



Tower Bell

February, 2010

UPDATE AND REQUEST FROM THE CHURCH NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dear Members of First Presbyterian Church,

One of the treasured joys and responsibilities of belonging to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is the election of our officers and leaders.

The Nominating Committee would appreciate any suggestions you might have for nominees. You can nominate yourself as well.

Deacons 5 people, term 2010-2013 plus 3 unexpired terms and a youth for one year

Elders 5 people, term 2010-2013 plus 1 unexpired term and a youth for one year

Nominating Committee 5 people, plus 2 elected elder and deacon, term 2010-2011

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) 7 – 9 people, plus 1 elected elder and deacon, term 6mo-18mo.

Your 2009-2010 Nominating Committee is made up of 2 Elders, 1 Deacon and 5 at-large members. Committee members include *Pete Amos, Chairman, Margaret Eggleston, Marilyn Kalamaros, Tom Kellogg, Pam Marsh, Nellie Namwali, Dottie Taylor and Bob Toothaker.*

After prayerful review the nominations for the **slate of officers and leaders** will be brought forward at a Congregational Meeting at a date to be announced.

This year marks the necessity of forming a **Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)** for the purpose of calling a new Pastor/Head of Staff. Analogous to a corporate executive search committee, the PNC is the most critical committee that a congregation will have.

“Election to a PNC is a sacred trust. Those who are asked to serve should consider this to be a significant commitment of their time, energy, and very best wisdom. They should be persons who understand and accept this as a task of spiritual discernment, not being easily influenced by personal desires or congregational politics, but rather listening for the voice of God. They also should be persons of integrity who respect and can maintain confidentiality.”

After interviewing pastors, the PNC will bring forward its final candidate to be voted on at a Congregational Meeting called for that purpose.

PLEASE SUBMIT NOMINATIONS

When nominating members please abbreviate (D) Deacons, (E) Elders, (NC) Nominating Committee and (PNC) Pastor Nominating Committee.

Please take in consideration the following:

CHURCH INVOLVEMENT

- Regular worship attendance
- Financial support of church
- Participation in church activities
- Offices held
- Services Rendered

CHRISTIAN LIVING IN DAILY LIFE

- Within the family
- At work
- In the community

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS AND SKILLS

- Freedom and willingness to attend meetings
- Cooperativeness
- Ability to follow through
- Maturity in judgment
- Readiness to listen

As you consider recommending a member of this congregation in addition to the above please consider the following:

Is the nominee prepared to accept a call to serve?

Are they willing to commit their time and talent?

Can they identify the spiritual gift(s) they would bring to the PNC?

Respectfully submitted,

Pete Amos,

Nominating Committee Chair



Happy Valentine's Day

Do you have plans for Valentine's Day? Is there a certain someone who you need to send a certain something to this month? Or is there a someone in your life who may receive a lovely surprise? In my family we celebrate by baking a cake. Not just any cake, but the most chocolate cake that you have ever had. The first ingredient is Devil's Food cake mix and then you add sour cream and chocolate chips and so forth. This is a cake that must be eaten with ice cream. There just isn't any other way to handle all of that chocolate.

Lindsey and I started this tradition as a way to do something fun together without spending a great deal of money. Diamonds might be a lady's best friend but chocolate is food's language of love. We may have tweaked Valentine's day to suit our own needs, but boy, does love taste good.

I think it is okay to tweak Valentine's Day a little bit. In fact, that may be why we celebrate Valentine's Day in the first place. We don't really know who Valentine was. Rather, we don't really know which Valentine we celebrate. There are many legends and stories and many have nasty, martyr endings.

It may be that St. Valentine's Day was created in order to Christianize a Roman fertility celebration in the few weeks of February. This was common practice for the newly established church. Everybody was already celebrating love and lovers, so the Church tweaked the celebration in order to honor Christ.

Legitimizing paganism? Maybe, but I think this sort of tweaking is something that we can still do today. Paul tells us in Philippians 4:8 that we should think about, "whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable". Valentine's Day may be a wonderful opportunity to do so--and honor Christ.

