



DECEMBER, 2009

Tower Bell

Dear Friends,

“Prepare the way of the Lord. Clear a straight path for Him.” These words from Isaiah usher in the season of Advent which begins on Sunday, November 29th, a season of preparation when we share the age-old expectation of God’s coming in new and glorious ways. However, these words are often easier said than done. So many things fill our minds during this time and often divert our attention from its fuller meanings—activities to attend, homes to decorate, cards to write, presents to buy, memories of loved ones and moments of loneliness.

In the midst of these, *“prepare the way”* by setting aside time—sacred time, holy time—to light an Advent candle, to read the scriptures of this season, to sit quietly and reflect on the gifts God has given you in Jesus Christ, to share stories of the heart with family and others of the best Christmases you have known, to remember others who are less fortunate, to reach out to those who find it hard to rise to occasion, whose hearts are heavy.

If we do these things, we will truly be ready for all God gives to us in this season. Every day can become Christmas and every night freighted with expectation and anticipation of the dawning of a new day—a fresh, holy adventure with God. *“For unto us a child is born!”*

In the words of Howard Thurman,

**Christmas is a Season the Heart.
The Time of Forgiveness for injuries past,
The Sacrament of Sharing without balancing the deed,
The Moment of Remembrance of graces forgotten,
The Poem of Joy making light the spirit.
The Sense of Renewal restoring the soul,
The Day of Thanksgiving for “the Word made flesh”, for the birth of Christ.
CHRISTMAS IS THE SEASON OF THE HEART.**

My prayer is that by preparing the way you will discover the true spirit of this season—its joys, its beauty, its hopes, and above all its abiding faith and love!

Blessings in Christ,

Bob



CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

The Session at its October meeting approved a Christmas Offering to be received on Christmas Eve. This year all loose or undesignated offerings will be divided between the **Christmas Joy Offering and the Chibanzi Nursery School/Orphan Center and Feeding Site/Kitchen Offering in Malawi, Africa.** You may also designate your gifts.

Christmas Joy Offering

What is the Christmas Joy Offering? The offering is a Presbyterian tradition for almost 70 years, and one of four special offerings recommended by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The receipts of the Joy Gift are distributed equally between the Board of Pensions Financial Assistance Program and to "Presbyterian Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges."

Through the Board of Pensions Assistance Program, retired church workers and surviving spouses living on very limited incomes are given assistance through Shared Grants and Emergency Assistance Grants. Needs might include such things as unforeseen out of the pocket medical and dental expenses or unexpected financial burdens as a result of natural disaster. Each grant is an expression of appreciation for their faithful service and the love of Christ.

The Presbyterian Church has also long promoted education through the establishment of racial ethnic schools and colleges. Joy Gift offering funds provide scholarships to deserving students as well as help with basic needs.

Chibanzi Nursery School/Orphan Center and Feeding Site/ Kitchen Offering

There is a great need in Malawi. Started in 2004 by your congregation, and dedicated in 2005, the Nursery School/Orphan Center and Feeding Site/Kitchen provides early childhood education for 129 registered children plus a feeding program (in partnership with Ministry of Hope) serving two meals six days a week to as many as 300 children; 1 headmaster, 3 teachers, 2 cooks, 2 guards. Your gifts help provide support for the feeding program and salaries for 2010. There are other priorities including toilet facilities, a playground, the training of committees and teachers, gardens, and income generating activities. Designated gifts will be going to these projects."

Our gifts on Christmas Eve will help play a vital role of assistance to people around the world in need. In our celebration the Good News of Great Joy which came through the birth of Christ, let us also **give joyously and generously.**

New Love New Mercy

Your support for our 2009 stewardship campaign has been very gratifying. Through Nov. 16, we have about \$309,000 pledged by 132 members for our budget for 2010.

We still have not heard from many others. Our church officers and leaders are busy right now contacting those we have not heard from in the past few weeks. Please take time to return your pledge as soon as possible so our Finance Committee can plan our budget for next year.

