



First Presbyterian News September 2010

The following message from an FPC member was submitted to the Missional Journey Coordinating Team. With permission, it is shared here as an open letter to the congregation.

THINKING ABOUT CHANGE

As a member of First Presbyterian Church, Mishawaka, I have had some concerns about the future of our congregation. Recently I have been thinking about the word "change". We do not need to fear that word or the changes we need to make. Before Rev. Ron Miller retired, we were suddenly faced with a community of Africans. Talk about change!! Cultural differences and language differences were two of the larger issues we struggled with, but we opened our building and our hearts. We learned, we stumbled, we enlarged our vision of the world. We sang new hymns. We embraced the challenge. I think with our recent past experience to give us assurance we can joyfully without fear embrace our future.

We have many strengths to carry us into this new chapter in the history of First Presbyterian Church, Mishawaka: joyfully and eagerly holding our heads up listening for God's call. With prayer under girding all of the studies, discussions, and decisions, what is there to fear? God will be with us every step of the way.

Changes will only make us stronger in faith and deed. These are goals to look forward to, not shudder away from. Of course, there will be bumps in the road. There always are. We shall stumble but we shall get up, keep on praying, loving one another, and listening for God's guidance.

I anticipate moments when we disagree but in the end continue to treat one another as children of God and, therefore, to be respected and loved. We do not need to be anything but open to God's calling. The call may be surprising.

Peace and love, Anna Bowers

**Lectionary for
September 2010**

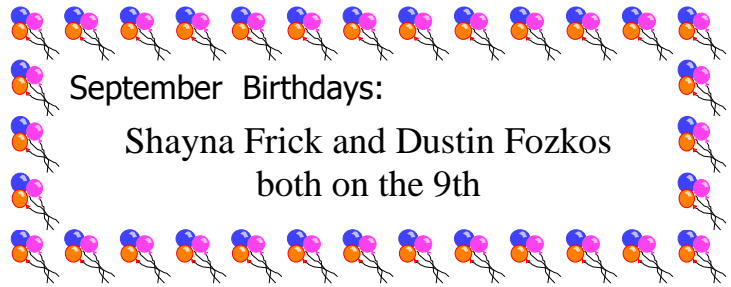
September 5 (23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Jeremiah 18:1-11
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14:25-33

September 12 (24th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28
Psalm 14
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

September 19 (25th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Jeremiah 8:18—9:1
Psalm 79:1-9
1 Timothy 2:1-7
Luke 16:1-13

September 26 (26th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15
Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16
1 Timothy 6:6-19
Luke 16:19-31

First Presbyterian News



September Birthdays:

Shayna Frick and Dustin Fozkos
both on the 9th

A PLEASANT ASSIGNMENT

On Sunday, September 12, right after the church service, it will be time to look at the past. Ah, yes! Those “good-old-days”! Your **assignment** will be to think about and be ready to reflect, share, reminisce about your own past, our congregation’s past, and global events. Age is not an issue. Teenagers and centenarians will have memories to contribute. If you would like, bring a “**show-‘n-tell**” item: i.e. a picture, a souvenir, penny loafers.

Also bring a dish to pass because we will enjoy a **pitch-in**, (at least that is what it was called in my past). Sandwiches will be provided. You provide the veggies, salads, and desserts.

It will be a fun, active, interesting church family time as we begin our **journey** together.

Focus

People with goals succeed because they know where they’re going.

Sunday School classes and **Disciples Tree House**

will resume on Sunday, September 12. DTH will be during services for children ages 3 through 3rd grade and SS classes will start at 10:45 a.m. or after the church services.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Usher</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
Sept 5	Ethan DeMaegd	Jack Bruner Jeff Wiseman
Sept 12	Carole Polk	Bill Bellairs Roger Krafft
Sept 19	Michael Green	Bob Sloan Esther Morrison
Sept 26	Dan Bruner	Dick Dentino Justin Tschida
		Communion Roger Delouf Mikey Green Shayna Frick

Usher Schedule

Next Newsletter deadline: is September 17 at noon. You can send information to Sue at Suce@aol.com or to Kathy at kathy@fpcmishawaka.org or mail to the church.

