

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Green Bay

September 2009

Where God's Dream is Alive

What's In a Name?

Have you noticed something missing from this issue of the newsletter? Don't be afraid to look up! It's the name of course.

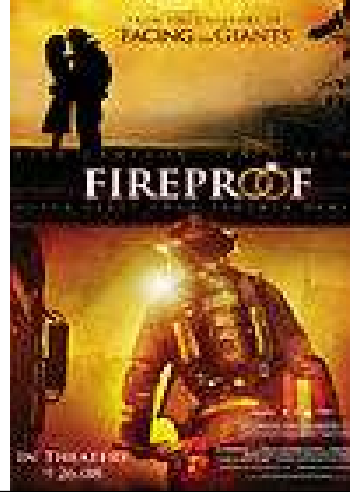
As First Presbyterian goes through some exciting changes, we don't want the newsletter to get left behind. The new name should reflect these changes and the direction that we are going as a congregation.

You may remember Pastor Randy's article in last month's issue describing the wonderful dreams and visions that Lucia Stanfield evoked from session. You may have seen our web site that describes our church as a place "Where God's Dream is Alive".

Now take a look at Pastor Randy's article in this issue. It so eloquently points out that each of us, whether we know it or not, has a mission. Whether it be in the church or outside of the church, we have the opportunity to be a part of God's dream for ourselves and each other.

So bring your ideas, your vision, and your creativity and help us rename Crossroads to reflect these themes that are now being lived out in our church and lives every day!

You can submit your name nominations in the newsletter box in the workroom at church or please email them to Jodie Harmsen, jodie.harmsen@gmail.com.



Sunday Schedule

Children's Choir 8:45 am

Adult Study 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:00 am

Worship 10:00 am

Special Thanks for the Special Music

I wish to thank all of the many members who provided special music for the worship services this summer. Your talent is certainly recognized, and the time and effort you contributed are appreciated.

Please remember that special music is not limited to the summer Sundays. Each of you is invited and encouraged to provide music for services throughout the year. Please contact me at 468-1461 if you are interested in singing or playing an instrument for one of the services this fall.

-Al Russell

Fireproof Your Marriage

There is an exciting new opportunity for you and your spouse to reconnect with each other and God all at the same time. We will be starting an all new bible study group for couples who want to challenge themselves to love better, to love first and to love for a lifetime.

"Fireproof Your Marriage" is based on the movie "Fireproof" and is founded on biblical principles for strong, God-centered marriages. It is only a 6 session study. We will meet on Saturday, September 12th at church from 5 pm-8 pm to share a potluck meal together and view the movie, "Fireproof." There will be childcare provided by some of our youth. We will then meet once a month or twice a month depending on what the group decides. Don't miss this challenging and eye opening study. This study is being facilitated by **Dawn and Chuck Spang**. If you have any questions, please contact Dawn and Chuck. Look for a signup sheet on the CE bulletin board.

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A Note from Pastor Randy

Summer vacations and leisure activities took most of us out into the world. Ann and I enjoyed the quiet and beauty of Lake Noquebay for a week, followed by the hustle and bustle of the University of Iowa as students were moving in (including our son). Getting out into the world enabled us to meet new people; like George, the manager at Pine Beach Cottages, or Tom, the Geology professor at the university. It was an opportunity for us to be “church” to them. I do not think it was happenstance that we met such individuals; I believe we were sent to them.

Now that September has rolled around, we are all preparing to settle into “church life” again. But if the missional church movement is correct, we should bring the summer model of encountering new friends out in the world into the fall church season. To be the church is to be sent by God into the world. Our challenge is to “go and be” as opposed to “come and see.” God’s primary activity is in the world. With the Spirit’s help, we can discern this activity and hear God’s call to participate.

