
First Press

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church – Marshfield, WI

DECEMBER 2011

PASTORAL PREFACE

Dear Friends,

Over the last couple of years, I find myself amused and incredulous over the efforts of several well known personalities promoting the idea that there is a war on Christmas. These individuals seem to find it especially egregious that merchants will urge their sales staff to wish their customers, “Happy Holidays.” There has even been an effort from some quarters that decorated trees should only be called “Christmas Trees.” I think I am amused by this effort because they have decided to focus on late customs that have now become associated with Christmas. These concerns are also overly involved with the commercial aspects of the holiday season. Let me explain.

If these folks were truly concerned with the “reason for the season,” shouldn’t they first focus on the liturgical disconnect with the commercial season? Liturgically, Christmas doesn’t actually begin until December 25th (and goes on for eleven more days thereafter). The season before is Advent, I haven’t yet heard any of the “war on Christmas” folks proclaim that merchants should be wishing their patrons a happy Advent! Further, why aren’t they decrying the substitution of Santa Claus for Christ? Where is the hue and cry over the red and green of the season instead of the purple for Advent and the white of Christmas? Those liturgical colors are far older than the colors now associated with the season.

We need to realize that the customs we now associate with Christmas come from practices and rituals associated with other primal faiths. Christians who came into contact with these customs and rituals reinterpreted them to help the people they encountered to understand this new faith. The reinterpretation became a tool for conversion. I think these earlier Christians realized that if God is truly present in the world, then God has already embraced people where they are, and it is easier to help them see their old customs in a new way than to declare a war on them.

For me, Christmas is one of the clearest ways we can understand God’s grace. God entered the created order in a personal and corporeal way so that we could understand that the brokenness of this world does not have to separate us from God’s love. God’s presence assures us that our fears and our cosmic loneliness no longer have a basis in reality. We are embraced in love with real arms and we are saved through one who shows us how to live even in the midst of death.

Pastoral Preface Continued

Christmas, then, is about embracing a new way of seeing. We forget this newness, so Christmas is a good reminder to see anew each year. I am not surprised that the Psalm for Christmas Eve is Psalm 96: "O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD all the earth." God calls us to see anew, to hope with restored vigor, and to love as if everything depended on it. It does!

And to our "War on Christmas" warriors, I say relax. The world has changed and we need to help the world to see how God is still transforming us; we don't need to attack it. Instead we should be a louder voice, "Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day." (Psalm 96:2 NRSV)

Blessed Advent and Merry Christmas. And if you go shopping, Happy Holidays!

Yours in Christ's love,

Kevin



Adult Forum

The past few weeks there have been a number of interruptions to the Adult Forum schedule due to other activities of the congregation. We were fortunate to have the Green Team show the movie "The Dark Side of Chocolate" on November 13th, which told of some of the more negative aspects of cocoa bean harvest with use of child labor. There was a very spirited discussion of what we can do to make it known we do not agree with this practice. The Deacons of First Presbyterian Church do offer Fair Trade Chocolate and Coffee products for sale. Our sources for Fair Trade products are not involved in the questionable practices, and they do offer a fair wage to the farmers who harvest the coffee and cocoa beans which are used for these products. The monies these farmers receive are put back into their farms and communities allowing for progress to be made. Per request of some of those present, there is interest in the background of Fair Trade coffee and chocolate production. We will attempt to get more information on this in a future Adult Forum.

Patty Faber has offered to continue her presentations based on the DVD lectures by Amy-Jill Levine on the Old Testament. Those present during her first two presentations asked that they be continued during the Adult Forum hour. The topic December 4th will be "Abraham, Sarah and Hagar". The information given about this topic, states "Here we meet Abraham – faithful hero, morally ambiguous trickster, and patriarch – first briefly via historical investigation and then through a close reading of Genesis 12:10-20." On December 11th our topic will be the accounts of Abraham's son Isaac and daughter-in-law Rebecca (Genesis 21-24) including also an introduction to the method of biblical study known as 'source criticism' (and its limitations). December 18th is the Christmas program during the service and Jesus' Birthday Party. The next Sunday is Christmas Day so there will be no Adult Forum then or on January 1st.

