

Crossroads

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Green Bay

February 2011

Where God's Dream is Alive

Augusta Jeffrey Award

Nominations

During the month of February, the Deacons will be accepting nominations for the Augusta Jeffrey Award for outstanding energy and dedication in service to our congregation. The winner will receive a cash amount to be designated for the project of his/her choice. Nomination forms will be available on the table in the narthex. If you nominated someone last year who did not win, you may re-nominate him/her without filling out a new form. Simply indicate this by leaving a note in the forms return envelope. Nominations will close on **February 27**.



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Souper Bowl of Caring 2011



On Sunday **February 6th**, 140 million Americans will tune in to the Super Bowl football game. There will be parties with abundant food, friendship and fellowship. At the same time, there will be people worrying about staying warm, finding shelter and a warm meal. Please join young people around the country as they demonstrate God's love by loving their neighbors through the Souper Bowl of Caring. It's a simple, yet significant act of caring for others. Donate cans of soup or drop \$1 (or more) in the soup pot as you leave worship on **February 6th**. Our young people are developing hearts for giving that can last a lifetime. Please support their efforts.

Love Conquers All

The love for equals is a human thing – of friend for friend, brother for brother. It is to love what is loving and lovely. The world smiles.

The love for the less fortunate is a beautiful thing – the love for those who suffer, for those who are poor, the sick, the failures, the unlovely. This is compassion, and it touches the heart of the world.

The love for the more fortunate is a rare thing – to love those who succeed where

Neighborly Evangelism

Do you know the people in your neighborhood? This questions reminds me of a Sesame Street song where different people's occupations are brought to the knowledge of little children. Our homes are located in many different neighborhoods in and around the city of Green Bay, and most of us, I hope know at least one of our neighbors.

Our church building, a home away from home for many, is also in a neighborhood. And most of us, I believe do not know anyone in "our" neighborhood here. How can we as neighbors be neighborly if we do not know who lives next door? How can we pray for our neighbors if we do not know what they need our prayers for?

These questions are being visited in the Evangelism Committee. And we pray that these questions and the need to (Continued to page 3)

we fail, to rejoice without envy with those who rejoice, the love of the poor for the rich....The world is always bewildered by its saints.

And then there is the love for the enemy – love for the one who does not love you but mocks, threatens and inflicts pain. The tortured's love for the torturer. This is God's love. It conquers the world.

-Frederick Buechner,
The Magnificent Defeat



A Note from Pastor Randy



February will begin in Hawaii for Ann and me. We will be on vacation from February 1-8. This is our first trip to our country's 50th state. Shortly after we return, I will be having some oral surgery. This will put me out of commission on February 12-13. I would appreciate your prayers.

Two significant events are happening on February 20. First, our Annual Congregational Meeting has been scheduled after morning worship. This will provide an opportunity for you to

hear reports and discuss plans and ideas. A packet of information is being prepared for the meeting that we will distribute on the previous Sunday.

Second, the new confirmation class will have its first meeting on February 20 at 6:30 p.m. Five young people and their parents attended an orientation session last month. There are others who may still be thinking about this or who had to be away at the time of orientation. If this describes you, I ask that you please contact me before February 20. Leading a confirmation class is one of the joys of my ministry. I have another very fine group of young people to work with. You will be hearing more about them in the months ahead.

Peace to you,
Pastor Randy

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.

Church Life

Prayer Circle:

New Concerns:

Gina Phillips, with cancer, and **Marilyn Merrill**, with cancer, **Olivia Roosa**, Granddaughter of Sue and Allen Russell; **Margot Escott**, Tom Escott's sister; **Gerald Van Pay**, brother of Gary Van Pay; and **Lily Gillis'** Great Grandmother.

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; **Blossom Witt**, Woodside Manor III; **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.

Christian Sympathy:

To Bill Burns and family upon the passing of his wife **Evelyn** on January 16.



Ongoing Concerns:

Dennis Siewert, **Barb Lasnoski**, at home, **Rose Marie Rhoads** (Linda Van Pay's sister), **Don Kisela's** parents, **Caroline Olsen** (grandmother of Teri Olsen), **Cheri Housel** (Ginny Amen's niece), **Scott Zernicke**, **Meredith Ingram**, **Barbara Batal**, **Heather Lasnoski**, **Richard Parkinson**, **Dayle Rosen**, **Scotty Herman** (Green Beret), (grandson of Elsie Herman), serving in Afghanistan.

