



The Good News

of First Presbyterian Church for March 2016

"If any of you want to come with me, you must forget yourself, carry your cross, and follow me. For if you want to save your own life, you will lose it; but if you lose your life for my sake, you will find it."

(Matthew 16.24-25 [Today's English Version])

*This day
is holy.*

Nehemiah 8.9

*Christ the Lord is risen today,
Alleluia!*

Palm Sunday, March 20

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.
Rev. Jay Rowland, preaching

Maundy Thursday, March 24

Tenebrae Service with Communion at 7 p.m.
Rev. T. J. Parlette, preaching

One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be received.

As is our tradition we gather around the table of the Lord and recall the deepening shadows of the night of his betrayal and the shattering darkness of his coming death.

Good Friday, March 25

Ecumenical Good Friday service at First Presbyterian Church from noon-1 p.m.
Join with believers from across the city as we commemorate Christ's death.

Saturday, March 26

Easter Egg Event from 9:30-10:30 a.m.
There will be games and an egg hunt for children through fifth grade.
Invite a friend or neighbor to come with you!
Parents and grandparents are encouraged to come with their children.

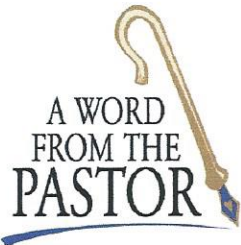
Easter Sunday, March 27

Worship at 8, 9:30, and 11 a.m.
Rev. T. J. Parlette, preaching

Easter Brunch served by the youth group (8:30-11 a.m.)

No Sunday school classes will be held on Easter Sunday. Nursery care for infants to three-year-olds will be provided throughout the morning. Children's Activities will be offered for children four-years-old through third grade at all services.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE
**for
Holy
WEEK**



by Rev. T. J. Parlette

March
2016

We are just a few weeks into the season of Lent. Often we think of Lent as the time of year when we are supposed to give something up – meat, chocolate, alcohol, or something else we enjoy. We do this

as a sign of repentance or as a way of reminding ourselves of the sacrifice that Jesus has made on our behalf.

But in scripture, such as the Matthew 6 passage we read every year on Ash Wednesday, we are actually called upon to add disciplines that are good for us, not simply abstain from things that are bad for us. We are called upon to study God's word, fast (or at least eat a little less – a quite healthy thing to do in moderation), give to the poor and of course, worship.

It is this final discipline I wish to bring to your attention this year. It is a fitting Lenten challenge for all of us to make a concerted effort to participate in the worship life of First Presbyterian Church. If you usually attend a couple times a year or even less frequently, perhaps consider joining us one or two times before Easter. If you attend once a month, why not shoot for every other week. If you are one of those who is here every week, perhaps you can call a friend you haven't seen in worship in awhile and make an appointment to sit down and have a donut at fellowship hour. We are a stronger church when we have an opportunity to worship and support each other.

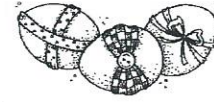
I am reminded of one of my favorite stories about a wealthy man who decided to build a new church for his hometown. He made arrangements for a beautiful little stone building, complete with a bell tower and a magnificent pipe organ. This man paid for everything. On the first Sunday the church was open, the sanctuary was filled with people. Everyone marveled at the beautiful stained glass and the glorious music. But the congregation was quick to notice that there were no electric lights. The place was lit by torches. The man who had donated the church stood up to welcome everyone and said, "You have no doubt noticed that this church is lit by all these torches. There is a torch for each person here. At the conclusion of the service today, I want you all to take a torch with you, and every Sunday I want to make sure you bring it back. This church will be dark unless all of you continue to come and share your light with each other."

Our church is a brighter place when we are all in attendance together. So this Lenten season, I challenge you to bring your torch, share your light and together we will shine God's love into the dark places of this world!

Peace, *T. J.*

"The message of Easter is not only that Christ is risen, not only that suffering is not the last word, not only that God gives new life, but this: Nothing is impossible with God."

(The Rev. James Martin, S.J.)



Easter Brunch Returns!

Easter Sunday, March 27

8:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Egg bake, coffee, and fellowship oh my!

Join us at **8:30 a.m.** on Easter Sunday for the annual Easter Brunch! A freewill offering will be taken for Feed My Starving Children, an organization with which the youth group volunteers each June. If you have any questions please contact **Kristen and Gabe Perkins** (perkins.kristen@mayo.edu).

