



# THE CHIMES

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 3

MARCH, 2004

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

February, 2004

- 08 8:45 Heifer Project Dedication
- 22 Cathy Moklebus Workshop
- 25 Ash Wednesday
- 29 Youth Sunday  
Lent I

## ONE LORD, ONE FAITH, ONE BAPTISM

*Lenten Meditations: Our Common Belief*

2004 Ecumenical  
Mid-week Lenten Services  
Wednesdays at 12:10 During Lent

March 3

“Water” . . . . . George Gilbertson  
St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church

March 10

“Cross” . . . . . Marva Jean Hutchens  
United Methodist Church of Grand  
Rapids

March 17

“Naming” . . . . . Lynn Ronsberg  
Zion Lutheran Church

March 24

“Light” . . . . . Tom Radaich  
St Joseph’s Catholic Church

March 31

“Profession of Faith” Gretchen Pickeral  
Christ Episcopal Church

**D**ear Friends

The Community Presbyterian Church is a wonderful church. We have a beautiful building, wonderful ministers and staff, and a great congregation.

As you may or may not be aware. I have accepted a new position with the company that I work for. (Automotive Parts Headquarters in St. Cloud). I will be managing three parts stores in the St. Cloud area. This means our family will be moving to St. Cloud this summer, after Robert graduates from high school.

Community Presbyterian Church has been a tremendous influence in my life. It has been a great help personally and professionally. You have taught me the good lessons to live by, through the people, the word, and the sacraments.

There is the story about Opernockety. Opernockety was a piano tuner and he was the best in the land. The people of a local church asked him to tune their piano. He agreed and did the job. It was the best piano tuning the congregation could ever remember. After about one year the members of the congregation asked Opernockety to tune their piano again. Opernockety said, “no”, he could not. The members of the congregation asked why? He said, “Opernockety tunes but once.”

Our decision to leave this area and move was a very long and emotional one. The opportunity for our family was too good to pass up. To paraphrase Opernockety, ‘Opportunity knocks but once.’

After our decision was made, we were attending church and the scripture lesson of Joshua 1;19 spoke to us. “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; be not frightened neither be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” This told us that in our walk through life, God is with all of us. These are the type of lessons we have learned through you.

Thank you to all the people of our congregation and all the ministers and staff for all that you have done for our family. We will miss Grand Rapids and Community Presbyterian Church. Continue to be the great church you have always been. Nancy, Robert, Laurens and I will always be a part of our church’s life.

I will leave you with the words of Jesus, through Matthew 28:19-20 called “The Great Commission.” “Go therefor and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you: and lo I am with you always to the close of the age.”

Yours in Christ, Tom Horn, Elder

While traveling though the country on the way back to Grand Rapids, I glanced at a billboard and the message caught my attention: “You’re never alone with a Cellular Phone”. I thought to myself: “What’s wrong with being alone?” That is my time to contemplate the issues of the world, the church, myself, and carry on a monologue with God. Whether I am going from Church here at Grand Rapids, MN to home at Towanda, IL. or daily from the Cabin at Deer Lake to Grand Rapids. The auto is that alone place as I travel. Why would I want to have that time disrupted, that time I prize dearly. I am sure some of you will say that you have little time to yourself, others will respond just the opposite.

The opposite is just as true in that God created each of us with a need to be in covenant or relationship with others. I personally enjoy those times as well. God also created each of us as individuals with our likes and dislikes, our good points as well as those that irritate others, our strengths and talents as well as weaknesses and failures. The Apostle Paul helps us when we become irritated with others by asking us to keep our focus on Jesus Christ, to move beyond our feelings and strive to be children of God. Paul urges us to “press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call to God in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:14

In this season of Lent, take the opportunity to examine your relationship with your Lord, with others and with yourself. There will be many opportunities during this time of Lent to say “You’re never alone without a Cellular Phone.”

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

KIM JOHNSON

Let us continue to pray for those who have been in the hospital this past month, and for those struggling with illness: Amy Johnson, Jean Westfield, Jennie Bickford, Katherine Becker, and Marlaine Panning. Deb Kee is back in full speed, Jim Cragun is doing wonderfully, and Vi Korol is improving. Let us hold each of them in our prayers.

