



# Tower Bell

May, 2009

## 175th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

MAY 3, 2009

### 1834 Communion Service

Join us at **10:45 a.m.** for a special worship service similar to worship at the time of the founding of our church in 1834. Dr. Bob Agnew has been researching 19th Century editions of the Presbyterian Book of Order and the first Presbyterian Hymnal of 1830. Join our celebration and learn about worship during that period of time. (The organizational meeting of our congregation was held on May 3, 1834 at the Michigan Street home of Horatio Chapin.) All members will want to be there to join in the fun and surprises.

### Old Time Church Social

An "Old Time Church Social" will follow our worship service, at **12:00 p.m.** in the Social Hall. The lunch will be a re-creation of a 1834 church social, and is sponsored by the Congregational Life Committee. Fried chicken, ham, rolls, birthday cake, lemonade and other beverages will be provided, according to Joyce Schalliol, event chairman. You are asked to bring either a salad or a vegetable casserole. Donations will be accepted at the door. **Reservations are required by Sunday, April 26. To make a reservation fill out a gold event card and place it in the offering plate, or call or e-mail the church office (btyler@fpcsouthbend.org).**



### Organist Recital

Next, plan on staying as all stops are pulled for an organ recital at **1:00 p.m.** by our new organist, Brian Hoover (see article). It will be a wonderful, inspiring time not only to hear our gifted organist play period music but also to celebrate the history of our organ.

### Special Activities for Children

Kindergarten through fifth grade children will create time capsules at **9:30 a.m.** during Faith Steps Sunday School on May 3. They will fill the "capsules" with items about the Church today that represent what they would like people to know in the future. At **12:30 p.m.**, Club 345 will visit the Northern Indiana Center for History in South Bend to learn about the history of the area at the time of the founding of First Presbyterian Church. The event will include a special tour of Copshaholm, the historic home of the Oliver family, former members of our church.

### "Celebrate the Journey, 1834-2009"

A 16-page history of First Presbyterian Church of South Bend has been prepared and has been mailed to all members. One long-time member who has seen an advance copy described the booklet as "spellbinding." The history was researched and written by Eve Pierce, with recent information provided by Alma McClelland. Nancy Shephard was the editor. Watch your mailbox for this exciting publication.

### Do You Recognize These People?

Be sure to take the time to look at all the posters positioned around the church containing photos from our earliest days to the present. See how many faces you can recognize. These photos have been gathered by Alma McClelland in an effort to show the faces of those who helped "Celebrate the Journey" through our church's 175-year history.



### South Bend History – Adult Education Series

Dr. Patrick Furlong, Professor of History at IUSB, will present a three-part adult education series on 175 years of South Bend history. The first session will be April 26, and cover "South Bend, 1818-1861, A Small Town on a Small River." Other dates and topics are May 3, "The Churches of South Bend and Vicinity, 1828-1861, and May 10, "Presbyterians in Indiana before the Civil War." All sessions will be at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

### REMINDER:

MAY 3, 2009

**9:30 a.m.— Special Activities for Children**

**10:45 a.m.—1834 Communion Service**

**12:00 p.m.—Old Time Church Social**

**1:00 p.m.— Organist Recital**

OCTOBER 11, 2009

### Presbyterian Church History

Future programs include a multi-week adult education series on Oct. 11, 18 and 25 by our own Dr. Les Lamon of IUSB on the history of the Presbyterian Church USA and how it has affected our church. Beth Lamon is preparing a program on the Art and Furniture of our church.

### Grand Celebration Service

Our anniversary observances will conclude with a Grand Celebration worship service on October 11 followed by a special meal and program, including a video of past and current church programs. There will be activities for children and adults of all ages.

## Child Protection Policy

A Child Protection Policy for First Presbyterian Church of South Bend was approved by Session on February 26, 2009, and is now in effect.

The new policy, formulated by the Personnel Committee, aims to protect our children, our adult volunteers and our staff from abuse and from opportunities for false accusation. It includes everything from worker to child ratios, open door requirements, field trips, overnight procedures and discipline.

