

Crossroads

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Green Bay

March 2010

Where God's Dream is Alive

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New Members

First Presbyterian celebrated on January 31 when it welcomed two new members to it's church family. Both Tracy Varner and Dr. Patricia Sias joined by re-affirmation of faith.

Tracy and Patricia participated in the three week new member class lead by Pastor Randy. Please welcome them!



New Members Tracy Varner and Dr. Patricia Sias.

Sunday Schedule
Children's Choir 8:45 am
Sunday School 9:00 am
Adult Study 9:00 am
Worship 10:00 am

Pantry's Personal Touch

March is personal items month for the Pantry. Shampoo, conditioner, lotion, bar or liquid hand soap, and deodorant are needed. A container will be in the back of the church for your donations. Which Presbyterian church will collect the most? How about ours?



Little Blue

I am just one little envelope in a box of many, often neglected and left unfilled and yet I support so many important groups in our wonderfully connected Presbyterian Church

In 2007, 28% of you gave your share, that figure rose in 2008 to 40% and I was hopeful. Then in 2009 times were tough and some had to draw back and the total came to 32%.

I have a dream that one year I can sing hallelujah to the Lord we have 100%. Amen.

A Note from Pastor Randy

The Season of Lent is not only about prayer and fasting, but “almsgiving” as well. See Matthew 6:1-4. Thus, it is a good time to reflect on our stewardship.

On March 15-17, I plan to be in Indianapolis, Indiana, along with two other members of First Church, to attend the Presbyterian Stewardship Conference. I attended this conference last year in Kansas City, and it proved to be very informative and helpful. In fact, as a result of last’s conference, we started to implement a series of “good practices”:



The pastor shares with the congregation what he/she is pledging and how he/she arrived at that decision. *I shared with you that I am tithing and that this decision was made to foster my own spiritual growth and relationship with God.*

Church leaders turn in their pledge cards before the congregation does, and the pastor announces 100% participation by the leadership. *I was pleased to announce 100% participation by our Session, Stewardship Committee and Finance Committee.*

The pastor reviews all pledges and extends pastoral care and offers prayer for those whose situation might indicate financial hardship. *Please be assured that I keep this information confidential, as with many other personal issues in the lives of members.*

At this year’s stewardship conference, the team from First Church hopes to learn much about 1) creating narrative budgets and 2) sharing information about endowment gifts, policy and expenditures. I am hopeful that we will again be introduced to some “good practices” on these topics that we can then begin to implement in our congregation.

God bless you as you “give alms” this Lenten Season and beyond.

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

Sympathy:

To the family and friends of

Ruth Scovell who passed away on February 4, 2010

Marion Waldron who passed away on February 4, 2010

And **Don Wolfe** who passed away on February 17, 2010.

Address Update:

Eileen Warner

Rebecca Haven

826 Grignon St.

Green Bay, WI 54301

920-437-6523

Newsletter Deadline!

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



Recipe Corner

Black Forest Torte

1 Package Jiffy Chocolate Cake Mix
2 Cups milk
1 8 oz cream cheese, softened
1 instant vanilla pudding
1/2 tsp. almond extract
1 can cherry pie filling
1 9 oz Cool Whip
Chopped Nuts

Bake cake according to package directions in a 9x13 pan (will be thin). Cool. Blend milk, cream cheese, pudding and almond extract; pour over cooled cake. Spoon cherries over pudding layer. Frost with cool whip and sprinkle nuts on top.

This recipe was contributed by Jo Ann Rood by request from Marje Crowl. Marje boasts that it was “delicious and colorful” when Jo Ann shared it at Esther Circle in February.



Oven Irish Stew

3 Tbsp lite soy sauce
3 Tbsp all purpose flour
2 lbs. lean beef or lamb stew meat
4 to 6 carrots peeled and sliced or 2 cups peeled baby carrots
1 large onion, halved and thinly sliced
1 cup thinly slice celery
3/4 cup Irish lager or beer
2 tsp instant beef flavored bouillon or 2 bouillon cubes
1/4 tsp each dried marjoram and thyme leaves, rubbed between fingers to release flavor
1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley
Preheat oven to 325°.

