

# Crossroads

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Green Bay

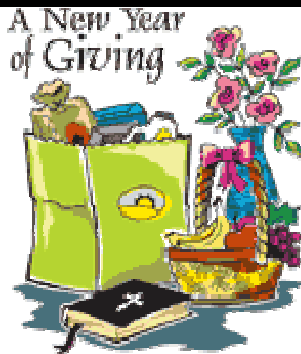
January 2010

Where God's Dream is Alive

## Kick Off Sunday! January 10

After enjoying a couple of weeks off from Sunday school, join us for a second semester competition! The children have been given so much this Christmas season, that we want them to have the opportunity to give back. We will be having each class compete in a food drive. The class who contributes the most food for the pantry on January 10 and January 17 will be rewarded with a special breakfast on January 24 during class.

The pantry is in need of the following items, although none will be refused. Canned fruit (all kinds), whole kernel corn, canned tomatoes, peas, chicken noodle soup, vegetable soup, peanut butter, jelly, cereal (all kinds), tuna, mac



and cheese, jello, pork and beans, spaghetti O's, canned milk, powdered milk, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles, hot dogs, toilet tissue, and any personal care items i.e. soap, toothbrushes and paste, detergent, deodorant etc. are welcome!

So bring your food and your excitement. It's going to be a great time for a great cause.!

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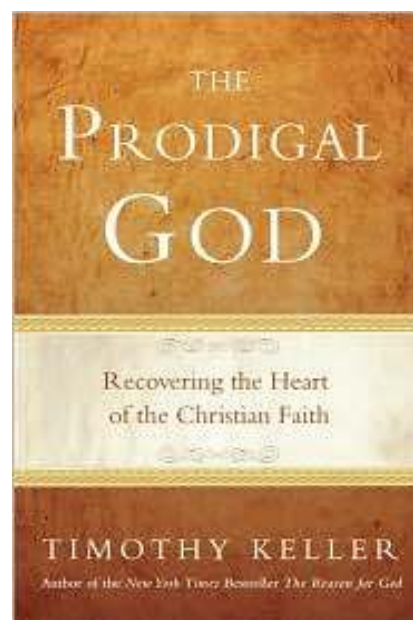
HAPPY New Year HAPPY New Year HAPPY New Year

## Sign Up for this Year's Lenten Study Book

During the month of January, the Christian Education Committee is posting a sign-up sheet on its bulletin board for our 2010 Lenten Study. We need to plan ahead and be prepared because Ash Wednesday is coming early—February 17. This year, Pastor Randy has recommended the book, *The Prodigal God*, by Timothy Keller. The book offers a fascinating study of the Parable of the Prodigal Son. The parable is found only in Luke's Gospel, which is the focus of the lectionary readings in 2010. In fact, the Parable of the Prodigal Son is the Gospel lesson assigned for the fourth Sunday in Lent (March 14). The book will allow the congregation to engage in a sustained and in-depth reflection on

this parable and to experience the spiritual benefits of "living" with a single text for several weeks. Be sure to sign up for your copy.

If we have groups of 24 sign up, we will receive special pricing of \$10.00 a book. Please don't let the cost of the book deter you from this wonderful study. The Christian Education Committee will make sure that all those who desire to learn about God, will have that opportunity.



## A Note from Pastor Randy

Happy New Year! My prayer for each of you is that 2010 will be a year of spiritual growth in your life. None of us knows what the coming year will bring, but we can be confident that God is at work in our lives and in the world. Our task is to discern this work and hear God's call to participate.

I continue to hear God's call to serve as your pastor. Our church hears God's call to share Christ's ministry with our neighborhood, city and world. This may well lead us to some new opportunities for mission in 2010.

I recently had such a new opportunity. For the first time in my life I was asked to preach at an African-American congregation. Rev. Manuelus Reacco, pastor at Faith Tabernacle Outreach Ministries, asked me to be one of several speakers at a 12-hour event at his church. Pastor Manny is originally from Milwaukee and he also invited a few of his colleagues from Milwaukee who are pastors and musicians. One of the pastors was a very good jazz pianist and they were all gifted and dynamic preachers.