One missional church author describes what he calls “third places” where we need to be the church. The first place is our home, the second place is where



we work, and the third places are informal gathering places. In the summer such places might be beaches or parks or side-walk cafes. But where are they in fall, winter and spring? Third places are coffee shops, malls, fitness centers, hair salons, restaurants — anywhere people hang out. As a church, we are sent to such places to connect with people; to hear their stories and share our own.

Our session, a committed group of spiritual leaders, is discussing what it means for us to be a missional church. In the broadest sense, it means that all of our activities and ministries in this new fall season should be focused around our participation in God’s dream for the world. How exciting! Won’t you join us?



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

Our Sympathy to:

Reverend Rebecca Proefrock - on the death of her mother on August 18.

Congratulations to:

Yaw Berko and Gifty Okyere - on the birth of their daughter on August 13.

Jennifer and Shane Rowell – on the birth of their daughter on August 16.

Updates and Changes:

Charlie Brand is now residing at Marla Vista, 1006 N. Military Rd., Green Bay, WI 54303; in Room 33.

Don and Peg Wolfe’s phone number has changed to 983-5101.



Happy Birthday:

Cup O Joy celebrating 20 years of music that inspires. Come and join us at the Meyer Theatre on Saturday, Sept. 12 at 7:00 p.m. Please see the bulletin board in the hallway for information on how to obtain tickets for this event

Consecration Sunday is Coming

October 25, 2009

-by Kirk Ryder (Stewardship Committee)

As a result of an enthusiastic response to last year's events, the Stewardship Committee and Session is pleased to announce a continuing stewardship emphasis using the **New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program**. This approach uses biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our emphasis on stewardship education.

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

The New Consecration Sunday Program is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. This belief encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During our **October 25, 2009 Consecration Sunday Worship**, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's mission, benevolent, and

educational ministries in our community and around the world. Worship will be followed by a catered Celebration Luncheon in Banner Hall.

Every attendee and member who completes an Estimate of Giving Card does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge even those people who feel strongly opposed to completing a card to attend worship and the luncheon. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete an Estimate of Giving Card. During morning worship our guest leader, Rev. Richard Moore from First Presbyterian Church of Neenah, will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a **confidential** act of worship.

We will encourage participation in the Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday Team, Session members, and the Board of Deacons. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire and commit everyone to attend **Consecration Sunday worship on October 25**.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in our Consecration Sunday events.

Church Leadership Elders

Class of 2010

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

Class of 2011

Don Kisela, Lisa Olson, Kirk Ryder Phil Mikulsky

Class of 2012

John Early, Jay Rietz, Dawn Spang David Young

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, Regina Young

Class of 2012

Ann Argall, Russ Christensen, Holly Gehri, Sue Mikulsky

Staff

Pastor:

The Reverend Dr. Randy Argall
rargall@firstpresgreenbay.org

Director of Christian Education:

Megan Jurrens
ce@firstpresgreenbay.org

Deacons Prayer Chain:

Peg Zenko pegzenko@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:

Leah Mott
office@firstpresgreenbay.org

Financial Secretary:

Linda Cigler
lcigler@firstpresgreenbay.org

Music Ministries:

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

Custodian:

Mary Belanger

Ministry Cash Flow Report

July 2009

Beginning Balance	\$3,349.81
Receipts from Offering	\$14,736.64
Receipts from Endowment Funds	\$6,500.00
Expenses	(\$22,299.68)
Payroll tax and transfer timing differences	(\$994.34)
Ending Balance	\$1,292.43

“Securing The Future of Your Church”

Straight Talk About Wills

If you die without a will or other such document, the state will decide how to disburse your estate. If you have minor children, the state will decide who will raise them. If you want to leave certain assets to specific persons or make charitable gifts to various causes, without a will, the state will follow its own agenda and disregard yours.

Most states have their own written policies for distributing estates. So much will go here and so much there – persons and places you may not want to provide for. The state will assign someone to oversee the probating of your estate. It will all be done “by the book”. No special gifts to the church or other causes you would want to honor. No special gifts to people outside your family. No concern for your thoughts and desires.