What love do you have in your life? Have you told them that you love them recently? Do you know someone who may not have very many loving relationships in their life? Can you express love to them? As we celebrate love by loving, we can celebrate the Great Lover of our Souls, who didn't just send a heart shaped card, but gave himself up for all of us.

If this is tweaking the holiday, so be it. Christ is God's language of love. Listen to how God has spoken to you through the Son and don't be afraid to speak those precious words to others.

Pastor Robbie Carnes

Stewardship update...

As our stewardship campaign winds to a close, we should be very encouraged by our results, as we have \$383,225 pledged, just 2 percent below last year's effort. This year we had 173 pledges and perhaps a few more will trickle into the church.

Given the tough economic situation our nation has endured we should be gratified we have continued to see the kind of support you have generated to carry out our mission within the church and outside its walls.

A recent survey of protestant churches in America has depicted the downward spiral most congregations face due to the economy and other changes. About 28% of churches reported raising less money than last year. At the same time, requests for assistance outside the churches were up by 70%. Most churches saw their budgets decline 7% while churches our size had a 13% decrease in budget.

We are doing quite well even though we'd like to do better.....your ongoing generosity is much appreciated....special thanks to all who worked on the 2009 stewardship campaign, for their diligent and successful effort to keep our church moving forward!

Jack Roberts, chair
Stewardship

From the Finance Office:

For the Christmas Joy offering we received \$1,162.25.

The Malawi/Christmas offering totaled \$3,663.25.

Thank you for supporting these important missions.



FPC MALAWI ASSOCIATION

The FPC Malawi Association, together with the Mission Committee, gratefully acknowledges Christmas offering receipts in the amount of \$3,663.25 as of December 31, 2009 in support of our Chibanzi C.C.A.P. Nursery School/Orphan Center and Feeding Site/Kitchen in Malawi. This will cover the cost of operation for January, February, and March, 2010 and provide education as well as two meals – six days a week – for between 150 to 300 pre-schoolers plus support for the headmaster, teachers, and cooks. Thank you for your generosity



Dear Fellow Presbyterians!

As a St. Paul's Retirement Home resident, I wish to thank the various groups who came to entertain us here. The tree decoration I used with pleasure. The carolers added a nice touch, then to find a surprise poinsettia topped it off!! Thank you one and all for your thoughtfulness and taking the time for your elderly friends and members at St. Paul's. Keep up the good work and Happy New Year. *Marjorie H. Wilson*

The women of Saint Margaret's House would like to thank you for your generous gifts. We understand these are difficult economic times, yet the members of the church were able to give to those in need. It is unimaginable how helpful it is to have food donated and available for these women. St. Margaret's House could not run without kind and generous people like yourselves. Once again thank you for your gifts, they are very much appreciated. Thanks for helping us each year!

Sincerely, Patricia Marvel, Assistant Director.



In loving memory of:

Stanley F. Norman—1/4/2010

Stephen R. Phelps, M.D.—1/16/2010



Outreach Lunch Groups

Mid Town/South Lunch Group

Wednesday, February 10 at 11:30 a.m. at Allie's Café on Mishawaka Avenue, South Bend

North Side Group—**Tuesday, February 16** at 12:00 p.m. at American Pancake House, Roseland.

Choir Spotlight...

interviewed by the Outreach Committee

Our choir is a special part of our church family and our worship service. Choir members will be featured in upcoming Tower Bells.



Gary Nicholls (bass) is an 18 year choir member. Gary is a piano soloist and also plays with the bell choir. Gary works as a substitute teacher.



Calvin Streeter (tenor), began singing with our choir in 2002. He is an IUSB student with majors in music and biochemistry and he aspires to go to Medical School.



Mercy Nyirenda (alto) is originally from Malawi. She currently is an elder on Session and works as an LPN at Sanctuary at St. Pauls.

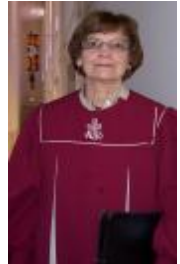
Chrissy Kadzamira (alto) joined the our choir a year ago. Chrissy was in her high school and church choirs in Malawi. She works as a teacher in our Children's Center infant room.



Nancy Wilson Saunders (alto) grew up in this church, sang in all the choirs and is a flute soloist. Nancy got a degree in Music from Bethel College in 2006 and teaches private piano students.