Deaths: Geraldine “Jim” Corcoran

Births:

Bud and Lou Germs granddaughter, Eden, gave birth to twin boys.

Jim Cragun has a new great-granddaughter.

Karen and Ron Herbig are the proud grandparents of Emerson Terril, their son Terry and daughter -in - law Amy’s new son. He was born on Jan . 24. Also, Terry is in Afghanistan with the Army Reserves from Seattle , Washington for 9mo-1yr. They would appreciate prayers for his safety and of all soldiers not on American soil.

Baptism:

Mathias MacKnight, February 15, 2004.

Anniversaries: Congratulations Couples!

We were informed that Kevin and Betty Jones celebrated their 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary on February 1.

And we heard on the radio that Bill and Mary Schnell celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on February 18.

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## CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

### SOMETHING SPECIAL IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

### TEACHER NEEDED

Do you know what keeps sheep warm in the winter? The March *Something Special Sunday* will be March 7<sup>th</sup>. We have rescheduled the February *Something Special Sunday* which was canceled due to the water problem. The project will be led by Kristen Anderson and she will show you an amazing thing that happens with sheep's wool. We will also have brownies to celebrate you and Sunday School!

The first and second grade Sunday School class needs a teacher for the months of April and May. If you can help out, please contact Diane Meyer or Katie Theis.

### OUR HEIFER OFFERING GOES OVER \$100

We have almost enough for one sheep, supplies and education. We are hoping that as the rest of the banks come in we will get the \$120 it takes for a sheep. Other members of our congregation contribute to Heifer. Last year over \$1500 was donated from our congregation. There are probably other church members who donate directly to Heifer. What a beautiful way to help some one out!

### CLEARWATER CAMPERSHIPS



Clearwater Camp Scholarship applications are due April 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Presbytery of Northern Waters is offering scholarship opportunities. Please pick up your application outside Patty's office and turn it in by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Vacation Bible School dates are June 28 through the 30<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help, please see Diane.

### STARTING IN MARCH

We are asking families with Sunday School aged children to stay together during coffee. If your child goes to enrichment please pick them up from enrichment before heading for coffee yourself. Kim, Gary or Diane will ring the 10:00 bell for everyone to go to classes.

### SENIOR HIGHS SUNDAY CLASS

Senior Highs will meet for Sunday School on the first and third Sundays of March and April. We will continue our exploration of women of faith. March 7<sup>th</sup> we will discuss women of history who have had significant impact on Christianity. March 21<sup>st</sup> we will begin to talk with women of our own time, and possibly in our own congregation, about their faith journeys and how they share the faith and pass it on to others. Bell ringers, we will miss you on the 7<sup>th</sup>, but please join us on the 21<sup>st</sup>!

### Why the change?

This way, children and parents are seen together so they can be identified as a family. Visitors who come to coffee can meet other parents and the Sunday school teachers. Adults will have the opportunity to visit with the children. And, this will help everyone feel more a part of the family. It will be like when you go to grandma's and everyone spends some time together, probably during a meal. This also should eliminate children coming to Sunday school with a hand full of cookies while other children have none.

### ADULT EDUCATION IN MARCH

#### REFORMED SPIRITUALITY

Not long ago, I started again to read Henri Nouwens' book on the "Return of the Prodigal Son." Henri described his own spiritual adventure while looking intensely at Rembrandt's painting of The Return of the Prodigal Son. What Henri described was one way to spirituality in which he would concentrate on one of the characters in the painting. Over the years of ministry I have observed, practiced, studied, as well as heard of several ways to a spiritual connection with God.

Today, in many religious circles, "Spirituality" is the "in" word. I define spirituality as the shape each person gives to their search for intimacy with God in his or her life. Come join with me during the church school hour in a class to search for our individual intimacy with God. The class will be held March 7, 14, April 4, 18, and 25. Organized by Gary.