In effect, the state says, “You did not create a will while you were living and now it’s too late. We will take over and make our own fair and just decisions.”

Just imagine the difficulties this may cause for your family or friends. Imagine this added expense for an additional

layer of oversight. Imagine people you never knew making decisions about your most personal items.

There are many reasons people never create a will: fear of death; uncertainty about estate distribution; family conflicts; difficulty doing an estate inventory; inconvenience; expense; procrastination; no lawyer; etc. However, the plain fact is, no excuse is justified if it allows you to die without a will.

You don’t need all the answers to get a will started. You can start with what you know and make changes and/or additions as you progress. Better to have something workable in place than nothing at all.

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 our website at

www.presbyterianfoundation.org We do hope that you will find this service a blessing to you and your family.



Finance Committee Meeting

August 3, 2009

The Finance Committee did not meet in July.

First Presbyterian Church has received a bequest from the Russell Leicht Estate. We have received a $\frac{3}{4}$ interest in his property known as the Leicht Cottage located on the Bay in Suamico, Wisconsin. The other $\frac{1}{4}$ interest in the property was gifted to the Bay Lakes Council, Boy Scouts of America. The Finance / Endowment Committee will coordinate the sale of the property on behalf of the Church and the Boy Scouts.

The Ministry Budget lines for 2009 were reviewed. The July 31, 2009 Income Statement and Balance Sheet was reviewed. The Ministry Budget for 2009 is \$326,609. Our ministry offering revenue year to date is \$101,981.50. This is short of the projected amount of \$118,940.50 by \$16,959.00. A special gift of \$10,000 has been received and used for the 2009 Ministry Budget. The total expenses for 2009 are \$27,308.10 under budget. To have a balanced 2009 ministry budget, \$18,000 in bequeathed funds and balance sheet interest and principal of \$71,859 was budgeted. We have used the total \$18,000 of the bequeathed funds and \$20,000 of the balance sheet funds to date. The total used from bequests and balance sheet income and principal to date is \$38,000.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Green Bay, Wisconsin

Procedure for Requesting Endowment Funds

Due to the availability of funds the Finance Committee needs notice when Endowment or Balance Sheet Funds are needed. The following are the approved guidelines for the use of these funds

1. At least three months prior to a group activity, a formal detailed request including all estimated expenses and funding with an amount of Endowment funds should be submitted to the Finance Committee.

2. The Finance Committee will review the document and make their recommendation for the use of Endowment funds to the Session.

3. Session will approve or deny the Endowment funds request. The Finance Committee Session representative will take the decision back to the Finance Committee so funds can or cannot be dispersed.

4. The Finance Committee will notify the persons requesting the funds of the Session’s decision and direct

them to contact the financial treasurer regarding payment details.

5. Follow up with actual expenses and items needing reimbursement.

Please note: The Endowment Committee meets the first Monday of the month and the Session meets the Fourth Tuesday. Please keep this in mind, as a request needs two months to process. In addition, all Ministry teams who might need Endowment funds for projects in the upcoming year should submit a general timeline regarding the events as soon as they are able, (perhaps after their first planning meeting.)

Christian Education

Kick off Sunday – September 13, 2009

Join us for fun filled and insightful learning about God and his love for us! The following is the schedule of events for September 13's kick off to the new year.

8:45 – 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

Pre K – 5th – Children's Choir rehearse in the Sanctuary with Mary Steeno, Amy Wittman and Jill Stenson

Students should report to the sanctuary for choir rehearsal. Afterwards, their teachers will meet their students in the sanctuary to accompany them to their classes.

Parents - please join us at 9:00 am

During Sunday School on September 13, the Christian Education Committee will be holding a breakfast meeting for all the parents of the congregation to discuss the upcoming year of enrichment. We want to make a decision that would best benefit our youth and parents so please join us for fellowship and discussion!