I spoke for thirty minutes without any notes on the topic of "God's Dream for the World." The irony of a white man speaking to a black audience using one



of Dr. King's famous metaphors was not lost on me.

I was making the point that the dream of racial equality, justice and peace did not come from Dr. King, but from God. Dr. King saw God's dream. Dr. King lived God's dream. Dr. King shared God's dream. This is what each of us must do. I can think of no better way to commemorate Dr. King's birthday on January 18 than to be a church where God's dream is alive.

If we are such a church, we will have many new and exciting opportunities to serve in 2010.

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.

**"I Have  a DREAM..."**

## Church Life

### Congratulations!

#### Baptized:

Ethan Jansch, son of David and Sarah  
December 20, 2009.

#### Phone Number Correction:

Don and Nina Lundin's phone number is incorrect in the new directories. Their current number is 920-434-9279.

### Thank You:

To Fred and Verna Molzahn for donating the chest freezer to the panty.

To everyone who contributed to the Christmas Prayer baskets. Your gifts helped three families have a memorable and uplifting Christmas!

To Pastor Randy, the Youth and the committee for bringing Ken Medema to First Presbyterian. What an awesome experience!

### Sunday Schedule

Children's Choir 8:45 am

Sunday School 9:00 am

Adult Study 9:00 am

Worship 10:00 am

## Recipe Corner

### Slow Cooker Beef Stroganoff

(Courtesy of www.bettycrocker.com)

- 2 pounds beef stew meat
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 can (10 3/4 ounces) condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1 can (10 3/4 ounces) condensed cream of onion soup
- 1 jar (6 ounces) Green Giant® sliced mushrooms, drained
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, cubed
- 1 container (8 ounces) sour cream
- 6 cups hot cooked noodles or rice
- 1. In 3 1/2- to 4 1/2-quart slow cooker, mix beef, onion, soups, mushrooms and pepper.
- 2. Cover and cook on low heat setting 8 to 10 hours or until beef is very tender.
- 3. Stir cream cheese into beef mixture until melted. Stir sour cream into beef mixture. Serve over noodles.

### Slow Cooker Sweet Potatoes

(Courtesy of www.bettycrocker.com)

- 6 medium (2 pounds) sweet potatoes or yams, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1 1/2 cups applesauce
- 2/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts, toasted
- 1. Place sweet potatoes in 2- to 3 1/2-quart slow cooker. Mix remaining ingredients except nuts; spoon over potatoes.
- 2. 2. Cover and cook on low heat setting 6 to 8 hours or until potatoes are very tender.
- 3. 3. Sprinkle with nuts.

### Mac & Cheese

(courtesy of Family Circle Magazine)

- 1 box (1 pound) penne rigate
- 3/4 pound sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1/2 pound Gruyere cheese, shredded
- 1/2 cup shredded Asiago or Parmesan cheese
- 3 Tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 Cups milk
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1. Heat oven to 350°. Coat a 2-quart broiler safe oval baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to boiling.
- 2. Once the water boils, add penne. Cook 6 minutes, then drain. In a large bowl, toss together the cheddar, Gruyere and Asiago. Set aside.
- 3. Meanwhile, melt butter in medium size saucepan over medium heat. Whisk in flour until smooth and slightly bubbly. In a thin stream, whisk in milk. Stir in onion powder, salt, and cayenne. Bring to a boil over medium high heat. Reduce heat and simmer 3 minutes. Remove from heat, whisk in 2 1/2 cups of the cheese mixture.
- 4. In pasta pot, stir together the cooked penne and the cheese sauce. Pour half into prepared baking dish. Sprinkle with a generous cup of the cheese. Spoon remaining penne into dish and top with remaining cheese.
- 5. Bake at 350° for 20 minutes. Increase oven temperature to broil and cook 3 minutes, until top is lightly browned. Cool slightly before serving.

