



The Bell

August, 2021

Monthly Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY SERVICE

By Lynda Butek

Over the last two and a half years since Karel Hanhart left us, much of the preparation for Sunday service has fallen to me. Why? Probably because I wanted to do it. And I have found it very rewarding. That's as good a reason as any, I guess.

I have been blessed with a wonderful group of retired pastors of different Christian faiths who have guided me through this maze that is the Sunday order of worship. Without them and their dedication to preaching on Sundays, we would be lost. And I have learned a lot about our faith and the Bible from the preparation for worship I have done.

The order of worship we are using now was developed by Rev. Ken Ribe based on our traditional worship services. To this Ken added the Time of Centering, the Gathering Hymn (which we will use again once music is returned to our service) and combined the Prayer of Confession and the Assurance of Pardon for better continuity.

For each service, I start out with the basic order of worship and fill in the words of the Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon using "When We Gather", a book recommended to me by Gene Peissig. That book gives me relevant prayers, readings and Scriptures based on the Lectionary texts for that day.

Next come the hymns we will use when we return to pre-pandemic services. That, for me, is the hardest part. The hymns should relate back to the scriptures for the day but still be music with which we are familiar. For that I have made up a spreadsheet with all the music from the various hymnals we use, that shows the music we know. Fortunately the hymnals are indexed by relevance like Lent, Eastertide, Pentecost, Advent. While there are many hymns about Advent and Christmas, by comparison there are very few about Easter.

Once I have selected the hymns, all that remains is to send the order of worship off to the pastor for that day. He (or she) writes the Prayers of the People, the Closing Prayer and Benediction and of course the all-important Sermon. If that Sunday includes Communion, the pastor will write the Invitation to Communion and the words of the Distribution of the Elements. Usually those are the same from Communion to Communion and in most cases the pastor has memorized that portion of the service having done it for so many years.

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Once the pastor has received the Order of Worship for his Sunday, he is free to use it as is, modify it if he sees fit or even completely rewrite it. For the most part, the Order of Worship you hear on Sunday is what I have supplied but that is usually not the case with Ken Ribe, Jim Mohr or Gene Peissig. They usually write their own using the outline I have supplied.

Doesn't all this take lots of time? You bet it does.

The part I do (which doesn't include writing prayers or the Sermon from scratch) takes about two hours per Sunday. I tend to work pretty far ahead (right now I'm ready to start on December) and I try to give the pastors at least a week, often two, to do their part.

When we have a called-pastor, he will be doing all this and more. Not only will he have to prepare for Sunday worship, but there are funerals, weddings, counselling and the day-to-day business of the church. And he makes calls on shut-ins and attends meetings of church committees and ecumenical gatherings with other pastors in the community. The life of a pastor certainly isn't 9 to 5 and not for the faint of heart.

Fortunately for us while we are seeking our new called-pastor, we have a wonderful roster of guest-pastors who love to preach and seem to love coming to Chippewa Falls to preach to us. We thank the Lord for bringing them to us.

HOPEFULLY THE END TO A SAD STORY

Last September FPC as well as several other locations in Chippewa County were broken into by Eau Claire resident, Tyler Moe.

We were fortunate that he did little damage to our church and only stole some obsolete keys. About the same time he broke into the church, he also broke into the Bargain City store and the Legacy Center also in Chippewa Falls as well as the Albertville Bar in Howard and the Wander Inn in Wheaton.

Moe confessed to the break-ins as well as breaking into three businesses in Eau Claire and causing thousands of dollars in damages. He has been sentenced to two years in prison for the Eau Claire damage. He has been ordered to spend four years on extended supervision following his release from prison. During his supervision, Moe must maintain absolute sobriety and undergo an alcohol and drug assessment and any recommended programming or treatment. He must also pay almost \$10,000 in fines and restitution to the Eau Claire businesses which is far less than the total of the damage he caused.

The Eau Claire businesses include Markquardt Carwash, Pine Meadows Golf Course and River Country Coop where he was filmed on surveillance videos.