10 a.m. Worship Service

We will be recognizing our teachers and volunteers during our morning worship service with a special litany and prayers. Volunteers are the mainstay in Christian Education at First Presbyterian Church and we want to show our appreciation for all their hard work! Please plan to attend to support our volunteers and welcome our teachers into a new year!

IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!

Each child must have their parents sign a Liability Release Form on or before the start of Sunday School or Youth Group! Doctor and insurance information along with emergency contact information is required. Forms will be provided during the 9:00 a.m. parent breakfast if you forget them at home.

Curriculum/ Weekly Fun Events

We will once again be using the "We Believe" curriculum for our Pre Kindergarten to Fifth Grade classes. This year the PC(USA) revamped their curriculum based on feedback from teachers to create more age-appropriate and stimulating lessons. Our sixth to twelfth grade class will be working from the *Akaloo* series from Augsburg Fortress. *Akaloo*, from the Greek word *akolouthein* or "to follow," calls us to follow Jesus not just on Sunday mornings, but throughout our lives. This four year rotation follows the views from the writers of the four Gospels; Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Can you guess who it is? Check the third floor hallway starting September 20 for this year's Mystery Person! Each student and teacher from Pre Kindergarten to Twelfth grade will have a chance to be the week's Mystery Person! This is a great way for students and teachers to get to know each other! Solomon's Treasure Chest will also be making the rounds this year. Any student who attends two Sundays in a row is able to choose a special prize from the chest!

Please continue to use the undated children's offering envelopes. If you run out during the year, stop by the Christian Education office or ask your Sunday School teacher.

Adult Study

Follow leader Brian Hulse as he and the adults of the congregation dive into *Good Book: The Bizarre, Hilarious, Disturbing, Marvelous, and Inspiring Things I Learned When I Read Every Single Word of the Bible* at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Brian will also be presenting *The Small Group Bible Study Kit* by David Plots throughout the upcoming years.

Confirmation Class

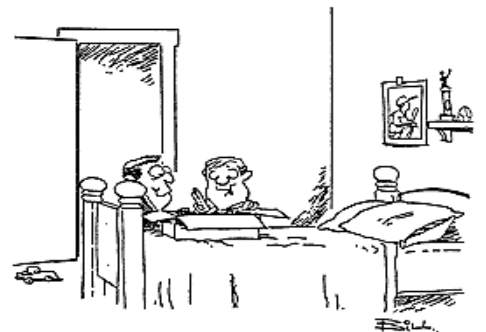
Attention all students entering grades 9 and 10 (and above)—Confirmation Class is for you! You and your parents are invited to an orientation session on Sunday, September 13, at 11:00 a.m. in the room above the Fellowship Room. Come and learn more about our program.

The class will be taught by the pastor and will meet about once every two weeks this fall on Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Participants in the class will also want to save the dates of October 28-31 so that they can attend Presbytery Camp in Rosholt, WI for a concentrated time of fun and study.

Confirmation is a special time for young people to discuss their faith, to bond with one another and with a chosen mentor, and to do service projects in the community. It is a time of self-discovery and spiritual growth that will lead to a public profession of faith and sharing the responsibilities of full church membership.

Tuesday Lunch Bible Study

Tuesday Adult Study starts September 15 with a potluck and planning session from 11:00 am until 12:30 pm. The official start to study will be on September 22.



"Sling shot, squirt pistol, tacks, rubber bands, spit wads, frog....YEP! I'd say we're well-equipped for Sunday school!"

Men's Bible Study and Breakfast

The Men's Bible Study will be the second Saturday of September, the 12th.

We will meet in the Fellowship room at 8:00 a.m.

Please come and join us.

**Groups
Special Interests**



**September
Birthdays!!**

Pres Folk

We will be meeting on Thursday, September 17, at 1:00 p.m., in the Fellowship room.

