the women of the Bdecan Presbyterian Church. After the PW meeting, two trees will be dedicated to young people from the Bdecan Church who have passed away.

Sunday, July 31, we will worship with the congregation at the Bdecan Church. The children will sing songs they learned, recite three Bible verses they learned, and summarize Bible stories they studied. After lunch at the church, we will return home.

Members of the mission team are **Sylvia Swede, Jane Hallman, Marcia Dollerschell, Britta Youmans, Ginger Kirby, Cindy Kunzman, Ruth Saling, Gayle Jones, Heide Buettner, and Marylynn Aalderks**. All the VBS team members from last year are returning and we have three new members!

Please keep our mission team in your thoughts and prayers as we head north to provide Bible School to the children of the Spirit Lake Reservation.

~Marylynn Aalderks / Bdecan team coordinator

Madrigal Christmas Feaste needs volunteers

At our first Madrigal Feaste last December, we had over 50 people helping in many ways, both on stage and behind. We are hoping to do the same this December as we host our second Madrigal Christmas Feaste on December 3.

The singers are already starting rehearsals but could use more tenor voices. We also can use anyone who would like to help serve the dinner or help with cooking or decorating.

Please contact **Lee Afdahl** if you would like to participate musically and **Gayle Jones** if you could help in any other capacity.

~Gayle Jones / Feaste coordinator

Thank You, Christian Educators!

*Christian educators come in all shapes and sizes. They may be young or old, tall or short, male or female. They may have taught for 42 years or never led a group before. They may prepare for groups of 2 or 52 people. They may teach students who are 4 or 24 or 94. At the end of the school year, we thank all the faithful educators in our church who serve as Sunday school teachers, adult educators, nursery attendants, children's time leaders, youth leaders, and members of the Christian Education Committee. A special "thank you" goes to **Rick Morris**, Coordinator of Youth and Christian Education, and to **Jay Rowland**, staff liaison with the education program. Special thanks goes as well to all who serve as substitute teachers (sometimes at the last minute!) and chaperones for special events. Each one of you has helped our congregation grow in faith!*

* Valerie Asleson * Rachel Beukema * Kelly Bock * Ariel Boswell * Jeremy and Karin Braun * Tammy Buchanan * Brett and Jamie Carroll * Lucinda Clements * Al and Barbara Depman * Joe and Julie Doppler * Barry and Lori Folkens * Jane Goodfriend * Lea Jennings * Conor Jones * Ginger Kirby * Lisa Lee * Jean Marvin * Jenny and Leo Matoush * Susan McClocklin * Rick Morris * Mark Mueller * Terry Narr * Juliet and T.J. Parlette * Cindy Pauley * Marion Pitts * Jay Rowland * Margie Schaaf * Tom Sherman * Susanna Stone * Ruth Walts * Dan Wentz * Jason and Melissa Wobig * Lindsay and Tim Zetzsche * and the many other adults who served as chaperones and leaders for youth programs and as substitute Sunday School teachers * and those who stepped in at the last minute to help!



Congregation acknowledges work of music participants

*choristers - handbell ringers - instrumentalists - accompanists - Choir School staff
Festival of Music - Worship and Music Committee*

*Music is an integral part of our worship services. On May 22 the congregation said "thank you" to over 100 people who participated in the past year. All this is possible through the dedicated efforts of our patient Director of Music and Organist **Lee Afdahl** and enthusiastic music associate **Katie Kruger** who shepherd all their charges and bring out the best in each.*