Newsletter Deadline!

The deadline is **February 21!** Please submit your articles to Jodie Harmsen or place them in the newsletter mailbox in the workroom.

Contributors for this issue are, Ann Argall, Dennis Siewert, David Wilson, Pastor Randy, Leah Mott, Megan Jurens, and Linda Cigler. Thank you!

Neighborly Evangelism (from page 1)

know our neighbors are also on the hearts of many of our members.

We know that this may not be a missional call for everyone, but prayers are needed as we start to undergo this special outreach.

Please Pray for:

God's Will for the nation:

Matthew 28:18 – 20;
Revelation 15:2-4

Love for our neighbors:

John 13:33-35; 1 John 4:7-21

Guidance and what God would have us do for the community:

Luke 15:15-24; Acts 2:37-47

Protection and wisdom for those called to be involved in outreach:

Matthew 9:35-38; 10:1-33;
Corinthians 2:6-13

Preparation of the hearts of those who will be touched by the outreach:

Matthew 15:21-28;
1 Corinthians 6:1-13

Green Bay:

Acts 17:16-34; Ephesians 5:1-20

Lost souls that they would recognize their need for God:

Luke 15:1-32; 19:1-10;
John 4:1-30

The Realization of the Power of Prayer

Dear Friends;

Thank you for all the cards and visits that I have received through my illness.

More especially your PRAYERS have helped more than you know. This life altering experience has reinforced my belief in the power of prayer and it is a reminder of the strength of the church family community. I continue to mend and seem to get better with each day.

In Christ,

Dennis Siewert



Missing Pronouns

You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer and even once say I.

You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer and even once say My.

Nor can you pray the Lord's Prayer and not pray for one another,

To ask God for "our" daily bread, you must include your brother.

For others are included... in each and every plea,

From the beginning to the end of it, it does not once say Me.



Church Leadership Elders

Class of 2011

Nancy Siewert, Lisa Olson,
Kirke Ryder and Phil Mikulsky

Class of 2012

John Early, Jay Rietz, Dawn Spang,
and Tammy Escott

Class of 2013

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

Clerk of Session:

Tammy Escott

Deacons

Class of 2011

Carol Mickelson, Lynne Shoher,
And Connie Early

Class of 2012

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

Class of 2013

Susan Rietz, Deb Shoher,
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

Finance

2010 - Ministry Budget Year to Date: January 10, 2011

Budgeted Giving To Date	\$225,117.00
Received Amount	\$196,948.25
Special Gifts	\$ 10,000.00
Budgeted Expenses To Date	\$294,687.00
Actual Expenses To Date	\$280,352.36
Endowment Budgeted	\$ 14,000.00
Amount Used To Date	\$ 27,300.00

Over Budget \$ 13,300.00

Bequest income Budgeted	\$ 12,000.00
Amount Used to Date:	\$ 12,000.00

2010 Ministry Budget Special Note

Approved Budget has a deficit of \$11,241.00

Special Giving Opportunities

2010 Capital Budget for Special Projects \$10,200.00. These projects have been funded through Endowment Funds.

- Computers \$ 2,000.00
- Securing Office \$ 1,500.00
- Yard Equipment \$ 1,200.00
- Carpet Cleaning \$ 1,000.00

Sanctuary Carpet was cleaned at a cost of \$471.96; remainder of carpet was cleaned at a cost of \$760.00

- Sidewalk Repairs \$ 500.00
- Parking Lot Repairs \$ 3,500.00

This project has been completed at a cost of \$3,230.00

Question of the Day?

Following is the first question and answer in the 'Westminster Larger Catechism'.

“What is the chief and highest end of man?”

“Man’s chief and highest end is to glorify God, and fully to enjoy him forever.”

If we hold this answer to be the goal of our lives, then we need to measure all else against that standard. Many may quickly see that our efforts are falling short of the mark. We have so many other goals and important matters to attend to.

Do we even believe that the few things we do offer to the Lord really suffice as our chief end and glorify God?

Let’s be intentional about doing everything to God’s glory!