Joyce Schalliol (alto and 2nd soprano) is a twenty year choir member. Joyce played a clarinet, sang in school and church choirs before joining ours. She has worked for 1st Source Bank for 20 years and is Client Service Representative at Bremen branch.



Elaine Neely (alto) has been with our choir eight years and has had some formal music training and has been in choral groups most of her life.



**Some info about our new
Director of Music,
Bradley Krueger**

I have had the honor and privilege of serving your congregation for just over two months. The choir has been a delight to work with and it's been exciting to observe their musical progress. I look forward to the coming months as we grow and refine our God-given talents. Music adds such an important quality to the worship experience. It amplifies scripture and inspired poetry which in turn, provides the faithful listener an additional opportunity to contemplate their walk with God and service to others.

Several have requested that I provide a little professional background of myself in *The Bell Tower* as a formal introduction.

I was raised near the rock-bound coast in Brunswick, Maine within a musical family. My mother is a music teacher and church musician and my father still possesses a fine tenor voice. My brother and I began singing duets at a young age at church. At Pine Tree Academy (PTA) in Freeport, ME, I was involved in the choirs, band, brass quartet, gospel/barbershop quartet, and bell choir. I also played trumpet with the local youth orchestra that met at Bowdoin College. During my senior year in high school I took my first voice lessons in preparation for the tenor solos in PTA's annual *Messiah* concert.

During my undergraduate years, it was my intention to study engineering. I successfully completed all of my calculus classes and the general sciences but never transferred to engineering school. While at Atlantic Union College (AUC) in Massachusetts, my interest in music was whetted after I was offered a choral scholarship. Dr. James Bingham, an imposing Australian, further raised the bar in rehearsal rigor and artistic excellence in my choral experience. Along with the New England Youth Ensemble, the college orchestra at AUC, we toured throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, South Africa and the Middle East. Our choir also established an association with composer/conductor John Rutter who conducted us at St. Patrick's Cathedral, NYC, Mechanics Hall in Worcester, MA, Avery Fisher Hall and Carnegie Hall. I would finally transfer to Union College in Lincoln, NE though I ultimately graduated with a BA in Vocal Performance.

I later had the privilege of participating in the International Church Music Festival at Coventry Cathedral, directed by Sir David Willcocks, the Three Choirs Festival in Worcester Cathedral, The Tallis Scholars Summer School, directed by Peter Phillips in Oakham, England and in the Aspen Music Festival and School's Vocal Concert program under the direction of Paul Sperry.

As a music teacher, I've taught in Maine and Massachusetts, leading choirs, bands, and bell choirs on the mid to high school level. I've also served as interim director of choral activities and vocal studies at Walla Walla University in Washington State. While at WWU, I had the privilege of

preparing the university choirs in the world premier of John David Earnest's Second Symphony "The Hastening Light" with the Walla Walla Symphony Orchestra in addition to a concert version of Puccini's *La Bohème*. Professionally, in addition to solo work, I've sung with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale and currently sing with the St. Joseph Valley Camerata.

On August of 2009, I graduated with a MMus in Choral Conducting from Andrews University. While at AU, I served as adjunct instructor of voice and worked on the air at WAUS. I recently was hired to teach voice classes at Lake Michigan College. And in last December, I conducted the 16th annual performance of Handel's *Messiah* for an ecumenical choir in Melbourne, Florida.

I've always valued sacred music as an expression of faith. I pray that my service here glorifies Christ and serves your church.

Thank you all for your warm welcome. God bless.

Bradley Krueger



OTHER CHOIR NEWS....

Recently, the church has made appeals for nominations of people to serve various ministry positions within the church. The same could be said about music within the service. As a new director, I am still getting acquainted with everyone and still depend on personal introductions. So a suggestion of names of those with music experience of any kind, would be greatly appreciated. Please include their specific musical skill, both instrumental and/or vocal. I would like to involve as many church members as possible in the music ministry. Please turn in your suggestions to the church office or drop a folded note within the offering plate.

In addition to the Chancel Choir, we will soon be resuscitating the bell choir and creating a children's choir.

God has blessed us abundantly. Let's share our gifts.

