

THE FIRST PRES

June 2010

First Presbyterian Church
of Winnebago, IL

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<http://www.thewfpc.org>

“Keeping Your Heart in Tune with Christ”

It's a timeless habit seen again and again in our own generation, this attempt to improve the Gospel. Some people today call it old fashioned. Others want to repackage it in order to make it “more relevant for today”. And, there are some people who want to change it by replacing it with something else altogether.

What about you? Do you wish there was a “new gospel”? A gospel that is easier on the ear? Do you wish there was a gospel more in tune with the sounds of our generation? In composing a “new gospel”, these people who would compose a new version convince themselves that they are right on key. But to a trained ear, the obvious is apparent: this vain rendition is as flat as a pancake!

Author, Maxie Dunham writes in *Jesus' Claims - Our Promises* that when Lloyd C. Douglas, author of *The Robe* and other novels, was a university student, he lived in a boarding house. On the first floor was an elderly, retired music teacher, now infirm and unable to leave the apartment.

Douglas said that every morning they would go through a ritual together. He would come down the steps, open the old man's door and ask, “Well, what's the good news?” The old man would pick up a tuning fork, tap it on the side of his wheelchair, and say, “That's middle C! It was middle C yesterday; it will be middle C tomorrow; it will be middle C a thousand years from now. The tenor upstairs sings flat, the piano across the hall is out of tune, but my friend, that is middle C!”

The old man had discovered one thing upon which he could depend, one constant reality in his life, one “still point in a turning world.”

Like our ancestor's, we live in a world filled with a variety of noises. The seasons may change, and the years may change, but there is still only one “middle C”; only one gospel of Jesus Christ. Make certain that your song is in tune with Him!

Pastor Steve

Session Synopsis

Getting ready for summer is happening all around us. We too are looking ahead and making preparations for summer.

The Session reviewed and approved the April meeting minutes. We listened to the Clerk's Report and affirmed its content, no vote was necessary. The Treasurer's Report was reviewed, a motion was made, seconded, and the report was approved. The Session reviewed, addressed, and made plans to implement the decisions made.

Pastor Steve shared several items of information which were discussed and decisions made on how to proceed.

The "worship in the park" service will take place on July 18, 2010, at 9:30 a.m. at Pecatonica Wetlands. This is the same site as last year. Coffee, juice, and donuts will be available.

Personal expressions of thanksgiving were shared by all for the devotion, planning, and hard work of Betsy Carr, Avis Lind, and others for the landscaping work they have done around the church. The session is making additional plans to have several scrubs removed. This was deemed necessary to address complaints to the Winnebago Police about vandals who have hidden behind these scrubs on several occasions.

The session reviewed, discussed, and is implementing plans to address a number of needs and requests.

The session selected a bid from a contractor to fix the roof of the church to keep water from leaking water into the office.

The session has secured two bids to replace and/or fix property affected by the vandalism done during the recent burglary to the church.

Something new is coming beginning this June. A new worship service will be offered on Saturday at 5 p.m. This worship service will offer contemporary Christian music, a shorter format, and Holy Communion, when authorized by the session. Look for a flyer in the "Gazette" and "The Shopper".

In Christ's service,

Pastor Steve and Board of Elders

**JUST A REMINDER THAT THE WORSHIP TIME CHANGES
ON JUNE 6TH TO 9:30 A.M. !**

Two special worship dates for you calendar:

July 4, community wide worship at the festival grounds

July 18, worship in the park at the Pecatonica Wetlands

Naomi Circle

Naomi Circle will meet at the church on Tuesday June 15 at 12:30 p.m. Dixie Leden is your hostess. We will be going out to lunch on July 20.

Mary Martha Circle

Mary Martha Circle will meet on Thursday June 10 at 7 p.m. Loretta Meyer is your hostess. Please car-pool as parking is limited. There will be no July or August meetings.

Fellowship Supper Club

On Tuesday June 8 , Fellowship Supper Club will have a cookout at Jodell Brown’s home. We will have our installation of new officers. Jodell Brown and Eva Jean Bachman are your hostesses. There will be no July or August meetings.

Chicks With Sticks

The “Chicks” will be off for the summer. Watch for a start up date in the fall.

Greeters/Ushers/Acolytes

The session has asked church members to take turns greeting at our Sunday worship. You will receive a letter with your Sunday listed to welcome our church family to the worship service.