Ministry Cash Flow December, 2010

Beginning Balance	\$1,700.43
Receipts from Offering	\$23,082.17
Receipts from Perpetual 3%	\$0.00
Revenue from Prior Years	\$3,500.00
Expenses	(\$24,215.35)
Payroll tax and transfer timing differences	(\$939.24)
Ending Balance	\$3,128.01

Family Outreach



Supporting Our Families Together (SOFT)

Tana Koss from the Crisis Center recently emailed good news since JOSHUA’s involvement in getting support for unsheltered families in Brown County and the subsequent development of the SOFT interagency committee. Tana reported, “Between 10/8/2010 and 1/5/2010, the SOFT program has provided 19 families, including 47 children with 1,371 nights of shelter. A vast majority of these families are exiting the program positively, with a more stable form of shelter than before. Specifically, 2 families have moved into their own apartments, 4 families have moved into Freedom House or House of Hope, 6 families have entered the Leaving Homelessness Behind program of Integrated

Community Solutions, 1 family started paying for their own motel bill, 1 family moved back in with supportive extended family, and 5 families are still actively supported by the SOFT Program.”

Thanks for the great information, Tana!!

These agencies also took part in a county sponsored LEAN process at the end of November which reportedly went very well. The bad news is that the SOFT program has not yet gained the financial support that it needs. Robyn Davis of Freedom House had an excellent newspaper editorial on December 30 which upholds the SOFT program and its continued needs.

Our Mission and Social Concerns Committee recently gave \$500 of our “local mission” money toward this community program. We received a thank you from Tana Koss at Family Services that reads:

First Presbyterian Church-

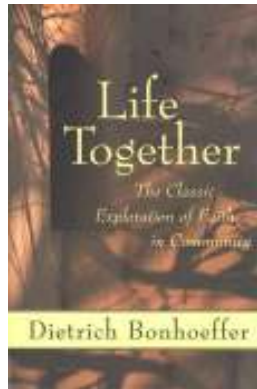
Thank you for supporting our efforts to shelter local families experiencing homelessness!

In partnership,

Tana Koss

Christian Education/Special Interest Groups

Congregational Lenten Study Enrichment



Ash Wednesday is March 9. To prepare for this important time in our lives First Presbyterian is again coming together to study a book that will give us more knowledge into our relationship with Christ.

Pastor Randy along with the Christian Education Committee has chosen 'Life Together' by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. There is a signup sheet posted on the CE bulletin board for anyone interested in this Lenten study.

Mark your calendars for **March 6 and 13** for a film and discussions led by Michael Lukens to kick off the study.

The Enrichment program, designed for 3 to 6 year old children as an extension of Sunday school used to take place during church worship. Sparked by parent interest this program is being considered to commence again.

To determine if there are enough parents willing to commit to leading this program, a signup sheet will be posted on the CE bulletin board. If you are a parent of a child who is eligible for the enrichment program and willing to commit throughout the year, please sign up. Please note, if there are not enough parents to lead, enrichment will not be brought back. A leader must be one that is 18 years or older to follow our child protection measures.

If you have any question please contact **Megan Jurrens**.

Men's Bible Study

In January we finished our study of 'On Who Is God?' written by Mark Driscoll. This study enlarged our understanding of our God and the three fold dimension of the unity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit). We have come to comprehend God's concern for us and our love.

On **February 5**, at **8:00 a.m.** in **Banner Hall**, we will complete a review of our gained perception of God from the study as well as receive an overview of the book; 'Your God is too Small' by J. B. Phillips.

Please plan on joining us.



6-12 Grade Sunday School Gets Coffeehouse Feel

You talked we listened! The 6-12 grade Sunday school will be revamped into a coffeehouse feel format. This is your time to discuss hot topics, questions, and every day issues while trying to live a life rooted by Christian principals.

Bring your ideas, movie clips, music, and questions so that your peers along with adult guidance can share in your excitement and energy of being a young adult.



Coffeehouse is open at **9 a.m.** every Sunday morning.

30 Hour Famine

Another child dies from hunger related causes every 10 seconds. That's 8,000 kids dying every day. Even those lucky enough to survive hunger will feel its effects for a lifetime. Hunger stunts a child's growth. It leaves kids more vulnerable to disease and steals the energy they need for school.