* Zoe Abrahamson * Lee Afdahl * Carolyn Beck * Eli Beukema * Mary Beyerle * Ariel and Chris Boswell * Clara Braun * Jeremy Braun * Jonas Braun * Matthew Braun * Jeff Britton * Tammy Buchanan * Alyssa Carroll * Shay Carroll * Casey Clements * Edra Clements * Rosy Clements * Michael Cutrer * Barbara Depman * Allen Dollerschell * Brielyn Doppler * Jen Duesterhoeft * Cody Duncan * Elizabeth Dunn * Lettie Eckberg * Becky Erickson * Millie Erickson * Olive Erickson * Carol Evans * Ann and Dennis Gastineau * Jane Goodfriend * Melbourne Grovesnor * Anne Gyura * Robert Hachmeister * Jane Hallman * Cheryl and Don Hann * Beth Herr * Paul Herr * Kristina Hesby * Janet Hosier * Alexa Hruska * Courtney Hruska * Robert Jacobson * Dwight Jennings * Judy Kereakos * Alice and David Kerr * Paul Kingsbury * Katie Kruger * Cindy Kunzman * Anna Larson * Connie Larson * Otis Laurberg * Quinn Lazer * Ashley Loeb * Mya Loeb * Jennifer Matoush * Allyson Maurer * Carol McDonough * Helen Monsees * Jane Murl * Sharon Nichols * William Oehler * Grafton Parlette * Thomson Parlette * TJ Parlette * Peg Parsons * Gabe Perkins * Maddie Perkins * Ryan Perkins * Jo Rockwell * Chelsea Rostad * Lyle Rozeboom * Ruth Saling * Robert Scoggin * James Sessler * Karen Sessler * Carol Shaffer * Lynda Sharbrough * Janis and Neil Shepard * Laura Smith * Paul and Shelley Steger * Susanna Stone * Sylvia Swede * Kay Tate * John Tillotson * Dee Tiedeman * Jack Tollefson * Guy Vig * Christina Wentz * Jacob Wobig * Melissa Wobig * Elizabeth Anne Woolner * Britta Youmans * Inga Zetzsche * and everyone who fills the sanctuary with song each Sunday.



Ministry of Music

Lee Afdahl, Director of Music
Katie Kruger, Director of First Players,
Cherub and Calvin Choirs

Music expresses that which cannot be said
and on which it is impossible to be silent.
(Victor Hugo)

Volunteer summer choir sings on second Sunday of month

On the SECOND SUNDAY of July and August, we encourage you to join us for the WALK-IN Choir.

All youth and adults are welcome.

We will meet at 9 a.m. and review or learn an easy anthem for the 9:30 a.m. worship that day. Mark your calendar and if you are in the city those weekends, please join us and bring friends or family members who do not usually sing with us. This is a short-time commitment with high impact! See you July 10 and/or August 14.



Mission trip opportunity extraordinary open to congregation

Have you ever had the desire to participate in a Health Care Mission trip but did not know how to go about it? There is now that opportunity!

The Medical Benevolence Foundation (MBF), a validated mission component of PCUSA, is planning a health care trip to Haiti for November 5-12, 2016. MBF has developed a partnership with the Hôpital Sainte Croix, a child Health Clinic, and with the Episcopal University of Haiti Nursing School in Leogane, Haiti. Health care professionals on the team will be matched with Haitian counterparts to serve patients and mentor Haitian health care professionals. Primary care, Pediatrics, OB/GYN, General Surgery, Anesthesiology and Dentistry are the specialties that have the greatest opportunity.

The teams are small (12 and under) and are led by a physician who has been there multiple times. The deadline for signing up is September.

MBF plans more trips next year if the timing is not good for you this year.

If you have any interest at all in this opportunity, I would be very willing to talk with you about the opportunity. I can be reached by email (jonclosson@outlook.com) or by phone (281-1144). Please do not hesitate to contact me.

~ Jon Closson, MD / Mission Committee



Graduating Class of 2016

Picture by Warren Potter.

Rev. T. J. Parlette, Elizabeth Vierkant, Courtney Hruska,
Christina Wentz, Rev. Jay Rowland, Rick Morris

On June 5 we honored our 2016 graduates in worship and at a reception in the atrium after the service. Pictured are those in the high school classes who were able to attend.

Habitat for Humanity team continues work in July

FPC's Habitat for Humanity team will work Saturday, July 16 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (or whatever hours you're available). There are jobs for every skill level. No construction experience is necessary.

Contact Sarah Edgerton (EdgertonSarah@gmail.com or 536-9637) for the location.

We'll work the third Saturday of each month through September. Join us when you can!

~ Thanks, Sarah Edgerton / FPC Habitat coordinator

Kitchen remodeling completed ... almost

The kitchen remodel is well under way. It may be almost complete by the time you read this article.