The new operating policy was developed to establish a proactive policy to help keep children and adults safe on Church property and at Church activities. Need for such a policy was fueled by national awareness of numerous incidents of child sexual abuse and accusations of child sexual abuse in church settings. Whether substantiated or not, these have had a profoundly devastating effect on the individuals and churches involved. The church, as a trusting, loving and open place, is particularly vulnerable to this problem.

**Details of the new guidelines will be explained during an adult education session at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 17.** There will be a question and answer period. Everyone in the congregation, especially parents and children's/youth ministries volunteers are encouraged to attend. Training workshops for specific groups will be scheduled in the future.

The new rules require that at least two adults be with children and youth at all times. At no time should one adult be alone with one child or youth. No child shall be left alone anywhere in the church building.

All nursery, child and youth workers will be required to fill out and sign a volunteer application and the related waivers giving permission to check references and background information. All records will be kept confidential.

Criminal background checks are required for all paid staff and supervisory volunteer positions. Background checks will not be required for those volunteers whose contact with children and youth is occasional as long as they are under the supervision of someone who has undergone a successful background check.

Volunteers in church summer programs, including Vacation Bible School and Redbud programs, must complete the required application forms prior to the start of those programs. As new programs begin volunteers will be given the appropriate forms to sign.

Church employees who supervise young people must maintain current certification in Basic First Aid and Basic CPR. Other workers are encouraged, but not required, to get training if they frequently accompany children and youth on adventure activities: water sports, camping, home-building mission trips, etc.

## NEW ORGANIST/BRIAN L. HOOVER

We want to welcome to our staff Brian Hoover, our new organist, whose first Sunday will be May 3. Brian has studied under Mrs. Marlene Lauten and Mrs. Mary Nemeth of Peltz Music House in South Bend, and Professor Dr. Elliot Nordgren of Bethel College.

Brian had his first organist position in 1975 at the age of 14 at First English Lutheran Church in Mishawaka, IN. He also served as Organist with the South Bend Scottish Rite and Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in South Bend. From 1994 to the present time, he has been the Organist at Memorial Presbyterian Church in South Bend.

Brian also works full time as Director of Broadcast Operations at WNIT. He is married to Donna and they have two sons, Jeff, 23 in St. Louis at Washington University, and Gary, 20 at Purdue University.

Regarding his work, a former pastor commented, "He's a gem and a positively wonderful team player." A fellow organist referred to him not only as a great organist but one who works collegially with staff and others.

**We are excited about Brian and look forward to his wonderful gift of music. You will not only get to hear him as a part of our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the date of our church on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> but also for an organ recital immediately following lunch. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**

## Presbyterian Women



Our Spring Gathering will be held **Saturday, April 25, 2009, at Geneva Center, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm.** PW of Wabash Valley annual reports will be distributed.

- **May 30, 2009**, is our deadline for Baby Kit donations, to be placed in the collection box in the church Library. Help us give the gift of clothing to newborns in need.
- Next September we will begin collecting funds for Free Wheelchair Missions. \$51 will place a wheelchair in the hands of someone who has applied for help, and who has demonstrated a real need for a rugged, sturdy chair that will stand up to rutted and stony roads.

Remember, PW projects offer emotional and financial support to mission workers and projects around the world. In 2008 we made and purchased hospital supplies for Malawi, Congo, and Haiti, and learned how desperately hospitals in Congo and Malawi needed mattresses. Please join us as we promote our special offerings: Fellowship of the Least Coin, the Presbyterian Hunger Fund, our Birthday and Thank Offerings, and help us provide much-needed assistance to projects in our own community.

## ADULT EDUCATION

### CHAPEL CLASS FOR MAY – 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.

#### MAY 3 & 10 – SOUTH BEND – 175 YEARS AGO

To help celebrate the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of First Presbyterian Church of South Bend, area historian Dr. Patrick Furlong will present a series on the history of the area at the time of the founding of this congregation:

**May 3** – The Churches of South Bend and Vicinity, 1828-1861  
**May 10** – Presbyterians in Indiana before the Civil War.

Plan to attend any or all of these informative sessions.