Pineapple Carrot Muffins

1 1/2 Cups all purpose flour
1 1/2 tsp baking soda
3/4 tsp salt
1/2 tsp ground nutmeg
1/4 tsp ground cinnamon
2 large eggs
1 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1 (8.25 oz) can crushed pineapple, drained

1 cup grated carrots
3/4 cup sweetened shredded coconut

Heat oven to 350°. Grease and flour a 12-cup muffin pan, or line with paper liners. In a large bowl combine flour, baking soda, salt, ground nutmeg and cinnamon, make a well in the center. In another bowl beat eggs, sugar, and vegetable oil until well blended. Stir in pineapple, carrots, and coconut. Pour mixture into well. Mix batter until just moistened, do not over mix. Fill prepared muffin tin with batter 3/4 full. Bake for 18-22 minutes or until tests done with toothpick. Cool in pan on wire rack. Makes 12 muffins.

Combine soy sauce and flour in large oven proof casserole dish or Dutch oven. Add beef or lamb; stir to coat. Stir in carrots, onion, celery, beer, bouillon, marjoram, and thyme. Cover. Bake, stirring occasionally and checking for doneness near end of cook time, 2 hours. If broth becomes too thick add more beer, about 1/2 cup at a time. Alternatively, if broth is too thin, remove cover during last half hour. Stir in parsley before stirring.

Makes 4 servings.

(Stove top: cover and cook over low heat, stirring occasionally for 2 hours. Crock pot: cook on high for 4 hours, stirring occasionally.)

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 Shober, Peg Zenko, Susan Rietz

Class of 2011

Carol Mickelson, Lynne Shober, 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

Frequent Asked Questions of Estate Planning

Part I

An estate plan is a very personal document that reflects your goals and determines the distribution of the assets God has entrusted to you.

In the estate planning process, you must make decisions concerning relationships, charitable goals, tax issues, and more. Please refer to the list of frequently asked questions below:

What is probate?

Probate is simply each state's set of rules for governing the administration of your will, or for distributing all your earthly goods in the event that you die without an estate plan. The term "probate" comes from a phrase that means "proving the will," so by that very definition, if a will is used to transfer assets to beneficiaries, those assets will necessarily be subject to the probate process. If you want to avoid probate, then the tool to use as your primary estate distribution document is not a will, but rather a revocable living trust.

What are the important considerations for selecting guardians?

One of the most important things families need to address, regardless of estate size, is the question of who should take responsibility for raising minor children if Mom and Dad die prematurely. Deciding whom to name as guardian for your young children is critical.

We recommend that you select as guardians, first of all, a family who shares your spiritual values and who will raise the children using the same godly principles that have guided you.

It's also important that they be in the same stage of life as you; couples who have already raised their children (including your own parents) may not welcome the challenge of starting afresh.

Another important consideration has to do with the location of the guardians. We recommend that you choose guardians who live nearby, if possible, so your death does not also mean that the children will be uprooted from their

neighborhood, their church, their school friends, etc., and moved to another city or state.

What does an estate design typically look like?

Generally, arrangements would be made, whether using wills or a revocable living trust, to leave the estate to the surviving spouse at the death of the first spouse.

At the death of the surviving spouse, if the children are too young to become responsible stewards of their inheritance immediately, the estate would go into a children's trust to be administered by a trustee you have chosen ahead of time - that can work with the guardian. At some point, the children will be financially mature enough to receive the inheritance on their own without further supervision.

Generally, a children's trust is not divided among the children all at once, because the thinking is that if the parents die early, the children may have missed some important life lessons growing up. Instead, the trust is terminated in stages—perhaps a third going to them when they reach age 25, half the balance a few years later, and the remainder another few years down the road.