Moe said his crime spree was fueled by his need for money to support his methamphetamine addiction. Unfortunately this wasn't Moe's first brush with the law. He was convicted of a felony count of bail jumping in 2019.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY RETURNS

Gene Peissig has agreed to resume adult Bible study on Sunday mornings before church.

The new class will begin on Sunday, September 13 and will run from 9:15 to 10 AM through May, 2022.

The topic of these lectures will be *Skeptics and Believers: Religious Debate in the Western Intellectual Tradition*. Look for more information on these classes in your September Bell.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SCHEDULE PLANNING MEETING

PW will hold its planning meeting for the next year on Thursday, August 19 at the home of Vance and Margi Kohl.

Beginning at 10 AM, the meeting will include a potluck luncheon and a discussion about the possible Fall Bazaar.

For additional information, contact Corinne Boos.

FPC EXPANDS MEMBERS ONLY SECTION OF WEBSITE

By now you should have received the invitation to join the Members Only section of our website.

We started out with only the names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of our members and friends but in the near future we plan to expand this section.

The expansion will include the Hospitality Schedule, Shepherds List and Birthdays and Anniversaries. If we are able to bring back Wednesday night suppers, this list will also be part of the Members Only section.

If you think of anything else that would be helpful to add to that area, please let Tiffany know.

GUEST SPEAKER LIST EXPANDS

We have been blessed with six guest speakers for the past two years.

In September we will add Rev. Terri Koca, recently retired from Trinity United Methodist Church, and Ed Williams, a guest speaker from Gilman.

It is hoped that adding new speakers will give us additional insight into the scriptures.

These additional speakers join Rev. Ken Ribe, Rev. Sandee Kosmo, Rev. Gary Hedding, Rev. Jim Mohr, Rev. Rich Estrem-Fuller and Gene Peissig filling the pulpit on a regular basis.

TIFFANY TAKES VACATION

Tiffany Wogahn, our administrative assistant, will be taking a much needed vacation the last week of July and the first week in August.

During her absence, volunteers will be covering her phone and mail duties on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 AM to noon. Tiffany will be back in the office on August 10.

AUGUST COMMUNION CLARIFIED

By Lynda Butek

There was an error in the eBell you received last week concerning the guest pastors for the early part of August.

We will celebrate communion on August 1 with Rich Estrem-Fuller rather than on August 8 with Ken Ribe as you were told. This was my error not Tiffany's

MAIL PROBLEMS SURFACE

Like many of you, the church has experienced a problem with our mail service. We know of at least two checks that were sent to us but never arrived.

If you send a check to the church and it doesn't clear your bank account in a reasonable time, please let us know and we will help you resolve the issue.

PROPERTY TEAM EXPLORES POSSIBLE COST REDUCTIONS

The Property Team is currently exploring possible cost cutting measures at FPC.

After meeting with Tom Bachmeier of Xcel Energy, the committee has identified several possibilities for cost cutting at the church.

These cost reduction measures include installing LED lights in place of the existing fluorescent lamps and modifying the air conditioning system for better economy.

As further discussions take place, these measures will be outlined in future editions of the Bell.

AL NAMEJUNAS ACKNOWLEDGES BIRTHDAY WISHES

The church received the following note recently in response to the many birthday cards Al Namejunas received for his 100th birthday. "I wish to thank all of you for your cards and good wishes for my 100th birthday on June 12th. They were greatly appreciated."

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE...

Here is another sign that we are beginning to return to a pre-COVID normal. The Food Pantry began welcoming users to come inside the church building on Thursday, July 15. All check-ins are done inside, and we set up tables in the Narthex with the items available for clients. We follow the rule put in place by our Session that persons who have not been vaccinated must wear a mask inside the church building. That goes for volunteers as well. We are happy to report that this is working well.

After checking in, the person receives a cart with the prepacked bag of nonperishable groceries. They then use the cart to select from the items on the tables. They may choose from the selection of fruits, vegetables, bread and bakery items that are available. (Surplus bread, bakery and some dairy are donated from Family Fare.) We also offer some health and wellness items purchased with funds from a grant from the Community Needs family of Unrestricted & Field of Interest Funds through the Community Foundation of Chippewa County. Clients take the cart to their car, unload, and return the cart to be sanitized.