## Church Leadership Elders

### Class of 2010

Brian Hulse, Jenny Solper, Jean Maes, Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges

### Class of 2011

Nancy Siewert, Lisa Olson, Kirk Ryder, Phil Mikulsky

### Class of 2012

John Early, Jay Rietz, Dawn Spang, Tammy Escott

### Clerk of Session:

Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges

## Deacons

### Class of 2010

Judy Exl, Deb Shoher, Peg Zenko, Susan Rietz

### Class of 2011

Carol Mickelson, Lynne Shoher, Connie Early

### Class of 2012

Ann Argall, Russ Christensen, Holly Gehri, Sue Mikulsky

## Staff

### Pastor:

The Reverend Dr. Randy Argall

### Director of Christian Education:

Megan Jurens

### Deacons Prayer Chain:

Peg Zenko

### Administrative. Assistant:

Leah Mott

### Financial Secretary:

Linda Cigler

### Music Ministries:

Allan Russell (Choir Director)  
Pat Piaskowski (Organist)  
Jenny Solper (Pianist)  
Mary Steeno (Children's Choir)

### Custodian:

Mary Belanger

## Finance

### Committee Meeting Notes

We discussed the Ken Medema Concert at First Church. The Committee agreed the Worship Service and the Concert were a "Spiritual Experience".

The Finance Committee has been coordinating an audit of First Presbyterian Church finance records and balance sheet for 2008. We will be meeting with auditors to ask and answer questions regarding the audit.

The per capita is scheduled to increase \$2 in 2011 to \$29 per member. 58% of the money will stay in the Presbytery, 18% to the Synod and 24% to the General Assembly. The Evangelism Committee continues to update the church membership rolls.

The Ministry Budget Balance Sheet for November 2009 was reviewed. The total Ministry Budget for 2009 is \$326,609. Ministry giving at the end of November

### December 7, 2009

2009 is \$166,236.75, which is short \$20,669.75 of the budgeted amount of \$186,906.50. A special gift of \$10,000 was received this year and \$3,996.79, from previous years expenses not used for pensions, totaling \$13,996.79, has been used for the current Ministry Budget.

Our budgeted expenses are down by \$41,843.79, thanks to the diligence from our staff and committee members. This year, to date (November 30, 2009), we have used \$18,000 of bequeathed funds (\$18,000 budgeted for the year). Balance sheet interest or principal was also budgeted (\$71,859.00) to meet our monthly obligations. To Date, November 30, 2009, we have used \$41,000. Through November this year's Ministry Budget has used a total of \$51,000 of bequeathed funds, balance sheet interest - principal and special gifts.

### The Little Blue Envelope

Yes, the time is here to look in your box of offering envelopes and find the little blue envelope. This envelope is set aside so that you can become a supporting member of the Presbyterian Church at-large. This year the Per Capita gift request amount is \$29.00. Thank you in advance for making this gift as early in the year as possible.

### New Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your new offering envelopes after worship as soon as you can. They are located in the back of the sanctuary on tables in alphabetical order. By picking up your envelopes you help reduce the cost of shipping, which will in turn make your contributions work in a more appropriate way for our church. Thanks for being good stewards!



### Ministry Cash Flow Report

### November 2009

Beginning Balance	\$1,596.14
Receipts from Offering	\$21,516.09
Receipts from Endowment Funds	\$6,000.36
Expenses	(\$26,399.67)
Payroll tax and transfer timing differences	\$1,084.43
Ending Balance	\$3,797.35

### Being Prepared with the Right Tools for Life

A good, versatile pocketknife is an essential item in a well-planned emergency kit. When considering how to safeguard the ones you love, an estate plan is just as essential in your family's life. It can be difficult to take the first steps in a sometimes-confusing process. If this sentiment represents how you feel, we can help.

Whether young, old, rich or just comfortable, you have an estate. It includes your home, business, savings, retirement plans, life insurance proceeds, and those important personal items that have been accumulated as a result of your labor and God's blessings.

Planning for distribution of your estate at death, in harmony with God's plan of stewardship, is one of the most important decisions you will make. Plan it carefully and prayerfully. To do so, you need to be informed about such things as income and estate taxes, probate, when to use a will versus a revocable living trust, charitable trusts, and many other complex issues of estate planning.