In January, we will once again have the "Talk Back" sessions with Pastor Kevin, starting January 8th. If anyone has other suggestions of topics they would like to have presented, please give that information to Nadene to allow scheduling of that topic. (nabrlaut@hotmail.com or call 384-5217 after 6 p.m.)

- Nadene Lautenschlager

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Both youth groups have a busy December planned. On December 4th we'll be attending the Central Wisconsin Orchestra concert of Amahl and the Night Visitor and listen to a MHS classmate perform a solo on his viola. The concert is at 4:00pm in Steven's Point. I need to reserve tickets soon. Students are \$5 and adults are \$20. Please let me know if you're attending and/or your parents can drive us there. (This has been cancelled)

We'll be selling Christmas cookies and candy in the narthex after church on the 18th in order to raise money for future projects. We'd like to encourage anyone to donate homemade goodies for us to sell. Please contact Cornelia Krahn at ckrahn@charter.net or 715-387-3838.



Calling All Music Students

Do you like to sing or play an instrument? Do you have a favorite Christmas carol to share with your friends and family at FPC? Have you ever wanted to be a part of the worship service? Here is YOUR opportunity to share your musical gifts in a meaningful way. Kathy Phillips is organizing the prelude music for the 5:30 pm Christmas Eve worship service. If you have a musical gift to share, please contact her at pkphillips88@charter.net or 715-387-0591.

FPC CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM NEEDS YOU!



Children's Christmas Program

Kids between the ages of preschool and 8th grade, come and join the fun!

Sing carols, speak lines, and tell this new version of the Christmas story on December 18.

Music practices during Sunday School.

Rehearsals 12/11 (during Sunday School hour) and 12/17 (Saturday a.m., exact time TBA)

Parents are invited to help, as they can.

Contact Joshua or Tracy Olson with questions (715.659.4146)

UPHOLDING GOD'S PEOPLE

Thank you to all congregational members who have turned in their financial commitment for our FPC 2012 mission of Upholding God's People. The number of commitments which have been turned in as of November 20, 2011, are 75, which represents 78% of the total number of commitments submitted last year. It also represents 87% of the total pledged income for 2011.

If you have not submitted your financial commitment yet, please do so as soon as possible. We need to finalize our 2012 budget and without a final tally of commitment pledges, it is very difficult to make determinations of total income and the impact on the final budget. We anticipate needing an additional \$60,000 of pledged income to meet estimated budgeted expenses for 2012. Let's make this happen!

If you have submitted your commitment pledge and need verification of the amount, please contact Ellen Leick, Business Manager.

Thank you for your attentiveness during our Stewardship discussions, your questions, and now finally your commitment to FPC mission.

Stewardship Drive Committee

Jim Aue
Pastor Kevin Buchanan

Ruth Voss
Don Zais

WEATHER ALERT...In the event of inclement weather on Sunday mornings, please check Channel 9 – waow.com for church cancellations. You can also check on FPC's web page at www.fpcmarshfield.org.

Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy offering of the Presbyterian Church is one of four special offerings collected every year. The Joy Offering is distributed equally between the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and Presbyterian related ethnic schools. Assistance is given through the Board to both retired and employed workers with urgent, unexpected financial needs.

- Karen Mitchell

FAMILY OF GOD

TREE... We invite new members and friends to join our FPC tradition and add your ornament to our "Family of God" tree located in the narthex. This ornament could represent your family or your family's nationality. Many people have added their names and dated their ornament. Even if you have already donated an ornament, you are welcome to bring another. Thank you!

THE CHRISTMAS

CHRISMONS... have been missing for a few years. Chrismons are Christian symbols and were made by Lois Fye. Ours are white with a gold edge and beautiful. We have occasionally used them on our Christmas tree. If you know where they might be, please call Harriet at 715.384.2484 or e-mail patty faber at pkfmfld@gmail.com.

Gift Cards for Christmas?

Why not?

What do you do for all those people who already have everything? Why not let them pick out their own gift. You can't get it wrong!