Thanks to our greeters:



Jim & Polly Morrison, Elizabeth Parrish, Gretchen Reuter, Bev & Katie O’Brien, Marian Pedrick, Faye Reed

Thanks to our ushers:

Norm Dean, Skip Leden, Chuck Rittmeyer, Greg Rittmeyer, Kevin Rittmeyer, Bob Samsel, Dan Rebholz, and First TEAM

Thanks to our Projection crew:



Rick Carr, Jake Fuller, Jacob Smith

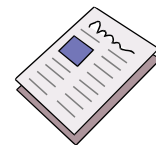
Thanks to our acolytes:



Krista and Jessica Franklin
Rachel Rittmeyer and Zoe Reuter
Angelica Storey and Renee Rittmeyer
Katie Erb and Ella Maher

Special Thanks to.....

Thanks to Betsy Menge, Bev Barker, Mary Weires, Eva Jean Bachman, and Vera Olesen for their help with the newsletter.



There will be no July newsletter.

Contact Information...

Session at Craig Clausen-craignlinda@aol.com

Deacons at Bev Samsel - BSamsel@aol.com

Trustees at Greg Rittmeyer - glrittmeyer@verizon.net

PW at Susan Slocum - susanmsw01@verizon.net

Jr. High Movie Nite
there will be Friday, June 11
from 6:30-9 p.m.

Bring a friend!



PW and Woman of the Church

Hello ladies and welcome to summer, so what's going on? Let me think, for starters plan now to attend the Mother/Daughter Tea. This year the event is referred to as the, "Ladies Fun Fashion Tea" and will take place from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm on Sunday June 13th in the church fellowship hall. Bev O'Brien, coordinator along with her daughter Katie and committee are busy creating a fashion show that will bring a smile to your face. Bring your neighbor, your daughter, your mother, your friends and plan for an afternoon of laughter with other women. Proper Tea attire is optional but tea and tea type foods will be provided by different women from the church. Whatever the women make you can be assured that it is going to taste GREAT!! Posters are being placed around the church so keep this event in your thoughts.

For you women with older children and or young adult children make sure that you enjoy their time. The kids grow up so fast! Summer vacation is such a free flowing event or should be, without every minute planned. Where ever the summer takes your family be safe and enjoy!!

If you are a young adult/women heading off to college may your experience be exactly what you are looking for and remember, the choices you make will dictate the life that you lead, so make wise choices. Try and find a group of young women that will help you stay the course and grow your faith.

If you are between the ages of 18 to 98 you have another fabulous opportunity to join another 6 week bible study with Desirae Schneider! She plans to study the book "CAPTIVATING" which is an absolutely amazing book with a good discussion guide to help the process. The book is roughly \$14.00 and I am in the process of checking to get a bulk price from a book store. Please sign up if you would like to be part of this study group. I have a busy summer with 3 niece/nephews getting married, a sister in law being ordained as a Presbyterian Pastor, her church is in Elmhurst and a sister and her 6 children, 4 spouses and 2 children visiting BAGO this summer, my time is full and the lazy hazy days of summer it is NOT!!

Have a great month. In Christ, who crossed many barriers, some pretty unconventional.

Susan Slocum



If you have a prayer request for the phone prayer chain, please call Bev Samsel at 815-335-2892 or 815-871-8969, or call Bev Barker at 815-335-2963 or 815-964-5591. Please leave a message, as it will be later checked to see that Pastor Steve has been notified and the information has been placed on the church e-mail prayer chain.

If you wish to place a prayer request on the church e-mail, the address is: prayer@thewfpc.org. These requests will be started on the phone prayer chain by Bev Samsel or Bev Barker.

Deacons

The Deacons met on May 18, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. with nine members present. Bev welcomed everyone and Darla led us in prayer. The minutes were read from the April meeting and approved as read. There was no correspondence to read. The treasurer's report was given by Norma and approved. Shirley gave the sunshine report with many cards sent out for confirmation, sympathy, get wells and thinking of you.

Pastor Steve gave an update on members of the congregation and community who need our prayers. Thankfully it has not been as busy a month as last. Then he led us in prayer.

Bev reviewed what was discussed at last meeting regarding officer duties.

Pastor Steve discussed the addition of an abbreviated service on Saturday evening. Session is working out the details. Deacons will provide elements for communion at the Saturday night service.

The assignments for preparing the elements for communion for the summer were given. Discussion was had regarding the 4th of July service. It will be decided by session whether communion will be served at that service. Bev will notify members of the decision.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 17, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. There being no other business the meeting was closed with the reciting of the Deacon's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Darla Cunningham

Church Budget

Beginning Checking:	\$ 8,169.07
YTD Expenses:	\$47,348.27
YTD Revenue:	\$49,765.34
End Checking:	\$ 9,477.05

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Erb

Trustees

For the Trustee meeting this month we installed a large anchor screw to reattach one of the speakers in the over flow room. We also made a diversion dam to channel water away from the building by the east entrance. We put a new light bulb outside of the elevator entrance and repaired a steam trap in one of the lower Sunday school rooms. Guy Cunningham contacted a commercial contractor to look at the flat roof over the east stairwell.

