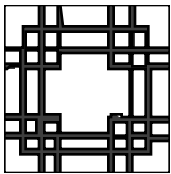


COMMUNITY CALL

Ministers: The People of God; Pastor: Rev. D. Matthew Stith
702 Sheyenne St., P.O. 546, West Fargo, ND 58078 701-282-4135 E-mail: office@cpcwf.org Web: http://cpcwf.org



PRESBYTERIAN SQUARES

Working women and busy moms: We all know that we run from the corner of God and church to our family corner to our work/housework corner to trying to find time for ourselves corner. Here is a place and a time designed especially for you.

You are invited to attend the first gathering of the Presbyterian Squares on Wednesday, November 4th, from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the church in the narthex? There will be a light supper, a short devotional and some powwowing on what we want our gathering to become. So bring your ideas and a picture of yourself between the ages of 4-10 with your name on the back (but don't let anyone else see it).

Questions? Give Vicki Peihl a call at 532-0358 or e-mail her at peihls@juno.com.

BEAUTIFUL RAVISHING AUDACIOUS SOCIETY: THE NEXTEVENT

We will meet at Carol Sterup's house:

Monday, November 16th, 7:00 p.m.

We will be playing a very exciting game that you will not want to miss. Please sign up in the narthex. Invite a friend who has not experienced the joy of BRAS!



PASTOR'S PEN

When you plan a big family vacation, you always imagine all the fun things you'll do, all the great pictures, the souvenirs, and the memories you'll bring home. If you're like me, you get very focused on the goal of getting everything done before the departure date, and the trip itself starts to take on almost mythic proportions, becoming an ideal, something that, if I can only get there, will be the perfect solution to all of my stresses and strains, a time of complete relaxation and fun.

Of course, once the vacation actually starts, things generally prove to be a bit more complicated and messy. It turns out that just because the family

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is in Florida, or at the lake, or wherever, that doesn't mean that the various frictions and arguments that periodically pop up simply disappear. The pressures of work and school, of life in "the real world" may fade into the background a bit, but they certainly don't go away altogether. The family at play is still a regular human family, having a good time, to be sure, but still as fragile and fallible as we are anywhere else.

It occurs to me that, in this way, a vacation sort of resembles the church. I know, this sounds a bit forced, but bear with me. Don't we sometimes sort of expect that people who are part of the church are supposed to have all of their problems solved, their stresses relieved? Don't we sometimes even feel somehow inadequate when we come out of worship on Sunday and are still messed up, still tossed and tumbled by the pressures and frictions of life?

Well, we shouldn't. The church, just like a vacationing family, is still made of people, even while it sits in the Sanctuary on Sunday morning. People in the church still have problems, still struggle, still have a long way to go to perfection. It has even been known to happen that people in the church fail to get along with one another! In the church or out, we all have to figure out how to get along as best we can, with God's help, even though it isn't always easy.

There is, however, another angle from which one can look at this vacation analogy. Remember that "ideal vacation," the one I start looking forward to but

that never actually happens, where we go to that perfect place of rest, and everything is made right once we're there? The church, and her imperfect members, actually have one of those to look forward to. The family of God has been promised that, in the fullness of time, we will really, truly get away from it all, and find ourselves at the foot of the heavenly throne. How's that for an ideal vacation?



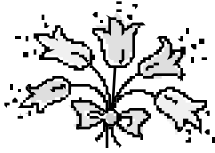
Actually, it's even better. See, any vacation on earth, no matter how long or how good, eventually ends. We have to go home, and the vacation fades away like it never happened. But when we go to the Kingdom of Heaven, we won't have to go home, because we'll be home. The joyous get-together with all our brothers and sisters, in the presence of the Lord God himself, will never end. And that will be a trip worth waiting for.

HANDBELLS!

I am looking for 11 handbell malletors for the Christmas season. If you think you cannot ring a handbell, this is an opportunity for you! We will be learning one song to be played during the Christmas season (not on Christmas eve or day), and it will be played using mallets. Please contact me if you are interested as I cannot order music until I have 11 people signed up. Practice will be held Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. beginning tentatively November 4th. Call Carrie (282-9213) if you are interested.



Thanks,
Carrie Leopold



THANK YOU!!!

We would like to extend our sincere and heartfelt *thank you* to our church family, friends, and family. Your prayers, support, and kind words and deeds during our latest of life's challenges were wonderful;. We could never have imagined the warm, caring, support coming from every direction. There were times when we felt so many arms holding us up that it was beyond description. We were indeed fortunate to have great medical, spiritual, and family involvement. As of the last checkup, the treatments and prayers have been successful.