Remember, all donations, no matter the dollar size, count in a big way as we endeavor to carry on with our church operations and mission work within our congregation and beyond our front doors.

Jack Roberts, Chair

Stewardship Campaign

Financial update for 2009. We have received \$312,030 of our \$395,380 in pledges. Please continue your support of the church and its programs.



MISSION STUDY UPDATE

To supplement the findings of the Congregational Life Survey, ten focus groups were held—Worship, Children's Ministries and Outreach Committees, Malawi Association, Parents of Children and Youth, Middle High and Sr. High Youth, Members 11-20 Years, Open Meeting to Entire Congregation, the Board of Deacons and the Session. Thank you all for providing additional perspectives and recommendations that will help guide our leadership as it prioritizes the strengths, concerns and needs of our congregation.

On Thursday, November 19th we presented an initial draft of our report to the Session. The Session is in the process of setting goals and objectives as well as looking at our existing mission statement. We hope to conclude our work and have a final approval of Session at its December meeting. The Presbyterian Committee on Ministry will also need to receive and approve this report before a Pulpit Nominating Committee can be formed. If the way be clear, all this will be completed by January 2010 with copies of this report available in the church library.

Please pray for our leadership as it continues to discern God's vision for 1st Presbyterian Church and for our church as we seek to move forward in "the upward call of God." Again thank you for your patience and for your participation in this valuable process.

Mission Study Group—

Bob Agnew, Roberta Ferkins, Bill Hunt, Dennis Kaldenberg, Mercy Nyirenda, Sarah Proctor & Carolyn Schult.

FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE:

Psalm 23 for Busy People
Toki Miyashina(Japan)

The Lord is my pace-setter, I shall not rush; he makes me stop & rest for quiet intervals, he provides me with images of stillness, which restore my serenity.

He leads me in the way of efficiency,
through calmness of mind;
and His guidance is peace.

Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day I will not fret, for His presence is here.

His timelessness, His all-importance will keep me in balance.

He prepares refreshment and renewal
in the midst of activity,
by anointing my mind with His oils of tranquility; my cup of joyous energy overflows.

Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours and I shall walk in the pace of my Lord, and dwell in His house for ever.

Polo Shirts Now Available

Looking for a Christmas gift or a way to spread the word about our church? Good quality navy blue polo shirts with the church logo are available in a variety of sizes. You can wear them to church events, Notre Dame Concessions, mission opportunities, community events, or just wear it to spread the message about our church.

FPCSB polo shirts now available through the Outreach Committee and are being sold at cost for \$13.

Outreach Lunch Groups

Mid-Town/South Group



Wednesday, December 9 at 11:30 a.m. at Allie's Café, Mishawaka Avenue

NorthSide Group—**Tuesday, December 15** at 12:00 p.m. at American Pancake House, Roseland



**Jubilee Christmas
Saturday,
December 12, 2009
12:00 – 2:30
Hosted by**

**Sunnyside Presbyterian Church
Sponsored by Sunnyside, First Pres-
byterian South Bend, Memorial and
Westminster Presbyterian Churches**

The Great Jubilee Christmas Tradition Continues!

South Bend Presbyterian Churches are once again working together to make Christmas a joyous time for families that have requested help from St. Vincent DePaul. Jubilee parents have been mailed a survey to identify 3 gifts (totaling \$50) for each child age 12 and under. They can suggest toys, clothing, books, games, music or whatever the child specifically wants for Christmas. Each gift request will be written on a gift wish tag and hung on the Giving Tree located in the parlor. Take as many tags as you like and return new, **unwrapped gifts by Dec. 6th.** Teenagers will receive Visa gift cards and each family will get grocery certificates.

Jubilee parents and volunteer hosts from all participating churches will gather at Sunnyside on Saturday, Dec. 12 to share in a time of gift wrapping, selecting gently used children's clothing and fellowship with cookies and Christmas carols. Families will also receive soup mixes specially prepared by our Big Hearts Bunch.