God's peace be with you,

Bradley Krueger



Youth News

You've heard of the Generation Gap right? Many of you have lived through it either as you grew into adulthood or as your children developed a sense of independence and left the home. Recently there was a very interesting article in *The New York Times* entitled "The Children of Cyberspace: Old Fogies by Their 20s". This article highlights growing differences between members of the same generation due to technological changes and information preferences. The Generation Gap is not only between Johnny and his old man, it's also between Johnny and his younger brother Joe.

We are experiencing massive changes in technology. Not only are we able to live longer lives and grow healthier food, we are also able to relate to one another in different ways. The internet and telecommunications are offering us many different ways to communicate and receive information about our world. Due to the nature of social network software and instant messaging, these preferences can create inter-generational alienation not unlike the classic gap between generations.

It is all about what we grew up with and what we consider normal. My 6 year old daughter has never been in a world where email and web cameras couldn't connect us with people on the other side of the planet, pretty much anytime we wanted. I can understand *that* gap, however my younger brother communicates through text messaging regularly, which is something that I find strange. Why type your message, when you can simply leave a voice mail or speak in person?

This is something that effects the youth of our church as well. Why don't they answer the voice mail I left them? I thought this was the digital generation? Can't they return one single email?

Do you see the gap forming? Even among siblings, the forms in which we communicate can get in the way because the standards of communication are changing so rapidly. Many of our youth use text messaging and social network websites as a major form of communication and are more or less absent from other forms of communication. Not because they are ignoring the rest of us, but because these forms of communication best fit their emotional needs and environments.

It is my thought that in order to hand the Faith down to the next generations we need to remember that the *form* of our communication is just as important as the *content* of our message. We need to be engaging new ways to communicate so that our youth don't miss us entirely because they aren't on the same frequency.

We also need to deliver the content of our faith with patience. Is it that they do not want to listen or is it that we are failing to speak clearly? *What* we say is crucial. The Gospel needs to be proclaimed. *How* we say it is equally crucial. Our method of communication needs to reflect the message of the Gospel. God has never given up speaking to us, lets not give up speaking to our youth.

Pastor Robbie Carnes



From FPC College Students

Thank you all very much for the care package my dad delivered today. Please extend my thanks to Mrs. Wojcicki for the baked treats. They will not survive the day. With love, Adam Marsh

Got the package you guys sent down. Thanks so much! It's got some real good stuff in there. I'm looking forward to tasting the cookies. Thanks again! Gary Hoover

Thanks for thinking of me. Courtney Elrod

Hello First Pres! Thank you so much for keeping me in your thoughts and sending me this package. It brightens up my day so much. I hope everything is well and that you have a Happy Holiday! Thanks again for everything. Hope to see you soon! Love, Amanda English

Dear FPC, Thank you so much for the college care package, it was a great surprise during my semester. School is going great. Holy Cross was definitely meant for me. I get so many service opportunities. Like during my fall break I went to Bethlehem Farm in West Virginia. We did service all around the community and every morning and night we did group prayer at the farm house, it helped me get back into my faith. And during the summer I might live there and be a summer servant. I would get to do service all summer which is what I want to do with my life. Also during the summer I'm going to Lourdes, France to do service. I can't wait to go! Thank you again for my care package. Theresa Rosencrantz —p.s. I lost the postcard so I decided to write a thank you note instead!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



CHILD CARE [INFANTS & TWO'S/THREE'S]

An Infant Nursery and a Twos/Threes Class is offered every Sunday from 9:15 A.M. to 12:00 Noon. Janet Mwachande is the attendant, assisted during each shift by regularly scheduled, nurturing volunteers.

FAITH STEPS SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR FEBRUARY

Faith Steps Sunday School, our 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. Workshop Rotation Model Program for Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth Grade children, will focus on the New Testament story of "Jesus and Nicodemus" in Drama **on February 7** with Margo Shearman-Howard as Teacher and Nellie Namwali as Shepherd. **On February 14**, children will participate in the "Shrove Tuesday on Sunday Pancake Breakfast" in the Social Hall with their families. For the remainder of **February, the 21st and the 28th**, they will explore the story of "Jesus' Resurrection through the Eyes of Mary Magdalene."

