



Tower Bell

JULY, 2009

Dear Friends in Christ,

IF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (FPC) SOUTH BEND GROWS, it is because our attendance is regular and we invite and bring friends regularly.

If FPC IS AN ACTIVE CHURCH, it is because we're committed to our ministries giving time, money and influence to them.

IF FPC IS A SCRIPTURAL CHURCH, it is because we hold high the Bible as God's Word in our preaching and in our teaching.

IF FPC IS A MISSION CHURCH, it is because we know we exist for others. We believe as fire exists by burning, so the church exists by mission.

IF FPC IS A FRIENDLY CHURCH, it is because we practice hospitality, seek out newcomers and find ways to welcome them into our fellowship.

IF FPC IS A REDEMPTIVE CHURCH, it is because we're interested in bringing others into touch with the redeeming love of Christ.

IF FPC IS AN EDUCATED CHURCH, it is because we attend various opportunities for Christian growth and have a desire to learn more about the Bible.

IF FPC IS AN OPEN CHURCH, it is because we extend a welcome hand to the lonely, the widowed, single people, young families, people of various ethnic and racial backgrounds...to ALL who seek the grace of God.

IF FPC IS A POWERFUL CHURCH, it is because of the Holy Spirit at work in our lives and programs to give momentum to all that we do, and others feel the weight of our witness.

IF FPC IS A GIVING CHURCH, it is because of a well-spring of generosity in all of our people, sharing our finances, our abilities, time, devotion and ideas.

Our interim time together is an opportunity to discover what kind of church we are, who we are called to be and what we are called to do.

As I mentioned in an earlier article, one of the requirements before a church can form a Pastor Nominating Committee is to do a Mission Study. A Mission Study task force has been formed. **The members are Roberta Ferkins, Bill Hunt, Dennis Kaldenberg, Wendy Mott, Mercy Nyirenda, Sarah Proctor and Carolyn Schult.**

The tasks of this group include: understanding our Biblical and historical calling; examining our identity, history, demographics, programs and trends; exploring our processes—communication, leadership selection, decision making, conflict management; gathering community demographic data; reviewing in depth, summarizing and interpreting information gained through the Congregational Life Survey we took in April (copies of results are available in the Library); forming focus groups to further identify strengths and opportunities for growth; collaborating with Session to develop mission and vision statements with the Session seeking to determine goals and objectives for the future based on these and the above information; and lastly putting all information in a final report to be approved by Session and the Presbytery Committee on Ministry.

The Mission Study Group hopes to complete their work by November with a Pulpit Nominating Committee in place by the end of the year. Please pray for this group as it goes about its work and for the Holy Spirit to guide them and us into a clearer understanding what God in Christ is calling us to be and to do.

To God be the glory!!

Blessings,
Bob

SUMMER WORSHIP

July - August

9:15 a.m. -10:45 a.m. – Birth – 3 yrs (Nursery)

9:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)

Pre-K-5th –Sunday School (Education Wing)

10:30 a.m. – Fellowship Time (Social Hall)

10:45 a.m. – Alpha Course - Adult Ed (Chapel)

OUTREACH

The Outreach Committee has been very busy this spring and into this beautiful summer.

- Have you seen the recent Confirmation Class photos and short bios that are posted on our Bulletin Board? Stop by and get acquainted with our newest members.
- Did you know that we are again celebrating our church at Redbud on July 19th? If you need a ride, please call the church office with your request and we'll do our best to pair you with someone going with space in their car. As always, this is one of the 'must attend events' that our church has every year.
- Have you noticed our new Name Tags? The name tags now indicate those who are a part of the governing bodies of our congregation. You will see the designation: Deacon, and Elder on name tags so you're more easily able to identify our current leaders.

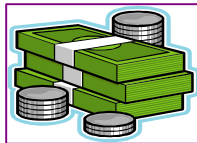
We are continuing to welcome newcomers at all of our Sunday morning services, have you spotted us standing by the Narthex? We're the ones wearing the red ribbons. If you bring a guest, or know of anyone looking for a new 'church home', please let us know and we'll make them feel most welcomed and wanted.

FPC MALAWI ASSOCIATION

Thanks to the FPC Malawi Association and the Mission Committee for cooking, setting up, serving, cleaning up, and selling tickets for the delicious Malawi Meal on Sunday, May 31. To date, their efforts have raised \$3,510 for the third quarter contribution towards the support of our Chibanzi Nursery School/Orphan Center and Feeding Site/Kitchen. Thanks to everyone who attended and supported this effort.

FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

We have currently received \$166,533 of our \$395,380 in pledges as of 6/23/09. Giving and tithing is currently averaging \$4,000 under budget, per month. Prayerfully consider maintaining your support through the summer work of the church for 2009.



The new Guide Book & Directory should arrive at your home within the next couple of weeks.

MISSION COMMITTEE

**Habitat for Humanity - Matthew 25 House
Saturday, July 18**

220 DeLorenzi Avenue, Mishawaka

Siding garage and more

You may speak with Dave Norman for details.

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**Mission of the Quarter:
July, August & September**

Three Food Ministries at our neighboring congregation, First United Methodist Church of South Bend

*Food Pantry *

- **Working together to provide food for the community in hard times**

Needs: canned Meats, beef stew, chicken, tuna; canned vegetables - any kind, Pork & Beans, spaghetti sauce

Dry Food Items: Cereal, Mac & Cheese, Muffin mixes, Pasta, Rice

*Soup Kitchen *

- **Providing lunch for the community, three days a week.**

Needs: beans- dried navy or pinto; Chili beans, cookies, Hearth Stone Deluxe Boned Chicken in Broth, 48 oz. can (Gordon Food Service); juice, napkins, paper plates—dessert size; powdered drink mix, saltine crackers, vegetables—canned, Ziplock snack bags.

Stone Soup Community

- **Offering hope on the journey to a better life.**

Needs: Baby & toddler size diapers, Men's personal care items: Combs- pocket size; conditioner, deodorant, hand lotion, hankies, mouthwash, razors, shampoo, shaving cream, soap, socks, tooth-paste, zip lock type bags, quart and gallon size.

Please bring items to the church office or the Narthex and mark the ministry you wish the items to go to. For additional information, please contact: Dave Norman, 291-2511 or Phyllis Wezeman—234-4159.

**THE NEXT TOWER BELL DEADLINE IS
JULY 24.**

ADULT EDUCATION

CHAPEL CLASS FOR SUMMER THE ALPHA COURSE

During the summer schedule, with worship at 9:30 A.M., the Adult Education Committee will feature the ALPHA course from 10:45 A.M. to 11:45 A.M. in the Chapel.

ALPHA offers the opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed, non-threatening setting. It is low-key, friendly, and fun. ALPHA gives participants an overview of some of the basic teachings of the Christian faith. The material is appropriate for new Christians, seeking non-Christians, and life-long believers. ALPHA began more than twenty years ago at Holy Trinity Brompton, an Anglican church in central London, England. The course is now used by thousands of churches worldwide, including many congregations in the Reformed tradition.

ALPHA is a series of video presentations on key issues relating to the Christian faith. Titles include:

Sunday	Session	Topic
7/05/09	NO CLASS	
7/12/09	Session V	Why & How Do I Pray?
7/19/09	Session VI	How Does God Guide Us?
7/26/09	RETREAT	Who is the Holy Spirit? What Does the Holy Spirit Do? How Can I Be Filled with the Holy Spirit?

Come for any or all of the sessions. Child care is available, if the Church is notified in advance. For additional information, please contact: Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

COPING WITH LIFE ALONE SERIES

COPING WITH LIFE ALONE is a six week series for persons acutely grieving the recent death of a spouse or the recent death of a marriage by separation or divorce. The current classes continue on Tuesdays, July 7, 14, 21, and 28, from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., at Clay United Methodist Church (New Campus), 52866 N. Ironwood Drive, South Bend, Indiana. The cost is \$25.00 for the series. For further information, contact Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

ECO-STEWARDS – JULY MEETING

Eco-Stewards monthly meeting, which takes place at The Side Door Café at Martin’s Supermarket in Erskine Plaza, will be held the second Tuesday of the month, **July 14 at 6:00 P.M.** 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.

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 ... is coordinating a BOOK DRIVE during July and August. Bring books of any type to Church and place them in the collection bins in the church office and the narthex. Invite family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, and others to contribute as well! 20% of items sold through Better World Books will be donated to literacy programs: 15% to Chibanzi C.C.A.P. Nursery School/ Orphan Center & Primary School and 5% to Better World’s “Books for Africa” Program. Questions? Contact the Church Office at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

ETHNIC EATING

Ethnic Eating, our Quarterly Cuisine Group for people who enjoy fellowship, food, and FUN, will hold its next gathering on Friday, July 31 at 6:30 P.M. The location will be “Noodle Alley,” a Thai restaurant located in Town & Country Shopping Center, 2329 Miracle Lane (Logan and McKinley), Mishawaka, Indiana. Adults of all ages are welcome! So we can make a reservation for the group, please contact Kathleen English at 329-3324 or katmanduh@hotmail.com or Phyllis Wezeman at 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: Gretchen Klanke – 273-9484 or gret4music@aol.com or Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

TUESDAY EVENING WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY



Our Tuesday Evening Women’s Bible Study, at the home of Ruth Roll, meets every week at 6:30 P.M. 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.