#### SEABISCUIT

March brings us a chance to watch and discuss the highest selling drama DVD in history, *Seabiscuit*. What is the Gospel message in the movie that should be reflected in the church? This viewing will take place March 21 and 28. Join us in room 102. This short class is being organized by Diane

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC

### WORSHIP THIS MONTH

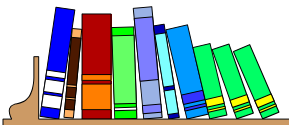
- 07 Communion  
*The Man Who Came First!*  
Mark 10:17-23
- 14 *The Man Who Came and Went!*  
Mark 10:17-23
- 21 *The Man Who Came and Went,  
and Came Again!*  
Luke 5:4-11, 22:331-34, & 54-61
- 28 *The Man Who Came Last!*  
Luke 23:32-43

### MUSICAL NOTES FROM ROY

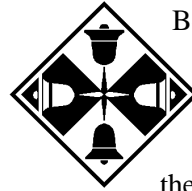
Now is the time when we are in preparation for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday. We probably prepare more music for this season than any other. It is also the most dramatic and powerful music going right to the heart of that which we celebrate as Christians. The more that we can focus on what lead up to the resurrection the deeper the sense of celebration we will experience. The Chancel Choir is working on a composition for Palm Sunday called "A Service of Shadows" by Lani Smith. It is described as a 'choral tenebrae meditation on the passion'. This dramatic setting is designed to draw the listener into the action and events that led to the actual crucifixion, and to relate them to actions and events in our own lives. This service will also tie into the Maunday Thursday service with the dramatic representation of Holy Week events. I hope and pray that we can bring special meaning to this season of remembrance. For Easter we are planning to sing "Hallelujah, Amen" from Handel's oratorio "Judas Maccabaeus". Make plans to be part of these inspirational services!

### LIBRARY NEWS

There is now a copy of *Nickel and Dimed* by Barbara Ehrenreich in your church library. The adult education class used this book as a discussion this past spring/summer. If you did not have the opportunity to read it, now is your chance. Barbara Ehrenreich went undercover into the world of America's poorest working individuals. Through the authors eyewitness experience, *Nickel and Dimed* captures the day-to-day lives of people striving to simply "get by" in America. The author is non-judgmental and does not allow her own thoughts and opinions to taint her actual findings. It is a good book that gets one thinking about economic issues in America.



### HIGH SCHOOL HANDBELL HAPPENING



Both of the Tintinnabulator handbell choirs will be traveling to Northfield on Saturday, March 6, to participate in the annual High School Handbell Happening. This event will take place on the campus of St. Olaf College in Northfield.

The afternoon will be spent rehearsing five pieces with the other high school choirs under the direction of Jill Mahr, the director of the St. Olaf handbell choir.

The evening's concert will include the five massed ringing pieces and a number of selections played by individual high school choirs. The St. Olaf College Handbell Choir will also perform several selections.

This year's festival is extra special since CPC handbell alumni Graham Gerling and Jonathan and Heidi Henriksen are members of the St. Olaf Handbell Choir.

They will give the high schoolers a tour of the campus before heading to the college cafeteria for dinner.

Following the concert, the groups will travel to the Burnsville YMCA for their overnight activities. There will be swimming, volleyball, basketball, videos, pizza....and very little sleep!

We will leave the Twin Cities Sunday morning, arriving in Grand Rapids in time to unload the equipment between services.

Thank you for your financial support of our handbell choirs, which has made events such as the High School Handbell Happening possible for our young ringers.

### SUCCESSFUL SUB SANDWICH SALE

Thanks to all of you who ordered sub sandwiches during the annual fundraiser for the bell choirs. We were able to raise over \$300, which will be used for registration fees for upcoming handbell festivals.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

### NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Spring is on the way - so it is time to begin a New Members Class! Those wishing to officially join the family of Community Presbyterian Church are encouraged to attend our three Spring New Members Classes. The dates for the three sessions are:

Sunday, March 21 at 10AM. (Room to be announced)  
Sunday, March 28 at 10AM.  
Thursday, April 15 at 7PM to meet with the Session.

If you would like to join the New Members Class, or if you know of someone we should extend the invitation to, please call Kim or Patty at the church office, 326-8515, or send us an email at [churchoffice@communitypresbyterianchurch.com](mailto:churchoffice@communitypresbyterianchurch.com).

### EASTER LILIES

For Easter Sunday the sanctuary will be decorated with lilies. **Cost will be \$6.00** and we are limiting the number to 30. Please call the church office (326-8515) by **April 3<sup>rd</sup>**, if you wish to order a Lily in memory or honor of someone.

