

# Crossroads

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Green Bay

August 2011

Where God's Dream is Alive

## VBS a "Smash Hit"

The church sanctuary was the center of the "rock concert" every night during Vacation Bible School. Songs such as "Super Star" and "The Ten Commandment Boogie" each helped teach the kids important lessons in the Bible.

The kids made concert posters, with themselves being the star, groovy t-shirts, and guitar pick necklaces.

Fun was had by all during the games. Drip, Drip Drop, a Splashing Sponge relay, and Balloon Bop but Don't drop.

Even though the adults did not play, the enjoyment from the children was very entertaining.

And of course we opened our Bible's and learned how God made us each unique and our own super stars, His guiding rules for our lives, and that He so loved us, that he gave His life for us.

Yummy food and festive fellowship was present all week. Thanks to all of you who made this year's VBS a wonderful success!

## Inside Crossroads

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## Fellowship Picnic

The fellowship committee is sponsoring a picnic after the 4:15 p.m. softball game on Sunday, **August 7 from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. at Perkins Park.** Brats, hotdogs, and buns will be provided by the committee. Please sign up on the board in the hallway at church or call the church office with the number of people attending and what you will be bringing. Come join us for fun, food, and fellowship!



## A Note from Pastor Randy

We have been blessed this summer by the many visitors who have joined us for worship and who have participated in other ways too in the life of the church. Many of these visitors, but certainly not all, are former members of Preble Park Presbyterian Church. We are thankful for every person whom God calls to share in our fellowship and mission!

I would like to extend an invitation to prospective new members. You are invited to a dinner in the Fellowship Room on Sunday, September 11, at 6:00 p.m. (If this date cannot work for you, check with me about a make-up date.) You will be our guests. After the dinner, I will do a PowerPoint presentation that covers the responsibilities of church membership, a summary of the characteristics of our denomination—the Presbyterian Church (USA), and an overview of the history and mission of our congregation. After the slide-show, you will be given a tour of our facility.

We hope to be able to answer all of your questions as you consider your role among us.

There is absolutely no obligation. You may learn more about us and continue to remain undecided. However, should you decide to become a member here, we will have a form that you can complete and leave with us that evening. There are basically three ways one can join a congregation:



- 1) By profession of faith and baptism (for new Christians)
- 2) By re-affirmation of faith (for Christians who belonged to another church at one time)
- 3) By letter of transfer (for Christians who are currently members elsewhere)

For those who feel ready to make a decision in September, we will designate a special Sunday for the reception of new members. This will likely take place at our 10:00 a.m. worship service on September 25, after a meeting with the Session at 9:00 a.m.

I mention these dates so that you can save them on your calendar. We do ask that you R.S.V.P. the church office if you intend to join us for dinner on September 11.

Let us all be in prayer for those who have been visiting with us and who will consider uniting with us next month!

## Mission Statement

### To fulfill God's plan

To know, love, and **serve** God  
To **welcome**, spiritually **enrich**,  
and love one another.

## Vision Statement

We extend a warm and friendly spiritual environment that encourages and empowers people to **worship and serve God**. We live and *change with contemporary issues* while *maintaining traditional values, ethics, and Presbyterian practices*.

We are guided and sustained by God as we follow a flexible strategic plan that addresses growth, simplifies and prioritizes our objectives, and facilitates a vibrant ministry.

Through our ministry we:

- ◆ **Serve, lead, and live** a lifestyle of Christian discipleship.
- ◆ **Engage** in local, national, and global mission & social concerns.
- ◆ **Offer** Christian education and fellowship opportunities where **all** feel a sense of belonging.
- ◆ **Provide** a sanctuary to rest, be restored, and be nourished during these busy and turbulent times.

We are a **community of faith** where *diversity* is celebrated, individual *spirituality* is strengthened, *cooperation* is the common good, and *understanding* and *love* of one another is paramount.



# Become Part of *Our* Church Family

## Newsletter Deadline!

The deadline is **August 22!** Please submit your articles to Jodie Harmsen -or place them in the newsletter mailbox in the workroom.

Contributors for this issue are Pastor Randy, Linda Cigler, Stephanie Fahringer, Megan Jurens, Leah Mott, Allen Russell, and Dennis Siewert.