#### MAY 17 – WHAT’S BEST FOR OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH: CHILD PROTECTION POLICIES

Come to the Social Hall for a “Thank You” continental breakfast for everyone in the Church who has helped to make the 2008-2009 program year a great one. Nancy Shephard, representing the Personnel Committee, will provide an overview of the new Child/Youth Protection policies. Parents and those involved in children’s and youth ministries are encouraged to attend, but everyone in the congregation needs to be aware of the policies as well.

#### MAY 24 – MUSIC FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Enjoy a time of music for Memorial Day provided by Gary Nicholls. This session, held in the Sanctuary, will involve both listening and singing.

#### MAY 31 – THE ALPHA COURSE:

##### A REVIEW AND A PREVIEW

Since Adult Enrichment plans to offer The ALPHA Course this summer, come for a preview – or a review if you have been involved in the past – in the Chapel.

## ADULT SMALL GROUPS

### ECO-STEWARDS

Eco-Stewards monthly meetings will resume on the second Tuesday at The Side Door Café at Martin’s Supermarket, Erskine Plaza, from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. For additional information, contact: Alisea McLeod, Eco-Stewards Coordinator, at 574-288-4784 or [aliseamcleod@hotmail.com](mailto:aliseamcleod@hotmail.com) or Phyllis Wezeman at 574-234-4159 or [pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org](mailto: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](mailto:gret4music@aol.com) or Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or [pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org](mailto:pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org).

### SPRING BIBLE STUDY

A four week spring Bible Study for Adults of all ages will continue at the home of Robert and Malou Audi from 7:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. for three more Wednesday nights: May 6, 13, and 20. Watch the Church Chatter for details. Everyone is welcome.



### TUESDAY EVENING WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

Our Tuesday Evening Women’s Bible Study, at the home of Ruth Roll, meets every Tuesday night at 6:30 P.M. The group is studying the Gospel of John. Linda Fox is the facilitator. For additional information, contact Linda Fox at 574-277-6317 or [billorlynn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:billorlynn@sbcglobal.net) or Phyllis Wezeman at 574-234-4159 or [pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org](mailto:pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org).

### 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.). The next meeting is Saturday, May 16, with gathering from 3:45 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. and lesson and prayer from 4:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. For additional information about monthly meetings, contact Mlekwa Mwachande – 289-5371 or Phyllis Wezeman – 234-4159 or [pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org](mailto:pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org).



## ADULT EDUCATION EXTRAS

### GO & GROW OUTING TO TULIP TIME IN HOLLAND, MICHIGAN TUESDAY, MAY 5

Celebrate spring with an outing to “Tulip Time” in Holland, Michigan on Tuesday, May 5. Plans include: 8:30 A.M. – Leave Church in the bus and minivans; 10:00 A.M. – Windmill Island; 12:30 P.M. – Lunch at Morrow’s home; 2:00 P.M. – Dutch market, Klompen dancers, Centennial Park flower beds, and other stops; 5:00 P.M. – Leave for South Bend. Cost for the day will be \$12.00 per person. If you are interested, please contact Phyllis Wezeman (574-234-4159 or [pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org](mailto:pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org)) to see if space is available.

### STRATFORD TRIP

Tickets have been ordered for the annual trip to the Stratford Shakespeare Festival in Ontario, Canada: Thursday, September 10 through Sunday, September 13. If you are still interested in participating, please contact Phyllis Wezeman at 574-234-4159 or [pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org](mailto:pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org).



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

### CHILD CARE FOR MAY INFANT NURSERY & TWOS/THREES CLASS

During May, Child Care is provided from 8:15 A.M. to 12:15 P.M. -- during the Chapel Service, the Christian Education Hour, and our Sanctuary Worship. Please pick up your child/children before attending the Fellowship time. Janet Mwachande is the attendant every week, assisted by faithful volunteers for the two shifts each Sunday.

### CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

Our Children's Library, currently located in The Gathering Place on the lower level of the Education Wing, will be moving to **Room 221** on the second floor and become the "Kid's Resource Room." In addition to library books it will feature a display of items from Malawi as well as games. Currently, it is open during selected Second Hour sessions for Pre-Kindergarten through Second Grade children. Resources are available for self check-out by Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> Graders at any time. Watch for the transformation -- and the Grand Opening!