Financial Statement / January 2016

General Operating Budget

Balance (1/1/16) (paid in 2015)	\$ 57,837.47
Receipts (January)	+ 70,263.97
Disbursements (January)	- 55,526.87
Balance (1/31/16)	\$ 72,574.57



First Presbyterian Church
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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	Diane M. Johnston-Arthur
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 at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Education classes: Sundays at 9:40 a.m.

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

Friday, 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-noon

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.

Lee Afdahl and Friends present an organ- and piano-plus program

Time: Sunday, March 13 at 4 p.m.

Place: First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary

In 1991, Lee Afdahl joined the staff at First Presbyterian Church as Director of Music and Organist. At that time he initiated a Festival of Music Concert Series that is now celebrating its 25th season. For many of those years, Lee presented a solo concert and during the 2004-2005 season, he asked other local musicians to join him in his "Lee and Friends" concert

FESTIVAL
OF MUSIC



which has become one of the best attended concerts of the series.

This year's program will feature Lee on both the piano and organ as he is joined for this season's "Lee and Friends" program by **Michael Bostwick**, clarinet; **Christopher Boswell**, handbells; **Paul Kosower**, cello; and **Janine Yanisch**, saxophone.



Lee J. Afdahl in
Organ-Plus
Program

A graduate of Luther College, Lee has served as a church musician for more than forty years—leading active programs of choral and handbell ensembles in Michigan and Minnesota.

He has conducted festival conferences for the Handbell Musicians of America, handbell classes for American Guild of Organists events, and international handbell events.

Having served the Handbell Musicians of America in various capacities, he is now the immediate Past President of the national board of the organization. Lee represented the organization as a conductor at the International Handbell Symposia in Liverpool, UK in 2012 and a national festival for the Handbell Society of Australasia in Adelaide, Australia in 2015.

The concert is open to the public and will be followed by a reception in the social hall. A freewill offering will be accepted.

~ Jane Hallman / A Festival of Music

games * egg dying * Easter story * crafts * egg hunt Come on out to the Easter Egg Event!

Join us the Saturday before Easter (Saturday, March 26) from 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. for the annual Easter Egg Event! Children through fifth grade are invited.

The morning will start with egg dying, crafts, and games. Then, we'll listen to the Easter story and finish with the famous egg hunt!

Please make sure that kids bring their own baskets to fill with candy and prizes and bring their own hard boiled eggs to dye!

~ Rick Morris / Coordinator Youth and Christian Education

PS: We could use a couple more volunteers to make the event a success! Contact Rick Morris (Morris.Rick@FPCRochester.org) to volunteer or with any questions.

Lenten activities offer times for study, reflection, worship

The Lenten season has traditionally been a time when Christians attend to the cultivation of the things of the spirit.

It is not a time to enter into a period of excessive introspection, gloom, and self-denial. Instead, it is appropriate to use the season as an opportunity to take stock of our own lives. For many of us there are too few opportunities to slow down and reflect upon the direction of our hectic, consumer-driven existence. The season of Lent invites us to take time to attend to those aspects of our lives that we often neglect.

We invite you to join in these ongoing activities:

- ▶ Morning worship on Sundays at 8:30 and 11 a.m.
- ▶ Bible study on Wednesdays from 6:30-8 p.m.
- ▶ Organ recital series Wednesdays from 12:15-12:45 p.m.
- ▶ Worship/Communion on Maundy Thursday at 7 p.m.
- ▶ Easter worship on March 27 at 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

New Sitter Service ready to launch March 11

As you read this, plans are moving ahead to hold our first Sitter Service from 6-10 p.m. on Friday, March 11 in the new Activities Center. The service is free and is offered to members of First Presbyterian with children (or grandchildren) up through Grade 4. Postcards with registration info for parents have been mailed out.....a registration form must be completed by Sunday, March 6.

We have been developing a list of Empty Nesters and other adult volunteers. Volunteers who cannot stay for the entire time are still welcome. We will share in the duties so all volunteers can find a suitable task that doesn't wear them out. Our main interest is in establishing relationships with our youngest congregants and giving our young parents a chance for some free time. If you would like to volunteer for any of the Sitter Service nights (2nd Fridays of each month.... March 11; April 8; May 13), please contact **Gayle Jones** (993-2443; mngjones@charter.net). You will need to complete a background check prior to serving.