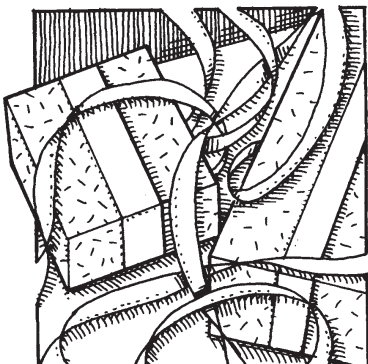
How about those people in distant cities and towns? Gift cards are really easy to send.

Students? They always seem to be in need of food.

Don't forget that the church sells many gift cards in its Scrip program and many of these are good not just in Marshfield but anywhere the various stores and restaurants are found.

Make your Christmas shopping easy, get gifts guaranteed to be useful for the recipient and help the church earn a little all at the same time. Buy Scrip.

Finance/Stewardship Committee



**ORDER
YOUR
POINSETTIAS**

THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS CAN BE FOUND ON THE TABLE OUTSIDE THE OFFICE DOOR. ORDERS NEED TO BE

TURNED IN ON DECEMBER 5.

*Please be sure to select a color.
Thank you!*

**INNER CITY CIRCLE
WILL MEET AT THE
HOME OF
IRENE BURRER
ON
THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 9
AT
9:30 A.M.**

CROP WALK 2011 UPDATE

Grand total = \$5,268.00
Collected from FPC
Participants = \$1,865.00

Consent Notice

Just say "No!"

Throughout the year, the church photographs individual members or groups as they participate in varied aspects of congregational life. Occasionally, the church uses these photos of people and groups in church publications and on the church website. If you DO NOT WANT your photograph, or those of your minor children to be published in these ways, please contact the church office. Your name will be retained on a reference list so that we might honor your wishes. Thank you.



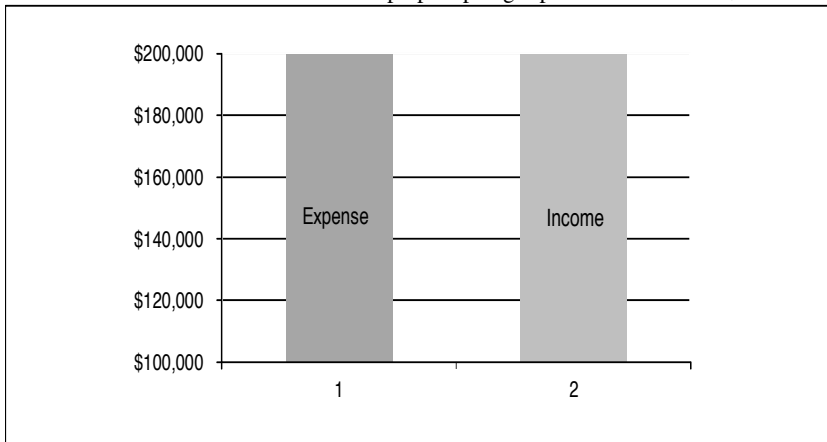
Administrative News

Financial Report

General Fund as of October, 2011

	Oct 2011	Oct 2010	YTD 2011	YTD 2010	YTD Difference
Income	15,791	28,438	218,336	238,730	-20,394
Expenses	17,686	13,013	217,062	158,089	58,973
Income Less Expenses	-1,895	15,426	1,274	80,641	-79,367

YTD expenses \$217,062
 YTD income received with prepaid pledges prorated \$213,050



2011 Contributions: Just a reminder that if you want to receive credit in 2011 for your contributions, they must either be dropped off at church by December 30 or postmarked by December 31, 2011.

Circle of Love Fund: This fund was established as a perpetual fund so that we can provide assistance to our church family and friends through an interest free loan. If you know of anyone who could benefit from this type of assistance, please have them contact Ellen Leick, business manager at 715-384-2484 or eleick@frontier.com for an application. All information is kept confidential.