WOMENS’ 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 the second Saturday of the month, from **3:45 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.**, at the home of Ruth Roll. **The July date is Saturday the 18th.** The group is currently studying the Gospel of John. For additional information about monthly meetings contact Mlekwa Mwachande – 289-5371 or Phyllis Wezeman – 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org.

ADULT ED—LOOKING AHEAD TO FALL

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University

Pete Amos will facilitate this series on Wednesday nights this fall. Preview sessions will be held during the summer.

Eight Great Dates

"Fireproof Your Marriage" will be the theme of the 2009-2010 Eight Great Dates Series. The once-a-month sessions, from September through April, will include a catered dinner and child care.

Family at Heart

Family at Heart, beginning in September, will be in the form of a once-a-month brunch with a program around the theme "Issues Families Face."

Ties to Malawi

A new small group for persons interested in arts, crafts, or sewing will meet once a month to create handmade items from recycled men's neckties and donate the proceeds to mission projects in Malawi. The "organizational" meeting of the group will be **Wednesday, August 19** at 10:00 A.M. in the Parlor.

ADULT EDUCATION EXTRAS



GO & GROW OUTING FOR AUGUST

Our next quarterly "Go & Grow" Outing, **Thursday, August 27, 2009**,

will be a trip to Shipshewana for a guided tour at Mennohof, an interactive interpretative center about the faith and life of the Amish and the Mennonites. Mennohof offers twenty-four display areas and multimedia presentations as well. We'll also stop to see several of the "Flower Quilts" planted throughout Elkhart County and have lunch at one of the Amish Restaurants. At this point, we plan to leave Church at 9:00 A.M. and return around 3:00 P.M. Watch for details in the Church Chatter and the August Tower Bell.

STRATFORD TRIP

Our annual trip to the Stratford Shakespeare Festival in Ontario, Canada is set for Thursday, September 10 through Sunday, September 13. Tickets are ordered and rooms are reserved. **If you are still interested in participating, July 31 is the absolute deadline for reservations and payment.** Contact Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org, to see if seats and lodging are still available.



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

REDBUD PICNIC

Sunday, July 19, the all-church lunch following the worship service at Redbud will be coordinated by the Congregational Life Committee with Dianne Wojcicki serving as Chair of this event. Bar-B-Que and buns, plus beverages and tableware, will be provided. Please bring the following: A-S – salad of any type and T-Z – snacks like chips. Please make a reservation on a gold card found in the pew or call the church office, 234-4159.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

CHILD CARE FOR JULY

INFANT NURSERY

TWOS/THREES CLASS

During July, Child Care is provided from 9:15 A.M. to 11:45 P.M. for children through age three. Please pick up your child/children before attending the ALPHA Course or the Fellowship time.

Janet Mwachande is the attendant every week, assisted by faithful volunteers.



CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

Our Children's Library has moved to **Room 221** on the second floor. In addition to books it will feature a display of items from Malawi. Currently, it is open during selected Faith Steps sessions for Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth Grade children. Watch for the Grand Opening!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGES

Children's Messages during the summer season will focus on the theme "The Fruit of the Spirit: Pentecost Apple-ications." Each week a unique use of an apple will connect with one of the Fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23. The series was developed by Ann Liechty and Phyllis Wezeman.

FAITH STEPS FOR JULY

Faith Steps, our 9:45 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. Workshop Rotation Model Sunday School for Kindergarten through Fifth Grade children, will focus on The Great Commission during the month of July. The schedule includes:

July 5

The Great Commission -- Cinema [Cinema Room]
David Eggleston, Teacher; Ann Phambana, Shepherd

July 12

Children's Library [Children's Library]
Judy Eaton, Guest Reader; Phyllis Wezeman, Shepherd

July 19

Missions [Art Room]
Peggy Van Laere, Teacher; Rachel Potter, Shepherd

July 26

The Great Commission -- Cooking [Tent]
Peggy Van Laere, Teacher; Rachel Potter, 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.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES CONTINUED...