Donations of gently used games and toys welcomed

We also can use donations of gently used games and toys for babies through age 10. We also would like to see if anyone has a medium/large screen TV they are no longer using so we can show Disney movies on a bigger screen in a separate room (it will be too noisy in the Activities Center to show/hear a movie). If you have anything to donate, please label it for Sitter Service and bring it to the church office or contact Gayle for pickup.

~ Gayle Jones / Welcoming and Nurturing Committee

Celebrate our Easter Garden with a donation of \$15. To contribute, put your check (note for Easter flowers) in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Following Easter services the Deacons will deliver the plants to our C.A.R.E. members.

One Great Hour of Sharing carries message of sharing resources, changing lives

One Great Hour of Sharing is a church-wide special offering to allow us to share our resources with our neighbors-in-need around the world and by doing so, change their lives. It has four main objectives.

1. **Empowerment:** these projects help men and women provide for themselves and their families, e.g. by training impoverished farmers in improved agricultural techniques leading to more food production and increased prosperity.
2. **Water Projects:** OGHS partners with organizations worldwide to provide clean water for communities in need. Access to clean water not only helps eradicate disease, but may transform these communities by stimulating agriculture, construction and education.
3. **Hunger Relief:** our resources provide feeding programs all over the world; e.g. we can help small villages in Africa by supplying seeds, tools and training to become farmers, thus providing food, not only for their own families but to sell at market.
4. **Disaster relief:** recovery from natural disasters takes time and resources, not only immediate response but ongoing commitment. OGHS helps communities with long-term disaster management, practical help, construction, emotional and spiritual care.

This offering, which will be received on Maundy Thursday, gives the opportunity to take faith-based action in shared concerns, a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

~ Eileen Hay / Mission Committee

Church Picture Directory coming in April

We have added our submitted photos, a complete church roster, and activity pages to the Lifetouch photos and the picture directory is now "at press." We anticipate that the directory itself will be ready for distribution in early April.

Copies are free to those members who had their photo taken by Lifetouch photographers. For the rest of our church family, a directory may be purchased for \$5. Please check the April Good News to learn the exact dates that directories will be distributed after services.

~ Jane Hallman / Picture Directory coordinator

Ever wonder ...

'How can I help change the world?'

"In the City for Good" invites you to a discussion with County Commissioner Sheila Kiscaden on "Citizens' Advocacy: Making a Difference" on Thursday, March 10 from 7-9 p.m. at the Congregational Church, U.C.C. (974 Skyline Drive SW). For more info check out the Facebook event page or email inthecityforgood@gmail.com.

It's a Party! You're invited!

After church service on April 24, FPC youth will host a "Shoe Cutting Party" in the fellowship hall to support the charity Sole Hope.

Sole Hope provides closed toed shoes and the medical care required to remove parasites from the feet of Ugandan children. At our party, we will cut and bundle the denim "uppers" necessary to make these shoes. Our work will then be shipped to Uganda where Sole Hope shoemakers will sew these parts together and add rubber soles.

The shoes will be distributed to children who receive care at Sole Hope's medical clinics. Often these are the first pair of shoes that a child has ever worn. For more information about Sole Hope visit www.solehope.org.

Turn your old blue jeans into Hope!

FPC youth are collecting used denim blue jeans to use at our Sole Hope shoe cutting party (see above). Drop off your donation in the atrium beginning March 1.

Partners Wanted!

We need 8-10 adult volunteers to co-lead each table of shoe-cutters on April 24 and to help answer questions about the cutting and bundling process. If you attended last year's party then this opportunity is for you!

Contact LucindaClements@me.com to receive more information.

~ Lucinda Clements / Sole Hope coordinator

Channel One promotes Minnesota FoodShare

This year's Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign is here! Every March, the community comes together to collect food and funds to keep the shelves at the Channel One Supplemental Food Shelf stocked. This is the largest food and fund drive Channel One hosts each year. First Presbyterian Church has always been a big contributor to the success of the campaign.

While Channel One needs our support throughout the year, your gifts during March will be amplified. The more money raised by Channel One during March, the more money it will receive from a Minnesota FoodShare incentive fund and also from the Feinstein Foundation Challenge.

Please join us as we partner with other caring people in the Rochester area to help alleviate hunger. Checks can be made out to the church, designating it for Channel One, and placed in the offering plate any Sunday in March or sent to the church office. Non-perishable food items can be placed in the Channel One barrel in the foyer. Because of the limitations set by the incentive fund and challenge, March 31 is the deadline for this year's donations.