## Church Life

Prayer Circle:  
New Concerns:  
Dan Larson



IN NEED  
OF PRAYER

### Special Concerns:

**Bill Burns**, Bellevue Retirement Community; **Ralph Rasmussen**, Angel's Touch Assisted Living in DePere; **Alice Ackerboom**, Bornemann Nursing Home; **Dorothy Shell, Marla Vista**; **Louise Anderson**, Woodside Oaks; **Marie Renier**, Marla Vista; **Catherine Parkinson**, at home; **Peggy Wolfe**, Renaissance; **Eileen Warner**, Rebecca Haven Nursing Home; **Marguerite Schader Hall**, Bellevue Retirement Community and **Virginia Turner**, (Brian Hulse' mother) Columbus, Ohio.

### Ongoing Concerns:

**Pat Piaskowski, Kay Cartier, Tracie Varner, Gina Phillips, Marilyn Merrell, Barb Lasnoski, Bobbie De Laurelle, Dierdre Rasmussen, Karen Walker, Diane Slago and Jim Bouche** (friends of Dorothy Shell) **Olivia Roosa** (granddaughter of Sue and Allan Russell) **Gerald Van Pay** (brother of Gary Van Pay), **Rose Marie Rhoads** (Linda Van Pay's sister-in-law), **Don Kisela's** parents, **Cheri Housel** (Ginny Amen's niece), **Meredith Ingram, Barbara Batal, Heather Lasnoski, Richard Parkinson, Dayle Rosen, Scotty Herman** (Green Beret), (grandson of Elsie Herman), serving in Afghanistan.

## Church Leadership Elders

### Class of 2011

Tammy Escott, Lisa Olson, Kirke Ryder and Phil Mikulsky

### Class of 2012

John Early, Jay Rietz, Dawn Spang, and, Nancy Siewert

### Class of 2013

Brian Hulse, Kay Davis, Brian Kage, and Hollister Jansen

### Clerk of Session:

Tammy Escott

## Deacons

### Class of 2011

Carol Mickelson, Lynne Shober, Susan Rietz, and Connie Early

### Class of 2012

Ann Argall, Russ Christensen, Holly Gehri, and Sue Mikulsky

### Class of 2013

Deb Shober, Abby Jackson, and Amy Wittman

## Staff

### Pastor:

The Reverend Dr. Randy Argall

### Director of Christian Education:

Megan Jurens

### Administrative Assistant:

Leah Mott

### Financial Secretary:

Linda Cigler

### Music Ministries:

Allan Russell (Choir Director)  
Don VerKuilen (Organist)  
Jenny Solper (Pianist)  
Mary Steeno (Children's Choir)

### Custodian:

Mary Belanger

Happy Birthday Eileen Warner!

100 years old

August 22

## Red Cross News-Flash

On June 16th, First Presbyterian hosted it's FIRST blood drive. Wow! What a success!

Loni Mc Cormick headed this event that produced 22 pints of very needed blood. Great job!

During June, others from church also donated blood at the main Red Cross site. Our "Church Folks" one a week club continues to grow. What a blessing.

Remember....keep giving! Every donation helps reach our 52 pints of blood needed to fulfill our goal, and those that are in need of this vital life line. Thank you!

## Thank You!

We greatly appreciate the used greeting cards you gave. These cards were remade into cards for the Crippled Children's Hospital in Minneapolis. Thank you.

-Green Bay Woman's Shrine Auxiliary



## Finance

### Securing the Future of Your Church

When donating to the Charity of your choice, you may enjoy increased tax benefits by making a gift of appreciated property such as stocks, bonds, mutual funds, or real estate. Donating the asset directly to the Charity, you will receive a charitable tax deduction for the full fair market value of the appreciated property, and there will be no capital gains taxes on the gift. The charitable deduction may be taken up to 30% of your adjusted gross income. Any amount over that may be carried forward for future deduction, for up to five years. Contact your Financial Advisor for more information about gifting appreciated property.

**\*\*\*First Presbyterian Church of Green Bay does have an Endowment Charter whose guidelines are administered by the Finance Committee. Brochures as well as other information are available.**

### Highlights from Finance

The Finance Committee did not have a meeting during July. We did communicate by e-mail and received Financial Reports as of June 30, 2011. These reports were prepared by Linda Cigler, Church Financial Secretary. They were reviewed and sent on to the Session for their July 26, 2011 meeting.

On May 9, 2011 a motion was made and passed by the Finance Committee to adopt a cash flow budgeting policy of providing access to \$4,000 monthly for the current Ministry Budget, beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>.