Here's how you can help:

- **Purchase gifts as indicated on the Giving Tree gift wish tags** – return to the church unwrapped by Dec. 6th with the gift tag taped to the gift.
- **Host a family on Dec. 12** – many volunteers are needed to act as hosts for guest families to guide them through the event. Hosts will phone the guests ahead to remind them and, if needed, provide transportation to Sunnyside.
- **Donate money for purchasing grocery and teen gift certificates** – make payable to FPC earmarked for Jubilee Christmas
- **Donate gently used children's clothing** or any size coats, jackets, outerwear
- **Help set up at Sunnyside** - Thursday, December 10th – 9:00 until 12:00

Make cookies for December 12th

Please contact Pastor Lindsey Carnes if you are able to help, sign up in the Parlor, or sign up on the Jubilee inserts in the Sunday bulletins.

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 December the sessions will include:

- December 6** – Alternative Christmas Fair in the Social Hall
Adult Enrichment Eco-Stewards Group, Coordinators
- December 13** – The Lectionary:
A Tool for Worship and Devotion
Rev. Lindsey Carnes, Facilitator
- December 20** – Israel: A Look at the Country Today
Yossi Cohen, Israeli Emissary to the Jewish Federation of Saint Joseph County, Speaker
- December 27** – Movie – “Jesus’ Birth through the Eyes of Joseph” in the Cinema (with popcorn)
David Eggleston, Facilitator

ADULT SMALL GROUPS

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY AT THE AUDI’S

A three week Sunday afternoon “tea-time” Advent Bible Study will be held at the home of Malou and Robert Audi, 2301 Topsfield Road, South Bend, from 4:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. on **Sundays, November 29, December 6 and 13**. Those who gather will reflect on Scripture, as well as the writings of C.S. Lewis, using our Advent Devotional booklet, “A Grand Miracle.” Please plan to attend any or all of these sessions in preparation for the celebration of Christmas. For additional information, contact Malou Audi at 574-299-4933 or malouaudi@yahoo.com or Phyllis Wezeman at 574-2234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

ECO-STEWARDS –

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS FAIR

On Sunday, **December 6**, during the Education Hour from 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. and the Fellowship Time from 11:45 A.M. to 12:15 P.M., the Eco-Stewards will host an Alternative Christmas Fair in the Social Hall. Ten Thousand Villages, plus a variety of local agencies and organizations, will be present. Learn more about “gifts that give twice” and purchase Christmas presents that help others. Indi Dieckgrafe and Alisea McLeod are the coordinators.



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 in the table on the Colfax porch or on the counter in the Church Office. Twenty-five percent of items sold through Better World Books will be donated to literacy programs: twenty percent to Chibanzi C.C.A.P. Nursery School/Orphan Center and Primary School and five percent to Better World’s “Books for Africa” Program. For additional information, contact: Alisea McLeod, Eco-Stewards Coordinator, at 574-288-4784 or aliseamcleod@hotmail.com or Phyllis Wezeman at 574-234-4159 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 – December through April. The next one will be Friday, December 11.

The format will be:

- 6:00 P.M. – Child Care and Children’s/Youth Activities (Meal Provided)
- 6:00 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
- 8:45 P.M. – Child Care and Children’s/Youth Activities End

Cost: \$5.00 per family per night. Reservations required BY the Monday prior to the date!

For additional information, contact: Linda Fox – 574-277-6317 or billorlynn@sbcglobal.net or Phyllis Wezeman – 574-234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

FAMILY AT HEART

In cooperation with our Children's Center, we are offering a pilot program called Baby TALK (Teaching Activities for Learning and Knowledge) for parents and caregivers of babies and toddlers, birth through age three. Baby TALK is a national model for supporting families of very young children. Its mission is to positively impact child development and nurture healthy parent-child relationships during the critical early years.

