



The Bell

September, 2019

Monthly Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

ANOTHER HISTORIC “FIRST” FOR FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Not only is the First Presbyterian Church the oldest Protestant church in Chippewa Falls, but our church boasts the oldest pipe organ in west central Wisconsin. Installed in May, 1889, it was built by Steere and Turner of Springfield, Massachusetts, a company which built many organs in the late 19th century, among them the organ at the Mabel Tainter Theater in Menomonie which was installed a year or two later.

Installation of the organ received considerable attention in the local press of the day, reflecting the novelty that it must have had for the community in 1889. The “Around the City” column of the Chippewa Falls Daily Independent commented as follows: “The pipe organ ordered for the Presbyterian Church is expected in a few days, and will be the first instrument of its kind ever brought into the city” (May 11, 1889).

The instrument represents the style of organ building which was prevalent in America in the Victorian age, with an emphasis on sweetness of tone and on stops with distinctive solo characteristics. It has 769 pipes, 21 stops and 4 pedal movements. Strips of wood and movable joints connect the keys to the pipes, a system which is called “tracker” action. Abandoned in the age of electricity in favor of more flexible electric actions, tracker action became during later years the preferred method of many of the world’s best organ builders. Organs of this type dating back to 1350 are still in use in Europe.

One of the quaint features of the organ, which today remains only in the form of an unused stop, or drawknob, is a device called the ‘bellows signal.’ In the days before the church had electricity, the organist used this device which rang a bell at the back of the organ, where the wind pump for the bellows was operated by hand, usually by two boys, who each received 5 cents each Sunday for their efforts. In 1907, a special electrical line was run in and 1½ HP motor was installed to operate the bellows. Goodbye, boys.

A Chippewa Times article (June 13, 1889) described the dedication concert: “The opening concert of the Steere and Turner organ took place at the Presbyterian Church last evening and was a crowning success. The handsome organ proved to be no less pleasing in power and tone than in appearance, and under the masterly touch of Mr. Jason Watson of Chicago, who presided as organist, gave forth a wealth of harmony that surpassed all expectations.”

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Since the organ was built, new stops have been added without disturbing the historic integrity of the organ, a “mixture” rank and a “trumpet” rank in 1980. The pipes for these two new stops range in size from nine inches to eight feet. The instrument was completely refurbished in 1982 by Robert Dommer, a local organ expert.

The Steere and Turner Organ was rebuilt in 2003 by the Bedient Organ Company of Roca, Nebraska. Major improvements were made with a completely new tracker action. The original pipe work was restored and the additional pipe work was added to enhance the beauty and variety of tone colors. The 29 sets of pipes in the organ are combined into 26 individual stops and total 1,504 pipes. Most of them are made of various alloys of tin and lead. Some of the larger metal pipes from the Steere and Turner organ are made of zinc. The pipes of the façade have mouths gilded with 23 karat gold. The wooden pipes are made of poplar. The beautiful case of this pipe organ is of original cherry wood.

Unfortunately the metals used for the larger pipes proved to be too soft to support their weight and have had to be replaced or relined over the last several years. This work was done by Grandall and Engen of Maple Grove, Minnesota under the direction of the Bedient Organ Company which rebuilt the instrument in 2003.



One might ask, why restore the 1889 Steere and Turner Organ. Why not put in a totally new organ?

Some of the reasons would be similar to “old stringed instruments”. The quality of the individual sounds created in 1889 are unique and beautiful. Steere and Turner created a romantic voiced organ which stops have a beautiful tone quality.

Gene Bedient did a masterful job in blending the old with the new pipes of highest quality and made our wonderful pipe organ crystal clear in tone.

Grandall and Engen keep our instrument tuned and true to its origins.

We are indeed grateful for these masters of organ building.

BIBLE STUDY TO CONTINUE WITH ST. AUGUSTINE

On September 15 Adult Bible study course will start a 24 lecture series on St. Augustine's "The City of God".

Led by Gene Peissig, the 24 sessions will take us from September 15 through mid-March. Class will start at 9:00 on Sunday mornings, the lectures are 30 minutes each, which leaves us time for further discussion after the lecture, and for those who are capable of singing will be able to attend choir practice at 9:30.