"Thank You" and "may God bless you real good," as He has us.

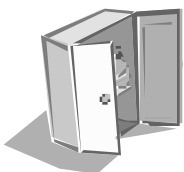
Jim & Brenda Bjorklund

SECRET ANGELS

The Secret Angels will be back again this year to make people feel loved and special. During the month of December, your Secret Angel will help remind you that you are indeed special and important. Please sign-up the in narthex by Sunday, November 15th. ***This is an all-church event - men, women and children all make great angels! There will be a separate list for adult and children angels. If you are uncertain as to which group you belong in then see Becky (281-8122) or Carol (293-6603).



SUPPLIES NEEDED



Cleaning out your cupboards? If you have any extra canning jars or scraps of material – Soul train could use them! We would need them by November 1st.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE TRAVELING PLATE?



*This plate shall have no owner
For its journey never ends
It travels in the circle
Of God's family and our friends.
It carries love from home to home
For everyone to share
The food that's placed upon it
Is filled with love and care.
So please enjoy what's on this plate,
Then fill it up again
Pass along the love it holds
To your family and friends.*

So says the verse displayed on the CPC's traveling plate. Made by Becky and Emma DeJong and started by Soul Train, this plate is set up to share goodies and God's love with our entire congregation. Along with the plate and goodies comes a book full of the shared recipes, special scriptures and good wishes. Look to see the traveling plate traveling your way soon and be ready to send it on to another one of your brothers or sisters in Christ.

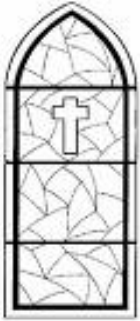
CALENDARS FOR SALE



When am I supposed to serve at fellowship? When is Easter this year? When is Becky's birthday? Are you having trouble keeping track of all those important dates? Good news – Soul Train is selling calendars again.

You can purchase yours and some for friends on Sunday Nov. 15th and Sunday Nov. 22nd. They are \$6.00 each.

****A sample calendar will be hanging in the narthex.****



COMMENTS FROM CURT

Entering into Candidacy

A Lot of Traveling

It seems like the last three weeks have been chock-full of traveling. Kadra and I were able to travel to ND for the weekend for me to meet with Presbytery, and then Kadra and I celebrated a surprise graduation party for Karen, my mother-in-law. We then were back to school and work for a week, then off to Texas to visit two good friends who were our next door neighbors last year. We got to see what life in the ministry looks like, and I think it looks a lot like what I thought it would. Which is good, because Presbytery voted me on to be a Candidate.

Most Recent Updates

In becoming a Candidate, I move on to the second and last phase in my process of becoming a pastor within the PC (USA). Come next August, I will take my final ordination exams; the result of which will decide if I can submit my resume to churches and discern my first call. It seems like now that I am 27, I am finally figuring out what I will be when I grow up. At the same time, we continue to grow, and God continues to reveal what the Lord has for us in our lives. This ever changes and we are ever challenged, all the while we continue to be disciples of Christ. Thank you to everyone who said a prayer, supported Kadra and me, and continue to do so. In many ways, you are our life support.

The Round up

The last newsletter I sent out was solemn and a steady dose of reality. The past two weeks have been composed of writing papers and studying, so this newsletter needs to be more about the

good times.

Kadra and I love traveling. We have gotten to do a lot of that in the past few weeks and have been able to see friends and family. Being around loved ones is refreshing and rejuvenating. So, even though these past two weeks have been busy, I feel God at work and amongst everything my wife and I have been doing. It has been wonderful. Also, the support we have received in light of my dad's accident was a gift from God. Each one of you are a gift, and both Kadra and I thank you for letting God's light shine through you.

On an even lighter note yet, I was able to participate on a flag football team with my seminary peers. We were appropriately named the Old Man Crew in light of us seminarians playing with the undergrads. I am delighted to say that we finished third out of seven, going five hundred entering the playoffs. We then reached the second round of three and were beat by a faster and younger team. It is also worth noting that all the seminary students had midterms the day after the championship, so we shouldn't have been playing in the championship game even if we qualified. Still, I must say, and Matt Stith, the pastor at Community Presbyterian in West Fargo, can relate, when I say I had a blast and look forward to getting all sore and bruised up again next year.

Pray for..

Discernment in the coming stages of life.

Congregations everywhere.

Friends and family.