Financial Report continued on page 12

**Serving our church
2011-2012**

✕ Session

*Marilyn Graham, Josh Olson
 Gayle Strand
 Don Zais, Clerk of Session
 Jim Aue, Patty Faber
 Mary Miech, Carolyn Opitz
 Bruce Lautenschlager
 Phil Phillips, Nancy Popp
 Dot Shields*

✕ Deacons

*Dolores Aue,
 Clay & Terry Bernick
 Adele Heller
 Ron Rank, Janet Singer
 Janet Crossley, Mary Mabeus
 Tracy Olson, Chair
 Kathy Phillips
 Mary Jo Siebenaler
 Beth Albee, Jan Clouse
 Betty Pratt, Beth Walsh
 Kerri Wichlacz, John Wing*

First ✕ Press

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 200 S Lincoln Ave
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phone (715) 384-2484
 fax (715) 387-3306
 e-mail fpcm@frontier.com
 website www.fpcmashfield.org
 Pastor.....Rev. Dr. Kevin Buchanan
 Parish Nurses.....Carolyn Opitz
Kerri Wichlacz
 Confirmation Coordinator.....
 Deb Murrell
 Children's Ministries Coordinator
 Denise Sonnemann
 Youth Ministries Coordinator.....
 Cornelia Krahn
 Adult Forum Coordinator.....
 Nadene Lautenschlager
 Nursery Attendant.....Therese Brooks
 Business Manager Ellen Leick
 Admin. Secretary.....Harriet Brandt
 Custodian.....Mike Ress

REMEMBERING OUR SHUTINS AND HOMEBOUND

Angelus Center – 305 S Chestnut
 Marshfield 54449
 Earl Nelson #223

John Lueck
 8951 E 29th St
 Marshfield 54449

Helen Wolfe – Bethel
 8014 Bethel Rd
 Arpin 54410

Bill & Lois Myers
 1704 Woodsvie Dr
 Marshfield 54449

Norma White - Bethel
 8014 Bethel Rd
 Arpin 54410

Marshfield Center – 814 W 14th St
 Marshfield 54449
 Verna Lueck

Park Apartments 606 S Walnut
 Marshfield 54449
 Alice Guttman #404 –
 Ruth Hefko #501 -
 Evelyn Smith #217 –

Three Oaks – 209 Wilderness View Dr
 Marshfield 54449
 Margaret Lenz #101
 Bonnie Babler

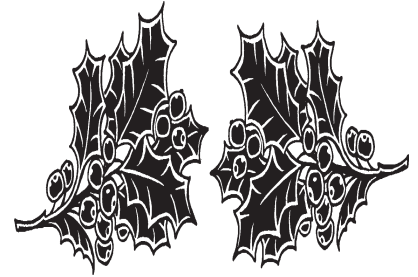
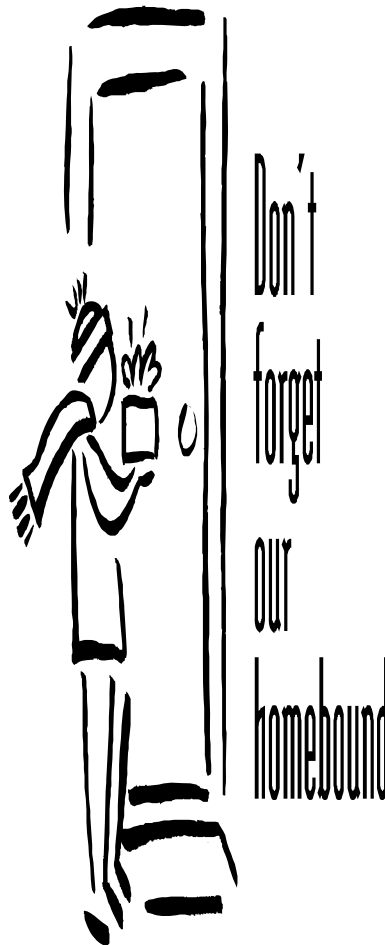
Stoney River – 1204 W McMillan St
 Marshfield 54449
 Muriel Mickel #33
 Lucille Kalsched

Marjorie Halle
 709 S Pine Ave
 Marshfield 54449

Art & Audrey Hokenson
 11143 Hwy 10
 Marshfield 54449

John & Pat Keel
 1419 S Felker Ave
 Marshfield 54449

Ken & Carole LeMoine
 9526 S Washington Ave
 Marshfield 54449



**LECTIONARY FOR
 DECEMBER**

***Indicates Scriptures that
 will most likely be
 preached on.**

**December 4
 2nd Sunday of Advent**

*Isaiah 40:1-11
 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
 2 Peter 3:8-15
 *Mark 1:1-8

**December 11
 3rd Sunday of Advent**

*Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
 Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55
 *1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
 John 1:6-8, 19-28

**December 18
 4th Sunday of Advent**

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
 Luke 1:46b-55 or
 *Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
 Romans 16:25-27
 *Luke 1:26-38

**December 25
 Nativity of Jesus Christ/
 Christmas Day**

*Isaiah 52:5-10
 Psalm 98
 Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12)
 *John 1:1-14

FPC PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES ARE BEING PRINTED!

