



Community
Presbyterian
Church

THE CHIMES

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Dear Friends

At times, the paths of who I want and mean to be and who I am can begin to diverge. For me, church has always been a place where I can be quiet and reflective. It is during this time that I find those paths drawing together again. The myriad of choices tugs at us every weekend. Sleep, chores, work, and family activities out of town pull us in other directions. When I make the right choice to be at CPC, I am always rewarded. I get a little closer to who I really want to be. I and those around me are a little bit better for it.

Mike Hagley, Elder

Community calendar

- May, 2006
- 05 Kid's Ring Handbell Festival (Jr. Jingers)
 - 07 Deacon's Senior Luncheon
 - Music Recognition Sunday
 - 21 8:45 Confirmation
 - Last Day of Sunday School
 - Teacher Recognition Sunday
 - Spring Bell Concert
 - 28 Service Time Change

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From The Pastor

The psalmist wrote in Psalm 27:4, “*One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in the Lord’s temple.*”

It’s not hard to behold the beauty of the Lord when the snow melts, the sun pops out, and the winter clothing gets put away! We crave this time of the year; the opportunity to be out in the sun and not have to worry about slipping on the ice. And indeed, we have been blessed with beautiful weather and I know many prayers of thanks have been sent heavenward. But my fear is that we stop there.

The words of this Psalm speak to me a great deal because the Psalmist admits what is enjoyable, stating, “this is what I ask of the Lord, and this is what I will seek after..” But it doesn’t end there, the Psalmist doesn’t sit back and wait for God to make these things happen. Instead, the author gets busy. The action is on behalf of the Psalmist, to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in the Lord’s temple; these are all things that take effort and commitment on the part of the seeker.

First, God has already promised us a place in God’s house, a place where sin and death will be no more. It’s up to us to make this house begin here on earth.. to believe and trust in the promise and seek after God’s kingdom in our everyday living. Second, God’s beauty is all around us, it’s up to us to see it and recognize it; cherish it and take care of it. And finally, I believe the Psalmist knows that the fellowship of believers, the place of coming together to worship our God, is a place to be renewed, filled, and put back on the straight path of living as God’s people.

So as this beautiful Spring and Summer continue, let us not forgot what and where our actions need to be focused. Let us trust in God’s Kingdom and be active members of it. Let us behold the beauty of the Lord and share its joy with all the world. And let us seek the fellowship and Worship of our God, so as to guide our hearts and minds in the right direction.

Peace and All Good,
Kim

News of the Family

Nursing Homes

Evergreen Terrace: Betty Kauppi, Vivian Erickson, Dorothy Moe
Manor House: Amy Johnson, Beulah Zobel, Dorothy Brace
Grand Village: Clyde Crotteau, Bob Oftelie
Pleasant Seasons: Sylvia White, Edith Mae Carrier
Woodland Home: Marie Zasada

Deaths

The father of JoAnn Bakken, Bill George, passed away on April 3. Let us keep JoAnn and her family in our thoughts and prayers.

Lois Slatton passed away on April 13 and a memorial service was held for her on April 17. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers, as we all remember the promise of Eternal Rest.

Duane Amundson passed away on April 15. A memorial service will be held later this Spring. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Share the Joy

Jerrian Barsness is a Great-Grandma again! Anna Irene was born on April 9 to Jennifer and Mike Procopio. Anna is the Granddaughter of Jeen and Duane Ruff, Great-granddaughter of Jerrian, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jeanne and Jerry Schrunk. Congratulations!

Carol and Roger Morrill are Grandparents again. Glenna and Steven had their third child - Levi Steven Tolrud. He was born April 15.

Deb Kee also became a Grandma again on April 15th. Robin had a boy, Joshua Francis.

Congratulations to EJ Lugo, who graduates in May from San Francisco Theological Seminary with a diploma in the Art of Spiritual Direction! Best Wishes to you!!

Church School News

Confirmation Class of 2006

Wednesday, May 3 at 4pm: Class

Wednesday, May 3 at 5:30pm: Covenant Buddy Dinner

Sunday, May 7 at 10am in room 102: Reading of Statements of Faith to Families and Covenant Buddies

Wednesday, May 17 at 4pm: Class

Sunday, May 21 at 8am: Confirmation Sunday! Meet in the Sanctuary at 8am

Calling all Parents of Sunday School Students

The Christian Education Committee wishes to know your thoughts, opinions, and ideas concerning our Sunday School Program. Please leave us a note in the Church office! We value what you have to say!!