Contact your Presbyterian Foundation development officer, Karen Krum at 1-815-837-1305 or visit the website at [www.presbyterianfoundation.org](http://www.presbyterianfoundation.org).

### Stewardship

We have just celebrated the birth of the greatest gift ever given to all generations, Jesus Christ our Savior.

What has the impact of His gift been on your life?

Have you shared of your resources, fellowshiped with other members, attended a Sunday school class/Bible study, volunteered to serve in any number of ways? If you have, you know the joy of serving the Babe of Bethlehem.

Come and Dream with us.

## Christian Education

### Tuesday Bible Study

We are waiting for you to join us! The Tuesday Bible study group meets every Tuesday from 11:00 am until 12:30 pm. Bring your own lunch and be ready for some insightful learning about God and how he reaches all of us through prayer, study and those surrounding us. We look forward to hearing how God touches your life, which in turn will touch ours!

### Men's Bible Study/Breakfast

*Please note* that we will be meeting the *second Saturday* of January due to the holiday. The meeting will be Saturday, January 9, in Banner Hall at 8:00a.m. We are being challenged by the words of James in our current study. This servant of God and the Lord Jesus Christ has much to say about the life we need to live as Christians.

We are using the Fisherman Bible Study Series, 'JAMES, Faith in Action' and we are in study 3 and 4. Come and join us. We wish everyone a Happy New Year.

### Fireproof Bible Study

The next gathering for the couple's Fireproof Study will be held on Saturday, **January 9**, from **5 –7 pm**. As usual, the evening will start with a potluck dinner followed by the study.

### The Evolution of Dreams

When first they come,  
the dreams seem outlandish to consider.  
Then knowledge increases and  
experiments make us think: "Well,  
maybe."  
Then bright minds tap the mind of God,  
work with God's gifts.  
They tinker here, tinker there;  
adding this, removing that.  
And lo! the dream metamorphoses into  
reality.  
Something new under the sun!  
Sing the Doxology.

—Charles Ferrell

Sunday School  
Adult Study  
New Year's Kick Off  
January 10 at 9:00 am



### A Prayer for the New Year

Eternal God, thank you for bringing us once again to the threshold of a new year. Help us dedicate each day of 2010 to following your will for our lives. Guide us, Lord, in all our decisions and actions, day by day and hour by hour. Help us accomplish all that you desire for us to do, until our mission on earth is finished. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### Ken Medema Concert Review



Sunday, December 6, was an amazing day at First Presbyterian Church. Ken Medema performed during the 10:00 am worship service. It was very moving and spiritual as the choir and children's choir joined Ken in singing one of his songs, "All the Way to Bethlehem". Later in the afternoon during his concert it was a remarkable sight to see most of the audience participate in one of his songs where everyone was to greet others by shaking hands, rubbing shoulders, scratching backs and hugging to show that we are "woven together in love". This was the first attempt at a "concert"

at First Presbyterian, and it was a huge success. One of the goals was to bring in guests to visit our church. On average of the 248 tickets that were purchased about half of the audience was a guest! What an awesome way to show off the amazing church family that we have.

A special thank you to many anonymous donors who helped make the concert a success. We were able to provide tickets for members of the New Community Shelter, a wonderful early Christmas present for those who would not be able to attend otherwise.

## Groups / Special Interests

### Pres Folk

Please mark this on your new 2010 year calendar as an important event, and ask a friend to join you.

We all think about keeping New Year's resolutions, but alas, they are soon forgotten. We have invited Jeane Smits of Blaney Funeral home to come and speak to us about one of those most difficult tasks. She will share with us the many ways that Blaney can help in funeral pre-planning, financial matters, dealing with attorneys, answering your questions, etc. Making these preparations will place your mind at ease knowing that everything is arranged and in order.

Nancy Kwaterski will be the hostess for this meeting

We wish everyone a Blessed New Year.

### Ungabunga Tribe — Ski Trip

The annual youth group ski trip is being planned for **January 29th and 30th**. For details contact **Loni Mc Cormick**.