As you recall, all people who had their photos taken during the late October photography days will receive a complimentary copy of the directory (even if they purchased no photos and only received the complimentary 8 by 10 portrait).

If you did NOT have your photo taken and you want a copy of the directory, a donation of \$5 is requested which will help cover some of the costs of the production of the directories. The people who worked on this BIG project are all hoping you find the directory a great tool for helping get better acquainted with the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church.

You will be notified as soon as the directories arrive.

- Gerri Toyama

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM YOUR FPC STAFF



Pastor Kevin
Ellen Leick
Mike Ress
Therese Brooks
Carolyn Opitz
Kerri Wichlacz
Greg Reiersen
Kathy Phillips
Tiffany Czaikowski
Deb Murrell
Denise Sonnemann
Cornelia Krahn
Harriet Brandt

DO YOU WANT ANY ADDITIONAL PHOTOS?

If you have decided that you want additional photos from LifeTouch (the photo directory company), you can call 1-888-313-1746. They are offering 10% off of the listed prices. It will be helpful if you had the paper showing your selected photos in "thumbnail" form because then you can order the exact ones you chose during the selection process.

- Gerri Toyama

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Many thanks go out to the great crew of folks who helped during the photo directory project. As always, there is danger of omitting someone, but please know that it would be an inadvertent mistake.

Please acknowledge the efforts of Danielle Brooks (who did the entire layout of the LifeTouch software), FPC's staff, including Ellen, Harriet and Mike (they contributed HOURS of time), Patty Brink, David Keel, Membership Committee, the hosts and hostesses, Janet Singer, Betsy Sockow, the LifeTouch staff, Pastor Kevin Buchanan, Cornelia Krahn, Rev. Janet Wolfe, Cheryl Hartl, Gerri Toyama, Terry Gillespie (as webmaster of the FPC site, he set up the efficient direct access you had when you registered online), and of course, the members and friends of FPC who participated. It will be exciting to see our new directory!

- Gerri Toyama

SILENT AUCTION...The Deacons are busy planning the 9th Annual Silent Auction and are counting on your support! Please be thinking about the kind of gift you and/or your family can donate to help support this important fund raiser.

In addition to raising funds for FPC, we will be donating 10% of the monies raised to support mission/charity projects. Donated items in past years have included: services such as lawn mowing, scrap booking, music and racquetball lessons, dinners and wine tasting parties, homemade desserts and babysitting. Handcrafted items have been very popular such as: quilts and quilted wall hangings, fine art prints, jewelry, woodworking items, fishing lures, and hand knit articles. Always popular for vacation lovers is the gift of the use of a personal cabin or condo for a weekend or a week. Tickets for a sporting event or concert are welcome. Antiques are accepted, but please no "garage sale items".

Please be thinking ahead how your unique donation can make the Silent Auction of 2012 a success! Contact Kathy Phillips if you have questions at 715-387-0591 or pkphillips88@charter.net

Dates and Deadlines are as follows:

January 1, 2012- Start accepting donations
 January 22, 2012- Last day to accept donations
 January 29, 2012 – Bidding opens
 February 19, 2012 – Bidding closes

NEW MEMBERS!...Please check the New Members photo board in the hallway leaving from the narthex into the fellowship hall. Photos of the two newest members of FPC are posted, as well as a brief biography. Please be sure to meet and greet these new folks! – Gerri Toyama

Christian Education

Our committee members have been a fairly busy group and do wish to thank all of you who participated in the Advent Festival, whether decorating the church, decorating cookies, making ornaments for the Giving Tree, joining us for lunch, or helping with the lunch and clean up. Activities like this are a lot of work but definitely a source of enjoyment with the fellowship they allow as well.