Last Day of Sunday School

Remember, the last day of Sunday School is May 21! But...VBS is just around the corner.

Sunday School Teachers

Be sure to thank a teacher on Teacher Recognition Sunday, May 14! These teachers have volunteered to teach our kids during the 2005-2006 school year. Donated in their honor are Sunday School games and puzzles. These items will be on display between services in Fellowship Hall. It has been a great year of learning and fun for CPC kids and teachers!

Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars now for June 26-29. Vacation Bible School this year will transform CPC into *Treasure Cove*, where we will be going on a treasure hunt to discover the riches of Christ! Registration will start soon - but adult helpers are needed now.

Please call Kim at 326-8515, or Kris Hamling at 328-6570 if you would like to help this year.

Graduating Senior Dinner & Baccalaureate

There is a dinner, program, and Baccalaureate Service in your honor on Wednesday, May 31 starting at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall! Families of Graduates are invited to the dinner and the whole congregation and community is invited to the Service which will begin at 6:45pm in the sanctuary.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to our Graduates!

Allison Anderson, Daughter of Keith & Janet Anderson

Megan Bliss, Daughter & Step-Daughter of Mike & Julie Bliss

Breanna Craven, Daughter of Lori & Roger Bertram, and the late Randy Craven.

Sara Gaalaas, Daughter of Peder & Maren Gaalaas

Elizabeth Gerling, Daughter of Scott & Susan Gerling

Erik Haugen, Son of Steve & Carmen Haugen

Molly Helmbrecht, Daughter of Don & Susan Helmbrecht

Trevor Hicks, Son of Judi Braunworth & Jon Hicks

Mark Johnson, Son of Bill & Kris Johnson

Kevin Kjorlien, Son of Roy Kjorlien & Cathy Cleary

Patrick Lightfoot, Son of Jeff & Laurie Lightfoot

Leah Mornes, Daughter of Carol Mornes

Alexandra Northard, Daughter of Eric & Nancy Northard

Jessica Oleheiser, Daughter of Steve & Tammy Oleheiser

Congratulations and God's Blessings upon each of you!! We will honor these young people in Worship on May 14 at 8:45.

Youth News & Events

High School

Monday, May 15 from 6:45-7:30pm: *Ice Cream Party* in the Fellowship Hall!

Middle School

Wednesday, May 10 at 6:15pm: *The Amazing Race*

Wednesday, May 24 at 6:15pm: *Mission Outreach Project*

"Grow" the Youth Fund---
Volunteer to Help with The-Share-a-Plant Sale

In years past Senior Highers have taken advantage of an incredibly easy and fruitful fundraising opportunity. A few adults are willing to assist this spring in helping you raise some dollars to tuck away for future youth activities like this summer's Sonshine Concert, next summer's Youth Triennium, and a mission trip in your future. Clyde Newton and Bonnie Henriksen will co-chair a plant sale the weekend of May 13-14, with all the proceeds going toward youth events, but they need Senior Highers to help. What that means is, on Saturday, May 13 a group of kids and adults will separate, pot or bag, price and display a variety of perennial plants that other church members have contributed. This usually takes 3-4 hours. On Sunday, May 14th after both services, the kids, with adult help, will sell and help purchasers carry selections to their cars. Four to five kids are needed for both Sat and Sun. Interested young people can help for one day or both. This is a great chance to put some money in the bank for upcoming events. There are very few up-front costs so the income will totally support youth projects. Please call or talk with Bonnie or Kim to sign up to help!

Worship

Worship This Month

Lectionary Readings

07	<i>Acts 4:5-12; Ps. 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18</i>
14	<i>Acts 8:26-40; Ps. 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-221; John 15:1-8</i>
21	<i>Acts 10:44-48; Ps. 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17</i>
28	<i>Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Ps. 1; 1John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19</i>

You're Invited and Encouraged to Come!

The entire congregation and community is invited, and encouraged to attend, our Senior Baccalaureate Worship Service on Wednesday, May 31 at 6:45pm in the CPC sanctuary. Please come to support our Graduates and offer praise to God - this is always a very powerful service of Worship!