M I S S I O N N O T E S F R O M :


 R e v . M a r y A n n B a n n i n g M a r y A n n D e n t i n o C l a u d i a R i g g s
 J a n e t F r e e m a n B e t t y J o h n s o n A n n a B o w e r s

Meals at Hope

We are in need of people to sign up to prepare and serve the meals at Hope Ministries. Don't miss out on this opportunity to serve the Lord by feeding our neighbors that are without funds for food. Sign up on the bulletin board on the landing going up to the sanctuary.

Tutors at Battell needed

Help the students at Battell get off to a super year by tutoring an individual or a small group of students. This is not only a highlight to the student's week but will soon become a highlight to your week. Talk to Pastor Banning, Stanley May, Judy Green, or Teresa Primmer about their experiences last year. Check with teacher Chris Wukovits on how the students are affected by having this special attention each week. Speak to Susan May or Mary Ann Dentino if you are ready for this tremendous way to serve our community.

THANK YOU FROM MAC

The Pack-a-Backpack event was a resounding success. A large number of volunteers gathered at the Jefferson Intermediate School on August 4. Included in that number from FPC-Mishawaka were Betty Johnson, Marcia Krafft, Deb Morrison, Sue Rice, Leta Seal, Cheryl Sloan and Janet Freeman.

Hundreds of backpacks were donated from businesses, through church collections, supermarkets, WNDU television studios and individuals. Two assembly lines were set up. The volunteers quickly filled the backpacks with the donated school supplies. At the end of the line large cartons were filled for distribution. Due to the number of volunteers from MAC churches, the Mishawaka School Corporation will share in the distribution. Thirty 30 volunteers was the qualifying number and happily there were more than were needed. Emmons School will be the distribution point for Mishawaka.

School supplies will continue to be collected through the end of August and will be transported to Emmons School for distribution through the year as needed.

Church Secretary position has changed

Our church secretary position has changed from full time to part time. Beginning in September, Kathy Darr will be working from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Personnel Committee felt that at our current membership level, a part-time position would best meet the church's needs. This will mean that members will be asked to help with some clerical tasks off and on during the year, and the Personnel Committee and I hope that you will consider helping if asked. Also, Kathy will need to get her work done in fewer hours than usual, making it necessary to ask members not to linger in her office longer than it is necessary to complete the business at hand. Thank you all in advance for your willingness to help with this change.

Pastor Mary Ann Banning

We are pleased to announce and welcome **Maretta Hershberger** as our Hand bell Choir Director. Maretta comes to us after retiring as Music Director from Christ the King Lutheran Church. She has an M.A. in Congregational Worship and Music from Eastern Mennonite Seminary. Maretta has been a hand bell ringer for nearly 30 years and director for 20 years. She developed an adult choir as well as a youth choir. She is currently a member of the Jubilee Ringers.

Laura Rau is now our church organist. She has just completed her first year in the Master of Sacred Music program at Notre Dame. At Notre Dame she studies organ with Dr. Craig Cramer and works with the Women's Liturgical Choir. Her hometown is Independence, Kansas and she graduated from Wichita State University in Wichita, KS in 2008 with a Bachelor of Music degree in both organ and piano performance. Before moving to South Bend, Laura served as organist at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Wichita and worked as an accompanist for music students at Wichita State and as a private piano teacher.

2010 CROP Hunger Walk – Sunday, October 17, 2:00 pm

The United Religious Community of St. Joseph County is pleased to announce its continued support of the annual CROP Hunger Walk. The annual Walk will again begin and end at **Howard Park in downtown South Bend. Registration will begin at 1:00 pm with the Walk starting at 2:00.**

Rev. Larry Jackson, Field Director with Church World Services has been working with the URC to gather a leadership team and steering committee composed of past CROP Walk volunteers.