Have you ever wanted to show others your special collectable or hobby? Now is your chance. At this month's meeting, Cindy Bayless and Harland Merrill are doing just that and would be pleased if you would add your collection, etc. to the presentation. Please give **David Wilson** a call and let him know you wish to join the show.

The Michelson's will be our host's for the meeting.

Pres Folk group is for the members of the church and friends who enjoy coming together in fellowship. On the third Thursday of most months, we meet and take delight in a diverse schedule of activities and programs as the year rolls on.

We look forward each month to joining with our friends and are pleased when new persons come and join our group.

Youth Group

The Ungabunga Tribe Youth Group is set to resume on September 16, at 6:15 pm. All youth grades Sixth to Twelve are encouraged to participate during our Wednesday night meetings. **Loni McCormick** and **Matt Gehri** will be leading us through another exciting year! Some things to look forward to this year include, the 30 Hour Famine sponsored by World Vision, the Christmas Lock-In and gift wrapping, and movie nights.

Esther Circle

This is a women's Bible study group that meets once a month for desert and a study that is led each time by a different member of the group. This is open to all adult women.

Please join us September 10, from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm.

Aluminum Cans for Pantry Funds

Now that summer is almost over and you've had your cold refreshments, don't forget to bring your empty aluminum cans to Church. As of July 12, we have \$450.96 in the Pantry fund from the sale of cans. Keep up the good work. Thanks, The Pantry Workers.

Chancel Choir

A warm invitation is extended to all those who enjoy singing to join the Chancel Choir. No one should hesitate to sing in the choir because they must miss rehearsals or services occasionally. It is understood that perfect attendance is not possible and therefore is not required or expected. Choir participation is strictly a "come whenever possible" invitation and all who like to sing are welcome.

Rehearsals will be held at 7:00 PM on Wednesdays beginning September 9. The choir will again sing a Christmas cantata in December, so we will be practicing Christmas music at each rehearsal this fall.

Remember that singing in church is an act of stewardship, because we are using God's gifts in his service. Red Skelton, the comedian from the 1940's and 1950's once said, "If you have talent, that is God's gift to you. When you use your talent, that is your gift to God." Please consider bringing "your gift" on Wednesday, Sept 9 at 7:00 PM.

Tasty Tidbits

The First Presbyterian cookbook, **Taste & See**, is being enjoyed by all. We have had rave reviews about the Cranberry Chicken, Burrito Bake and Pizza Quesadillas. Lisa Olson says her family is having a great time just cooking their way through Taste & See. As happens with most large projects, things occur that require a little correction or addition. The first ones are listed below. Please continue to watch the Newsletter for updates as we get them.

Heavenly Hamburger on Page 60 also needs 1 cup chopped celery and 1 small can of ripe olives, sliced.

BLT Dip on Page 1 needs 1/2 cup chopped lettuce.

Molasses Ginger Snaps on Page 147 requires 2 cups of white sugar.

Newsletter Deadline!

Articles for the October issue are **due on September 16!** Please submit your ideas and of course your articles to **Jodie Harmsen**, at **jodie.harmsen@gmail.com** or by dropping them off in the newsletter mailbox in the office workroom.

Audrey Rasmussen	1
Addison Kage	2
Nancy Siewert	3
Linda Michael	3
Stephanie Kabacinski	3
Ben Mc Cormick	3
Patty Kabacinski	4
Sara Kisela	5
Marian Turk	7
Connie Early	7
Susan Padgett	7
Grant Fernstrum	7
Mandy Weckop	7
Brooke Roden	9
Sarah Solper	10
Bonita Kuchenbecker	11
Lisa Olgren	11
Tia Padgett	11
Lindsay Solper	12
Michaela Glass	12
Gabrielle Minor	13
David Anderson	14
Kevin Escott	14
Kevin Kabacinski	15
Brad Jurrens	15
A.J. Walker	15
Bryan Ryder	16
Hendrick Akerboom	17
Wes Michael	17
Jim Hanner	17
Benjamin Anderson	17
Matthew Clemens	17
Paul Weckop	17
Jon Tessier	18
Scott Harmsen	18
Jessica Kabacinski	18
Wyatt Stenson	18
Evan Reynolds	20
Lacy Schimmel	23
Brandt Schoffelman	23
Donna Jansen	25
Kristen Rietz	25
Sara Bostedt	25
Jody Minor	26
Stacy Montalvo	28
Thomas Clemens	30