The last two sessions for the current series are **Wednesday, December 2 and 9**. It is offered, in the Chapel, at two different times on those days: 7:30 A.M. to 8:00 A.M. or 12:30 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. Susan Freil, one of the Children's Center teachers, is the facilitator. There is no charge, but reservations are requested. Please contact Phyllis Wezeman at 574-234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

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 -- 574-234-4159 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 donate the proceeds to mission projects in Malawi. The next meeting of the group will be Wednesday, December 16 at 10:00 A.M. in the Board Room. Sewing experience is NOT required.

TUESDAY EVENING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Our Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study, at the home of Ruth Roll, meets every Tuesday night. **On December 8 and 15** they will study the book "The Red Sea Rules" by Robert J. Morgan. Due to the holidays, there will not be a meeting on **December 22 or 29**. Linda Fox is the facilitator. For additional information, contact Linda Fox at 574-277-6317 or billorlynn@sbcglobal.net or Phyllis Wezeman at 574-234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

WEDNESDAY LUNCHES

Wednesday Lunches are a monthly lunch and learn fellowship opportunity for men and women coordinated by Adult Enrichment and Presbyterian Women. The December session will be held on the third Wednesday, December 16, from 11:45 A.M. to 1:15 P.M. in the Social Hall. Besides a delicious lunch, served by Royal Caterers, there will be a program of Christmas music by Craig Heitger, who will play a variety of instruments. Craig is often an instrumentalist in our worship services. Plan to attend; it will be a wonderful way to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Christ.

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, at the home of Ruth Roll. **The December date is the 12th**. The group is currently studying the Gospel of John. For additional information about monthly meetings contact Mlekwa Mwachande – 574-289-5371 or mzatimbewe@yahoo.com or Phyllis Wezeman – 574-234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.



ADULT EDUCATION EXTRAS

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS

"A Grand Miracle – Advent devotions based on thoughts of C. S. Lewis," our 2009 booklet for adults, is available on the literature tables outside of the Chapel and in the Narthex. Please take a copy to read at home.

These devotions take many of the familiar Advent and Christmas texts of Scripture and put them side by side with bits and pieces of the works of C. S. Lewis. While Lewis' writings take some of the spotlight, this series of devotions is really about Jesus, the God who became man. Through these Scriptures, the Holy Spirit is our primary teacher, while Lewis, in his great imagination, leads us to contemplate "a Grand Miracle." Readers preparing for Christmas will encounter four weeks of thoughtful devotions, focusing on the Incarnation (Week One), Immanuel, God with us (Week Two), the Christ-Figure of Narnia (Week Three), and Jesus' mission to make us his "new creation" (Week Four). Each devotion concludes with a prayer and a Scripture verse tied intimately to the day's thought.

Youth News

Just Eating Retreat

27 students and adults from 5 area Presbyterian Churches joined together for a retreat at the Presbytery's Geneva Center. Pastor Robbie, Pastor Lindsey, and Pastor Anna (FPC Goshen) learned about faith and food choices. We learned how the choices we make about food and care of our bodies honor God. We played Jeopardy to learn about healthy eating. We heard from guest speaker Kathy Friend (Fran English Telfer's daughter) about honoring God with our bodies and how to see through media images of beauty. We also did poverty simulations to learn how our choices affect people around the world. We're looking forward to more joint retreats like this in the future.

Upcoming holiday events

Hanging of the Greens, November 22--Out brave youth and their parents will be helping to hang the garland and the lights from the attic of the church.

Family Advent Festival, November 29--Sunday school classes will meet in the Social Hall to explore 9 different stations for hands-on learning.

Middle School Monday Nights and High School--Christmas parties are being planned

Jubilee Christmas, December 12--Parents and youth are encouraged to help host a family and help them wrap presents

Record Number of College Care Packages

This year we sent out 27 college care packages. We have more students away at school than in previous years which nearly doubled the number of shoe boxes full of goodies and school supplies.