We added more electrical outlets and circuits, new ceiling and lighting fixtures, and brought the kitchen and social hall up to code regarding air flow. We relocated the doorway in the west wall to facilitate access to the kitchen. The floor was scrubbed and the stove vent was cleaned. There will be a new window grille in the opening to the social hall. The dishwasher, which we are keeping, has a new exhaust hood to meet code. Now we are waiting for our stainless steel cabinets and cupboards to be installed. With new paint and a special washable wall covering everything will look bright and clean.

A special thank you to the many volunteers who have helped make this project happen. Because of them, we have saved a lot of money on the project. We have also been good with our resources. The old cabinets from the kitchen will be re-purposed and used to create the "new" resource room. The fridge, stove, stacked ovens, freezer and butcher block were sold. Other items were donated to the Habitat ReStore.

Come and see the new kitchen!

~ Bev Lewis / Implementation Committee

Volunteers needed for one-week summer program at Friendship Place

First Presbyterian Church will be working with Friendship Place this summer during the week of July 25- 29. The overall theme for the summer program at Friendship Place is the 2016 Summer Olympics in Brazil. Weekly topics will emphasize health, playing fair, striving for excellence, and overcoming differences with other players. There may be a focus on a specific athlete. Since our week is the final one of the program, we will be part of a closing ceremony with awards.

On Tuesday the children will go to Chester Woods Park to have fun and learn more about bugs. On Wednesday they'll do some journaling about their park experience. Friday is water fun day in the back yard. And every day is reading day.

Please consider volunteering for one day or the entire week. We need volunteers to read with the children, to help with writing and crafts, and to make the healthy snacks made possible by a generous donation from Presbyterian Women. Volunteers need to arrive at 1 p.m. and the program ends at 3 p.m. For more information, please call or e-mail **Jane Goodfriend** (jane.goodfriend@gmail.com or 281-3672).

~ Jane Goodfriend / FPC Friendship Place coordinator

To our members and friends at Charter House

We will continue to offer worship and communion the first Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. throughout the summer. We encourage you to take advantage of this worship opportunity when it's difficult for you to get out, or to come for mid-week worship even if you get to church on Sunday. Invite your friends at Charter House to join you!

Who Is Jesus? theme of 2016-2017 PW Bible study

This introduction to the PW Bible study, *Who is Jesus? What a difference a lens makes*, is excerpted from the 2016-2017 Horizons Bible study.

Halfway through the Gospel of Mark, as Jesus and his disciples are on their way to Caesarea Philippi, Jesus turns to his disciples and asks, "So, what's the word on the street? Who do people say that I am?" It seems like a reasonable question to ask the people who travel with you and who have the opportunity to hear what folks in their towns and villages are saying about their teacher. "Well," they answer, "some say you are John the Baptist (back from the dead); others think you are one of the prophets, maybe Elijah, maybe another one." Then Jesus looks them squarely in the eyes and asks, "Yes, but who do you say that I am?" Now that's a good question! The author's prayer is that, through the course of this study, you will find your own voice, your own answer. When Jesus turns and looks you squarely in the eyes and asks, "Who do you say that I am?" what will you say?

Presbyterian Women support local, national, and international projects

This year's rummage sale receipts and pledges provided \$6000 for local, national, and international projects.

Local

- ▶ \$400 for **Hawthorne Helps Mini-Store** where students, mostly immigrants living below the poverty level, may shop for necessities twice a month
- ▶ \$400 for **LINK** (Living Independently with Knowledge), which serves homeless teens
- ▶ \$400 for **Channel One** for their summer food program
- ▶ \$400 for **Civic League Day Nursery** to provide financial aid for those who can't afford daycare
- ▶ \$400 for **Mission 21**, which provides resources and restoration services to victims of human trafficking under the age of 16

National

- ▶ \$500 for **Su Casa de Esperanza**, a Presbyterian border ministry whose mission is to improve the quality of life of children through a faith-based family education program
- ▶ \$1100 to **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** to be used to help with recent U.S. disasters

International

- ▶ \$450 to **NOROC**, which facilitates the spiritual, social, physical, and emotional development of Romanian orphans
- ▶ \$450 to **Haiti Education Foundation** to provide for the education of six students
- ▶ \$450 to **IMA World Health** to support the IMA Medicine Box and Safe Motherhood kits, which provide essential medicines and supplies to clinics and people who need them
- ▶ \$356 through **Presbyterian Mission Agency** to provide two pair of goats to provide nutrition to those who need it most
- ▶ PW also provides for the education of two students in Niger through Remember Niger Coalition.