FIFTH GRADE OUTING TO CHICAGO

Our annual Fifth Grade Outing to Chicago (for those who have just completed fifth grade) will take place this summer. Watch the "Church Chatter," as well as email and U.S. Mail, for details.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Thanks to everyone who helped to make "Crocodile Dock" a huge success. We had 71 children – 26 from our congregation. A list of our wonderful leaders is listed below. Please express your thanks to those who shared their time and talents in this special ministry.

Andido, Edna
Agnew, Bob
Birr, Emily
Birr, Maggie
Bukassa, Ruth
Byers, Mike
Byers, Jennifer
Canter, Donna
Carnes, Lindsey
Carnes, Robbie
Clarisey, Carol
Davis, Connie
Dieckgraefe, Indi
Dreyer, Kevin
Eaton, Judy
Eggleston, Margaret
Ellis, Ashley
English, Amanda
Ferkins, Roberta
Fox, Linda
Lopez, Don
Makaniankhondo, Weze
Moore, Amy
Mott, John
Mwachande, Carol
Mwachande, Janet
Namwali, Alex
Namwali, Nellie
Norman, Calla
Norman, Riley
Norman, Staci
Nyirenda, Mercy
Periara, Vanessa
Sassano, Carolyn
Sassano, Isabelle
Schlobohm, Sally
Schult, Carolyn
Shaw, Evie
Shearman-Howard, M.
Singano, Kindness
Skwarcan, Debbie
Skwarcan, Stacy
Sporleder, D & J
St. John, Marty
Taylor, Dottie
Thurin, John
Tyler, Bonnie

Tyler, Ken
Wadzinski, Sylvia
West, Yvette
Wezeman, Phyllis
Wezeman, Quin
Wrasse, Dru
Ziwawo, Atu

CPR/FIRST AID TRAINING

As part of the implementation of the Child/Youth Protection Policy of First Presbyterian Church of South Bend, Indiana, CPR and First Aid Training will take place the last week of July and the first week of August. It is required for all staff members and for volunteers who work directly with children and youth. If you don't know who you are, we will be contacting you. Each will run four hours and be held in the Chapel at Church.

The dates for CPR are:

Tuesday, July 28 – 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, July 29 – 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 4 – 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, August 5 – 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

The dates for the First Aid Course are:

Thursday, July 30 – 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Thursday, August 6 – 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

The cost will be paid by the church for both classes.

Others who so desire to take these classes can do so if there is room available for \$30 for both classes, or \$20 for CPR and \$15 for First Aid.

The instructor will be:

Melissa Ness-Nyirongo – Health Services Coordinator,
South Bend Community School Corporation

Melissa Ness-Nyirongo graduated from Goshen College in 1998 with her Bachelors of Science in Nursing degree. Since becoming a registered nurse, she has enjoyed working with individuals of all ages, but a majority of her practice has been focused on children. Her work experience includes but is not limited to: working as a phone triage/pediatric nurse float in a pediatric clinic here in South Bend; working as an obstetrics/neonatal nurse at a local hospital; working as a prenatal case manager in Alaska, and currently Melissa occupies the Health Services Coordinator position for the South Bend Community School Corporation, where she manages thirty school nurses. Melissa enjoys nursing but also has a passion for instruction which led her to becoming a certified CPR/First Aid instructor for the American Heart Association. Melissa teaches CPR/First Aid courses as part of her job at the SBCSC and for other organizations throughout the community. Melissa married Lumbani Nyirongo on February 15, 2008 at First Presbyterian Church, South Bend. Melissa enjoys meeting new people, singing, playing tennis, scrap booking watching the sunset at Lake Michigan, and photography.

To register for these classes, please call Bonnie Tyler in the church office- 234-4159 or Phyllis Wezeman.

Mid High Summer Events

Summer Monday Nights--twice a month, 6-8pm
Games, Bible Study, and food. Check your mailbox at home for more details and addresses.

June 29--Paint the Youth Room at church.

Wear messy clothes.

July 6--Dreyers hosting

July 27--Carnes hosting

August 10--Sassanos hosting

August 24--Normans hosting

Full Weekend of Fun July 18-19!

Rafting at East Race,

Saturday, July 18, 3-5pm

Meet at the entrance at 105 North Niles Avenue,
South Bend.

Bring \$8 for 2 rides, life jacket and helmets will
be provided.



THEN, Sunday, July 19, come up to Redbud for the all-church worship service and BBQ at 11am. Redbud VBS Junior Counselors will be commissioned and prayed for during the worship service. **Redbud VBS Junior Counselors stay at camp July 19-23** with their own activities in the evenings. If you're interested, talk to Robbie, fill out an application form and turn in \$30.