Thank you to Dottie Taylor, Marty St John and Sue Marsh for helping pack the boxes. Thank you to several parents who contributed to the postage and religious devotional books. And thank you to Sue Marsh, Marty St John, Diane Wojcicki and Kay Colten for making cookies. Thank you to the congregation for bringing in Halloween candy and school supplies for the boxes. Please be praying for these students while they're studying and preparing for their future.

Justin Amos, Lydia Dreyer, Natalie Dreyer, Elizabeth Ehlers, Emily Ehlers, Courtney Elrod, Amanda English, Kaitlyn Fewell, Matthew Fay, Britney Fay, Gary Hoover, Mulungama Khonje, Alex Klanke, Kim Klanke, Jenny Lawson, Adam Marsh, Alex Marsh, Janet Mwachande, Chad Quandt, Melissa Rosencrantz, Theresa Rosencrantz, Christian Sassano, Grace Somanje, Amy Voth, Matt Williams, and Jeff Wojcicki.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

ADVENT CALENDARS AND CARDS

Advent calendars and cards, for children and youth – birth through grade five – were distributed at the “Hanging of the Greens” and the Family Advent Festival. If you did not receive one, please stop by Mrs. Wezeman’s office to pick up your packet.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS GIFT TO THE CONGREGATION

During our 10:45 A.M. Worship Service on Sunday, December 20, our Pre-kindergarteners through Fifth graders will present their annual Children’s Christmas Gift to the Congregation.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Our annual Family Christmas Service, offered by children and youth of the congregation – birth through twelfth grade – will be **Sunday, December 20** at 10:45 A.M. in the Sanctuary. The pageant will be a traditional retelling of the Christmas story through Scripture and song.

Dress rehearsal will take place on Saturday, December 19 from 9:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. in the Sanctuary. This will be the only run-through of the service that we will have in the Sanctuary, so please make every effort to be present. Krispy Kreme donuts, juice, milk – and coffee – will be available in the Narthex from 8:30 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.

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.

On December 24, Child Care for Infants through three-year-olds will be provided from 7:15 P.M. until 9:15 P.M. during the special music and the Christmas Eve worship service.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR



Children’s Choir rehearsals for the Family Christmas Service, **Sunday, December 20**, will take place during Faith Steps and Second Hour sessions in December.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES (continued)

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

"Check out" the Advent and Christmas 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.



CLUB 345 – DECEMBER OUTING

Friday, December 12 is the date of the next CLUB 345 Outing for pizza and bowling. Third, Fourth, and Fifth graders are welcome. Meet at Church at 5:45 P.M. or at Pizza Hut on Ireland Road at 6:00 P.M. for supper. The we'll go to Chippewa Lanes for bowling. \$5.00 per person. Friends in grades three, four, and five are welcome, too. Parents are welcome. Please let us know that you are coming by Sunday, December 6. Contact Mrs. Phyllis Wezeman at 574-234-4150 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

FAITH STEPS SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR DECEMBER

9:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

Faith Steps Sunday School, our Workshop Rotation Model Program for Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth Grade children and youth, will continue with the New Testament story of "Jesus' Birth through the Eyes of Joseph" during the Advent and Christmas seasons. The December schedule includes:

December 6

Drama [Drama Room]
Margo Shearman-Howard, Teacher
Nellie Namwali, Shepherd

December 13

Cooking/Games [Tent]
Liz Rosencrantz, Teacher
Nellie Namwali, Shepherd

December 20

Family Christmas Service Rehearsal [Tent]

December 28

Cinema [Cinema]
David Eggleston, Teacher
Nellie Namwali, Shepherd



"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 have been distributed to Pre-K through Second Graders as well as Third through Fifth Graders.

PICTURES, PLEASE



Children – of all ages! Would you please bring your new school picture (or any recent picture) to Church and put it in Mrs. Wezeman's box in the office or slide it under her door. We'll be coordinating a "Prayer Partner" project between children, youth, and adults.

