



THE CHURCH BELL (U.S.P.S. #442-300) is published weekly for \$1 per year by First Presbyterian Church, 200 Church Street, Neenah, WI 54956. Periodicals postage paid at Neenah, WI. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 100, Neenah, WI 54957-0100

# The Church Bell

Volume 68, Number 7  
February 16, 2016

First Presbyterian Church  
200 Church Street, PO Box 100

Neenah, Wisconsin

Chartered in 1848  
920-725-4391

## This Sunday, February 21, 2016

**Second Sunday in Lent ■ Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering Received**

**8:00 a.m. – Worship in the Chapel**

**9:00 a.m. – Adult Christian Education**

**9:00 a.m. – Faith Time**

**10:15 a.m. – Worship in the Nave**

## **Wonderful Wednesday registration is still open!**

Visit [www.firstpresneenah.org](http://www.firstpresneenah.org) for more information and registration forms.

## **2016 Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women**

Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. – *Amos 5:24*

The Presbyterian Women (PW) have a long tradition of caring for others and helping those in need. Through the Birthday Offering countless vulnerable children and women will be gathered into community, cared for, and nurtured using your gifts.

The PCUSA PW's goal for 2016 is \$500,000. These funds will be used to answer the call to show Jesus' love to the world by offering our prayers and financial support to four projects that support the critical need for education and healthy environments in the areas they serve:

- A school for girls by Building Minds in the South Sudan;
- Heartland 180, a core values and life skills program for at-risk youth in Overland Park, KS;
- Habitat for Humanity's repair of homes in the East Bay and Silicon Valley of CA; and
- DART's Closing Off the School-to-prison Pipeline Program in Mid-Kentucky, Scioto Valley, The James, Charleston, and Greater Atlanta Presbyteries.

Special offering envelopes are available in each pew and inside this newsletter – look for the light yellow envelopes! ■

# Upcoming Events .....

## Parents' Night Out

Our next Parents' Night Out event is scheduled for Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Did you notice we scheduled this event to coincide with the Progressive Dinner? We did that just for you! Drop the kids off at 5:00 p.m. and enjoy the evening with fellow members and friends as you gather for a wonderful meal followed by music and dancing. Registration for Parents' Night Out is required. Contact Stephanie Craig ([sbcraig08@gmail.com](mailto:sbcraig08@gmail.com)) by Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please include the number of children along with their ages and any special needs including food allergies when registering. ■

## Motown the Musical Comes to the PAC

Make your reservations now for the Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m. performance of *Motown the Musical*. A jukebox musical, *Motown* is the true American dream story of founder Berry Gordy's journey from featherweight boxer to heavyweight music mogul. Gordy launched the careers of best selling artists Diana Ross, Michael Jackson, Smokey Robinson, and many more. Cost is \$85.00 and includes bus, dinner at Pullmans, and seats on the main floor, or purchase just a show ticket for \$52. Bus pick-up: 1:00 p.m. Highlands at Mahler Park and 1:10 p.m. Island Shores. Reservation and payment are due to either Debbie Griffith or the Church Office (725-4391) by Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Contact Debbie (720-0799) for more information. ■

## Habitat for Humanity WOMEN'S Shed Build

The Women's Outdoor Adventure Group invites YOU to our Habitat for Humanity WOMEN'S Shed Build on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. in the back parking lot of the church. You do not need prior construction experience...just a willing spirit and a grateful heart! If you have a tool belt and/or a hammer, please bring them. If you don't, we'll provide one for you, along with snacks and warm beverages. Participation is limited to the first 12 to sign up, so get your name in today by emailing Cindy Huxtable ([chuxtable@new.rr.com](mailto:chuxtable@new.rr.com))! ■

## E2F (Empty to Full) Project Returns to First Presbyterian!

The November 2015 E2F homemade meal project was such a phenomenal success that we decided to bring it back to First Presbyterian! Pans (along with ingredient lists and recipes) will be available for pickup on Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers will shop, prepare, freeze, and return the meal on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. First Presbyterian has committed to providing Homeless Connections with 90 pans. We look forward to a successful E2F drive and your participation! ■

## Save the Date! Rock the Block Neenah, May 2<sup>nd</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>

Do a full week of mission work and still sleep in your own bed! More details will follow. ■

### Storied Past, Faithful Future

During Lent in 1942, the church remained open 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. every day. There was no service, but there was organ music and time for quiet prayer and spiritual refreshment.

# **Christian Education.....**

## **Adult Christian Education**

Please join us 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the Meeting Room.

### **Feb 21 Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Going to the Source – Part II**

*Presented by: Bill Zierdt, Retired Marian University History and Sociology Professor and Public Speaker*

Part II in this series will take a historic and sociological approach to understanding this region of the world and explore the relevance of Jerusalem to the current groups who inhabit this region and call it “home” - a home promised to them by God.

### **Feb 28 STOP Human Trafficking – Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Training**

*Presented by: Nancy Irizarry, Chair of the WI Anti-Human Trafficking Consortium*

The Wisconsin Anti-Human Trafficking Consortium is a diverse team of service providers, community activists, attorneys, law enforcement agents, and academics working to address the problem of human trafficking in the State of Wisconsin. While human trafficking has spread to the Fox Valley Area (as close as Fond du Lac, Appleton, and Green Bay) it has become harder to find and more difficult to stop. Everyone is urged to attend this educational event to learn what we can do as individuals and as a church to help defend and fight for the protection of vulnerable children and adults. ■