Please be aware of the Giving Tree and take an ornament or two (or more) on which various items needed by the Tiny Tot Intergenerational

Center, community Angel Tree, and needs of the Heifer Project have been listed. Folks in our community as well as the world community are in need this year as much as ever, and all donations will be very much appreciated. The community angel tree items need to be returned by December 1st.

Mark your calendars for the Birthday Party for Jesus on December 18th after the annual Christmas Program during the church service. Please join us for coffee and cake to celebrate, albeit a week early, the birth of our Savior. Josh Olson and Amy Place are working with the children to develop a program we are sure all will enjoy.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO THE WHOLE CONGREGATION FROM THE CE COMMITTEE!

WHY SHOULD YOU SIGN THE FELLOWSHIP PADS??

FPC wants you to sign the fellowship pads if you are a new visitor, a many-time visitor OR member. If you are a visitor, we like to send you a letter of welcome (and please take a Welcoming Bag, from the table in the narthex) and if you are a regular attendee, and we are used to seeing you in church, if you are missing, we miss YOU.

After a few weeks we will try to contact you to see if we can be of any assistance. If we know you are out of town for a period of time, like the Snow Birds, then we don't worry about not seeing you. We then look forward to seeing you in the spring.

If anyone knows of a member or friend who might need a contact from a Deacon, Session Member or Pastor Kevin, please notify the church office.
- Gerri Toyama, Membership Chair

Library Update

The library project continues to unearth many interesting items. A mission statement for the library has been requested and will be submitted to Session for approval in the near future. It is requested that if you have concerns about how decisions are being made as books are reviewed please address them to Nadene, Pastor Kevin or leave a message with Harriet and she will contact one of us. A guide of how to determine if a book or other library piece was to be retained was developed and cleared through Session before the ladies started this arduous task. It is available from Harriet in the church office.

The library ladies have been meeting regularly and have identified a number of pieces that needed to be reviewed for decision on whether they will be retained in the library. We are well aware not all will agree with the decisions made, but please keep in mind much thought and discussion is going into this decision process. In the meantime please be sure to sign out a book if you wish to take one home to read and return whatever you may have at home in your library and forgotten to return.

Nadene Lautenschlager – CE Chairperson nabrlaut@hotmail.com or 384-5217 after 6 p.m.

HELLO my good Presbyterian friends. This is your church mouse returning to good old first Pres. I've been around this country, but home is still the best place to be. This is the season when we should pause and reflect on our lives and thank our God for all we have. There are people in our city, state, and country who have so little, but we complain about what we are asked to do to help our city, state and country.

This time of the year, everyone seems to be asking something from us—time, commitment to a project, money, and an open mind to help others. Sometimes it is hard to feel charitable and willing when our inner self says “what about me” but God needs us to care for all the others who are not as fortunate as we.

As winter and the “Holiday Season” rushes on us, let us all take a moment to pause, reflect on our beliefs and thank God for watching over us. I'll be here in the church this winter watching what is happening and taking part whenever I can. We Presbyterians need to do what we can for each other.

- Your Church Mouse



CONFIRMATION

Confirmation discussions have centered on Jesus using stories in the Bible, our creeds, and finding/representing Jesus in today's world. We finished November with each student writing his or her own "statement of faith" about Jesus.

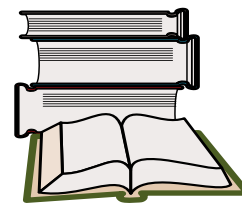
Our ninth grade students were given new personal copies of the New Revised Standard Bible at the beginning of Confirmation. Thank you, FPC Christian Education Committee, for these gifts.

Students and mentors will meet together for class following worship on **Sunday, December 11**, to learn more about each other and to continue our discussion of Jesus. We are grateful for the commitment of the adult mentors in our congregation who are committed to the developing faith life of our students. Mentors this year include Jorge Ramirez, Barb Gillespie, Carmen Lawler, Kathy Phillips, Kerri Wichlacz, Mark Nelson, Mary Jo Siebenaler, Cornelia Krahn, Janet Stewart, and Jill Schulz.