PRE-K CLASS

Our Pre-K class, for children who have turned four by September 1 but who 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. 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 December will include Mission projects and Drama and Music rehearsals for the Family Christmas Service – as well as the preparation of the annual Children's Christmas Gift to the Congregation. Check the bulletin boards for locations.

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.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

WINTER WONDERLAND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20



“Winter Wonderland,” our fabulous Christmas “coffee/tea” will be held in the Social Hall on Sunday, December 20 following the 10:45 A.M. worship service. Besides an array of Christmas treats, there will be cookie decorating for children and youth. Mark your calendar now and be sure to stay for this popular seasonal event. Of course, we need lots of cookie bakers and would appreciate it if you would call Barb Fick, the event chair, at 255-2122 to let her know how you will help.

This event is sponsored by the Congregational Life Committee. For additional information, please contact Joyce Schalliol, Chair of the Committee, at 584-546-3411 or jschalliol@aol.com or Phyllis Wezeman at 574-234-4159 or pwezemanfpcsouthbend.org.

FPC MALAWI ASSOCIATION

In a recent email from officers of the Relief and Development Department of the Nkhoma Synod of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian in Malawi, they report that 25 new wells have been installed – and are operational – in the area of our partner congregation, Chibanzi C.C.A.P. This arrangement was made through meetings with FPC, SB’s Mission group that went to Malawi this summer. The cost of these wells, \$10,000.00, was covered through a generous donation of Marion Medical Mission. Praise God that through our congregation’s efforts to “prime to pump” 56 wells are now functioning in the Chibanzi region – in less than two years time.

MISSION COMMITTEE

MISSION OF THE QUARTER FOR DECEMBER

Our Chibanzi Nursery School/Orphan Center and Feeding Site/Kitchen, plus the first two grades of the soon-to-open Primary School, at our partner congregation in Malawi, Africa is our Mission of the Quarter. Besides raising funds for its support through the Christmas offering, we are collecting school supplies. Crayons (preferably small packages of 8 or 16), markers, pencils, pens, and scissors are most welcome. Sharpies® (any color, but regular point and size) are appreciated as well. Please leave the items in the box in the Narthex, on the table in the Colfax Porch, or in the Church Office. Thank you for your support

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS

Wednesday Lunch sponsored by Adult Education and Presbyterian Women.

Enjoy the Season !

Wednesday, December 16, from 11:45 A.M. to 1:15 P.M. in the Social Hall, Christmas music and song with Craig Heitger. Wednesday Lunches are a monthly lunch and learn coordinated by Adult Enrichment and Presbyterian Women. Plan to attend with friends and enjoy a delicious lunch served by Royal Caterers. Let Gwen Lofgren know if you can attend (574) 255-8272. **Meals are \$7.50 each.**



GO & GROW OUTINGS CONNER PRAIRIE BY CANDLELIGHT... A CHRISTMAS OUTING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

[2:00 P.M. – Motor Coach departs FPC, SB Parking Lot]

Travel to Conner Prairie in Fishers, Indiana via luxury motor coach and go back in time to December 24, 1836 – two years after First Presbyterian Church of South Bend was established!

Shop the unique stores.

Enjoy a lavish all-you-can-eat dinner buffet.

Be part of a sixty-minute guided tour of the Prairietown homes where residents are preparing for the holidays.

Cost of trip, \$59.00 per person, includes admission, buffet dinner, guided tour, shops, and transportation.

For information or reservations, contact:

Evelyn Shaw at 574-272-2971 or

grangerevie@yahoo.com or Phyllis Wezeman at 574-234-4159 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



MERRY CHRISTMAS!



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship December 20
Family Christmas Service
10:45 a.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
7:30 p.m.—Special music
8:00 pm.—Worship
Dr. Bob Agnew, preaching

THE NEXT TOWER BELL
DEADLINE IS
December 14