



COMMUNITY  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

# THE CHIMES

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Dear Friends - Greetings,

My time as an Elder will be short, eight months as a “sub”. Therefore, it is only proper that this letter be of similar length.

As a member of Session, it has been my pleasure to represent this group on the Christian Education Committee. Over the course of my working career and involvement with church, civic and work related organizations, I attended way too many committee meetings. If I try really hard, I think that I can recall a few that were productive.

The CPC-CE Committee is a whole different ball game. This fine group of young women know how to get things done. They, along with Kim’s very active involvement, come prepared to deal with the issues at hand, actively consider them and arrive at good decisions, all in the best interests of this congregation.

One of the real highlights of these meetings is the immediate willingness of the members to volunteer for numerous assignments. My experience has been that when it comes to such requests at most committee meetings, the condition of the ceiling paint and floor covering gets major attention. Not with the CE Committee, they jump in and get going!

Please join me in a rousing THANK YOU to this fine committee for all that they so willingly do to further this Church’s work in all areas of Christian education. They could use additional help on many projects. The next time that we are approached for assistance by a CE member (the ceilings and floors are fine) try, “I’ll be glad to”.

May God’s love be with you. Dick Schneider, Elder

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

October, 2006

- 01 World Communion
- Peacemaking
- 08 Consecration Sunday
- 29 5:00 Harvest Dinner
- Daylight Savings Time Ends

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## FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

As we enjoy the beautiful colors of Fall, and as God showers us with rainfall to nourish our earth, let us return thanks and praise to God for the glorious gifts of creation. Many opportunities await us in October!

On Sunday, October 1: We will celebrate World Communion Sunday and the Peacemaking Offering.

On Sunday, October 8: We will have Consecration Sunday in which we will make our stewardship commitments to God and the Church.

On Sunday, October 15: We will have **only one worship service, at 11AM.** We will be celebrating the Children's Sabbath, and we will welcome Marian Wright Edelman, the founder of the Children's Defense Fund, to our pulpit. Activities will begin with education and fellowship at 9:30 in the fellowship hall. The Mission Fair will also bring us information on the needs of the world. Come to experience new awareness, advocacy, and worship in honor and hope for the young people of our world. Our third grade students will also receive their bibles during the one service at 11am.

And don't forget to join the church family on Wednesday nights, for dinner, activities, and great fun. Come for just part of the evening or the whole thing, just be sure to make dinner at 5:45! Our chef, Peg Christensen, is doing a fabulous job of providing with delicious, healthy meals, and we are having a great time as church family. So, don't miss out!

See you at Church!

Peace and All Good,  
Kim

## NEWS OF THE FAMILY

### Nursing Homes

Evergreen Terrace: Betty Kauppi, Vivian Erickson,

Manor House: Amy Johnson, Beulah Zobel, Dorothy Brace

Grand Village: Clyde Crotteau, Bob Oftelie

Pleasant Seasons: Sylvia White, Edith Mae Carrier, Ed Sparen,

### Deaths

Jeanne Westfield-Miller passed away in September. A memorial service was held at CPC on September 23. Please keep her husband, Jack Miller, and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

### Marriages

Chris Brown and Heather Kelley were married on July 22, on top of Sawtell Mt., Island Park, ID.

Todd Stejskal

### Special Prayers

Dick & Marilyn Dottenwhy have moved to Grand Rapids from Tower, and the Presbyterian Church. They have three grandsons serving in Iraq. On September, 18, Richard Dottenwhy's convoy was struck by grenades. Richard is recovering serious injuries to his eyes and hands in a Bagdad hospital.

Also, JoAnn Bakken is recovering from surgery in Minneapolis where her mother can help care for her. It may be 3-4 more weeks before she can return home. For an address where cards can be sent, please call the church office.

## CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

### Confirmation Class of 2007

Class at 3:30pm in room 102:

Wednesday, October 11: *Presbyterianism*

Wednesday, October 25: *Presbyterianism*

Don't forget to attend a session meeting (they meet the third Thursday of every month at 7pm in the fellowship hall), and a committee meeting of your choice (see the Committee dates and times on the wall in room 102).