This CROP Hunger Walk Team has scheduled a **Recruiter's Gathering on Sunday, September 12th from 4:00 to 5:00 pm at Sunnyside Presbyterian Church, 115 S. Francis St., South Bend.** All congregation and organization representatives are invited and encouraged to attend in order to be equipped, resourced, and energized for this meaningful event. Packets will be available for pick-up.

Over the years, the CROP Hunger Walk has helped to feed thousands of hungry residents of St. Joseph County and millions across the world. 25% of the funds raised will stay in St. Joseph County and benefit several local food pantries. The Walk also helps to ensure the readiness and availability of first responders, appropriate supplies, and their immediate dispatch by Church World Service to disaster-stricken areas around the world.

JOIN THE RIVER BEND CHORUS on an A Capella Adventure Tuesdays, September 7 – 28, from 6:45 – 9:30 p.m. at St. Peter's United Church of Christ in the Fellowship Hall at 915 N. Ironwood Drive in South Bend. This FREE month-long program includes:

- * Weekly group vocal lessons
- * Learn to sing 4-part a capella harmony-barbershop style
- * Learn a song along with the chorus
- * Learn to move as you sing
- * Free 4-week trial membership
- * Performance opportunity

**Calling all who love to sing –
Calling all who'd like to ring!**

The **Chancel Choir** is gearing up for another season of song, but there is a major change this year. We have moved our rehearsal night to Thursday. Our new organist, Laura Rau, has obligations at Notre Dame on Wednesdays, so we're moving to Thursdays, a day we have known and loved in the past. First rehearsal will be September 2, at 7:00, preceded by our annual dinner at 6:00.

Contact Susan May at 259-1141 with questions. EVERYONE is welcome.

Women's voices are especially needed this fall. The **Canticle Ringers** adult hand bell choir is preparing to resume, as well. Maretta Hershberger will be our new director. Rehearsal time and day is yet to be set. Ringers will join singers at 6:00 on September 2 for our annual dinner together. Maretta would like all who can to come at 5:30 for a brief meeting. New members are always welcome. Call the office to reach the new director. **RSVP for dinner on Fellowship Pad in worship or by phoning 259-7874.**

Walk Now for Autism

I am participating in the Walk Now for Autism in Fort Wayne on Sept. 11. As many of you know, our little grandson, Charlie Palay, is autistic. One in every one hundred ten babies are afflicted with this disability. The number is one in every seventy for males. There is no known cause or cure. If you would like to support the research for autism, you can make a donation online at walknowforautism.org. Scroll down to "find a walker" and type in Christine Wukovits. The Fort Wayne website will pop up. Follow the user-friendly directions for making an online donation. If you are computer challenged like me, you can simply give me a check made out to Autism Speaks. I will turn it in on the day of the walk. Thanks so much for giving to this worthwhile cause.

Chris Wukovits

Change
You can weather the winds of change by standing firm on your principles.
Dream
The courage to dream and to grow is our greatest ally. It adds color to our lives.

Scrapbook Club Scrapbook Club will meet on Friday, October 1st from 6 to 11pm and on Saturday, October 2nd from 9 am to 9 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$5 for Friday and \$10 for Saturday. Light snacks and drinks will be provided. If you have a favorite drink, feel free to bring it for yourself. If you are attending on both Friday and Saturday, you will be able to leave your stuff out on your table so you are ready to start right away when you arrive on Saturday. Prepayment is required by Wednesday, September 29th so that set-up and food can be prepared accordingly. Please remember that meals will not be provided. I hope to see you there and remember that anyone working on any type of project is welcome to join us!

Brittany Rice

BOX TOPS for EDUCATION!
 You can help Battell School in a big way by saving those Box Tops for Education that are found on many products that you use every day. We get ten cents for every box top! With money for education shrinking by the day, this is any easy way to make a few bucks. Please put them in a sandwich bag and place them in my mailbox in the Christian Education Office. Thanks from all the kids at Battell!