Remember to keep this mission and its volunteers in your prayers.

MISSION TEAM...

The Mission Coalition has not met yet, but we think that they will be doing the Soles 4 Souls again. So keep those old shoes until you get an update. We'll let you know as soon as we know!

More news from Mission in the September Bell.

RED CROSS HOLDS SUMMER BLOOD DRIVE

The second Red Cross blood drive held in our church in June was, according to the Red Cross, the most successful ever held in Chippewa Falls. They had hoped to receive 31 pints of blood. In fact they received 46 pints.

Our next blood drive is scheduled for August 25.

STILL NEWER HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE ISSUED

There has been a change to the Hospitality Schedule you received in your July Bell. The revised copy is included in this issue. Please remove it from the Bell and place it in your Directory.

First Presbyterian Church 2021 Hospitality-Usher Teams & Schedule

Updated 6-16-2021 tw

Team 1 <u>Margi Kohl</u> <u>Beth Cripe</u>	Team 2 <u>Lynda Butek</u> <u>Marlys Daniels</u>	Team 3 <u>Corine Boos</u> <u>Larry Annett</u> <u>Barb Meredith</u>	Team 4 <u>Jon Beighley</u> <u>Anne Welke</u>	Team 5 <u>Chuck Norseng</u> <u>Kevin Litten</u>	Team 6 <u>Kathi Mandelert</u> <u>Bonnie Gullickson</u>
Mary Flater Darin Flater Beth Flater Vance Kohl	Jeff Buckli Deb Buckli Winston Baker Jesse Torres Kathy Torres Gene Peissig Jan Koepke Rich Koepke	Gary Shorrel Barb Shorrel Rich Rosenow Ruth Rosenow Pat Popple	Sara Abendroth George Abendroth Holly Gintz Beighley Family Simonson Family	Terry Wiedenhoef Christina Wiedenhoef Ellen Teske Todd Teske Chris Norseng	Dan Duffenbach Esther Frazier Sara Reemtsma Ryan Reemtsma Karen Lyons Doug Gullickson

<u>Jul '21</u>	<u>Tm</u>
4	3
11	4
18	5
25	6

<u>Aug '21</u>	<u>Tm</u>
1	1
8	2
15	3
22	4
29	5

<u>Sep '21</u>	<u>Tm</u>
5	6
12	1
19	2
26	3

<u>Oct '21</u>	<u>Tm</u>
3	4
10	5
17	6
24	1
31	2

<u>Nov '21</u>	<u>Tm</u>
7	3
14	4
21	5
28	6

<u>Dec '21</u>	<u>Tm</u>
5	1
12	2
19	3
26	4

Special Dates

3-Oct
World Communion
Sunday

16-Oct
World Food Day

5-Dec
"Tis the Season"
(Deacons)

Welcome Center Contact Person: Margi K.
Scrip Task Group: Corine B., Margi K,
Barb S.

Hope Village Land Concept



Two and a half acres near the East Hill water tower in Chippewa Falls have been purchased to house the Hope Village complex. That white circle is the water tower. It is a few blocks north of the Chippewa Family Restaurant at 1825 Kennedy Rd. The cul de sac is called RCU Court.

The building to the far left is not part of the project. It houses a number of businesses including Cook Chiropractic and a Subway restaurant. There will be a privacy fence between the two properties.

The building at the bottom of the drawing was a former oral surgery office. It will be the Community Building with restrooms, showers, laundry, community kitchen, dining area, community room, and offices. The drawing shows an addition to this building, that addition will be a resale shop and a workshop (to allow for job training and to help the project be self-sustaining).

The ten tiny rectangles are the existing 10 tiny houses.

The five medium sized squares at the top right are five one-bedroom duplexes. The three large squares are three six-plexes (to increase the community's affordable housing units and to help the project be self-sustainable).

There are also a number of parking areas, a garden area, a picnic pavilion and a playground shown on the drawing.

The target date for the remodeling of the community building, and the infrastructure for the 10 tiny houses to be completed is December, 2022. Hopefully the existing tiny houses will be moved to this location during the spring and summer of 2023.

The entire development has a target completion date of 2031 (ten year plan)