For families who want to benefit ministries, the ministries can be included in the plan from the beginning, but the documents are usually structured in such a way that if the parents die while the children are still young enough to need the children's trust, nothing goes to charity at that time; rather, everything remains in the children's trust for the benefit of the children until the division date of the trust. The value of the estate can then be allocated among children and ministries in whatever percentages you choose

To learn more about how to create or update your will, contact your Presbyterian Foundation development officer, Karen Krum at 1-815-837-1305 or visit www.presbyterianfoundation.org. We do hope that you will find this service a blessing to you and your family.

Finance Committee Meeting

February 8, 2010

The Committee continues to monitor all of the financial aspects of First Church.

The Session approved the recommendation of the Mission & Social Concerns Committee, and the Finance Committee, to support local Doctors and Health Care Associates with their surgical and humanitarian mission to Haiti. This gift was \$1,000, funding came from the Peace Offering (\$200) and the mission component of the Feller Bequest (\$800). Jessica Laughrin, of First Church, is a member of that team.

2010 - Ministry Budget Year To Date January 2010 – Status

Budgeted Giving To Date	\$ 18,759.75
Received Amount	16,748.00
Special Gifts	0.00
Budgeted Expenses To Date	\$ 24,557.29
Actual Expenses To Date	21,676.79
Endowment Funds Budgeted	\$14,000.00
Amount Used To Date	0.00
Bequest income Budgeted	\$12,000.00
Amount Used To Date	0.00
2010 Other Income Budgeted	\$ 32,329.00
Amount Received To Date	5,997.42

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

• Computers	2,000
• Securing Office	1,500
• Yard Equipment	1,200
• Carpet Cleaning	1,000
• Sidewalk Repairs	500
• Parking Lot Repairs	3,500



Christian Education

Everyone Welcome at Men's Lenten Bible Study/Breakfast

On Saturday, February 20 we began the church-wide Lenten Study, 'THE PRODIGAL GOD,' written by Timothy Keller. The author, in his introduction says, "Over the years I have often returned to teach and counsel from the parable. I have seen more people encouraged, enlightened, and helped by this passage, when I explained the true meaning of it, then by any other text." If you have yet to start this study, it is not too late, please come and join with us, for the remaining Saturdays in Lent. All are welcome and invite a friend to join you and meet with us in the Fellowship room at 8:00 a.m.

Studying God's word during this sacred season may add a new dimension to your spirituality.

Dates to Look Forward to

March 14th, teacher review breakfast. Sunday school will be a combined group in Banner Hall.

April 4th, Easter Sunday, no Sunday School, an Easter Egg Hunt will be held during that time.

May 1st, Preparation for Communion Class

May 2nd, Communion for the kids who took the class and distribution of 3rd grade Bibles.

May 23rd – last day of Sunday School



Sunday School

Bobbi Schimmel

Last month *Crossroads* introduced Bobbi Schimmel, one of the new leaders of the Youth Group. We just wanted to put a face with the name so that everyone would welcome and thank her for volunteering to lead our young adults.



Fireproof Bible Study

The last discussion of "Fireproofing" your marriage will be on **March 13**, from **5-7 pm**. A pot luck dinner is planned. Last month there was plentiful and intriguing discussion on forgiveness, don't miss out on this great event to strengthen your relationship with your spouse.



In Remembrance

This poem was written in November of 1988 in memory of Lynne Shober's son, Jon; August 12, 1988. She would now like to dedicate it to Marion Waldron who passed away on February 4, 2010.

Dear God
Life is so fragile.
You hold on to us
With a slender thread.
If you choose to pull
That thread toward Yourself
We follow
In humble obedience

Ministry Cash Flow Report

	January 2009
Beginning Balance	\$1,053.12
Receipts from Offering	\$19,545.42
Receipts from Prior Years	\$3,200.00
Expenses	(\$21,676.79)
Payroll tax and transfer timing differences	(\$809.05)
Ending Balance	\$1,312.70

What is Faith?