### 2011 - Ministry Budget June 30, 2011 – Status

Budgeted Giving To Date	\$104,902.98
Received Amount	\$ 93,798.20
Special Gifts	\$ 10,000.00
Budgeted Expenses To Date	\$143,179.50
Actual Expenses To Date	\$140,705.19
Other Income Budgeted	\$ 19,025.00
Received to Date	\$ 12,336.69
Endowment Budgeted	\$ 35,686.00
Amount Used To Date	\$ 17,000.00
Bequest income Budgeted	\$ 6,000.00
Amount Used to Date:	\$ 6,000.00

#### 2011 Ministry Budget Expenses

\$286,359.00

#### 2011 Ministry Budget Income

\$270,517.00

#### 2011 Ministry Budget Special Note:

Approved Budget has a deficit of \$15,842.00

#### Special Giving Opportunities

2011 Capital Budget for Special Projects \$10,332.00.

- Carpet Cleaning \$ 132.00
  - Sidewalk Repairs \$ 500.00
  - Landscaping \$ 3,500.00
  - Ski Trip \$ 700.00
- (Funded by Christian Education Endowment)
- Personnel & Administration \$ 8,500.00

### Ministry Cash Flow June, 2011

Beginning Balance	\$3,915.99
Receipts from Offering	\$15,020.56
Perpetual 5% Income	\$7,000.00
Expenses	(\$23,440.58)
Payroll tax and transfer timing differences	(\$1,104.84)
Ending Balance	\$1,391.13



### Eagle Scout

Congratulations to Bryan Ryder upon the completion of the coveted Eagle Scout award from the Boy Scouts of America.

The picture to the left shows Bryan, second from the left, celebrating with his parents, Kirke and Beth, and sister Kaitlyn at his official ceremony which was held here at First Presbyterian Church.

Unless we think of others and do something for them, we miss one of the greatest sources of happiness.

- Ray Lyman Wilber

## Special Interests

### Press Folk

Summer is coming to an end whether we are ready or not. It is now time to start thinking about our 2011-12 season of meetings. Our annual planning program will be **Thursday, August 18**, from **1:00 p.m.** until **3:00 p.m.** The Press Folk group is dedicated to enriching the lives through fellowship, educational programs, laughter, and refreshments.

Please be thinking of ideas that you can offer in support of the coming year. Some of our members have already submitted thoughts for the group to consider. Guests and new members are welcome, so please come and join with us.

I want to thank those of you who were able to support the June blood drive. The American Red Cross was thankful for all of those who came and participated in the drive.

### Men's Bible Study

Due to the cancellation of the Green Bay Men's Conference planed for Saturday, August Sixth, which we were planning to attend, our group will not be meeting this month.

Our meeting in September, due to the holiday, will be the second **Saturday**, the **10th**, at **8:00 a.m.**, in **Banner Hall**. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us.

### Book Donations



During August, Nancy Siewert, the Church Librarian, will be collecting your used books for a Fall book sale. Please limit your donations to four books per person.

### Pantry Needs

The Pantry is currently in need of personal care items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, hairspray, hair gel, bars of soap and deodorant.

Your donations are very much appreciated.



### First Choir Rehearsal

The first choir rehearsal of the fall will be held on Wednesday, **September 7**, at **7:00 p.m.**, in the choir room.

All members, former choir members and all who like to sing are invited and encouraged to attend.



### Organ Update


In a recent essay, Marjorie Thompson (some of you remember her as the author of *Soul Feast*) wrote about the effect of the organ on her spiritual life. *"My earliest musical memory, from age three, was of a beautiful organ piece played in my grandmother's church in Aplington, Iowa... Many years later I would learn the name of that deeply imprinted music: 'Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring.'"* Thompson goes on to say that when her soul is touched by sound, such sound becomes a medium of formation and transformation. She sums it up this way: *"Good music elicits from me a profound conviction of spiritual reality and powerful desire to respond with my whole being to the divine love expressed in such exquisite beauty."*

Be sure to check out the beautiful new organ console in the back of the sanctuary. It is amazing!




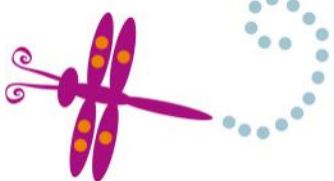
(The quotations come from her essay, "Habits of a Whole Heart," in *A Spiritual Life: Perspectives from Poets, Prophets, and Preachers*, ed. Allan Hugh Cole Jr., Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2011).

If Thompson is correct, then when we fund the organ rebuilding campaign we are also funding the spiritual formation of our congregation! To date, 69 individuals, couples and families have pledged \$122,581 to our spiritual formation.

Thanks to everyone who has pledged. If you have not yet done so, please send your commitment form to the church office today! Let us all pray that we will reach our goal and be spiritually transformed as a result.