For a Confirmation Christmas "offering", we will be collecting personal care items for S.O.S. Needed items include shampoo, deodorant, shaving cream, razors, toilet paper, kleenex, and dish soap. Bring your gifts to class and add them to our gift box.

Remember to put Confirmation on your 2011 calendar! We meet the second and third Sundays of each month from 10:45 until Noon.

Deb Murrell, Confirmation Coordinator



OPEN BOOK GROUP

**Thursday, December 15,
9 a.m. refreshments;
9:30 discussion**

Hostess:

Georgeanne Cusic, 1510

**N. Broadway (between
Upham and McMillan)**

Phone: 715-387-3087

Facilitator: Sybil

**Basombrio (recommended
by Marilyn Graham)**

**Book: Caroline Kennedy,
ed. "She Walks in**

Beauty: A Woman's

**Journey Through Poems,"
Hyperion, 2011.**

Hardback \$25 retail,

Amazon \$16.49.

Library has it.

"Caroline Kennedy has marshaled the gifts of our greatest poets to pay a very personal tribute to the human experience, this time to the complex and fascinating subject of womanhood. Inspired by her own reflections on more than fifty years of life as a young girl, a woman, a wife and a mother, the book draws on poetry's eloquent wisdom to ponder the many joys and challenges of being a woman. Kennedy has divided the collection

Open Book Group continued on page 12

Open Book Group continued

into sections that signify to her the most notable milestones, passages, and universal experiences in a woman's life, and she begins each of these sections with an introduction in which she explores and celebrates the most important elements of life's journey.

"The collection includes works by Elizabeth Bishop, Sharon Olds, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Mary Oliver, Pablo Neruda, W.H. Auden, Adrienne Rich, Sandra Cisneros, Anne Sexton, W.S. Merwin, Dorothy Parker, Queen Elizabeth I, Lucille Clifton, Naomi Shihab Nye, and W.B. Yeats. It includes some Bible passages. Whether it's falling in love, breaking up, friendship, marriage, motherhood, or growing old, the book is a priceless resource for anyone, male or female, who wants a deeper understanding and appreciation of what it means to be a woman."

All are invited, whether or not you have read the book. —Janet Wolfe

Financial Report Continued

☐ Festival Food Receipts: Please make sure to drop off your Festival Food receipts for October through December by January 8, 2012.

Memorial / Building Fund as of October 2011

Cash and Investments	84,197		
Designated Funds:			
Bldg Items	35,500	Bldg Fund/Parking	23,521
Parish Nurse Program	202	BF Mission	6,207
Music/Worship	1,276	CE Prog./Library	15,919
Youth Programs	701	Audio Tapes	155
H. Scidmore Mem Garden	716		
Line of Credit			0
Notes Program Loan Payable			177,519.11
Notes Program Interest Payable			52,792.69
Building Fund Total Debt			230,311.80

- Current rates for the Notes are 2.00% for \$10,000 or more and 1.50% for under \$10,000.
- Please call or e-mail me (eleick@frontier.com) if you have any questions or comments ~ Ellen Leick, Business Manager



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Dorothy Schubert
Taylor Straughan
- 3 Mary Miech, Sherri Twumasi
- 5 Carolyn Opitz
- 6 Richard Engel
Charles Podbelsek
- 7 Terry Gillespie
- 8 Tyler Kumm
Rachael Luchterhand
Andrew Olson
- 9 Patricia Keel, Jed Schilling
- 11 Carlos Escudero
Haley Sonnemann
- 12 Jenna Nordin, Ana Stamas
Diane Van Note
- 13 Katie Olszewski
- 14 Alexa Schoen
- 15 Mary Mabeus
- 16 Kent Olson, Davis Rens
- 17 Jordan Miller
- 19 Randy Van Note
- 21 Kaleigh Grant
George Schmoller
- 22 Roy Lubber, Rebecca Schulz
- 23 Dale Dooge, Carol Rice
- 24 Reed Miller
- 26 Zachary Genett
Elma Luchterhand
- 27 Joe Chojnacki
- 30 Daniel Stanley
- 31 Verna Lueck, Jimmy Thomas
Dieter Voss