Ministry of Music

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

O music ... thou hast taught us to see with
our ears and hear with our hearts.
(Kahlil Gibran)

FOM continues Lenten recital series

During the 2016 Lenten season, First Presbyterian Church is again sponsoring organ recitals each Wednesday from 12:15 – 12:45 p.m. in the sanctuary. Everyone is welcome!

- March 2 Shayla DeJong, organ student
Luther College, Decorah, Iowa
- March 9 Julie Yoonjeong Kim, organist
Congregational Church, U.C.C., Rochester
- March 16 Eileen Nelson Ness, organist
Salem Lutheran Church, Albert Lea

 Singing and ringing schedule for March			
	8:30	11:00	Both
March 6	Chancel Choir	Calvin Choir	No bells
March 13	Chancel Choir	Special music	Joyous Praise
March 20 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Chancel Choir	Cherub Choir	Alleluia Rngrs
March 24 <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	Jubilate Deo rehearses at 6 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearses at 6:30 p.m. Worship and Communion at 7 p.m. with Chancel Choir and Jubilate Deo Chancel Choir rehearses Easter Sunday music at 8 p.m.		
March 25 <i>Good Friday</i>	Good Friday Ecumenical Service at First Presbyterian Church at noon Singing: Chancel Choir		
March 31 <i>Easter</i>	Worship at 8, 9:30, 11 a.m. Chancel Choir (all services) Jubilate Deo (all services) Calvin Choir at 9:30 a.m. Cherub Choir at 11 a.m.		

Save the Date for our All Church Picnic

On July 17, we are having a FPC Day at Essex Park. We will begin with our worship service at the park and then have a picnic and games. More info about starting time and food will be coming out in the months ahead but mark your calendars now so you will be able to celebrate summer with us that day.

~ Gayle Jones / Welcoming and Nurturing Committee

Opportunities abound for adult study, discussion

Adult education ~ Sundays / 9:40-10:40 a.m.	
Members have asked for in-depth studies and here are several great opportunities covering a wide variety of topics and interests!	
Bible Study (South Fireside) <i>Kerygma</i>	The Kerygma Class will continue its study of the Gospel of <i>Matthew</i> . The class is led by Jane Goodfriend and Ruth Walts .
Current Issues (Lounge)	March 6 <i>Ripped from the Headlines</i> March 13 <i>Ripped from the Headlines</i> March 20 <i>Ripped from the Headlines</i> March 27 Easter Sunday. No class. The Current Issues discussion is led by Al Depman .
Parenting Class (A-101) <i>Grace-Based Parenting</i>	For parents, grandparents, and parental figures, the class will continue its study titled <i>Building Character</i> . The study is facilitated by Ariel Boswell and Lucinda Clements .
Bible Study ~ Wednesdays / 6:30-8:00 p.m.	
Bible Study (Sheldon Jackson Lounge)	February 17 - March 23 A Lenten Study led by Rev. T. J. Parlette <i>The Way:</i> <i>Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus</i> by Adam Hamilton March 30 <i>What's the meaning of Babel?</i> led by Al Depman

Spring Rummage Sale is back; donations and help are needed

This year the annual P.W. rummage sale will be Saturday, April 16. Donations of good quality clothing, books, furniture, toys, and household miscellaneous can be brought to the church beginning Tuesday, April 5.

Please, no exercise equipment, computers, or microwaves. Use carts near the atrium elevator to move items to the lower level.

Many volunteers are needed for sorting and pricing during the week of April 11-April 15! Then we need people for the actual sale April 16 from 8 a.m.-noon, and after that for a fast clean-up to move boxes and take down tables. Men would be especially welcome at this time!

Mark your calendars now! Watch for more information and sign-up sheets at circle meetings and at the church.

Money raised goes to local, national, and international missions. Sign up to help as often as you can.

~ Judy Kruesel and Sally Brooks, sale coordinators

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Lenten Sharing Calendar

Both joy and compassionate urgency infuse God's great love for this world, and should likewise infuse our love for others shown through One Great Hour of Sharing. This special Sharing Calendar reminds us of the abundant blessings we have received, as well as the suffering in the world that we can help address through this offering. Each day suggests a donation of units. Choose an amount for these units that is most appropriate for your household.

Sometimes you and I are the channels of God's love and grace to the world in need.