Special Interests	August Birthdays!
<p><b>Wisconsin's New Voter ID Law</b></p> <p>On May 25, 2011, Governor Scott Walker signed a bill requiring voters to show an approved photo id in order to vote. However, ID is NOT required to vote in elections until the Spring of 2012.</p> <p>Voters who do not have photo ID for elections in 2011 will be given written information about the requirement in 2012. <b>In no way should any registered voter without id be prohibited from voting in 2011.</b></p> <p>Complaints and concerns: If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process related to the voter ID law or any other matter, you should report this to the Civil Rights Division of the US Department of Justice at 1-800-253-3931.</p> <p>If you are told by an official at any polling place that the ID is required in 2011, you should file a complaint with the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board, phone 1-608-266-8005, or email: <a href="mailto:gab@wi.gov">gab@wi.gov</a> or on-line: <a href="http://gab.wi/node/1282">http://gab.wi/node/1282</a>.</p> <p>(Information provided by the Coalition of WI Aging Groups (CWAG))</p>	<p>Barbara Oliver</p> <p>Anna Hannon</p> <p>Holly Gehri</p> <p>Brian Hulse</p> <p>Ryan Batal</p> <p>Wendy Sellers</p> <p>Samantha Belanger</p> <p>Don Carmichael</p> <p>Dino Bordini</p> <p>McKenzie Stenson</p> <p>Yaa Berko</p> <p>Jordan Doenges</p> <p>Jill Stenson</p> <p>Debbie Stange</p> <p>Ciera Rowell</p> <p>Aaron Thomas</p> <p>Dylen Padgett</p> <p>Kelsey Harmsen</p> <p>Eileen Warner</p> <p>Marilyn Merrell</p> <p>Bill Klass</p> <p>Clarence Mickelson</p> <p>Matt Early</p> <p>Alexa Vanden Langenberg</p> <p>Evan Hansen</p> <p>Elliot Rood</p> <p>Bobbi Schimmel</p> <p>Zachary Wittman</p> <p>Susan Jenson</p> <p>Brian Kage</p> <p>Stacy Bostedt</p> <p>Jake Kabacinski</p>
	
<p><b>Is Poor Balance Bringing you Down?</b></p> <p>If so, we can help! <b>Stepping On</b> is a falls prevention program for seniors age 60+ that have fallen or have a fear of falling. It offers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mutual Support</li> <li>• Information about the many aspects of falls prevention</li> <li>• An introduction to simple exercises designed to improve your balance</li> <li>• Strategies you need to prevent falls</li> </ul> <p>This program is the work of Dr. Lindy Clemson of Sydney, Australia, whose research has found that participants in this falls prevention program have a 31% reduced rate of falls.</p> <p>Local leaders along with medical experts (i.e. physical therapist, pharmacist and vision expert) will offer the workshop. Workshops meet 2 hours per week for 7 weeks.</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Options for Independent Living, Inc. 555 Country Club Road, Green Bay Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., August 16th - September 27, 2011</p> <p>Or <b>Location:</b> A Woman's Place - Room: Education Center 1727 Shawano Avenue, Green Bay Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., September 13 - October 25, 2011</p> <p>Or <b>Location:</b> Ageing &amp; Disability Resource Center of Brown County 300 S. Adams Street, Green Bay Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., September 14 - October 26, 2011</p> <p>Enrollment is limited and pre-registration is required. A \$10.00 fee includes all learning materials. To register contact The Aging &amp; Disability Resource Center of Brown County at (920) 448-4300 during the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday.</p> <p>Reasonable accommodations will be made for disabilities. If you require such an accommodation, please contact the ADRC at least five (5) business days in advance.</p>	