SEPTEMBER

2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Finance Committee 6:30 – 8:00 pm Staff Meeting 11:30 am – 12:30 pm	3 Stephen Ministers 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm Nativity Catholic Church	4	5
6 Worship 10:00 am Communion for Homebound 1:15 pm – 4 pm	7 	8 Food Pantry 10 am – 12 pm Christian Education 6:30 pm – 8 pm	9 Mission and Social Concerns 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm Chancel Choir 7: 00 – 8:00 pm	10 Esther Circle 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Worship Committee 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	11	12 Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 8:00 am Fireproof Movie Night/ Potluck 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm Childcare provided
13 Children's Choir 8:45 am Sunday School Kick Off Parent Meeting 9:00 am Worship 10:00am Communion Congregational Mtg 11 am Confirmation Gathering 11:15 am	14	15 Presbytery Meeting 9:00 am –2:00 pm Tuesday Adult Study 11:00 –12:30 pm Tatters 12:30 pm –3:00 pm Church Chix 6 – 8 pm Tom, Dick, and Harrys	16 Stewardship Meeting 5:15 pm – 7:00 pm Youth Group 6:15 pm – 7:45 pm Chancel Choir 7: 00 – 8:00 pm	17 Pres Folk 1:00 pm –3:00 pm Stephen Ministers 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm Nativity Catholic Church	18	19
20 Children's Choir 8:45 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am	21	22 Food Pantry 10 am – 12 pm Tuesday Adult Study 11:00 –12:30 pm Personnel & Admin. Committee/Staff 11:30 am –12:30 pm Session Meeting 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	23 Youth Group 6:15 pm – 7:45 pm Chancel Choir 7: 00 – 8:00 pm	24 History and Preser- vation Committee 9:30 am –10:30 am Deacons 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	25	26
27 Children's Choir 8:45 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am	28 Evangelism Committee 5:30 pm – 7:00pm	29	30 Youth Group 6:15 pm – 7:45 pm Chancel Choir 7: 00 – 8:00 pm			

Quote of the Month

A true friend knows your weaknesses but shows you your strengths:

feels your fears but fortifies your faith;

sees your anxieties but frees your spirit;

recognizes your disabilities but emphasizes your possibilities.

-William Arthur Ward

Visitor Gift Bags

The Evangelism committee has something new for our first time visitors.