PRE-KINDERGARTEN CLASS

Our Pre-K class, for children who have turned four but have not started Kindergarten, is held as part of Faith Steps Sunday School from 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. each week. In addition, Pre-K children attend the 10:45 A.M. service with their families, participate in the children's message, and may leave for Second Hour or may remain in worship with their caregivers.

SECOND HOUR

Second Hour for February, which is held from approximately 11:00 A.M. to 11:45 A.M., will include Children's Library time and Mission projects as well as fun activities to learn about the Sacrament of Baptism. Check the bulletin boards for locations.

CHILDRENS' MINISTRIES – MISCELLANEOUS

BIG HEARTS BUNCH

The Big Hearts Bunch, our Caring Kids' Club for Third, Fourth, and Fifth Graders, will meet Sunday, March 28 at 11:45 A.M. in the Social Hall to prepare over 125 Easter baskets for the children of LaSalle Park Homes.

As in the past, the congregation is invited to bring supplies. These include: small stuffed animals, Easter baskets and grass, and wrapped Easter candy. These items may be left on the table on the Colfax Porch or in the Church office. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

"Check out" the great books in the Children's Library, Room 221, on the second floor of the Education Wing. "Check out" of books is on the honor system. Judy Eaton is the Librarian.



CLUB 345 FEBRUARY OUTING

Club 345, our group for Third, Fourth, and Fifth Graders, will hold its next outing on **Saturday, February 6** when they attend the 2:00 P.M. Notre Dame Women's Basketball game. Tickets, at a special rate of \$3.00 per person, are also available to family and friends – and anyone in the congregation. We have a block of thirty in section 107, but they will go fast. For tickets, or information, please contact Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

COMMUNION EDUCATION EVENT FOR SECOND GRADERS & THEIR FAMILIES

Traditionally held during Lent, this gathering for second grade children and their parents will help boys and girls, as well as adults, explore and experience the Sacrament of Communion in a fresh, fun way. Second Grade families – please contact Phyllis Wezeman at 574-234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org to confirm the date.

EFFECTIVE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY – FROM URGENCY TO ACTION

On Tuesday, **February 9**, our Church will host an event called "From Urgency to Action: Effective Ministry with Children," led by The LOGOS Ministry. There will be a choice of a daytime session, **from 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M., including lunch, OR an evening session, from 6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M., including dessert.** We urge every parent, every leader, and every person interested in the future of children's ministry in this congregation to attend one of the sessions. It will also be open to churches in our community and in our presbytery, so help spread the word. For additional information, please contact Phyllis Wezeman at 574-234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

"FEATURING FIRST KIDS" BULLETIN BOARD

Our "Featuring First Kids" Bulletin Board is located on the wall near the Church Office. It displays nametags for our Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth Grade children. Pre-Ks through Fifth Graders should pick up their nametags when they arrive at church, wear them throughout the day, and hang them on their "grade" ribbon before they leave the building.

FIRST FOUNDATIONS SCRIPTURE BOOKLETS

"First Foundations," the booklets containing suggested Scripture passages to learn by heart and Faith Steps memory verses are available to Pre-K through Second Graders as well as Third through Fifth Graders.

(Children's Ministries Continued)

LENT & EASTER AT-HOME ACTIVITIES AND DEVOTIONS

On **February 14**, the Sunday before Ash Wednesday and Lent begins, two at-home activity guides/devotionals will be distributed to children through Grade Five. They include: "Lent 2010 ... and Grow in the Knowledge of God," a calendar of activities for use from **February 17 through April 4**, and "From Garden to Garden: A Children's Book of Daily Lenten Images from Eden to the Empty Tomb," readings for every day of Lent. The "garden/growth" images connect with our Lent and Easter Faith Steps theme, "Jesus' Resurrection through the Eyes of Mary Magdalene." Please be sure to be at the Pancake Breakfast to get your copies.