# **Around the Community .....**

## **We Can All Save Lives**

Prevent Suicide Fox Cities, Memorial Presbyterian Church, and the Volunteer Center of East Central, WI are partnering to provide QPR Suicide Prevention Training. QPR is an approach to confronting someone about their possible thoughts of suicide. QPR is not intended to be a form of counseling or treatment but instead a means to offer hope through positive action. A small resource fair consisting of mental health and referral service agencies will be open before and after the training. Community members, social service agencies, and volunteers are encouraged to attend Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:00 a.m to Noon at Memorial Presbyterian Church (803 E. College Ave., Appleton) in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP ([info@volunteercenter.net](mailto:info@volunteercenter.net) or 832-9360) by March 1<sup>st</sup>. ■

# **Member News .....**

## **With Sympathy**

We extend our sympathy to the family of Jim Lenz, who died on February 16, 2016. A memorial service will be held in our Nave on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. Visitation will begin at 9:30 a.m. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall. ■

## **Wedding**

Congratulations to Kathleen Corley and David Schuhart, who were married February 13, 2016. ■



# Progressive Dinner

Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>

5:30 - 10:00PM

Accompany fellow members and friends as we gather together for a progressive dinner. The fun will begin with appetizers and end with everyone gathered in the Fellowship Hall for dessert and "A Night from the 40's" with the Mulatság Swing Ensemble. That's right, we will dance the night away to 40's era swing music!

**5:30PM** Everyone will gather at the home of Bob & Susan Merriam for appetizers.

**6:45PM** Separate into smaller groups, venturing out to various homes for a fabulous dinner.

**8:30PM** Gather back together for dessert and dancing in the Fellowship Hall.

Instructions and host addresses will be provided to attendees via email approximately one week prior to event. Please be sure to provide your email address below.

Attendees will be asked to bring either an appetizer or dessert to share. The Membership Committee is seeking volunteers to host dinner. Dinner will be prepared and delivered on Saturday afternoon. Hosts are asked to provide beverages. Dinner is free for volunteer hosts.

Cost is \$8 per person due at the time of registration. Registration is required to guarantee food and fun for all. Submit registration forms and payment to the Church Office by Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ # of participants: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I have special needs. Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

I would be interested in hosting a dinner.  Yes, I need childcare.

Synod School 2016



**Synod School**, an annual midsummer ministry of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), is for laity, clergy, families, and singles. It's fun and mind-stretching courses, worship and singing you'll long remember, and times for both fellowship and private reflection. Discover Synod School and you'll know why so many people keep returning.

**Choose among 60+ courses.** Examples include Bible studies: *Jonah, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Jude*; body and mind renewal classes: *Yoga, Painting Watercolors, Folk Dancing* and *Ctrl+Alt+Del: Rebooting the Sabbath*; classes for living faithfully in the world: *The Science of Social Justice, White Privilege, The Christian Life*; classes for leader development: *Embracing Conflict, Adaptive Leadership, and Making the Most of Your Time to Teach.*

Convocation speaker **John Bell**, a popular speaker throughout Europe and North America, is a minister of the Church of Scotland and a member of the Iona Community. Evening worship will be led by **Burns Stanfield**, pastor of Fourth Presbyterian Church in Boston, and a group of his friends. Morning worship will be led by **Stephanie Anthony** and **Jody Branson** of First Presbyterian Church in Hudson, WI.

July 24–29, 2016

Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Iowa

*Discover Synod School!*

[www.lakesandprairies.org/SynodSchool](http://www.lakesandprairies.org/SynodSchool)

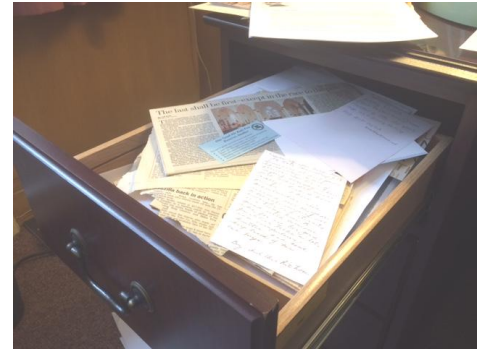
800-328-1880, ext. 207

**Connecting with Jesus  
in an Over-Connected World**



# The Back Page .....

I get a fair number of questions and comments about my top left drawer. So, I thought you'd like to see what it looks like. As is evident, it is comfortably full, but it has never overflowed. That's because when I use something, I pull it out and it goes in a file folder called "Already Used."



What bothers me is that I can't figure out how to use well over half or more of the stuff that's in there. That's probably due to my practice of tossing things in there even if it seems unlikely that I will find a way to share some of them with you. And to be honest, some of the things I've committed to that drawer were dead in the drawer as soon as they got there.

But then, I found a small clipping this morning that I just couldn't resist. Printed on a yellowed piece of newspaper, it is entitled "Today's Joke."

*A burglar breaks into a house one night while the owners are away. He wanders into the den and flashes his light around, when a voice out of the dark says, "Jesus is watching you." The burglar's light falls on a cage in the corner with a parrot in it. He chuckles and says, "And just who are you?" The parrot says, "I'm Moses." The burglar says, "And just who in the world named you Moses?" The parrot answers, "The same person that named that Rottweiler over there in the doorway Jesus."*

Okay, so it's a dreary Tuesday morning and snowflakes are fluttering about outside my window. I figured we could all use a laugh.

From my top left drawer,



**First Presbyterian Church**  
200 Church Street  
Neenah, WI 54956  
(920) 725-4391  
[www.firstpresneenah.org](http://www.firstpresneenah.org)



Website

Stay in touch with the Church!



Online Giving

Pastor: Richard J. Moore  
Associate Pastor: Paul Huxtable  
Director of Christian Education: Gina Struensee  
Director of Music: Steve Sieck  
Organist: Blake Doss

Parish Nurse: Susan Jares  
Finance & HR Coordinator: Laurie Stafford  
Office Administration Coordinator: Cindy Kreis  
Office Assistant: Michelle Weber  
Facilities Maintenance Coordinator: Mick Horswill