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGES

Children's Messages for May will feature: **May 3** -- 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of First Presbyterian Church of South Bend; **May 10** -- Mother's Day; **May 17** -- Youth Sunday; **May 24** -- Memorial Day; **May 31** -- Pentecost Sunday.

### CLUB 345

Club 345 is a once-a-month group for third, fourth, and fifth graders and a way for young people to explore and express their faith. The May outing, **Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup>**, will focus on the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of First Presbyterian Church of South Bend. Following an 1834 Picnic Lunch in the Social Hall, the group will leave at 12:30 P.M. for activities at the Center for History and the Oliver Mansion (former members of this Church) to learn more about our congregation -- which held its first meeting on May 3, 1834 at the home of Horatio Chapin. Siblings, Parents, and Friends are welcome. No charge -- but reservations are required. For additional information, or to make a reservation, please contact: Phyllis Wezeman, Director of Christian Nurture - 574-234-4159 or [pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org](mailto:pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org).

### FAITH STEPS SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR MAY

Faith Steps, our 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. Workshop Rotation Model Sunday School for Kindergarten through Fifth Grade children, will focus on the celebration of the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the congregation as well as the stories of Emmaus and Pentecost during the month of May. The schedule includes:

**May 3** -- 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Time Capsules -- Art Room -- Dru Wrasse, Teacher; Margo Shearman-Howard, Shepherd

**May 10** -- The Emmaus Walk -- Art -- Dru Wrasse, Teacher; Ann Phambana, Shepherd

**May 17** -- The Emmaus Walk -- Drama -- Margo Shearman-Howard, Teacher; Nellie Namwali, Shepherd

**May 24** -- The Emmaus Walk -- Cinema -- David Eggleston, Teacher; Ann Phambana, Shepherd

**May 31** -- Pentecost -- Tent -- Nellie Namwali, Teacher; Margo Shearman-Howard, 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.

### MCWORM NET FOR MAY

Tuesday, May 12 is the date of the quarterly Michiana Workshop Rotation Model Network (McWoRM Net) meeting which will be held at Wesley United Methodist Church in Niles, Michigan from 12:00 Noon to 1:30 P.M. The topic is "Sunday School for ALL God's Children," with speaker Nella Uitvlucht, Executive Director of Friendship Ministries in Grand Rapids, Michigan, discussing meeting special needs in rotation programs. If you are interested in attending, please contact Phyllis Wezeman.

### PRE-KINDERGARTEN SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS FOR MAY

The Pre-K Class for children who have turned four but who have not started Kindergarten meets every Sunday from 9:30 A.M. -- 10:30 A.M. in **Room 214** of the Education Wing. The Bible stories for May are: **May 3** -- Mary Anoints Jesus (Carolyn Schult, Teacher), **May 10** -- Peter in Prison (Carolyn Schult, Teacher), **May 17** -- Peter and Dorcas (Peggy Van Laere, Teacher), **May 24** -- Over the Wall (Peggy Van Laere, Teacher), and **May 31** -- The Jailer Who Believed (Carolyn Schult, Teacher). For additional information about the Pre-K Sunday School class, please contact: Peggy Van Laere, Coordinator -- 574-271-5661 or [FAMVAN@aol.com](mailto:FAMVAN@aol.com) or Phyllis Wezeman, 234-4159 or [pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org](mailto:pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org).

### SECOND HOUR FOR MAY

Second Hour is a Faith Formation Program for Kindergarten through Second Grade children. It begins after the Children's Message in the 10:45 A.M. Worship Service, and is held from approximately 11:00 A.M. to 11:45 A.M. On several special Sundays: May 3 -- the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the congregation, May 17 -- Youth Sunday, and May 31 -- Pentecost Sunday, children are invited to remain in worship with their families. The schedule for the rest of the month includes: May 10 -- Children's Library on Mother's Day theme and May 24 -- Church Year: Pentecost (Gail Carleton, Leader).