PULSE Festival and BBQ, Saturday August 8, 1-8pm

Christian bands, free give-aways at the expo tent, fair food followed by a BBQ at the Normans. Meet at 12:30 pm the Normans (1425 Meadow Trail, South Bend). We'll walk to LaSea and come back to the house at 6pm. Admission is free, friends invited, RSVP's required. Bring something to share at the BBQ and \$10 for fair food.

Back-to-School Pool Party, Friday, August 14, 6-8pm

Summer's not quite over yet, so come out for a pool party, games, and food at the Dreyers (1905 Dorwood Dr, South Bend).

RSVPs or questions...call Pastor Lindsey or Pastor Robbie at the church.

PARENT REMINDER: Please turn in your permission form for youth activities and youth medical information and release form to the church office.
They are good for one year.

Happy 4th of July!



Confirmation Class Statement of Faith presented at Session in May.

Cynthia McLeod

I believe in God who created everything. Through creation, God celebrated, and still celebrates life. I believe that God, even though He's separated from His creation, is still closely connected to it. The closeness of this relationship makes all things, people, and places sacred.

I believe that people are an important part of creation. Through what we do, we can help God achieve His goals. We're always making choices that affect the lives of others and God. Sometimes the choices we make cause pain that could have been avoided. As one of Christ's disciples, I think I should think carefully about my decisions and their consequences. I think I should also be open with God about the things I do wrong.

Through, with, and in the person of Jesus, the Word of God lived with us and showed us ways to better our relationship with God. I believe in the Holy Spirit, God's constant gift that moves people to work towards what God wants them to do. Sometimes we work by ourselves, sometimes we work with other Christians, and sometimes the Spirit moves with people who believe differently than we do. This is all so we can better understand God, and work to help all His creations.

Senior High Happenings!

Come join us for some fun summer events and get to know each other. There are several senior high events scheduled for this summer. Please watch the mail for more details of each of the events! We have the potential for a great group and lots of fun this summer! Any questions?!? Call Lindsey or Robbie at the church office or Sarah @ 269-357-4528 or e-mail Sarah at procto12@msu.edu We look forward to a fun and eventful summer!

July 2009

July 10: Progressive Dinner!

July 18: East Race Rafting followed by an overnight at the church

July 19: Redbud Summer Service

July 26: Coffee and Conversation

August 2009

August 2: Cookout at Proctor's

August 8: Pulse Festival

August 9: Coffee and Conversation

August 10: Dollar Monday Silverhawks Baseball Game

We hope to see you this summer!

Youth Mission Trip

This past week four of the young people from FPCSB joined with ten other youth and five adults to practice living together as Christian sisters and brothers and serving the community through volunteering. Through this trip we learned a great deal about two major themes of the Christian Life: Living together as Christians and Serving Christ in our community.

As a community we lived at Redbud Trail Retreat for five days and four nights. Each of us had a role to serve food and clean the dishes. We slept in tightly packed cabins and roughed some wet and soggy weather together. We played games (led by Pastor Anna Parkinson of FPC Goshen, IN), swung on the rope swing and paddled the Saint Joseph River together.

We also spent a significant time in prayer, singing and studying scripture. The theme of devotion for the week was Remember Your Baptism, You Are Named, Claimed and Sent. The devotions were led by Pastor Katie Lindburgh of St. John's United Church, (a Presbyterian Church in Chesterton, Indiana). These times were very fruitful as we spent time remembering that it is God who names us, not those who would be our discouragers. It is God who claims us, not people or things that may lead us into a hopeless future, and it is God who sends us out to do good works so that God's name can be glorified and the Kingdom furthered.

We spent most of our week volunteering through the Volunteer Center of Southwest Michigan. This gave us many opportunities to not only make ourselves useful to the counties of Cass, Van Buren and Berrien, it taught us about some significant programs that benefit a wide variety of people.

Our first day we spent in Benton Harbor, Michigan at the Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency Warehouse. This is a federally funded program that provides food to low income seniors and children within the tri-county area. We learned a great deal about what it takes to feed those of our society that can be easily forgotten and we packaged over 920—50lb boxes of food that day!

The next day we went to the Berrien County Council for Children's Child Assessment Center. Here we were working on the grounds outside the building. This includes picking fresh strawberries for the staff that were being used as grown cover. It was exciting to make the place look its best. We learned about how the assessment center was providing a comfortable and safe place for victimized children to tell their story rather than be interviewed multiple times by various government agencies.