The course explores many of the most fundamental concepts and categories of Christendom of the 5th century and still supplies many of the moral, religious, and political categories people use to understand the world today.

We realize not everyone can commit to being there every Sunday, and that's fine, but the more you can attend, the greater your understanding of Augustine and Christianity will be. Everyone is welcome.

CHURCH DIRECTORIES COMING SOON

We normally can expect to have the annual church directories in time for Rally Day but this year they won't be complete until sometime in October.

We are adding some things we haven't had for several years and we want to be sure all of the contact information we have is correct. Please take a look at what we have for you. Have you moved? Have you changed your phone number? Do you have a new email address? All these things are important for us to keep you informed of what is happening at FPC.

If your contact information should be changed, please let Tiffany know as soon as possible so the directory can be completed.

RALLY DAY MARKS LOTS OF CHANGES FOR FPC

September 8 is Rally Day – a day of beginnings – a day of returning to things we remember from past years. It is certainly a day of changes.

First – we return to Fall service hours when services will begin at 10:15. **We will have our traditional potluck on Rally Day. Bring your favorite dish to pass.**

Second - Gene Peissig resumes his Sunday morning Bible study classes on September 15.

Third – the choir comes back ready to sing on September 15. Rehearsals have already begun and as usual, more singers are welcome.

Fourth – the Wednesday Nite Suppers resume on September 11. We have the regulars back and a new team ready to whip up something special.

NEWS FROM THE MISSION TEAM...

SUBMITTED BY BARB SHORREL

The Mission Team invites you to participate in the following mission activities throughout the month of September and the beginning of October.

- **PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING:** This is the 3rd of our special offerings this year. This offering will be formally collected on Sunday, October 6. The Peace and Global Witness Offering is used in many ways.
 - Support programs to prevent sexual violence and aid victims.
 - Support programs to help convicts find work and return to a normal life after incarceration.
 - Support programs on an international level to foster peace making activities.
 - Support local programs—25% of the amount collected from you will remain in the community. The Mission Team will meet on Sept. 10 to decide where that money should go. If you know of a deserving program, feel free to suggest that to the Mission Team before our meeting date.
- **SOLES 4 SOULS:** Clean out your closets and bring those old shoes to church for our collection of SOLES 4 SOULS. This will conclude on October 5 so don't delay!
- **LIGHTEN YOUR LOAD:** Save your quarters. In October, we invite you to help support this ministry of the Mission Coalition. This program offers those in need the chance to do their laundry for free (with your help). Members from many churches help distribute quarters for washing and drying clothes. If you would be interested in helping, see Anne Welke for details.
- **TOUCHED TWICE:** We currently don't have a for sure date for this, but it will be held in October. In the past, it was held at Landmark Church. This year it will be at Parkview. This event helps those with things like haircuts, oil changes, and other services that persons may forego because they don't have the means to pay for them. Watch for more info in your Sunday bulletin.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: Tiffany Wogahn, Gary and Barb Shorrel represented our church at the National Night Out event on August 6 at the Northern Wisconsin Fairgrounds. We handed out information about the missions of our church and gave away pens with our name and website printed on them. We had a nice canopy tent donated by two of our members to keep us out of the sun.

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways.

2 Thessalonians 3:16



Food *Challenge*

First Presbyterian
Church

COMMUNITY

Food Pantry

In partnership with
Feed My People

For every dollar donated to
First Presbyterian Church Food Pantry
August 25th to September 15, 2019
A donor will match up to \$5000

Our pantry is open each
Tuesday and Thursday
10 am-12 noon.