February 28 Third Week in Lent	Church World Service works with congregations to welcome more than 7,000 refugees to the U.S. every year. Give two units for each guest to your home this week.	Girls are often excluded from education systems, yet educated girls are key to reaching many developmental goals. Give two units in honor of significant women in your life.	Nearly half the world's population (3 billion) live on less than \$2 per day, and over 1.3 billion on less than \$1.25 per day. Give two units if you will spend more than \$2 today.	Millions of youth are illiterate in the world's poorest countries, yet education is critical to developing better job skills, health, and future. Thank your teacher(s) for their help.	It is estimated that over 1.5 million persons have been displaced in Nigeria, many because of religious persecution. Give two units if you are free to attend church without fear.	Hunger causes cognitive and physical stunting, and a variety of other health problems. It constrains economic growth and perpetuates poverty. Donate food to a local shelter.
March 6 Fourth Week in Lent	46.2 million U.S. Americans live in poverty. Help address poverty issues worldwide by giving two units.	More than 60,000 Syrian babies have been born in exile and have no place to call home. Give one unit in thanks for your home.	Since 2014, over 57,000 unaccompanied children have fled violence to the U.S. Give one unit for those who care for you each day.	<i>Children, let us not love in word or speech, but in truth and action.</i> 1 John 3.18 Take action today. Say a prayer and give as many units as you feel led.	Conflict in South Sudan has forced more than 2 million people from their homes since 2013. Contribute one unit for every time your family has moved.	Acute malnutrition affects 34 million children worldwide and often overlaps with conflict and war. Give one unit for every nutritious meal you will eat today.
March 13 Fifth Week in Lent	<i>I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me...</i> (Matthew 25:35a) Pray for those who do not have enough to eat or drink.	More than 1 billion children live in poverty around the world, and 22,000 children die every day because of it. Give two units if your family had enough to eat today.	Signs of poverty include inadequate income, housing, food, fresh water, opportunity, power over one's life and prospects, human dignity. Stand up to poverty by contributing three units.	<i>Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me...for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs."</i> (Mark 10.4) Walk the extra mile with children around the world by giving two units today.	With the help of foreign assistance, deaths of children under age 5 have dropped from 12.6 million to 6.6 million since 1990. Give two units to make that number even smaller.	More than five years after the earthquake in Haiti, Church World Service still supports agricultural production and food security programs for over 5,000 people there. Give one unit per variety of fresh produce in your kitchen.
March 20 Palm Sunday Holy Week	One quarter of all humans live without electricity (approximately 1.6 billion people). Give one unit for every item you have plugged into an outlet in your room.	Church World Service provide shelter for thousands of displaced persons at a refugee camp in Tanzania. Give one unit for every time you've been to camp.	Hunger is the number one cause of death in the world. Consider skipping a meal today and praying for the hungry in our world. Then give three units to feed others.	Your gifts to OGHs make a difference in the lives of hungry, hurting, and oppressed persons around the world. Give five final units in solidarity and celebration.	About 45% of the world's refugees reside in countries with per capita incomes below \$3,000 – countries least able to afford them. Please help! Contribute one unit.	Church World Service helps make schools in Kenya safer through their "School Safe Zones" program. Give one unit for every safe school your family members attend. ¹
March 27 Easter	<p>With his disciples during the Last Supper, Jesus prayed for oneness, connection, and unity (John 17.20-23). Perhaps he knew that understanding our oneness would be one of our greatest challenges as human beings. Through One Great Hour of Sharing, we connect visibly, effectively, efficiently, and powerfully as one to answer needs in God's family.</p> <p>The offering will be taken during Maundy Thursday worship March 24 or bring your donation to worship any Sunday after that or mail it to the church.</p>					

Use the Lenten Sharing Calendar with your family

The Sharing Calendar is a fun way for you and your family to make an offering to One Great Hour of Sharing while you learn how the church helps people around the world. Participate in a different activity each day. Create a pattern of sharing, learn about the needs of others, and deepen relationships within your home. Use a One Great Hour of Sharing coin box or make your own family bank (a milk container or old coffee can will do).





News from Presbyterian Women

* *Sylvia Swede, facilitator*

Circles always welcome visitors and new members! Join us for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. The 2015-2016 Bible study is *Come to the Waters*.

Esther Circle: March 21 at 1 p.m. in the lounge.