The third day was spent at the Therapeutic Equestrian Center of Watervliet, Michigan. We got the opportunity to brush horses, clean the stalls and pitch horse manure. We also learned about the the great work the Center is about. Not only do they provide therapeutic experiences for mentally challenged people they also treat autistic children and provide physical therapy for the injured and the elderly. All of this on the back of a horse.



Our week together was not without its trial and difficulty. It rained for two of our five days and it became quite apparent that the roof on one of the Redbud cabins needs to be replaced. We also had to spend a great deal of time together which can bring about arguments and frustration.

However it is by the Grace of God and the Holy Spirit present with us that we are able to live together and accomplish the good work that God sets before us.

The following is a thank you card from the Berrien County Council for Children's Child Assessment Center: *"Thank you so much for all your hard work at our Center. The gardens look absolutely*

beautiful and the strawberries were delicious. It is so nice to have such a welcoming and calming garden for our clients when they are going through such a hard time in their lives. Thank you all!"

If you would like to see more please check out the following website: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZSzfAMHDcA>.

Confirmation Class Statement of Faith presented at Session in May.

Marte Eggleston



If I didn't have God I would have many sleepless nights. Sometimes I can't sleep because I worry about less important things but I know God is there so I feel better and I am able to fall asleep. Other times I worry about bigger things but again God is there so I am able to sleep in peace. I am thankful for God's calming hand that comes to me whenever I need it and I am thankful that hand of God has given me rest.

With complete faith in God comes complete faith in Jesus. Jesus died for everyone and that is the greatest sacrifice. The fact that Jesus is human makes me feel closer to God. When I feel closer to God and Jesus I feel more content with life and feel more of a balance.

Prayer is very important to me. I feel that with prayer all wounds can be healed. I find that I feel better after I've prayed because I feel like God is specifically looking out for me and that is, to me, a great feeling. I feel special and important when I pray because God is looking at my problems and wanting me to feel better.

I believe that worship can be practiced anywhere that God is and I believe that God is everywhere all of the time. Whether it is a parking lot, a McDonald's, or a church, God is there. I believe that you can worship alone or with other people it just depends on what kind of person you are. I personally like to worship in my own mind alone but I also enjoy the church atmosphere which brings me a sense of community.

In short I believe God and Jesus are my saviors and I would be lost without their guidance and the foundations that I was given when I was younger and growing up in this church. I'm still growing up but I am comfortable with where I am in my faith and I hope to grow even stronger in my faith as the years go by.

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



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN—(PW)

Three Events Woven Together Sewing, Lunch, and Prayer Group

**Resurrecting monthly PW luncheons and more, every 3rd
Wednesday beginning September 16, 2009**

Come at 10:30 a.m. to learn sewing projects based on the book *"My Father's Ties"*. Recycle and transform old ties into more than 30 projects including quilts, scarves, purses, vests, lampshades, pillows, covered boxes, and more. A fun way to create something for family or for charity. At 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. relax at a catered luncheon in the Social Hall. Listen to area speakers, and enjoy fellowship. At 1:15 p.m. take 30 minutes to unwind and pray for yourself, your friends, your nation, and connect with others around prayer concerns.

**Sewing, Lunch, and Prayer will be held September 16,
October 21, November 18, December 16, January 20,
February 17, March 17, April 21, and May 19.**

**Come for part of the day, or for all events. R.S.V.P. for
lunches. Contact: Roberta Ferkins 574-298-2082.**

REDBUD SUMMER



NEW POOL!

Come to Redbud in July and swim
in our new pool.

Family Camp is July 3-5

Cost is \$30 per family

Tent camp or try one of our newly renovated
buildings. Swim, canoe, hike, watch the fireworks!

Make reservations today!!!

Call the church or Mike Byers at 229-3550

All Church worship at Redbud

July 19th -11:00 am

Enjoy an outdoor service followed by lunch.

Day Camp

July 20th - 23rd

Adults-support our youth and spend one night at Redbud!

Two twin mattresses are still needed for one of the
lodges, please contact either Pastor Robbie or Mike Byers.



Some more graduates!

Mark Fay, son of our Accounting Specialist, Carla Fay, graduated from Clay High School as one of four Valedictorians. He will attend Purdue University in the Fall.

Carla's oldest son, Matt, graduated from Purdue University with a BS in Chemistry and plans to attend Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston in the fall. Congratulations to the Fay family!