First ✠ Press

First Presbyterian Church

200 S Lincoln Avenue

Marshfield, WI 54449

Return Service Requested

Non-profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Marshfield, WI 54449

Permit No. 288

**Our Mission**

“First Presbyterian Church, Marshfield, Wisconsin, seeks to welcome all to join us on our journey of faith, denying no one, based upon his or her particular human condition, participation in the life of the church. We want to be a safe place, a sanctuary where people are accepted, included, and cared for as they are. We will be agents of God’s transforming power, aligning ourselves with the Holy Spirit as we pray, worship, learn, share fellowship and serve together. By attending to the love of Jesus Christ in our midst, we discover a deepening faith that makes a difference in our lives. As a community based on God’s love, we strive to be of service to our neighbors and to the world.”

Children's Ministry Update



Tis the season for celebrating the birth of Jesus. While we may not have a busy month of Sunday School, we will be very busy practicing for the Christmas Program on Sunday, December 18th. We will have regular Sunday School on December 4th, where we will be hearing the story of the birth of Jesus. On December 11th, instead of Sunday School, we will have a practice for the program. Also, on Saturday, December 17th at 9am, we will have a rehearsal for the big performance. We hope you can all join us for the program and will stay afterwards for Jesus' Birthday Party!

Merci ☞ Thank You ☞ Gracias

A special THANK YOU to:

Dolores Aue
Kristin Gerndt
Danielle Brooks
Katie Olszewski
Carmen Lawler

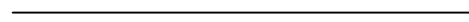
April Daul
Christy Rens
Cathy Schneider
Josh Olson
Janet Stewart

We wouldn't be able to have Sunday School without your dedication and time! Thank you!

HELP WANTED

Be an ACTIVE part of Children's Ministry at FPC! We are always looking for teachers for our kindergarten thru 2nd grade and also for our 3rd thru 5th grade classes. If you are interested but still a little nervous about it, come and see what we are all about.

We are in need of teachers for January!!!! If you are able to teach, please let Denise know!



December

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1 7:00 Deacons Mtg	2 4:00 Samaritan House	3 12:00 Noon – 4:00 Baby Shower
4 9:30 Worship/Comm 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 SS/AF	5 12:30-3:30 SOS 3-9 Suzuki Lessons 5:30 Music/Movement	6 10:00 Staff Mtg 12:30-3:30 SOS	7 9:00 Music/Movement 12:00 Bible Study 12:30-3:30 SOS 4:15 Worship Cmt Mtg 4-5:30 Basketball 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Chancel Choir No Youth Group Meetings	8 9:30 Inner City Circle at Irene Burrer's 12:30-3:30 SOS 6:30 Pack 381 Boy Scouts	9 12:30-3:30 SOS	10
11 9:30 Worship 10:30 Second Sunday Breads 10:45 SS (Christmas Program Practice)/AF/Conf Class 5:00 Troop 381 6:30 Boy Scouts	12 3-9 Suzuki Lessons 5:30 Music/.Movement	13 10:00 Staff Mtg 6:00 CE Cmt Mtg	14 9:00 Music/Movement 5:15 F/S Cmt Mtg 6:00 Handbells 6:30 Middle/High School Youth 7:00 Chancel Choir	15 9:00 Open Book Group at Georgeanne Cusic's	16 Morning and Afternoon 4K Christmas Programs	17 9:00 Sunday School Christmas Program Practice
18 9:30 Worship/SS Christmas Program 10:30 Fellowship (Birthday Party for Jesus) 10:45 AF/Confirmation/Youth Groups Bake Sale	19 3-9 Suzuki Classes 5:30 M/M Class 5:30 Building/Grounds Cmt Mtg 6:30 Green Team Mtg	20 10:00 Staff Mtg 1:00 Outreach Cmt Mtg 6:30 Session Mtg	21 9:00 Music/Movement 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	22	23	24 5:30 Family Christmas Worship/Communion 9:00 Candlelight Worship/Communion
25 9:30 Informal Christmas Worship 10:30 Fellowship NO SS/AF	26 CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	27	28 7:00 Chancel Choir	29 6:30 Pack 381 Boy Scouts	30	31

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