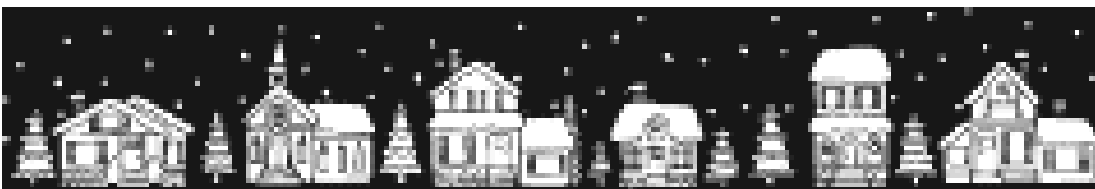
Mark your calendars now!

### Pantry News

The Pantry would like to thank Fred and Verna Molzahn for donating the chest freezer. We will now be able to contribute frozen foods such as pizza and hamburger. What a wonderful gift!

**WANTED:** Used refrigerator. If you have a used refrigerator that is not being used, or would like to donate one, please call the church office at 920-434-8121.

Also, on the front page, please notice the list of food items that are needed by the pantry. The Sunday school classes are having a competition to see who can donate the most items January 10 and 17. Your donations are appreciated to help in anyway you can.



### Cultivating Good Habits

Entering a new year is a good time to inventory our habits — the bad ones as well as the good. Greek philosopher Aristotle once opined on this subject: “Moral excellence comes about as a result of habit. We become just by doing just acts. We become temperate by doing temperate acts. We become brave by doing brave acts.”

Just so, we will become faithful lovers of God by seriously worshiping and faithfully following the Christian way of life. Attending corporate worship, learning more about Christianity, doing good deeds for others and participating in fellowship events are all good habits. They enhance your life and bring joy to people around you.

## January Birthdays!!


Lyn Early  
Payton Spang  
Julia Doenges  
Rick Hearly  
Lori Cooks  
Tom Escott  
Duane Kabacinski  
Arleen Dunn  
Julie Thomas  
McKenna Lowery  
Dayton Wellner  
Barbara Batal  
Alex Bostedt  
Marje Hall  
Nancy Wittman  
Gian Bordini  
Vic Halloran  
Laura Westphal  
Olivia Crooks  
Louise Anderson  
Stephanie Fahringer  
Gabriella Jimenez  
Will Kocha  
Theda Nero  
Iner Osgood  
Gary Fernstrum  
David Wilson  
Aaron Schoffelman  
Mariah Kordus  
Danielle Revord  
Gina Bordini  
Mary Reynolds  
Tom Steeno

### Newsletter Deadline!

The deadline is January 16! Please submit your ideas and of course your articles to Jodie Harmsen via email or place them in the newsletter mailbox in the office workroom.