"Sight is not faith, and hearing is not faith, neither is feeling faith; but believing when we neither see, hear, nor feel is faith; and everywhere the Bible tells us our salvation is to be by faith. Therefore we must believe before we feel, and often against our feelings, if we would honor God by our faith."



Groups / Special Interests

Give History Today!

Your History & Preservation Task Force met Jan 27.. We have been working on **preserving** and identifying people in photo's and information from the past and are now at the point where we need to keep current. We would welcome any photo's you have from activities you would like included! Thank You. Also, anyone willing to join us the morning of the last Wednesday of the month would be welcome! Our committee consists of Marje Crawl, Clarence Mickelson, Jan Osgood & Bobbie De Laruelle

Book Marks

There is a new display of Lenten and Easter books on the yellow cart in the library. Children and adult books are ready to check out. Thank you all for your participation in the book sale. Your donations were generous so we will be able to purchase several new books!



Dr.. Hind Guatam offers comprehensive pain evaluation and management. She practices at Bay Care Medical Centers in Green Bay and Marinette, WI. Dr. Hind will give a presentation at the March meeting of Pres folk.



Pres Folk

We will welcome Dr. Hind Gautam to our Pres Folk meeting on Thursday, **March 18**, in the **Fellowship Room**. The meeting will be from **1:00 p.m. till 3:00 p.m.**, Dr. Gautam is scheduled to speak at 2:00 p.m. Dr. Gautam's presentation will cover pain, pain control, and daily activities to avoid injury along with other pain related issues. This will be a very significant meeting and our speaker will answer any questions you may have relative to pain control. So, come and join us and invite a friend.

Harland & Marilyn Merrell and Marge Crawl will be our hosts for this meeting.

Thank You!

Many thanks to members for cards used by the Green Bay Auxiliary to remake cards for the Crippled Children's Hospital of Minneapolis. These remade greeting cards are sold for 100% profit to the hospital.

Butt –Kicking Women's Conference

Find out what it takes to be a strong, confident, and respectful woman at the first Butt-Kicking Women's Conference, April 30—May 1, Celebration Church in Green Bay. This is not your typical woman's conference and will be unlike anything that you've ever attended before! This life changing weekend will feature nationally renowned speakers Mark Gunger, Nancy Stafford, Debbie Chavez, Connie Caronna, and Wendy Meredith. For more information and registration information please visit www.buttkickingwomen.com .

The Living Last Supper

The Papermaker Players will be presenting "The Living Last Supper" at Kimberly High School. The play provides adults and students a glimpse into the lives that Jesus touched. Learn more about the 12 men who gave up everything to follow Him. The play presented with live music and a chorus of 30 people is considered a snapshot of when Da Vinci created his famous painting.

March 3 is a special performance for student groups who are accompanied by their adult leader and/or teacher. Tickets for this event are only \$4.00. March 4, 5, and 6 performances are at 7:00 pm, and Sunday March 7 at 2:00 pm.

March Birthdays!!

Catherine Parkinson
David Solper
Marilyn
Van Langendon
Mary Ginnebaugh
Melinda Kisela
Brittany Hicks
Harland Merrell
Kaitlyn Ryder
Brett Price
Jean Maes
Tom Halloran
Amy Hearly
Don Kisela
Kay Cartier
Ruth Windmuller
Barb Lasnoski
Loni Mc Cormick
David Young
Bill Burns
Jim Mitchell
Stacy Glass
Lori Jansen
Barry Siewert
Nick Phillips
Jennifer Wavrunek
Kyle Burbey
Jane Dittmer
Roberta Brand
Michael Lasnoski
Jessica Laughrin
Jenny Rowell
Gary De Laruelle
John Clemens
Lisa Olson
Robin Staudenmaier
Kassandra Ford
Julie Johnson
Chuck Spang
Andy Early