MICHIANA WORKSHOP ROTATION MODEL NETWORK

McWoRM Net, our Michiana Workshop Rotation Model Network, of churches in the region, will hold its next gathering at First Presbyterian Church of South Bend on **Tuesday, February 9 from 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.**

PRAYER PARTNER PROJECT

We'll be launching a "Prayer Partner" project between children, youth, and adults. Adults – if you would be willing to receive a refrigerator magnet with information about one of the children or youth of the congregation – and pray for her or him on a regular basis – please contact Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

WORSHIP FOR CHILDREN

Children of all ages are invited to participate in worship with their parents or caregivers on Sundays and on special days throughout the year. For Pre-Schoolers, Worship Bags are available in the Narthex which may be used during worship and returned to their rack at the end of Church. Children's messages will be shared during the 10:45 A.M. service. Following the Children's Time, Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth Grade girls and boys may leave for Second Hour in the Education Wing or they may return to sit with their families.

ADULT EDUCATION

CHAPEL CLASS

The Sunday morning adult education Chapel Class, held from 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M., covers various themes and topics. During February the schedule will include:

February 7 – Disasters: What's Our Plan? John Pinter, Regional Executive Director of the Saint Joseph County Chapter of the American Red Cross, and Greg Vallejos will discuss the County's Disaster Preparedness Plan and its implications for our church.

February 14 – All-Church Event – "Shrove Tuesday on Sunday Pancake Breakfast" – Social Hall

February 21 – "Alive to God in Jesus Christ: A Lenten Study" – Session 1: **JESUS** Christ Is My Lord and Savior

February 28 – "Alive to God in Jesus Christ: A Lenten Study" -- Session 2: Jesus **CHRIST** Is My Lord and Savior

ONE BOOK – ONE CHURCH – FOR LENT

During Lent, 2010, First Presbyterian Church of South Bend will offer a coordinated Church/Home study using the denomination's book *Alive to God in Jesus Christ: 40 Daily Readings for the Purposeful Presbyterian* (Small, Joseph D. Louisville, KY: Witherspoon Press, 2008). Our goal is to have the entire congregation reading and reflecting on the same Scripture passages and meditations as we prepare, during Lent, for the celebration of Easter.

During the six Sundays of Lent, a study session led by two Session members will be held in the Chapel Class from 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. It will focus on a theme that highlights one of the words or phrases of the title and prepares participants for the seven devotions that will be read at home during the week.

Books will be available in the Chapel Class, beginning the first of February, and in the Narthex before and after worship. **The suggested donation for a book is \$12.95** and checks may be payable to First Presbyterian Church of South Bend. For additional information about this "all-church" study, or to obtain a book, please contact Adult Enrichment Committee Chair, Pete Amos, at 217-6212 or AmosFamily51@aol.com or Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

ADULT SMALL GROUPS

COPING WITH LIFE ALONE SERIES

The "Coping with Life Alone" series is a six-week support group for persons experiencing loss due to death, divorce, or separation. First Presbyterian Church of South Bend is a supporting congregation for this ministry sponsored by Beginning Experience.

The winter/spring series begins **February 16 and concludes March 23**. Sessions, from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., will be held at **Sunnyside Presbyterian Church**, 115 S. Frances Street, South Bend, Indiana. February topics include:

February 16 – Being Alone, Loneliness, Stress

February 23 – Coping with Grief

For additional information, or to register for a cost of \$25.00 for the series, please contact Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

ECO-STEWARDS – BOOK DRIVE

Our Adult Enrichment Committee's Eco-Stewards Group, in cooperation with Better World Books ... an international company, warehoused in Mishawaka, Indiana, that collects and sells books online to fund literacy initiatives worldwide ... will continue to collect books. Please leave them on the table on the Colfax porch or on the counter in the Church Office. For additional information, contact:

Alisea McLeod, Eco-Stewards Coordinator, at 288-4784 or aliseamcleod@hotmail.com or Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

DAVE RAMSEY'S FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Financial Peace University is a biblically based, video driven small group study that teaches families to beat debt, build wealth, and give like never before! Each of the thirteen lessons deals with a different topic that will change the way you think about personal finance. Facilitated by Adult Enrichment Committee Chair, Pete Amos, the Ramsey course teaches how to save money, live on a budget, communicate about finances, eliminate debt, find bargains, and experience the joy of giving.

Three free preview sessions, held in the Social Hall, will be offered in February:

Tuesday, February 2 at 6:30 P.M.