Summer Worship Schedule

Starting on May 28th, we will begin our summer schedule for Sunday worship. We will have one service at 10:00 A.M. and we will alternate between formal and informal styles of worship. This single service provides the opportunity to get to know members and friends of the congregation that we may not meet at other times of the year. **Come and worship at 10:00 A.M.**

Choir News

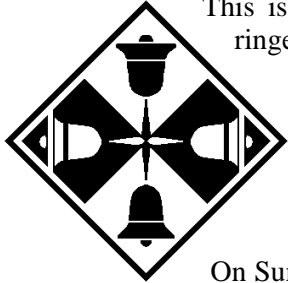
Kids' Ring

The Junior Jingers will travel to the Twin Cities on Friday, May 5, to attend Kids' Ring. They'll spend the night at Faith Lutheran Church in Coon Rapids and then head to Arlington Hills United Methodist Church in Maplewood the following morning for their festival.

They are preparing five pieces to play with the other choirs, will play a solo number by themselves and will participate in a variety of classes.

The ringers will perform in a concert that afternoon. They will be directed by Kevin Shull, the handbell director at Bethel College. A number of our choirs have worked with him in the past.

This is always an enjoyable event for our youngest bell ringers.



A Weekend of Ringing

On Sunday evening, May 21, all four of our CPC handbell choirs will be presenting their annual spring concert at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. The concert will feature a wide variety of music, both sacred and secular. A few surprises are always in store for the audience.

Eight graduating seniors will be honored at this concert. Those people include Allison Anderson, Sara Gaalaas, Liz Gerling, Erik Haugen, Molly Helmbrecht, Mark Johnson, Kevin Kjorlien and Pat Lightfoot.

Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the concert. A freewill offering will be taken, with the proceeds going towards upcoming festival expenses.

We hope to see you there!



Gardener Alert! CPC Share-A-Plant Sale

Again this year our youth will host the shared perennials plant sale. Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 14th. Yes, it's Mother's Day and opening of fishing season, but, more importantly (sorry, Mom) it's the CPC Perennial Plant Sale! You can buy hearty perennials after either service that morning and deliver them to mom right after church!

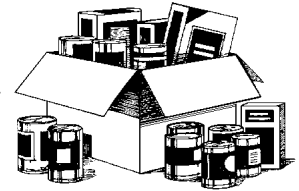
We invite church members to purchase new treasures for their gardens, but we also need gardeners to think of the CPC kids as they are digging and separating their perennials. If you have something spreading or multiplying and are in need of cutting a plant back or eliminating extra bulbs, shovel the extras into a box or divide them into small pots and bring them to the CPC garage the week of May 8-13. On Saturday the 13th our young people will sort and display all of the new starters and mark them for sale on Sunday, May 14th. Remember to mark what you bring with its name. Shoppers definitely like to know what they are buying! If anyone has extra pots or potting soil they would like to contribute to this project, or if you've started seeds and have too much of something coming up, we'll help you share those too. Norane Stejskal has even contributed bags of marigold seeds in the past that grew beautifully in many member gardens. So, if it relates to gardening, think of the CPC youth and help them grow something wonderful! Bring your plants ahead of time....and plan to purchase something from somebody else's garden on May 14th!

We invite garden experts to offer their expertise to this project on Sunday morning too. If you know about plants: what they look like, where they grow best, how rapidly they spread, etc., you could be one of our "garden advisors." Your knowledge and wisdom can be shared around the tables of perennials in the Fellowship Hall. Call Bonnie Henriksen or Clyde Newton to volunteer!!

Mission

Food Shelf Donations Every Sunday

Remember that we receive donations of food and money for the Grand Rapids Food Shelf every Sunday. There is a grocery cart ready to be filled.



Blood Mobile at CPC on May 23rd

You can work miracles by donating blood. It's safe, it's simple, and it saves lives. Our CPC Mission Committee is again sponsoring a Blood Drive on Tuesday, May 23rd from 8 to 5 in the church parking lot. Did you know that area patients need over 350 units of blood every week? The only source of blood for these patients is volunteer blood donors. Donating blood is safe, simple, and relatively painless. So if you are at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, are in good health, consider giving this year. Call Biz Peterson (326-4645) for information. People are counting on you.

Grace House

Thinking about investing your talents and skills to make a difference in the Itasca County community? Volunteers on any project will be richly rewarded by knowing that you are making a difference in the lives of others. Some of our volunteer tasks might feel small and insignificant, but each one is important and makes it possible for us to do our work. You may choose to volunteer once a year, once a month or once a week. The options and possibilities are endless. We are committed to finding the perfect opportunity that best suits your time and talents. For question, please call Jill Schubert, Director at 326-2790.