Jan - June 2019

- † Individuals served: **2,844**
- † Families served: **1,016**
- † Pounds distributed: **32,875**
- † Expenses: **\$1500** per month



Please make checks out to:
First Presbyterian Church
130 West Central Street, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
Note on memo line: "Food Pantry Challenge"

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS 2019-2020

5:30 - 6:00 PM

Choir Practice 6:30p-7:30p

Sept 11—	Team 1
Sept 18—	Team 2
Sept 25—	Team 3
Oct 2—	Team 4
Oct 9—	Team 5
Oct 16—	Team 6
Oct 23—	Team 7
Oct 30—	Team 8
Nov 6—	Team 9
Nov 13—	Ham Loaf Dinner
Nov 20—	Team 1
Nov 27—	No Meal [Thanksgiving]
Dec 4—	Team 2
Dec 11—	Team 3
Dec 18—	Team 4
Dec 25—	No Meal [Christmas]
Jan 1—	No Meal
Jan 8—	Team 5
Jan 15—	Team 6
Jan 22—	Team 7
Jan 29—	Team 8
Feb 5—	Team 9
Feb 12—	Team 1
Feb 19—	Team 2
Feb 26—	Ash Wed
Mar 4—	Team 3
Mar 11—	Team 4
Mar 18—	Team 5
Mar 25—	Team 6
Apr 1—	Team 7
Apr 8—	Team 8
Apr 15—	Team 9
Apr 22—	Team 1
Apr 29—	Team 2

**SUGGESTED DONATION:
\$4.00 FOR ADULTS
\$2.00 FOR CHILDREN UNDER 10**

MENU

Team #1	<u>SOUPERSPUDS</u> Lynda Butek 861-3936 Margi Kohl 720-8926 Corine Boos 382-4278
Team #2	<u>Erik's Surprise</u> Erik Anderson 723-0992 Rick Koepke 720-1826
Team #3	<u>CHEF'S CHOICE</u> Kevin Litten 319-361-9607 Marlys Daniels 723-2851
Team 4	<u>SOKUPS HOT DOGS</u> Ruth Rosenow 723-8280 Kathi Mandelert 723-5992
Team #5	<u>LASAGNA OR SURPRISE</u> Presbyterian Men
Team #6	<u>BARBECUES</u> Anne Welke 723-2306 Bonnie Gullickson 723-2076
Team #7	<u>CHEF'S CHOICE</u> Sara & Ryan Reemtsma 577-1602
Team #8	<u>CHEF'S CHOICE</u> Teske's 715-834-7482
Team#9	<u>HOT DOGS</u> Tiffany and Gina 715-944-7797

**MENUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT
COOK'S DISCRETION!**

**TEAMS MAY EXCHANGE IF
NEEDED!**

September Schedules

September 1 – Sunday

Guest Pastor – Ken Ribe
Communion will be served
Worship Leader – Lynda Butek
Hospitality Team – Team 3 Led by Corine Boos
Welcome Desk – Marlys Daniels
Flower Provider – Open

September 8 – Sunday

Guest Pastor – Sandee Kosmo
Worship Leader – Esther Frazier
Hospitality Team – Team 4 Led by Jon Beighley and Anne Welke
Welcome Desk – Holly Gintz
Flower Provider – Anne Welke in honor of Nate, Annie, Andrew, Wilder and Audrey and in memory of Francis – Happy Grandparents Day

September 11 – Wednesday

Soup or Spuds by Team 1 – Corine Boos, Margi Kohl and Lynda Butek

September 15 – Sunday

Guest Pastor – Ken Ribe
Worship Leader – Terry Wiedenhoef
Hospitality Team – Team 5 Led by Larry Annett and Kevin Litten
Welcome Desk – Bonnie Gullickson
Flower Provider – Open

September 18 – Wednesday

Erik's Surprise by Team 2 – Erik Anderson and Rick Koepke

September 22 - Sunday

Guest Speaker – Tom Drehmel
Worship Leader – Erik Anderson
Hospitality Team – Team 6 Led by Chuck Norseng and Barb Meredith
Welcome Desk – Margi Kohl
Flower Provider – Open

September 25 – Wednesday

Chef's Choice by Team 3 – Kevin Litten and Marlys Daniels

September 29 - Sunday

Guest Pastor – Rich Estrem-Fuller
Worship Leader – Kevin Litten
Hospitality Team – Team 7 Led by Kathi Mandelert and Mitch Mandelert
Welcome Desk – Barbara Meredith
Flower Provider – Marlys Dianels in memory of her son, Mar

**DON'T FORGET
SERVICE STARTS AT 10:15
ON RALLY DAY – SEPT. 8**

**BRING A DISH TO PASS
AT THE POTLUCK**