MARCH

2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1 Dinner for a Dollar UWGB Ecumenical Center 4:30 –7:00pm</p> <p>Buildings & Grounds 6:30 – 8 pm</p>	<p>2 Tuesday Adult Study 11:00 –12:30 pm</p> <p>Tatters 12:30 – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Personnel & Administration 12:00 –1:00 pm</p>	<p>3 Youth Group 6:15 –7:45 pm</p>	<p>4 Stephen Ministers 6:30 – 8:00 pm Nativity Catholic Church</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 Men's Breakfast & Lenten Bible Study of "The Prodigal God" 8:00 – 10:00 am</p>
<p>7 Children's Choir 8:45 am</p> <p>Sunday School/Adult Study 9:00 am</p> <p>Worship 10:00am Communion</p> <p>Communion for the Homebound 1:15 pm</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:30pm</p>	<p>8 Staff Meeting 11:30 am - 12:30 pm</p> <p>Mission and Social Concerns 5:00 – 7:00 pm</p> <p>Finance Committee 6:30 – 8 pm</p>	<p>9 Food Pantry 10 am – 12 pm</p> <p>Tuesday Adult Study 11:00 –12:30 pm</p> <p>Tatters 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Christian Education 6:30 – 8 pm</p>	<p>10 Youth Group 6:15 pm – 7:45 pm</p>	<p>11 Esther Circle 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Worship Committee 7:00 – 9:00 pm</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 Men's Breakfast & Lenten Bible Study of "The Prodigal God" 8:00 – 10:00 am</p> <p>Fireproof Study/ Potluck 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm</p>
<p>14 Children's Choir 8:45 am</p> <p>Sunday School/Adult Study 9:00 am</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 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 Big Tomato</p>	<p>17 Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir 7: 00 – 8:00 pm</p>	<p>18 Pres Folk 1:00 pm –3:00 pm</p> <p>Stephen Ministers 6:30 – 8:00 pm Nativity Catholic Church</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 Men's Break- fast/Bible Study for Lent -' The Prodigal God'</p>
<p>21 Children's Choir 8:45 am</p> <p>Sunday School/Adult Study 9:00 am</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:30 - 8:00 pm</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 Food Pantry 10 am – 12 pm</p> <p>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>24 History and Preserva- tion Committee 9:30 – 11:00 am</p> <p>Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir 7: 00 – 8:00 pm</p>	<p>25 Deacons 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 Men's Break- fast/Bible Study for Lent -' The Prodigal God'</p> <p>Kabacinski Shower 1:00 4:00 pm</p>
<p>28 Children's Choir 8:45 am</p> <p>Sunday School/Adult Study 9:00 am</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am</p>	<p>29 Evangelism Committee 5:30 –7:00 pm</p>	<p>30 Tuesday Adult Study 11:00 –12:30 pm</p> <p>Tatters 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm</p>	<p>31 Stewardship 5:15 –7:00 pm</p> <p>Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir 7: 00 – 8:00 pm</p>	<p>April 1 Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service 7:00 pm</p>	<p>April 2 Good Friday</p>	<p>April 3</p>



Quote for the Month:

Motivation is a fire from within.
If someone else tries to light that fire under you,
chances are that it will burn very briefly.

- Stephen Covey



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Visit us Online!
www.firstpresgreenbay.org

Kids in Church

3-year-old Reese : 'Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is His name. Amen.'

After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, 'That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you guys.'

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. 'If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.' Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, 'Ryan , you be Jesus !'

One particular four-year-old prayed, 'And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets.'

A Sunday school teacher asked her children as they were on the way to church service, 'And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?' One bright little girl replied, 'Because people are sleeping.'

A father was at the beach with his children when the four-year-old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead in the sand. 'Daddy, what happened to him?' the son asked. 'He died and went to Heaven,' the Dad replied. The boy thought a moment and then said, 'Did God throw him back down?'

A little boy was overheard praying: 'Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am.'

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, 'Would you like to say the blessing?' 'I wouldn't know what to say,' the girl replied. 'Just say what you hear Mommy say,' the wife answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, 'Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner



**Share a Smile—
It's Contagious**