### Adult Education

We had a fun and very informative three session learning all about Presbyterians. We have many new opportunities lined up for adult education. The first two weeks of October Pastor Dan will lead in a class called *Personality and Prayer*, where you will do the Myers-Briggs test before class and then talk about prayer styles that fit each personality type. Then Margaret Morris will lead in a five-week class discussion on *Religion in Children's Books*. Please plan to attend these thought-provoking, spiritually informing, fun-filled classes just for adults!

We gather every Wednesday from 5-5:40pm in room 102.

Wednesday, October 4: *Personality and Prayer*

Wednesday, October 11: *Personality and Prayer*

Wednesday, October 18: *Religion in Children's Books*

Wednesday, October 25: *Religion in Children's Books*

### Something Special

Sunday School for ages 3 through Grade 6 will attend Something Special on Sundays in room 205.

October 1st will be our first Something Special Sunday in room 205. This year, we will focus on how the kids of CPC can serve others. From the Heifer International Program to our own church needs, there are so many ways our kids can be a part of helping in our local and global communities- Something Special Sundays will be a way to make this possible for them. Join us for fun, learning, and service for kids!

### Inter-Generational Activity

Please join us every other Wednesday at 6:30pm for a great time of interacting with our church family of all ages. We meet in room 205. Fun activities are planned:

Wednesday, October 4:

*Making a Difference with Barb, Laura, and Jaci*

Wednesday, October 18:

*Celebrating the Saints with Mary Schnell*

## YOUTH NEWS & EVENTS

### High School Youth...

Youth Group: (6:30pm in the youth room)

Wednesday, October 11: *What Not to Wear*

Wednesday, October 25: *Halloween Extravaganza*

Don't forget we gather for S'up every Sunday morning at 10am in the youth room!

### Middle School Youth...

Youth Group: (4:00pm in the youth room)

Wednesday, October 4: *Around-the-Town Scavenger Hunt*

Wednesday, October 18: *Bonfire*

**Middle School Youth: Please note the time change for youth group!**

**We will begin at 4pm in the youth room!**

## WORSHIP

There will only be one service on Sunday, October 15 at 11am! This will give us the opportunity to welcome Marian Wright Edelman, the founder of the Children's Defense Fund, to our pulpit. We will be celebrating the Children's Sabbath. Education, fellowship, and the Mission Fair will begin at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall!

### ALL-SAINTS BANNERS

It has been a tradition for a number of years to remember those members of the church that have died in the past year with a procession of banners at the beginning of the All-Saints' worship services on November 5.

An additional banner will continue to be used this year. The banner will be on display in the southwest sanctuary entrance throughout the month of October. You are invited to write the name of a loved one who has died on a slip of paper and attach it to one of the ribbons. This could be done in memory of someone who died during the past year or in previous years. We hope this banner will make this special Sunday even more meaningful.

### CHOIR NEWS

#### RING THEM BELLS

The bell program is well underway with four active groups again this year. However we have room for additional ringers so feel free to contact Darcy or one of the ringers if you would like to participate in the bell choir program.

The youngest group, the Junior Jingers (gr. 4-5), has some new ringers who have been eagerly learning the various techniques of ringing handbells. They rehearse on Wednesdays at 3:30. Welcome to Austin Carlson, Abbey Holbein, Will Omberg, McKenzie Shaffer and Adam Yeazel. They're already doing a great job!

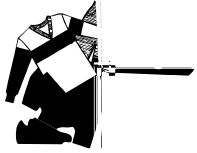
The Holy Tollers (gr. 6-8) are an enthusiastic group of young people. They rehearse on Wednesdays at 6:10.

The Tintinnabulators (gr. 9-12) continue to do a wonderful job. They will rehearse on Wednesdays at 4:30.

The Jubilee Ringers (adults) meet on Thursdays at 5:30. These people are not only active in their own group but serve as substitute ringers with the other choirs and valuable assistants in managing the handbell program.