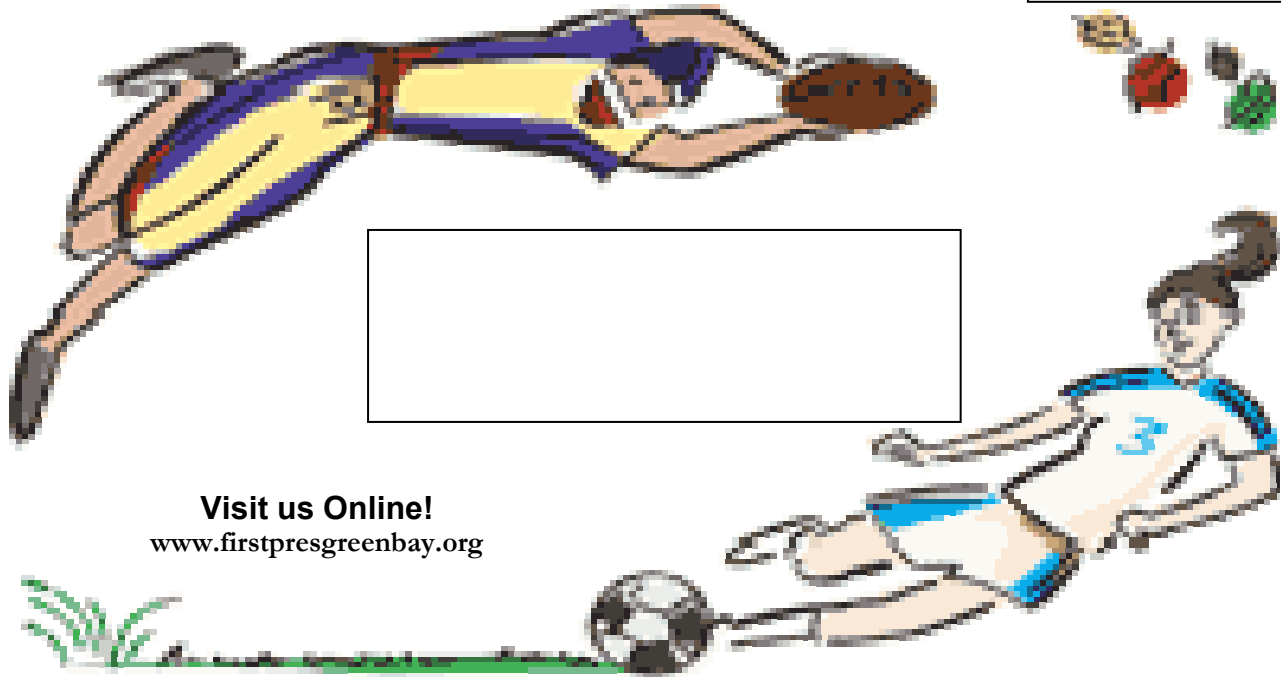
Each new visitor or family will receive a wonderful gift bag full of information regarding our church, and special goodies to let them know how much we appreciate them spending time with us. We hope that these bags will be an incentive to return and learn more about the opportunities of wor-

ship, education, fellowship, and mission associated with First Presbyterian. These bags will be given out after worship each Sunday, so that we can start to introduce ourselves immediately to our guests. The content will largely remain the same, except for the goodies that will change according to the season.

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The Lord's Baseball Game

Freddy and the Lord stood by to observe a baseball game. The Lord's team was playing Satan's team. The Lord's team was at bat, the score was tied zero to zero, and it was the bottom of the 9th inning with two outs.

They continued to watch as a batter stepped up to the plate named 'Love.' Love swung at the first pitch and hit a single, because 'Love never fails.'

The next batter was named Faith, who also got a single because Faith works with Love.

The next batter up was named Godly Wisdom. Satan wound up and threw the first pitch. Godly Wisdom looked it over and let it pass: Ball one. Three more pitches and Godly Wisdom walked because he never swings at what Satan throws.

The bases were now loaded. The Lord then turned to Freddy and told him He was now going to bring in His star player.

Up to the plate stepped Grace. Freddy said, 'He sure doesn't look like much!'

Satan's whole team relaxed when they saw Grace. Thinking he had won the game, Satan wound up and fired his first pitch. To the shock of everyone, Grace hit the ball harder than anyone had ever seen! But Satan was not worried; his center fielder let very few get by.

He went up for the ball, but it went right through his glove, hit him on the head and sent him crashing on the ground. The roaring crowds went wild as the ball continued over the fence . . . for a home run!

The Lord's team won!

The Lord then asked Freddy if he knew why Love, Faith and Godly Wisdom could get on base but couldn't win the game. Freddy answered that he didn't know why.

The Lord explained, 'If your love, faith and wisdom had won the game, you would think you had done it by yourself. Love, Faith and Wisdom will get you on base but only My Grace can get you Home:

'For by Grace are you saved, it is a gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast.' Ephesians 2:8-9

Psalm 84:11, 'For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.'