### ADDENDUM FROM THE TRUSTEES

This year, our Sanctuary building will be over 80 years old and the Office/Christian Education addition is coming up on 45 years. Both facilities have served us well, but they need some help to keep going. The Trustees are in process of obtaining cost estimates for the following priority repair projects:

- Fascia on Sanctuary building must be replaced.
- Siding on the bell tower needs to be secured,
- All stained glass windows need to be inspected, repaired as required and the plexiglass covers and trim secured.
- Replace north wall fiberglass panels and all windows in the Office/Christian Education wing due to deterioration and energy efficiency concerns.
- Install new roofing on Office/Christian Education wing; leaks are increasing.

Plans are also underway to schedule the following projects as time and money permit:

- Repair wall surfaces and paint Sanctuary.
- Touch-up tuck pointing and sheet metal work.
- Update some landscaping.
- Remove stump remnants and resurface the parking lot.

Replacement schedules need to be estimated and established for:

- Sanctuary and Manse boilers.
- Sanctuary, Office/Christian Education and Manse carpeting.
- Kitchen equipment.
- Office/Christian Education wing ceiling tile and lighting.
- Office equipment.
- Sidewalk repairs.

Once projects and costs are better defined, meetings will be required with boards, committees and the congregation to refine our priorities and financial ability to address these issues.

### THE FLOOD OF '04

When Sue Pulkrabek (our custodian) arrived at church very early on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, she discovered that Fellowship Hall and its adjacent rooms were underwater to a depth of at least 5 inches. She alerted Kim and the Trustees. Worship services had to be canceled.

As word spread, Trustees and many other volunteers arrived. The "community" in Community Presbyterian became very evident. Many, many hours of work were contributed. Donations of food, prayers, and words of encouragement were all welcomed.

Your Board of Trustees hereby says a resounding "Thank You! Thank You!" to everyone who worked so diligently to get the mess cleaned up and all programs up and running. It was a tremendous undertaking and all who responded to the emergency are to be commended.

## MISSION

### THISTLEDEW CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM

Thistledeew is a male correctional facility run by the Minnesota Department of Corrections serving young men 13-17 years of age. Young men are incarcerated for a period of up to 90 days and are residents of the State of Minnesota. Thistledeew accepts referrals from all counties in Minnesota and works with adjudicated youth and youth at risk. The average daily population is 35. It is located in Togo and was established in 1955. For the last 5 years Duane Geisler served as a chaplain at Thistledeew. Duane is also a member of Community Presbyterian Church and Director of Youth for Christ.

Duane Geisler was selected to serve in this capacity by his predecessor, Rev. David Gabriel, who served as chaplain for 25 years.

Each week Duane provided a church service for these young men. It is completely voluntary and the residents sign up to attend. The service takes place on Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Over a year's time he had over 125 boys involved during their stay at the camp. Duane states that each week there were an average of 8 young men who were eager to explore the Christian faith

On July 1, 2003, due to cutbacks in the state's budget, the chaplaincy program was cut. Thistledeew's superintendent, Dave Hegg states, "During these uncertain times, it is especially important that we offer spiritual guidance to our residents. Therefore, I am hopeful that somehow we can continue conducting religious services."

The Youth for Christ board of directors encouraged Geisler to enlist support for continuing the program. Duane needs support from the churches of Itasca County and is asking for prayer and financial support. He needs approximately \$350 a month (mostly for transportation) to cover expenses. Several churches in the area have already pledged to support his chaplaincy at Thistledeew as a mission outreach. Your Mission Committee at CPC has enthusiastically agreed to support this important ministry as we are financially able.

Thanks, Duane for doing this important work.

### OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP AT CPC

There are times when people ask what area of the church may be in need of special or extra funding. If you are looking for a creative way to make a small financial contribution to different aspects of the life of CPC, we have just the suggestions for you.

\* Mission Work Teams: Support of this fund would help sponsor work trips, as well as our youth who participate in outside Mission trips.

\* Sunday Morning Cookies: Often times it is necessary or requested to order cookies for Sunday Morning Fellowship through a local bakery. A gift to this fund would help with these costs.