Curtis and Kadra Brophy

73 Collins St Unit B

Dubuque, IA 52001

brocur@yahoo.com brokad@yahoo.com

701-219-9486



THEOLOGY IN THE BIG APPLE

By Blair
Moorhead

Each day at noon, away from the classroom, the demands of work, and the hustle

and bustle of the streets of Manhattan, Union students gather for worship. The half hour services are a chance for faculty, students, and anyone dropping by the school to sing, pray, and hear what's on each other's hearts and minds. No two services are alike. One day you might walk into the century-old chapel to find that instead of chairs you will sit on meditation cushions. The next day the chairs will be arranged in an arc around the communion table. Beyond the physical changes of the chapel, each chapel service is organized by a different group of students. The United Church of Christ-organized chapel service might be followed by a worship organized by the Ecological Caucus. You never know how chapel will happen, but you always know what will happen: you will be moved. You may be moved to learn the experiences of a classmate finding their place in another denomination, or you may be moved to take a pledge to protect the environment. Or, on lucky days, you may walk in the chapel to find a moving conversation over a home-cooked meal.

I had the opportunity to be a part of two chapel services last week. The first lifted nameless (and named) women from the Bible and gave them each two minutes to tell a first person account of their lives. I tried to put myself in Leah's shoes from Genesis 30. In the second, I attempted to see why God is so angry with Job in Chapter 38.

Being a part of worship is not just valuable because of the joy and commandment of praising our Lord. It is also an amazing classroom in which to learn about the liturgical life of the church. It became apparent to me when involved in the worship planning at the All Africa Conference of Churches that envisioning a worship service is an entirely different skill than envisioning an essay on Karl Barth (yep, it's midterm time). You all know this too; you shape worship life when you contribute special music, children's time, announcements, and the reading of scripture. Chapel services are a chance not only to benefit from communal time with Jesus, but to learn how the elements of worship combine to make a meaningful experience for those involved.





FINANCIAL REPORT

Budgeted 2009 giving:
\$165,747.79 / 52 weeks =
\$3,187.46 per week

Week	Budgeted Giving to Date	Actual Giving to Date
10/18/09	\$133,873	\$110,022

This does not include the mortgage payment of \$3,146.54. We have funds designated to pay the mortgage through December and part of January. The balance of the operating fund loan at this time is \$9,800.00.

Giving is not a natural inclination.

Because of our self-interests, we are inclined to take care of ourselves first and others second. If we rely on our own strength to give, we are likely to hoard what we have. Our heavenly Father knows that our giving helps us break the grip money may have over us. When we give our first and best to the Lord, we show that our faith and trust are in Him, rather than in our money and possessions.

FROM THE DEACONS:

Preparing an extra plate of food and delivering it to someone in need may seem like a small kindness but to those who receive the food, it is very much appreciated. The Deacons would like to give a big THANK YOU to all who pitched in and delivered meals recently. And as always, if you know of someone in need of meals, a ride to an appointment, or a visit from Matt or one of the Deacons, please feel free to contact us. Also if you would like to be on the call list to provide a meal for someone in need, please sign up in the narthex or contact one of the Deacons. Our home phone numbers and e-mail addresses are in the front of the church directory.



MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUL TRAIN 2009-2010



Nov. 1st - 6:30 - 8:30 - game night

Nov. 8th - 6:30 - 8:30 - cookie/soup jar fundraiser - with dinner

Nov. 15th - 6:30 - 8:30 - presentation from Dave Thompson about his trip to Israel. We will invite other area churches to listen. This should be very entertaining. The dinner thing is on!

Nov. 22nd - 6:30 - 8:30 - Bible Trivia with the Thostensons and dinner.

Nov. 29th - Thanksgiving break- no meeting

Dec. 6th - Wii games with Carey Talley- dinner will be served.

Dec. 20th - TBA - Progressive dinner

Dec. 27th and Jan. 3rd - no meeting- Christmas break

April 11th - The Jamestown Retreat - put this on your calendar NOW! You have plenty of warning. Make this a priority!!!

Becky - 281-8122; Lisa - 282-5308.

NOVEMBER HIGH SCHOOL SOUL TRAIN SCHEDULE

November 1st: Schedule planning: Meeting to get the youth's opinion on what we will do.

November 8th: Games and discussion.

November 15th: Dave Thompson – Talking about his trip to Israel

November 22nd: Games, Bible study, and prayer.

November 29th: No meeting! Happy Thanksgiving!