Priscilla Circle: March 16 at 9:15 a.m. in the lounge.

Hostess: **Shelley Steger**. Program: **Heide Buettner** (Bible Study). Devotions: **Heide Buettner**. Project: Channel One Backpack program

Ruth Circle: March 19 at 10 a.m. in the lounge.

Hostesses: **Cindy Sannes** and **Gayle Jones**. Program: **Phyllis Schmid** (Bible Study Lesson #7 from *Come to the Waters*).

Prayer Shawl group: March 10 at 1 p.m. in the lounge.

All knitters and crocheters are welcome! If you know someone who would appreciate a prayer shawl, please contact **Susie McClocklin** (288-7772).

World Day of Prayer convenes March 5 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Hope to see you at World Day of Prayer on Saturday, March 5. Come for coffee and fellowship at 10 a.m. followed by a worship service written by the women of Cuba. The event will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (559 20th Street SW).

World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical celebration carried out by women in more than 170 countries on or near the first Friday in March. It brings together women of many races, cultures, and traditions in closer fellowship and understanding.

Registration open for June Synod Gathering in Sioux Falls

Registration is now open for the Synod Gathering of Presbyterian Women of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The event will be held June 15 - 18 at the Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center.

Join other women of the Synod for Christian fellowship and a great learning experience. Keynote speaker is **Susan Jackson Dowd**, Executive Director of Presbyterian Women. You can choose from nineteen workshops!

The registration fee of \$200 covers meals and all programming. In addition, rooms are \$85 plus tax per night; 1-4 persons can share a room for that price and split the cost.

PW has some scholarship money budgeted which will be divided among those attending from First Presbyterian.

Need a registration booklet? See a circle leader or check the Synod website

(www.lakesandprairies.org/resources_women.html).

Church Family News

Anniversaries

Congratulations to **David and Elaine Jones** who will celebrate their 58th wedding anniversary March 7.

Congratulations to **Clifford and Patricia Gastineau** who will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary March 16.

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to **Shirley Gove** who will celebrate her 95th birthday March 1.

Happy Birthday to **Val Battenburg** who will celebrate her 100th birthday March 17.

Happy Birthday to **Ruby Rose** who will celebrate her 94th birthday March 17.

Walaska (Val) Battenburg will be 100 years old on March 17. All friends are invited to celebrate with us on that day at Madonna Towers (4001 19th Avenue NW) from 2-4 p.m. If you can't come then, you can send her a card or visit at another time.

(Ruth and Jim Walts)



Crafter's Group welcomes young and old

The Crafters Group will meet on Wednesday, March 16 from 3:00 on.

We should be done by 5:45, so you are very welcome to stay for the Wednesday night dinner.

Bring your own project to work on, or join us in making cards for the C.A.R.E. members. All card making supplies are provided.

Please call **Mary Huie** if you have any questions.

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

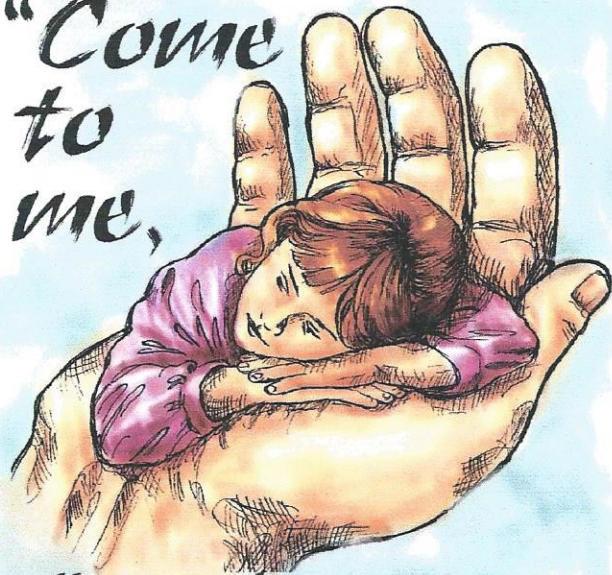
Presbyterian Women support Hawthorne Helps mini-store

Hawthorne school is a literacy center that also maintains a mini-store that is open twice a month on Wednesdays. The center serves about 180 students each time it's open. 85-90 % of the students at the school are immigrants and live at or below the poverty level.

Donations of needed items for the store are always welcome. Items most needed are toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes, bar soap, and shampoo, items that cannot be purchased with food stamps. Also needed are dish soap, lotion, bandaids, and baby wash.