~ Sylvia Swede / Presbyterian Women facilitator

Softball

FPC Softball Schedule - July 2016

This is a great activity for you and your family. Come, join us at the old ball game and cheer FPC to victory. All games are on Thursday night at either McQuillan Field (1 mile south of Cub Foods on Marion Road SE, turn right at stop light) or the Assembly of God field (18th Avenue NW just north of Cedarwood Strip Mall).

Date	Time	Opponent	Field
July 7		Time-Opponent-Field to be announced	
July 14		Time-Opponent-Field to be announced	

Watch for playoff schedule following regular games!



News from Presbyterian Women

* *Sylvia Swede, facilitator*

A savings bond purchased by PW a number of years ago will soon come due. We pledged \$1000 to the Capital Campaign Fund and \$500 will be set aside for a Kitchen Fund.

- * Good news! The **Prayer Shawl group** will continue to meet during the summer on the second Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. in the lounge. Even if you aren't able to participate during the school year, you're welcome to come during the summer!

PW Circles support national Birthday Offering

In May, Circle members contributed \$1200 for the national Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering.

The money will go toward four projects this year:

- * **Heartland 180, Overland Park, Kansas.** This program serves boys and girls, ages 11-17, who have been part of the criminal justice system. The program conducts intensive training sessions on character building, core values, and life skills for these at-risk youth.
- * **Direct Action and Research Training Center, Miami, Florida.** DART will train clergy and lay leaders in more than 20 communities on how to stop the flow of children into the school-to-prison pipeline.
- * **Habitat for Humanity, East Bay Silicon Valley, Oakland, California.** Housing costs here are among the highest in the country. Habitat for Humanity will partner with more than 100 individuals and families to repair their manufactured homes, often the only affordable option for individuals and families with low incomes.
- * **Building Minds in South Sudan, Pittsford, New York.** The construction of a girls' primary school in Majok-Keen will serve approximately 600 girls, increasing access to education for girls in South Sudan where the literacy rate is among the lowest in the world.

Church Family News

Anniversaries

- Congratulations to **Douglas and Joyce Nelson** who will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary July 1.
- Congratulations to **Alan and Martha Sessler** who will celebrate their 57th wedding anniversary July 4.
- Congratulations to **Dan and Sunny Moore** who will celebrate their 68th wedding anniversary July 10.
- Congratulations to **Ralph and Naomi Spiekerman** who will celebrate their 63rd wedding anniversary July 12.
- Congratulations to **Jon and Karen Thiem** who will celebrate their 51st wedding anniversary July 18.
- Congratulations to **Donald and Ardith Ottman** who will celebrate their 59th wedding anniversary July 19.
- Congratulations to **Ed and Frances Gomez** who will celebrate their 51st wedding anniversary July 24.
- Congratulations to **Dale and Jane Goodfriend** who will celebrate their 51st wedding anniversary July 24.

Birth

Congratulations to **Justin, Lindsay, Landry and Harper Van Meeteren** on the birth of their son and brother, **Xander Ross Van Meeteren**, June 8.

Birthdays

- Happy Birthday to **Margaret Harris** who will celebrate her 106th birthday July 1.
- Happy Birthday to **Sunny Moore** who will celebrate her 90th birthday July 19.
- Happy Birthday to **Beverly Thoma** who will celebrate her 96th birthday July 31.

Death

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of **Lewis Benjamin Woolner**, who died June 13 at the age of 102.

Wedding

Congratulations to **Joseph and Caitlin (Harper) Kapurch** who were married June 18 in our sanctuary.

Calling all crafters!