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mark your calendar with the dates for this year's Vacation Bible School (V.B.S.): Monday, June 8 through Friday, June 12. Our theme is "Crocodile Dock: Where Fearless Kids Shine God's Light." Please sign up to help in the following ways:

Crew Leader for K-5<sup>th</sup> -- 4 adults needed

Crew Helper for K-5<sup>th</sup> -- 4 adults or youth needed

Crew Leader for Pre-K -- 2 adults **needed**

Crew Helper for Pre-K -- 6 adults or youth needed

Snack Coordinator -- M -- F

Snack Helpers -- 2 each on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Please contact Phyllis Wezeman at 234-4159 or [pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org](mailto:pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org).

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES CONTINUED**

**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. Children's messages will be shared during the service. Following the Children's Time in the 10:45 A.M. service, Pre-Kindergarten through Second Grade girls and boys may leave for Second Hour classes in the Education Wing or they may return to sit with their families. For Pre-Schoolers, Worship Bags are available in the hallways



**OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

If you've noticed the CELEBRATE THE JOURNEY picture posters in the Narthex, they are the work of Alma McClelland, of our Outreach Committee. She's been working hard gathering and researching pictures of our 175 years. We hope you've enjoyed looking at them--trying to figure out who that young looking person might be--and remembering good times you may have enjoyed on our JOURNEY TOGETHER! She still has more posters to put together, so be on the look out for them.

Our Committee has made an effort to call every member of the congregation during the past few weeks to help explain to them the **U.S. Congregational Life Survey which you participated in on Sunday, April 26th.** We also invited each member to join in the "Old Time Service" and picnic lunch (in the Social Hall) to be held on May 3rd. This will be the first official event of our CELEBRATE THE JOURNEY activities --it is 175 years to the day that our church was formed.

This is a busy time for all of us. Besides being Ambassadors at Sunday services, we are always occupied with thoughts of ways to make First Presbyterian Church an inviting, caring, and need fulfilling church. We hope we are successful!



Mid Town/South Lunch Group, **Wednesday, May 13 at 11:30 a.m.** at Allie's café, 2323 Mishawaka Ave., SB.

North Side Lunch Group, **Tuesday, May 19, 12:00** at American Pancake House, Roseland

**McClelland's Spring Potluck**

Alma and Larry are hosting a Potluck Supper and social evening on **Friday, May 29 at 6:00 p.m.** at 65773 Dailey Road, Edwardsburg. Maps are available in the church office.



Please call Alma (269-663-8875) by Wednesday, May 27. Carpool with others in your area.

**FPC MALAWI ASSOCIATION MEETING**

The FPC Malawi Association, in cooperation with the Mission Committee, will sponsor a "Malawi Dinner" on Pentecost **Sunday, May 31.** It will include chicken, beef stew, and traditional dishes prepared by our members. All money from this event will be used to make our third quarter payment (\$3,720) to operate our Chibanzi Nursery School/Orphan Center and its Feeding Site/Kitchen. Tickets for adults are \$10.00 per person and \$5.00 for children ages 4-12. They are available from the Church Office or from members of both Committees. Please plan to support this worthy cause.

**MISSION COMMITTEE**

**OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH CHIBANZI C.C.A.P. IN MALAWI, AFRICA**

**Africa Bags Village Cooperative**

We need to form an Africa Bags Committee to administer the product that comes to our church for sale in the congregation and the community. If you would be willing to be part of this group, please call or email David Norman, Mission Committee Chair, at 574-291-2511 or [dnorman@tpna.com](mailto:dnorman@tpna.com) or Phyllis Wezeman at 574-234-4159 or [pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org](mailto:pwezeman@fpcsouthbend.org).

**Mission Trip to Malawi – 2009**

**(Please turn to page 6 for details)**

**MISSION OF THE QUARTER**

APRIL, MAY, JUNE

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

SIGN THE STUD IN THE HALL!



**POTPOURRI**

**2009 Stewardship Update**

As of this publication, we have received 183 pledges in the amount of \$395,380.00 towards our 209 Stewardship Campaign.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, May 16, 2009**

**9:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.**

**Plymouth High School**

**Missional Transformation**

**Sponsored by the Presbytery of Wabash Valley**

Congregational Leaders' Development (Elders, Deacons, Clerks of Session, Treasurer, Pastors, Commissioned Lay Pastors, Interim Pastors) Please see Rev. Agnew if you are interested in attending. \$20 individual; \$75 group of 8.