# January

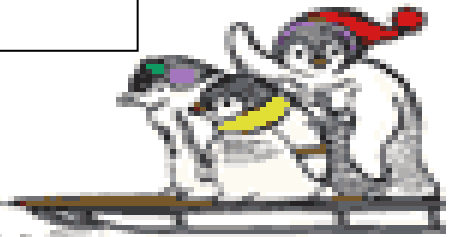
2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
<p>3 NO Children's Choir NO Sunday School</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am Communion</p> <p>Communion for the Homebound 1:15 - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>4 Finance Committee 6:30 – 8 pm</p> <p>Buildings &amp; Grounds 6:30 – 8 pm</p>	<p>5 Tuesday Adult Study 11:00 –12:30 pm</p> <p>Tatters 12:30 – 3:00 pm</p>	<p>6 Chancel Choir 7: 00 – 8:00 pm</p> <p>Youth Group 6:15 –7:45 pm</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Stephen Ministers 6:30 – 8:00 pm Nativity Catholic Church</p>	8	<p>9 Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 8:00 am</p> <p>Fireproof Study/ Potluck 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm</p>
<p>10 Kick Off Sunday Children's Choir 8:45 am Sunday School/Adult Study 9:00 am New Member Class 9:00 –9 :45 am Worship 10:00am</p>	<p>11 Mission and Social Concerns 5:00 – 7:00 pm</p>	<p>12 Personnel &amp; Admin. 10:00 - 11:00 am Food Pantry 10 am – 12 pm Tuesday Adult Study 11:00 –12:30 pm Tatters 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm Christian Education 6:30 – 8 pm</p>	<p>13 Stewardship 5:15 –7:00 pm</p> <p>Youth Group 6:15 pm – 7:45 pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir 7: 00 – 8:00 pm</p>	<p>14 Esther Circle 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Worship Committee Quarterly Meeting 7:00 – 9:00 pm</p>	15	16
<p>17 Children's Choir 8:45 am Sunday School/Adult Study 9:00 am New Member Class 9:00 –9 :45 am Worship 10:00 am</p>	<p>18 Evangelism Committee 5:30 – 7:00 pm</p>	<p>19 Tuesday Adult Study 11:00 –12:30 pm</p> <p>Tatters 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Church Chix 6:00 – 8:00 pm</p>	<p>20 Stewardship 5:15 – 7:00 pm Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir 7: 00 – 8:00 pm</p>	<p>21 Pres Folk 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Stephen Ministers 6:30 – 8:00 pm Nativity Catholic Church</p>	22	23
<p>24 Children's Choir 8:45 am Sunday School/Adult Study 9:00 am New Member Class 9:00 –9 :45 am Worship 10:00 am</p>	25	<p>26 Food Pantry 10 am – 12 pm Tuesday Adult Study 11:00 –12:30 pm</p> <p>Tatters 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Session 6 – 8 pm</p>	<p>27 Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir 7: 00 – 8:00 pm</p>	<p>28 Deacons 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm</p>	29	<p>30 Youth Group Ski Trip</p>
<p>31 Children's Choir 8:45 am Sunday School/Adult Study 9:00 am Receive New Members Worship 10:00 am</p>	<p><b><u>Quote for the Month:</u></b></p> <p>Too many people overvalue what they are not and undervalue what they are.</p> <p>-Malcolm Forbes</p>					



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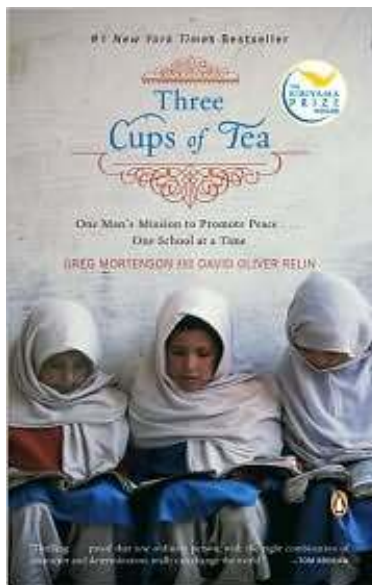


**Visit us Online!**  
[www.firstpresgreenbay.org](http://www.firstpresgreenbay.org)

## Bookmarks

January Book Review: "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortenson  
In 1993 a mountaineer named Greg Mortenson drifted into an impoverished Pakistan village in the Karakoram Mountains after a failed attempt to climb K2. Moved by the inhabitants' kindness, he promised to return and build a school. This book is the story of that promise and its extraordinary outcome. Over the next decade Mortenson built not just one but fifty-five schools – especially for girls – in forbidding terrain that gave birth to the Taliban. This area of the world is often in the news but the stories are usually quite violent and negative. "Three Cups of Tea" will give you an appreciation not only of Greg Mortenson and his determination and commitment but also of the people of Korphe, Pakistan.

And for children..."Listen to the Wind". This book is the same story as "Three Cups of Tea" for adults but has been written for children by the children of Korphe, Pakistan. The Pakistani children illustrated the book themselves and tell the story in their words. It's great! –



## New Librarian

Welcome **Nancy Siewert** as the new Librarian of the First Presbyterian library. Nancy has taken on this new role with great enthusiasm. Her new article, "Bookmarks" will appear monthly in the newsletter to give you book reviews and news about what is happening in our library. Please contact her if you have any questions about books or resources available to all of us in the church library.