We can't just sit here and let it keep happening. So we won't! On **February 25-26** anyone who is willing can starve for food. This 30 hour famine helps raise funds for World Vision and our pantry right here at First Presbyterian.

Be a part of this special event by participating or donating to this wonderful cause.



Synod School 2011



Join us for a week of ...

Worship for all ages, with spirited music and singing

Daily convocation on the theme

Classes for youth and adults of all ages

Bookstore and global fair-trade gift shop

Sing-a-longs and nightly coffeehouses with live music



July 24-29, 2011

Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Iowa

Discover Synod School!

Go to www.lakesandprairies.org/school.html
or phone 1-800-328-1880, ext. 207.

All My Relatives

Special Interests

Aluminum Can Collection

The Pantry is still collecting aluminum cans. The Pantry received a little over \$800 in 2010.

As an addition to the “Souper Bowl of Caring” let’s all pledge to donate our aluminum cans used on **February 6** to be donated to the pantry. If we all gave one or two cans from our Super Bowl festivities, imagine the extra boost these donations would have for feeding those in need.

Thanks so much for your previous donations. We look forward to seeing all of your cans from the big game!

Thanks again, the Pantry staff.

Pres Folk

Our **February** meeting will be on the **17th**, from **1:00 to 3:00 PM**, in the Fellowship Room.

Our presenters for the meeting will be Mrs. Pat Fasanella and Dennis and Judy Lempereur. They toured the Netherlands and Belgium this past fall with other members of the Botanical Garden club. They will be sharing with us their experiences as they traveled the beautiful countryside.

All are welcome, so bring a friend and come and join us. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the fellowship bulletin board.

February Birthdays!

Alyssa Kage

Abby Jansen

Amy Wittman

Susan Rietz

Nancy Hedge

Kristen Hedge

Linda Higgins

Ethan Houle

Lisa DeLeeuw

Justine Kordus

Christen Kordus

Jennifer Kabacinski

Jody Sperduto

Roberta Bordini

Theodore Leicht

Phil Mikulsky

Kaye Schimmel

Steve Sellers

Lauren Olson

Morgan Siewert

Kayla Jones

Lynaya Spang

Bob Bloeser

Phyllis Dahlin

Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges



“Haiku for the Heart”

Listen to your heart
 For within there is an “ear”
 Attuned to God’s voice.
 - Peggy Ferrell

Anyway

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered;
 Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives;
 Be kind anyway.

If you are honest, people may cheat you;
 Be honest anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, people may be jealous of you;
 Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;
 Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;
 Give the world the best you’ve got anyway.


You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God;

It was never between you and them anyway.