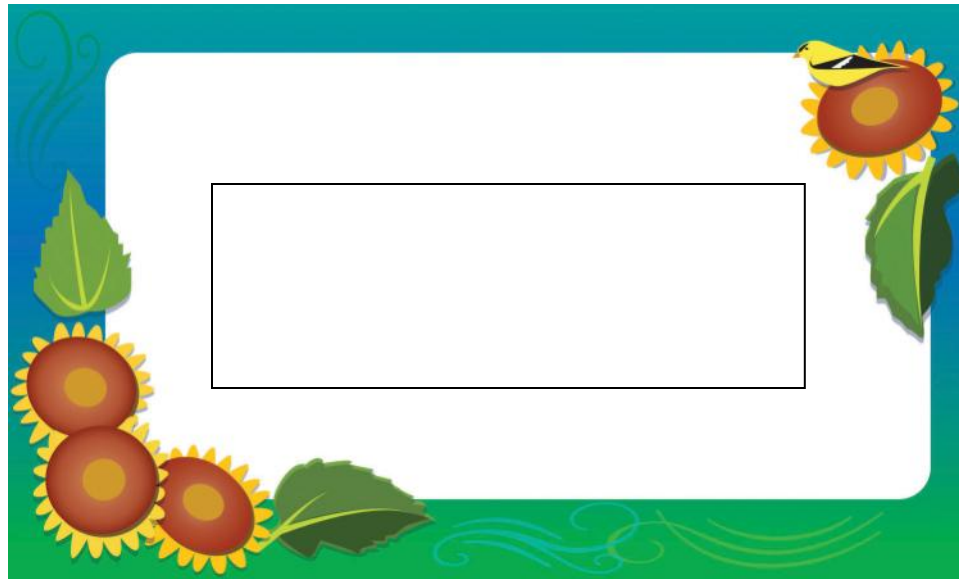
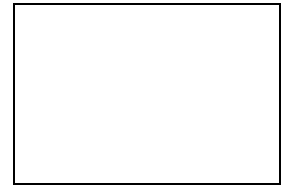


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Buildings and Grounds 6:30 –8:00 pm	2 Personnel and Administration 11:00 am - 12:30 pm  Early Headstart 3:00 - 8:00 pm	3	4 Stephen Ministry 6:00 –7:00 pm Nativity Catholic Church	5	6 No Men's Breakfast and Bible Study
7 <b>Baptism of Nathan Behnke</b> Worship 10:00 am <b>Communion</b>  Communion for the Homebound 1:15 - 4:00 pm  Jansch-Blashka Baby Shower 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.  Softball 4:15 - 5:30 p.m.  Fellowship Softball Picnic 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	8 Finance Committee 6:30 – 8:00 pm  	9 Food Pantry 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  Early Headstart 3:00 - 8:00 pm  Mission and Social Concerns 5:30 pm  Seymour Park Mtg. 5:30 - 6:30 pm  Christian Education 6:30 - 8:00 pm	10	11 Worship Committee 7:00 – 9:00 pm	12  	13
14 Worship 10:00 am  <b>Renewing of Vows Peter and Nancy Blashka</b> <b>1:30 - 2:00 p.m.</b>  Softball 6:45 - 8:00pm	15	16 Brown County Health Department Picnic 11:30 -1:30 p.m.  Early Headstart 3:00 - 8:00 pm  Church Chix at Fox Harbor on the patio 6:00 -8:00 p.m.	17	18 Pres Folk Planning Session 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  Stephen Ministers 6:00 – 7:00 pm Nativity Catholic Church	19	20
21 Worship 10:00 am	22  	23 Food Pantry 10 am - 12:00 pm  Early Headstart 3:00 - 8:00 pm  Session 6:30 - 8:30 pm	24 History & Preservation 9:30-11:00 a.m.  Stewardship 5:15 - 6:15 p.m.	25 Deacons 6:30 - 8:00 pm	26 Early - Gamboa Wedding Rehearsal 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.	27 Early - Gamboa Wedding 2:00 - 2:30 p.m.
28 <b>Baptism of DeAndre Jones</b> Worship 10:00 am  Confirmation Class at Divine Temple 11:15 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	29	30 Early Headstart 3:00 - 8:00 pm	31		 	

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**Visit us Online!**  
[www.firstpresgreenbay.org](http://www.firstpresgreenbay.org)



### Fifth Grade Assignment

Wouldn't this be great if it was taught in every school? A fifth grade teacher in a Christian school asked her class to look at TV commercials and see if they could use them in 20 ways to communicate ideas about God. Here are some of the results.

God is like -  
BAYER ASPIRIN  
He works miracles.

God is like -  
FORD  
He's got a better idea.

God is like -  
COKE  
He's the real thing.

God is like -  
WAL-MART  
He has everything.

God is like -  
HALLMARK CARDS  
He cared enough to send  
His very best.

God is like -  
TIDE  
He gets the stains out others  
leave behind.

God is like -  
GENERAL ELECTRIC  
He brings good things to life.



God is like -  
ALKA-SELTZER  
Try Him, you'll like Him.

God is like -  
SCOTCH TAPE  
You can't see Him, but you  
know He's there.

God is like -  
ALLSTATE  
You're in good hands with Him.

God is like -  
MAXWELL HOUSE  
Good to the last drop