Chris Wukovits

Book Club:
 This month's meeting will be on Sunday, September 19, 4 pm, at Betty's house. (We decided that we would do a "rotation location" this next year so that Betty doesn't have to host every meeting.) Also, we'd like to have everyone suggest at least one book to read. We won't pick all of our books at the beginning of the year. This will give us more options as far as picking "new reads" or hot items that folks may have heard about. The Gilead, a book that got postponed is a possible re-add to the list. Please let me know if anyone has any questions about our group. Our meetings are always a lot of fun and I am happy to share. Hope to see you soon and thanks, Beth.

Potential
 The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams

News of Presbyterian Women of First Presbyterian

Joint Circle Bible Study Kickoff
 Thursday, Sept. 16 6:00 p.m.
 Dr. Deborah Prince will be the Bible Study Leader.
 This year's Bible Study is on Revelation.
 Copies of the study will be available that night. Each circle is asked to bring a salad and dessert.

Looking forward to seeing you there.
 Laura Pride-PWCT co-moderator

Presbyterian Weekday Nursery School is in it's **45th year.**
 This school year will start on September 13th. Morning classes are from 8:45 to 11:15 a.m. and afternoon classes are 12:15 to 2:45 p.m. Please remember not to park in the east parking lot during school hours. Visitors are always welcome, if you find yourself at church during the day. In September the children will learn about new friends and apples.

Thank you, the PWNS Board

* * * * *

* The **Flower Fund** still has open dates until the end of this year. If you would like to remember a loved one, celebrate a special occasion or just give glory to our Father please contact Kathy in the church office to reserve your date.

* After the service the flowers are delivered to a church member, along with a hug. Please choose a date and give Kathy a call.

* Thank you.

* * * * *

The PRAYER PAGE

“Visionary Prayer”

~ prepared by Susan May ~

To “have vision,” to be “a visionary,” to “have a vision,” - these are not phrases we often apply to ourselves. And yet – envisioning can be a marvelous method of prayer. Below is one of my favorite prayers, one I have often printed out and sent to people as a ready reminder of others’ prayers for them and God’s caring will for them. I also keep a copy handy to use in praying for MYSELF in times of fear, discouragement, lack of direction, or grief. It’s a “One Size Fits All” prayer in which the heart and spirit of the pray-er speak directly to the heart and spirit of the one being prayed for. It is confident of God’s desire and ability to fulfill the vision.

+ + +

*I surround you with thoughts of love; I see you unafraid,
because God fills you with faith and courage.
I see you free from doubt and discouragement, serene and steady,
because the light of God’s Spirit glows within you.
I see you invincible, unconquerable,
because you are a spiritual being, a child of the Most High.
I see you as God sees you.*

*I know that the healing power of God is mightily active in you.
Every time I think of you, I give thanks that God’s perfect work
is being done in you, for you and through you.
The Lord bless you and keep you.*

A Prayer from Thomas Kelly, a Quaker of the early 1940’s, author of *A Testament of Devotion*

FPU@FPC 2010 Dave Ramsey's FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University is returning to First Presbyterian Church, Mishawaka this fall! Classes begin on Saturday, September 11th and run through Saturday, December 11th at 11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. Financial aid is available to help pay the cost of materials, contact Pastor Banning to set up an appointment for a meeting to discuss your request. (574-259-7874)

This is an Outreach ministry of our congregation and other area churches, please pass the information on to neighbors, friends, and co-workers. More information is available on Dave Ramsey’s website at daveramsay.com (just type in the zip code and search, our church comes up first on the list of local sites.) More INFO: DJSulak@fpcmishawaka.org

“Financial Peace University is Dave’s life-changing program that teaches you to achieve your financial goals by eliminating debt, saving for the future, and giving like never before. You will be challenged and motivated to make a plan for your money and change your family tree forever!” (from Financial Peace web site)