### Musical Notes from Roy

Summer is supposed to be a time that is more relaxed and less 'schedule' driven. Somehow, it never seems that way for me. It seems to just fly by. There is a different sense of organization the rest of the year. It does seem more regimented somehow. My suggestion is to make CPC an integral part of that 'regiment'. I have a calendar up in the choir rehearsal room for people to mark and indicate when they will be missing. I have consistently found that people that are involved in music are VERY busy people (family, other organizations, work, etc.). That is something that I have learned to accept. Having said that, I must say that it is important to have depth in all sections of the choir. I am thrilled that we have had several new members join us this year! I hope that they enjoy the experience. I hesitate to emphasize one part of the choir in looking to acquire more members. Having said that, I would like to encourage any tenors and basses out there to join the choir. If you don't know your voice type by name, we can help you to determine that. We do have fine bass and tenor sections in the choir (I don't mean to imply that we have inadequate resources). I think that they would enjoy your company! In closing, we do WELCOME all singers! I emphasize the joy in singing and the spiritual importance of the music we sing. Come and serve in this dynamic ministry!



## MISSION

### DOMESTIC ABUSE

There are many reasons why people don't want to talk about domestic abuse. . .

They think it is a private matter.

It is a very disturbing issue.

People don't know what to do about it.

They feel it isn't taking place in their church.

However, domestic abuse is an issue that cuts across all social and cultural borders. It is not just "a women's issue", but affects the whole family including children and the perpetrator. Currently, one-in-five women will become victims of violence in their lifetime and most of the violence occurs within the context of intimate family relationships. Children in the families can become victims themselves and witnessing the violence can have serious developmental consequences on them.

The religious communities can provide a safe haven for women and families in need. In addition, churches can reach out to others to share compassion and comfort with those afflicted by the tragedy of domestic abuse. In our Brief Statement of Faith we learn that "In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female...to live as one community." Certainly community is being broken when violence exists.

Because CPC feels strongly that domestic abuse is a serious justice issue that affects so many, we will address the issue during the month of October, Domestic Abuse Awareness Month. We hope we can all learn about the issue and thereby, become a more compassionate, caring, and informed church community in taking action, becoming a resource, and becoming a safe place where victims of domestic violence can come for help.

## MISSION COMMITTEE LOOKING FOR MEMBERS

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered and said to him, "You are the Christ." - Mark 8:29

"How would Jesus answer this question? Perhaps he'd say, "Look around you. I am you and you are me. You are the body of Christ. You are my hands, feet and voice. You are my heart beating with the love of God for this world. You are my lungs breathing the Spirit of life upon those you meet. You bear the cross when you see great suffering in the world and you bring it to God and plead for mercy." - Tim Bauer, Milaca, MN

The CPC Mission Committee would like to add a few new members. We meet the 2nd Thursday of the month at 4:30 pm. We're looking for new perspectives and fresh ideas. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Dan.

### CHRISTMAS INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

It's time to begin our plans for Christmas International House program. We've invited two International Students to spend Christmas with 2-4 Grand Rapids families from December 16th through January 2, 2007. The students apply for their home stay on October 1st. Our program has quickly become a popular program as students from other countries hear about our Horse Drawn Sleighride and winter bonfires and traditional Christmas Carols, Candlelight Christmas Eve services and International Potluck Night. Students from other countries want to share an "American Christmas and New Years Celebration" and that's what they have experienced in Grand Rapids. If you would be interested in hosting a college student for one week, or for two weeks, let me know and I will be more than happy to give you more information. One of our students from Taiwan thought the wrapped gifts under our Christmas tree were empty, and just there for decoration. She was so surprised to find out that not only were there actual gifts in the packages, but three of them were for her. They are so appreciative of the fact that an American family will open their home for a stranger, not unlike the person who opened up their stable for Mary and Joseph when Jesus was born so many years ago. For more information, feel free to contact Mary Schnell.