\* Stained Glass Windows: We have some of our stained glass windows that need to be fixed or cleaned. A contribution would help with this endeavor.

\* Special Programs: Support of this fund allows for special events at CPC, such as our *Great Preachers Series*.

\* Library: To keep our library updated with new and recommended material, a gift for books, periodicals, or videos would be a great investment.

\* CPC Advertisement: We often place ads in the local newspaper or on the radio for special services or events.

There are also requests for ways to give of ones time and talents to the life of CPC. There is always great need for volunteers to help with the variety of activities at the church.

\* Wednesday Night Dinners

\* Ushering on Sunday Mornings

\* Helping to put the Chimes together

\* Assisting Sue in setting up Fellowship Hall for events

\* Volunteers to spring clean a room

### ACT NEWS

The Joint Religious Legislative Coalition's Day on the Hill will be held Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup> in St. Paul. This year's Day on the Hill will emphasize the unity and strength of Minnesota's faith communities as we stand up for social justice and oppose the painful cuts in healthcare, child care, and other human services that were made last session. Briefings will be held in the morning followed by visits to legislators and key committee chairs. ACT is sponsoring a caravan of 'faithful citizens' who wish to address these and other key issues with our governor and legislators. Last year over 900 people attended! For more information, contact Kathleen Blake at 327-7248.

DATES TO REMEMBER

March, 2004

07 Lent II  
 14 Lent III  
 21 Lent IV  
 28 Lent V

April, 2004

04 Daylight Savings Time Begins  
 08 7:00 Maundy Thursday  
 09 7:00 Good Friday  
 11 8:00 Breakfast  
 Sunrise Service  
 9:15/11:00 Easter Sunday, No Sunday School  
 18 Sr. Luncheon & Deacon Recognition

**Remember that every fourth Sunday is  
 Food Shelf Sunday**

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

Folding walkers, wheel chairs, crutches and a n electric lift chair are available to members on a loan basis. Some of this equipment is new, donated by Globe Drug, and all of it is in good condition. Keep us in mind and call us - if you need help for a weekend or half a year.

STOCK GIFTS

Community Presbyterian Church has received an increasing number of stock gifts as a way for people to fulfill their annual pledge. This has great advantages for you and your taxes and we are pleased to assist you. You should call and ask for instructions for your broker AND tell us what stock you are transferring to our account. Normally, we will not know the source of stock gifts unless you tell us. We want to make sure we can credit your statements.

FROM THE TREASURER

	January Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Last Year
Total Revenues	\$29,957.15	\$29,957.15	\$29,688.48	\$29,178.94
Total Expenses	<u>\$26,003.40</u>	<u>\$26,003.40</u>	<u>\$29,062.89</u>	<u>\$25,144.69</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenses	<u>\$3,953.75</u>	<u>\$3,953.75</u>	<u>\$625.59</u>	<u>\$4,034.25</u>

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH OFFICERS

Marilynn Hrouda . . . . . Clerk of Session  
 Dick Schneider . . . . . Moderator of Trustees  
 Andrea Tok . . . . . Moderator of Deacons

CHURCH STAFF

Gary Burnett . . . . . Interim Pastor  
 Kim Johnson . . . . . Associate Minister  
 Diane Meyer . . . . . CE & Youth Ministry Coordinator  
 Patty Murray Christensen . . . . . Parish Assistant  
 Darcy Reich . . . . . Director of Music  
 Roy Berg . . . . . Director of Vocal Music  
 Janice Burch . . . . . Informal Worship Leader  
 Niels Henriksen . . . . . Sonshine Director  
 Sue Pulkrabek . . . . . Custodian  
 Phyllis Brown . . . . . Treasurer

MISSION WORK WE SUPPORT

Nancy Roth . . . . . Director of Mentoring Ministry  
 Kazadi Ntambue . . . . . Presbyterian Church, Congo

GETTING IN TOUCH WITH US

Of course, you can easily get in touch with your church by phone or by stopping by - the door is always open to you. But in our new age of communications other options are available:

Fax 326-2407  
 E-mail churchoffice@communitypresbyterianchurch.com  
 Toll Free 888-326-8515  
 Web Page www.communitypresbyterianchurch.com

**Articles for the next *Chimes* are due  
 by the 18<sup>th</sup> of the Month**