“The Paradoxical Commandments,”
 Kent M. Keith



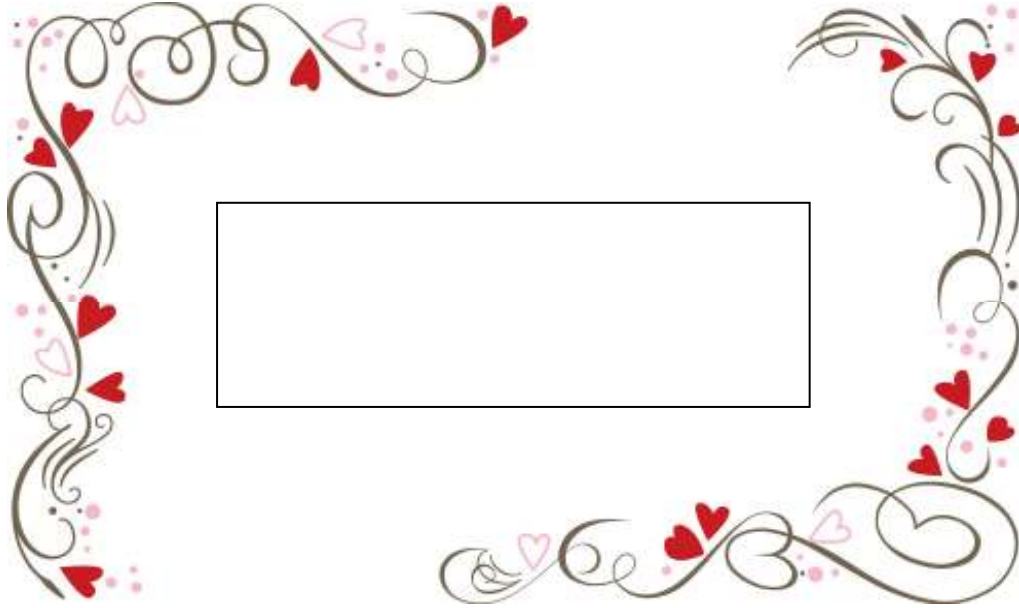
FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Personnel and Administration 9:00 – 12:30 pm The Commoner's 12:15 – 2:00 pm Tatters 12:30 – 3:00 pm Early Headstart 3:00 – 8:00 pm	2 Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 pm	3 Stephen Ministers 6:00 – 7:30 pm Nativity Catholic Church	4	5 Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 8:00 am – 10:00 am
6 Children's Choir Adult Study 8:45 am Sunday School 9:00 –9:45 am Worship 10:00 am Communion Souper Bowl of Caring	7 Buildings and Grounds 6:30 –8:00 pm	8 Food Pantry 10 am – 12:00 pm The Commoner's 12:15 – 2:00 pm Tatters 12:30 – 3:00 pm Early Headstart 3:00 – 8:00 pm Seymour Park Mtg. 5:30 –6:30 pm Christian Education 6:30 – 8:00 pm	9 Mission and Social Concerns 5:30 –7:00 pm Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 pm	10 Esther Circle 1:00 – 3:00 pm Worship Committee 7:00 – 9:00 pm	11	12 Presbytery Meeting at Schofield 9:30 am – 4:00 pm
13 Children's Choir Adult Study 8:45 am Sunday School 9:00 –9:45 am Worship 10:00 am	14 Staff Meeting 11:30 am – 12:30 pm Finance Committee 6:30 – 8:00 pm	15 Voting 6:30 am – 8:00 pm The Commoner's 12:15 – 2:00 pm Tatters 12:30 – 3:00 pm Early Headstart 3:00 – 8:00 pm Church Chix 6:00 – 8:00 pm at Mandarin Garden	16 Stewardship 5:15 pm – 7:00 pm Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 pm Lectionary Study 7:00 –8:00 pm	17 Pres Folk 1:00 – 3:00 pm Stephen Ministers 6:30 – 8:00 pm Nativity Catholic Church	18	19 McNitt Baby Shower 10:30 – 2:30 pm
20 Children's Choir & Adult Study 8:45 am Sunday School 9:00 – 9:45 am Worship 10:00 am Congregational Mtg. Bible Study "Finding Balance" 5:00 –7:00 pm Confirmation Class 6:30 – 8:00 pm	21 Evangelism 5:30 –7:00 pm President's Day 	22 Food Pantry 10 am – 12:00 pm The Commoner's 12:15 – 2:00 pm Tatters 12:30 – 3:00 pm Early Headstart 3:00 – 8:00 pm Session 6:30 – 8:30 pm	23 History and Preservation 9:30 – 11:00 am Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 pm Lectionary Study 7:00 –8:00 pm	24 Deacons 6:30 – 8:00 pm	25 30 Hour Famine	26 30 Hour Famine
27 Children's Choir & Adult Study 8:45 am Sunday School 9:00 – 9:45 am Worship 10:00 am Solper Baptism	28	<p><i>"Love is the strongest force the world possesses, and yet it is the humblest imaginable."</i></p> <p><i>-Mahatma Gandhi</i></p>				

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Visit us Online!
www.firstpresgreenbay.org



A Love Letter

In the New Testament, John writes a letter about God's love and the love we should show to other people.

DIRECTIONS: Working from left to right, write down all the 1's in the word blanks. Continue with the 2's and finally the 3's. Then read about love, from 1 John 4:11-12, NIV.

lives 3	in 3	us 3	Since 1	and 3	God 1	so 1	loved 1	his 3
us 1	love 3	we 1	If 2	also 1	is 3	made 3	we 2	ought 1
to 1	love 2	love 1	one 1	complete 3	one 2	another 1	in 3	us 3
another 2	God 2							

1 John 4:11-12, NIV

Answers: Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.