If you attend a FPC Circle, you have had a chance to donate at a Circle meeting. If you would like to donate and don't attend a Circle, you can leave your items in the church office. PW recently donated \$300 to the Hawthorne Helps mini-store.

"Come to me,



all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Matthew 11:28

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

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March 2016

March 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Sunday school schedule Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday school / all ages at 9:40 a.m. Calvin Choir at 9:40 a.m. Cherub Choir at 10:20 a.m.</p>		<p>1 Most committees meet/ check w/lead elder 9:30 AM Staff meeting 7:00 PM Deacons/Lounge</p>	<p>2 Bells/choir/youth grps - as usual 12:15 PM Lenten recital/S DeJong 1:00 PM Charter House worship and communion 5:45 PM Supper 6:30 PM Bible Study w/TJ Parlette</p>	<p>3 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir</p>		<p>5 10:00 AM World Day of Prayer @Good Shepherd Lutheran</p>
<p>6 Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) Communion 8:30 AM Chancel Choir sings 9:30 AM Blood Pressure/Parish Nursing 11:00 AM Calvin Choir sings</p>	<p>7 FPC@Community Food Response</p>	<p>8 9:30 AM Staff meeting 7:15 PM FOM Cmte</p>	<p>9 Bells/choir/youth grps - as usual 12:15 PM Lenten recital/J Yoonjeong Kim 5:45 PM Supper 6:30 PM Bible Study w/TJ Parlette</p>	<p>10 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>11 Sanctuary reserved/FOM 6:00 PM Sitter Service (6-10 p.m.)</p>	<p>12 Sanctuary reserved/FOM 9:00 AM Presbytery/Grace Trinity/Minneapolis <u>Set clocks ahead 1 hour t...</u></p>
<p>13 Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) Joyous Praise rings (both) 8:30 AM Chancel Choir sings 4:00 PM FOM/Arhahl and Friends <u>Women's Retreat at Ea...</u></p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 Newsletter items due 9:30 AM Staff meeting 7:00 PM Session/Fireside Rm</p>	<p>16 Bells/choir/youth grps - as usual 9:15 AM Priscilla Circle 12:15 PM Lenten recital/E Nelson Ness 3:00 PM Crafters Group 5:45 PM Supper 6:30 PM Bible Study w/TJ Parlette</p>	<p>17 2:00 PM Val Battenburg 100th birthday party at Madonna Towers (2-4 p.m.) 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 10:00 AM Ruth Circle</p>
<p>20 Palm Sunday Worship (8:30 & 11 a.m.) Alleluia Rngrs rings (both) 8:30 AM Chancel Choir sings 11:00 AM Cherub Choir sings</p>	<p>21 1:00 PM Esther Circle</p>	<p>22 9:30 AM Staff meeting</p>	<p>23 Bells/choir/youth grps - as usual 5:45 PM Supper 6:30 PM Bible Study w/TJ Parlette</p>	<p>24 Maundy Thursday One Great Hour of Sharing 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir sings 7:00 PM Worship and communion 8:00 PM Chancel Choir rehearses</p>	<p>25 Good Friday Noon - Ecumenical Good Friday service@FPC Noon - Chancel Choir sings</p>	<p>26 9:30 AM EasterEggEvt</p>
<p>The Dead Sea is the dead sea because it continually receives and never gives.</p>						
<p>27 Easter Sunday Worship @ 8, 9:30, and 11 a.m. Chancel/Youth Choirs (all) Jubilate Deo rings (all) 8:30 AM Easter Brunch (8:30-11 a.m.) 9:30 AM Calvin Choir sings 11:00 AM Cherub Choir sings</p>	<p>28 Mail newsletter <u>Church closed</u></p>	<p>29 9:30 AM Staff meeting 1:00 PM Chancel Guild 7:00 PM Forums@First / End of life decision making</p>	<p>30 Bells/choir/youth grps - as usual Mail quarterly statements 5:45 PM Supper 6:30 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>31 6:15 PM JubilateDeo Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir <u>MN FoodShare deadline</u></p>	<p>Wednesday youth schedule 4:15 p.m. Alleluia Ringers (grades 2-5) 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir (grades 6-12) 5:45 p.m. Supper 6:15 p.m. Middle/High School youth 7:15 p.m. Joyous Praise bells (grades 6-12)</p>	