If there are any Questions Call Craig at 701-426-9206

INTERVIEWS BY MS SOUL TRAIN: ARDIS SHERWOOD

Personal Information

Birth date - November 5
 Birth place - Bowbells, ND
 High school - graduated from
 Bowbells High School
 College - Minot
 Occupation - teacher in Special
 Education
 Married - Carl in Fargo, ND in
 1944
 Children - Susan – Minneapolis
 Sarah, Mark, Danny
 Tom – Hastings
 Kim
 Silvia – Rosewood
 Nursing Home
 Joined Community Presbyterian
 Church - 1985

Favorites

Season - Fall
 TV Shows – Hallmark movies
 Favorite animal - Dog
 Historical Figure – Abraham Lin-
 coln
 Foods – T-bone Steak, meat

Would You Rather

How well do you know Ardis? Try to guess which answer she chose for each of the following questions. Her answers will be at the end of the interview.

... be caught singing in the mirror or spying on your crush?

... in a fire, save a sibling or a stranger?

... not be able to use your phone or your e-mail?

... have the ability to see ten years into your own future or one year into the future of the world?

... always have to sneeze or hit your funny bone every 15 minutes?

~~~~~

Ardis Sherwood has lived a very full life. When she was young, she played games



with friends. She played games like fox and geese. Everybody in their neighborhood played in the churchyard. When she was older, she hung out at the skating rink with friends. She babysat, worked as a telephone operator, and taught special education. Ardis has lived a very complete life.

In her life she has had some rare occasions where something weird happened. When she moved into her first house, she didn't even have a stove. She and her husband had to use hot plates to heat up food. Also, when she first tried to make bread she had a little accident. She didn't know that you couldn't use hot liquid on yeast. When she did, it killed the yeast, and she waited all day for the bread to rise. One time she went to the movie theater and something bizarre happened. As she was entering the theater, one of the ushers was showing her the aisle with a flashlight. Ardis thought that he was handing her his flashlight. He had to nearly wrestle her to the ground to get it back. Ardis had some crazy incidents happen to her.

Ardis can be a lucky person. She has never lived through a terrible storm worse than a blizzard, but she knows that if you live in North Dakota, you'll have to live through many blizzards.

**(Continued on page 7)**

**(Continued from page 6)**

She was also lucky when she bought a house. It was when money was really tight. She moved in to a fairly good house for only \$15 dollars a month! She also had some nice furniture like a davenport (which is a couch). Once, she got a diamond ring and it was her favorite gift just because she liked it. So, even though she is fairly lucky she is still appreciative of the things she has.

Ardis is a unique person who appreciates simple things. She is lucky, but sometimes she can have some pretty strange things happen to her. I really enjoyed getting to know Ardis.

Interviewed by:  
 Claire DeJong  
 7th grade  
 March 8, 2009

~~~~~

(Would You Rather answers: singing in the mirror, save a sibling, e-mail, future of the world, sneeze)

FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD!!!

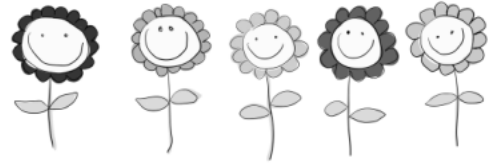


An important part of Soul Train's evening is our meal. We meet on Sunday at 6:30 p.m. and usually eat at 6:45. Between the MS, HS and youth directors we serve about 25-30 people. If you can help us out by serving a meal we would greatly appreciate it.

The current nights that are available are: November 22; December 6, 13, and 20.

On December 20, we hope to have our Progressive Dinner. For this evening, the MS kids (about 15) would come to your home for a course of our meal. We would like to have drinks, appetizers, main course and dessert .

Thanks for thinking of our tummies!
 Becky (281-8122); Lisa (282-5308)



NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

- 11-1 Chris Larson
- 11-3 Mary Bastle
Dave Ruhnke
- 11-5 Jarrett Meester
Ardis Sherwood
- 11-6 Amy Grossman
- 11-8 Adam Montgomery
- 11-8 Joy Taffe
- 11-9 Jackie Petik
- 11-10 Susan McIntyre
- 11-10 Jim Martin
Vicki Peihl
- 11-13 Carrie Leopold
- 11-14 Seth Whitcomb
- 11-15 Heidi Babb
Tina Bastle
Breanna Olson
- 11-17 Mary DeJong
- 11-18 Brianna Montgomery
- 11-19 Kayla Videen
- 11-20 Angela Matzke
- 11-21 Brent Montgomery
- 11-22 Jill Swart
- 11-24 Harriet Diede
Bob Gross
Jean Sheeley
- 11-25 Erika Matzke
- 11-28 Kyle Kassman

ANNIVERSARIES

- 11-13-94 – Troy and Leann Montgomery
- 11-29-74 – Jon and Vicky Whitcomb

**The
 December/January
 Community Call
 deadline will be
 Wednesday,
 November 25**