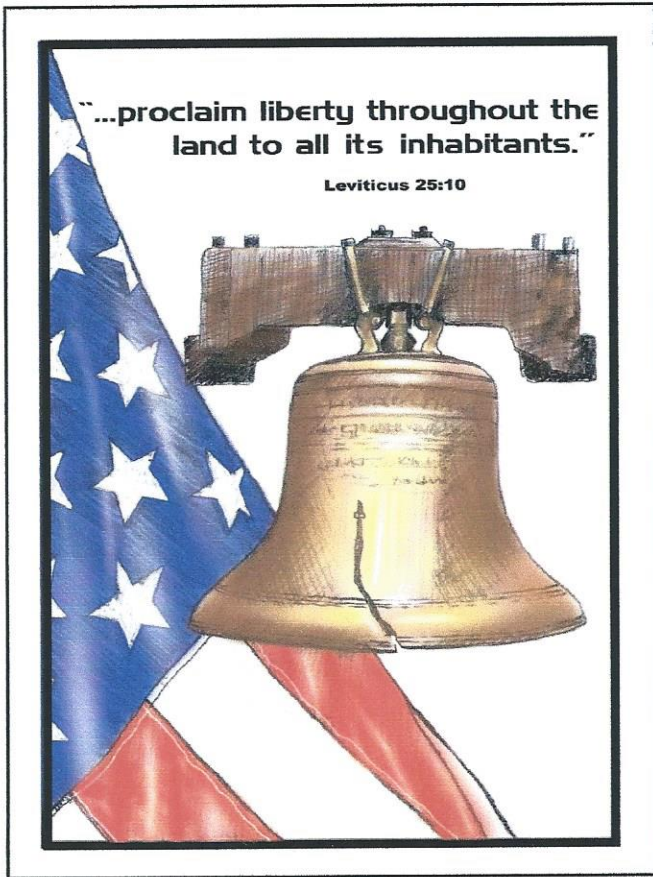
The Crafter's Group will meet Wednesday, July 20, from 3 until 6 p.m. Join us for fellowship and fun, as we make cards for the C.A.R.E. members of our congregation (all supplies provided) or bring your own project to work on. All are welcome!

~ *Mary Huie (282-9712) / Crafters coordinator*

Be a lifesaver

About 200 people — including 100 lifeguards — attended a pool party in New Orleans in 1985 to celebrate the first summer in memory that no one had drowned at a city pool. At the end of the festivities, the four on-duty lifeguards began clearing the area and found a fully dressed man in the deep end. Despite efforts to revive him, he died.

Just as swimming with a bunch of lifeguards doesn't guarantee safety, "swimming" with a sea of churchgoers doesn't guarantee peace. People in the pews next to you might be struggling to stay above water physically, emotionally, financially or spiritually. Be alert to ways you can serve as a lifeguard. Extend a helping hand, a listening ear and an encouraging reminder of Jesus' ultimate rescue.



First Presbyterian Church
 P. O. Box 906
 Rochester, Minnesota 55903-0906

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Rochester, MN
 Permit No. 111

Address Service Requested



July 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
"Always be a little kinder than necessary." (J.M. Barrie)						1	2
3 Worship - 9:30 a.m. Communion 10:30 AM Blood Pressure reading / Parish Nursing	4 Independence Day 6:00 PM Youth Fun Night Church closed	5 NO Deacons meeting Most cmtes do *not* meet 9:30 AM Staff meeting	6 1:00 PM Charter House worship and communion 6:30 PM Madrigal singers rehearse	7 Softball-to be scheduled	8	9	
10 Worship - 9:30 a.m. Summer Choir (rehearse 9 a.m.)	11 11:00 AM Grief Support Group Life expectancy would grow by leaps and bounds if green vegetables smelled as good as bacon. (Doug Larson)	12 9:30 AM Staff meeting 4:00 PM Presbytery/Oak Grove / Bloomington	13 6:30 PM Bible Study	14 Softball-to be scheduled 9:00 AM Yth/Channel One & pizza 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group	15 Newsletter items due	16 9:00 AM FPC Work Group at Habitat for Humanity	
17 Worship and picnic in the park 10:30 AM Worship at Silver Lake	18 11:00 AM Grief Support Group	19 NO Session 9:30 AM Staff meeting	20 3:00 PM Crafters Group	21 Softball-to be scheduled	22	23	
24 Worship - 9:30 a.m. 1:00 PM History Walk/St Marys Park	25 11:00 AM Grief Support Group 7:00 PM Endowment Cmte	26 9:30 AM Staff meeting 1:00 PM Chancel Guild	27 Mail newsletter 6:30 PM Bible Study	28 Softball-to be scheduled	29	30	
FPC@Friendship Place (afternoons) (contact Jane Goodfriend) (1 p.m.-3 p.m.)							
Synod School @Buena Vista University/Storm Lake IA							
31 Worship - 9:30 a.m.							