Sunday, February 7 at 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, February 9 at 6:30 P.M.

The thirteen week series will begin on Tuesday, February 23 at 6:30 P.M. with the topic "Super Saving."

Child Care will be provided for the previews and the series, if requested in advance.

For additional information, or to register for one of the previews or the series, please contact Pete Amos at -217-6212 or AmosFamily51@aol.com or Phyllis Wezeman at -234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

EIGHT GREAT DATES ... FOR COUPLES

"FIREPROOF YOUR MARRIAGE" -- a marriage enrichment program based on the movie *FIREPROOF*. Couples have an opportunity for a "date" the second Friday of each month – through April. The next one will be Friday, February 12.

The format is:

6:00 P.M. – Child Care and Children's/Youth Activities (Meal Provided)

6:15 P.M. – 6:45 P.M. – Dinner for Adults in the Parlor [Come when you can!]

7:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M. – Video/Discussion and Dessert

8:30 P.M. – Child Care and Children's/Youth Activities End

Reservations requested BY the Monday prior to the date! For additional information, contact Linda Fox, the facilitator at 277-6317 or billorlynn@sbcglobal.net.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Our "Prayer Shawl Ministry" is a group of people who work individually in their homes crocheting or knitting tangible symbols of the presence of God in our lives. While each shawl is being created, prayers are offered silently for the person in need. When the shawl is completed, it is delivered to the recipient. For additional information or to suggest the name of a person for whom a shawl could be made, contact Phyllis Wezeman - 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LENTEN SERIES

LIVING THE PARABLES FOR LENT

For five Wednesday nights during Lent, the Adult Enrichment Committee and the Mission Committee will coordinate a "soup supper series" called "Living the Parables."

Each Wednesday night, beginning February 24 and continuing through March 24, all ages are invited to gather in the Social Hall for a meal, a reflection through various media on one of Jesus' Parables, a time to learn how a community agency is putting the parable into action, and a mission project to support that organization.

The format will be:

5:45 P.M. – 6:15 P.M. – Dinner (3 kinds of soup, bread, salad, dessert, and beverages)

6:30 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. – Living the Parable – Reflections through various media, music, and prayer

7:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. – Project.

On the first week of the series, **Wednesday, February 24**, the parable will be "The Lost Sheep (Matthew 18:12-14; Luke 15:3-7), the agency will be Saint Margaret's House, and the project will be making diaper packs.

If you are willing to bring bread, dessert, or salad for one of the nights, please contact Staci Norman at 291-2511 or smnorman@sbcglobal.net. A sign up sheet will also be in the hallway. Thank you for your help.

THURSDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Our Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study, at the home of Ruth Roll, will meet **February 4, 11, 18, and 25. at 10:30 a.m.** They will study the book "Why the Nativity" by David Jeremiah.. Linda Fox is the facilitator. For additional information, contact Linda Fox at 277-6317 or billorlynn@sbcglobal.net or Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.



TIES TO MALAWI

A small group for persons interested in arts, crafts, or sewing meets once a month to create handmade items from recycled men's neckties and donates the proceeds to mission projects in Malawi. The next meeting of the group will be **Wednesday, February 17 at 9:30 A.M.** in the Board Room. Sewing experience is NOT required.

WEDNESDAY LUNCHES

"Wednesday Lunches," our third Wednesday fellowship and learning opportunity for men and women coordinated by Adult Enrichment and Presbyterian Women, will follow a slightly different format on **February 17. Since it is Ash Wednesday, we will begin in the Chapel at 12:00 Noon for a thirty minute service. After worship, the group will gather in the Social Hall for a soup lunch. The Mary and Martha Circle will meet, as usual, at 1:15 P.M. in the Parlor.**

WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Guild is an association of Christian women who gather for Bible Study, Prayer, and Service. It is modeled after the Women's Guild of The Church of Central Africa Presbyterian in Malawi and it is an extension of the Presbyterian Women's groups of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Meetings are held one Saturday a month, from 10:30 A.M. to 12:00 Noon. The February meeting will be held on the 20th in the Church Parlor. The group is currently studying the Gospel of John. For additional information about monthly meetings contact Mlekwa Mwachande – 289-5371 or mzatimbewe@yahoo.com or Phyllis Wezeman – 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

ADULT EDUCATION EXTRAS

BIBLE READING GUIDE

The "2010 Bible Reading Guide – Embodying Hope," produced annually by the American Bible Society, is available on the literature tables to use as a guide for daily devotions. Please pick up a copy and use it through December 31, 2010.