Building



News :

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Rittmeyer

Outreach Opportunity...

A group from our congregation volunteer at the Rockford Rescue Mission on the first Friday of each month. They serve prepared meals at 6 p.m. After the meal is served and the dining area is cleaned up, they stay and have an evening of fellowship with the Program men (those who are committed to change their life). They order pizza, and take turns bringing pop, cookies and snacks, and play games with the guys. Everyone looks forward to this, some of us have done it for over 13 years! If you are interested contact anyone listed:

- Bev Barker 1-815-335-2963
- Dee Taylor 1-815-335-2007
- Jodell Brown 1-815-335-2202
- Dixie Lancaster 1-815-968-5422
- Ted & Jeanie Meissen 1-815-335-2601
- Dale & Merle Fender 1-815-335-2727





ALL HANDS ON DECK!

- ✂ New friends ✂ Amazing crafts ✂ Wild games ✂ Lip-smacking snacks
- ✂ Swashbuckling Bible adventures ✂ Incredible music

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION

JUNE 21-25

9-11:30 A. M.

CHILD'S NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE/CELL: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN: _____

GRADE (CIRCLE ONE): PRE-K K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 HS

MEDICAL CONDITIONS: _____

ALLERGIES: _____

CREW LEADER, GRADES 6 AND UP (CIRLCE): **YES**

You may also register online at www.groupvbopro.com/vbs/ez.highseaswfp

June 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 First TEAM 7 p.m.	3 Trustees 7 p.m.	4	5
6 9:30 a.m. Worship Communion	7	8	9	10 Mary Martha Circle 7 p.m.	11 Rescue Mission 6 p.m. Jr. High Movie Nite 6:30-9 p.m.	12 Work camp
13 9:30 a.m. Worship	14	15 Fellowship Supper Club 6 p.m.	16 First TEAM 7 p.m.	17	18	19
Work camp	Work camp	Work camp	Work camp	Work camp	Work camp	Work camp
20 9:30 a.m. Worship	21	22 Naomi Circle 12:30 p.m. Deacons 6:30 p.m.	23	24	25	26
	VBS	VBS	VBS	VBS	VBS	
27 9:30 a.m. Worship	28	29	30			

July 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Trustees 7 p.m.	2	3
4 Community Wide Worship At the Festival grounds	5	6	7	8	9	10 O'Brien Wedding
11 9:30 a.m. Worship	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 9:30 a.m. Worship in The park	18	20 Naomi Circle 12:30 p.m.	21	22	23	24
25 9:30 a.m. Worship Fellowship for Stan & Carol Meyers	26	27	28	29	30	31

Thank you notes...

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your cards and prayers during my recent injury.

Rico Paris

Dear Church Family,

I wish to thank PW and Betsy Menge for the gift cards that they gave me for Administrative Assistant's day. Also, thank you Ginger, for taking me out for a delightful lunch.

Betsy Carr

Thanks to all the following people:

Carol Meyers for helping with the WHS student community service project. Carol and her students vacuumed the pew cushions and then washed the pews.

Avis Lind for helping with the WHS student community service project. Avis and her crew worked on the grounds removing sod so bushes could be moved.

Chuck Lind for helping move some of the bushes.

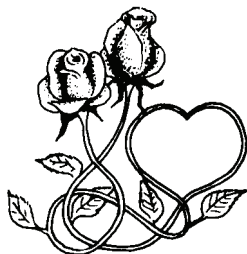
Paul and April Haeflinger for their donation to buy mulch and the flower donation.

Gwen and Fritz Vietmeier for their donation to buy flowers.

Jim Mitchell for giving his time and dime to mow the lawn.

Greg Rittmeyer and Bob Reed for help with rolling the lawn.

We **still need** people to help with upkeep on the grounds, weeding flower beds, weed whipping along the church etc. and any maintenance for the fall as well. Call the office if you can help.



Anniversary Celebration

Please join us to help celebrate the 60th Wedding Anniversary of our parents, Stan and Carol Meyers! A special Fellowship will follow the worship service on Sunday, July 25. Your presence is their gift.

Steve, Judy, Scott, Lana, Brittany and Tanner