Register by May 4 to secure lunch

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:**



**Sylvia Wadzinski** joined our church by Letter of Transfer from St. Mary's National Church, South Bend. She recently moved to Granger after retiring to be near her sister, Evelyn who is also a member of First Church. Sylvia has a son Aaron, a daughter-in-law, Lisa and three grandchildren. She loves to travel with Evelyn. Other interests include gardening, reading, crafts and making new friends.



**Debra Morrison** came to our membership by Letter of Transfer from First Presbyterian, Mishawaka. She grew up in New York State and now lives in South Bend. She likes to get to know people and attend small groups in the church. Other hobbies include walking, reading, cooking and card games.



**Grace Moyo** is a new member by Reaffirmation of Faith. She lives in Irish Hills with her husband William and two daughters, Nengie and Roseliro. Grace works as a caregiver for the developmentally disabled. Her hobbies are cooking, babysitting and planning birthday parties.



**Wendy Chiszar Venditelli** became a new member of our church by Reaffirmation of Faith. Wendy's church home was First Church during her growing up years. She and her husband Bill live in South Bend. Wendy works as a Consultant for S.A.P. Software Company.



**Grace Chatuluka** recently joined First Church by Letter of Transfer. She was born in Machinga District of Malawi. In her home church, Masintha CCAP, she is a member of the Women's Guild and a leader of the Women's Counseling Group. Grace is a busy housewife and a mother of seven children. She also has two granddaughters.

**MALAWI – 2009  
TEN GOALS FOR TRIP**

**MARGARET EGGLESTON, JEREMY NAMWALL,  
PHYLLIS WEZEMAN, STEPHANIE WEZEMAN**

Meet with all "partners" involved with Chibanzi Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (C.C.A.P.) projects – Nursery School/Orphan Center & Feeding Site/Kitchen, Primary School, Shallow Wells, Africa Bags -- to celebrate what has been accomplished, to discuss what needs to be completed, to determine how projects can be sustained, and to access future needs. This involves groups and individuals such as Church Minister; Vestry; Chibanzi Community Services Programme Committee; Chibanzi School Board; Chibanzi Nursery School/Orphan Center staff; Chibanzi Village Chiefs, Group Village Headmen, and Traditional Authority; Nkhoma Synod General Secretary; Nkhoma Synod Education Department; Ministry of Education of Malawi; Member of Parliament for Dowa District; Ministry of Hope Staff; Shallow Well Committees for sites; Domasi well technicians; Africa Bags Committee; Africa Bags Supervisor/Trainer; Nkhoma Synod Relief and Development Office; Nkhoma Synod HIV and AIDS Programme Staff; Museums of Malawi staff; Others. Develop strategic plan for sustainability of Chibanzi projects with key stakeholders and decide who is responsible for each portion of it.

- Meet with General Secretaries of C.C.A.P. – General Assembly and its Synods to continue plans for "Creative Methods of HIV and AIDS" course – Launch, Synods, Presbyteries, Congregations.
- Meet with Director of Nkhoma Synod HIV and AIDS Programme, plus staff members, to develop long-range plan for all aspects of this department.
- Provide in-service days in various locations for Nkhoma Synod Presbyterian Representatives trained in 2008.
- Meet with Educators from Museums of Malawi to determine plans for implementing "cultural practices through cultural practices" programs in each of Nkhoma Synod's fourteen Presbyteries.
- Explore connections with E-3, the Story Workshop, and Y-Malawi.
- Coordinate plans for agriculture projects with representative from Africa University, Zimbabwe.
- Visit as many relatives as possible of Malawian members of FPC, South Bend.
- Visit as many Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) mission co-workers in Malawi as possible.
- Attempt to acquire a taste for "mice-on-a-stick" -- well, maybe not.

## House Committee Report

The new range and oven has been installed and is wonderful!