DEVOTIONS FOR LENT AND EASTER

Two devotional guides for use during Lent are available on the literature racks and tables outside of the Chapel and in the Narthex. *They include From Fear to Love: Lenten Reflections on the Parable of the Prodigal Son, brief meditations by Henri Nouwen, and "Stories of the Savior,"* a bookmark with daily Bible readings for Lent from our Lord's Parables. These resources, which correlate with the theme of the Wednesday night Lenten series, are provided by the Adult Enrichment Committee.

GO & GROW OUTINGS

BEHIND THE SCENES AT DE BARTOLO



"Go & Grow," an Adult Ed Extra, will coordinate a "Behind-the-Scenes Tour" of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at the University of Notre Dame on **Tuesday, February 2. Gather in the DeBartolo lobby between 10:15 A.M. and 10:30 A.M. The guided tour will begin at 10:30 A.M.** and we will be shown the theaters as well as the costume, lighting, prop, and scene/set rooms and shops. Following the tour, we will go to Sorin's, the restaurant at The Morris Inn on campus, for lunch. There is no charge for this outing; however lunch is "on-your-own." Reservations are requested on or before **Sunday, January 31** to Evie Shaw at 272-2971 or grangerevie@yahoo.com or Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

A SPRING DAY IN GRAND RAPIDS

The May "Go & Grow" Adventure will be "A Spring Day in Grand Rapids" on **Tuesday, May 4.** Once again, we will take a motor coach with plans to visit the Gerald R. Ford Museum, have lunch, and enjoy the beauty of the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park. At that time, Meijer will have an exhibit of the work of world-renowned glass artist, Dale Chihuly, with fifteen installations of his work throughout the grounds. Following lunch in their Café, we will have a guided indoor tour and an outdoor tram tour to see the beauty of the spring flowers. Space is limited. Reservations, which include transportation, admission, and tram (but not lunch), may be made by contacting Evie Shaw at 272-2971 or grangerevie@yahoo.com or Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org. **The cost is \$45.00 per person, if paid by March 21, or \$55.00 per person after that date.**

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

SHROVE TUESDAY ON SUNDAY ALL-CHURCH PANCAKE BREAKFAST



On **Sunday, February 14, 2010**, from 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M., the Congregational Life Committee will host a "Shrove Tuesday on Sunday" All-Church Pancake Breakfast in the Social Hall. The menu will include all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, fruit, and beverages. John Wallace and his group will provide jazz music and there will be activities for children. Donations are welcome. Reservations are requested so please fill out a gold card and drop it in the offering plate or contact Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

Tower Bell is a publication of First Presbyterian Church of South Bend. We welcome all visitors!

Visit our website: www.fpcsouthbend.org or email: info@fpcsouthbend.org

First Presbyterian Church
333 West Colfax Avenue
South Bend, Indiana 46601
Return Service Requested

MISSION COMMITTEE

MISSION OF THE QUARTER – JANUARY,
FEBRUARY, MARCH – HOPE MINISTRIES

For many years, First Presbyterian Church of South Bend has made chicken casseroles once-a-month for Hope Rescue Mission -- now called Hope Ministries. During January, February, and March, we will learn more about the work of this community agency and collect supplies that they need for their operation as well as for their residents. These include:

For their operation –Cleaning supplies, Coffee, Healthy snacks for children, Laundry detergent (powdered), Paper towels, Sugar, Toilet paper, Trash bags – all sizes

For their residents –

Deodorant for men and women, Diapers and pull-ups, sizes 4-6, Hair products for African Americans, Maxi-pads, Razors for men, Socks for men and women

Also, gently used items would be appreciated such as:
Alarm clocks-Bath towels-Pocket dictionaries

Donations, which are greatly appreciated, may be left on the table on the Colfax Porch or in the Church Office. Thank you.

THE NEXT TOWER BELL
DEADLINE IS
February 16