The church has purchased a lawn tractor so that Kenny can mow all of our lots. In addition, the Committee is looking for members to help in three different ways:



1.) **Adopt a garden:** Please add your name to our list and volunteer to take over a planting bed surrounding the church property (except the landscaping in conjunction with the Memorial Garden). Purchase and plant annuals or perennials in existing non-grassed planting beds. Care for these plants throughout the growing season by periodic weeding and fertilizing.

2.) **Join the "Cutting Edge" team:** Volunteer to join a group of members to operate the church's edger (or bring yours) to periodically trim grass from the sidewalks and then clean up by using the church's blower to clear the sidewalks of grass debris.

Signify how often you wish to do this (bi-weekly or monthly) when you sign-up.

3.) **Participate in the up-coming spring cleaning day:** Join us for a morning of spring clean-up to sweep, trim, prune, and pick up debris on our grounds after it has awoken from a long winter's nap. Date and details will be forthcoming.



Meanwhile, please email Doug Marsh, House Committee Chair, at [dmarsh@nd.edu](mailto:dmarsh@nd.edu), if you are interested in helping with any of these three opportunities to help us maintain a beautiful presence in downtown South Bend.

## YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- Youth Dates to Mark on the Calendar at Home**
- April 24-26 Confirmation Retreat at Geneva Center**
- May 3--175th Anniversary of the Church**
- May 17--Youth Sunday**
- May 26--Silverhawks Game \$1**
- June 14--Confirmation Sunday**
- June 4-7--SOS Service Weekend at Bethel College**
- June 14-18--Housebuilding Mission Trip to Benton Harbor**

### Theater Review by Calla Norman with Pastor Lindsey

This winter the middle school Sunday school class has been studying the Gospels and Jesus life. Two theater shows came to South Bend. The middle and high schoolers attended **Jesus Christ Superstar** at the Morris Theater and the lights literally went out in the theater when the show ended and we left by the lights of our cell phones. Jesus Christ Superstar was a more realistic account of Jesus' life and the last week of his life. Jesus, Judas and Mary Magdalene were the central characters. Almost all of the dialog was sung. We had seen the movie and compared it to the Gospels. The live version had creative staging and it

even ended with a resurrection scene! **Godspell** was a cartoonish musical presented by the students at IUSB and was mostly just about the parables. We also looked the movie during Sunday school and compared it to the real Gospel stories. It was really fun and energetic with circus stunts, acting and singing in each parable vignette. We're even thinking about staging a few of the parables at church in the fall. We hope that you come and see us and learn more about Jesus too!

### Young Adult Movie Night Turned Old-School

This month's young adult movie night turned into a game night due to software issues with the DVD. We were set up to watch a movie on the Carnes' living room wall. Maybe next time. Instead, we made homemade sweet and regular popcorn and came up with odd ball answers to Scattergories. Want to join us for another fellowship event? Next month we might be going to the \$1 Silverhawks game **Tuesday, May 26**. Email Nellie [fasileni@yahoo.com](mailto:fasileni@yahoo.com) or Lindsey [pastorLcarnes@gmail.com](mailto:pastorLcarnes@gmail.com).

## NOTES FROM REDBUD

### Redbud Summer is upon us!

It has been a long, cold winter and I know we are all ready to get out and enjoy God's gifts. I would like to personally invite, no, **CHALLENGE** you to visit Redbud in May. We are planning some great events this year and it's a good time to save a few dollars on family vacations and visit 27 acres of pure



heaven. Camp Redbud will be officially open for visitors on **April 25th**. We invite you to come help out with some of the Spring exercise we do to help get the camp ready for several hundred young and old explorers! Want to help? Talk to Robbie Carnes or Mike Byers, call the church, or leave a message in the Redbud box...don't be a stranger.

**Our first official event is a contest.** Yes! Come to camp on **May 23rd** and bring your camera. Hear an expert in the field of photography from the University of Notre Dame. Then, with your best eye, start taking pictures anywhere on the campground. We'll have tons of snacks and drinks...music and a short Vesper service at 4:30pm. Get your pictures developed and turn them in at the church office. This contest is for ANY-ONE. There are three age groups. 2-10, 11-19, and 20 plus. There will be a top prize for the best picture from each age group. The pictures will be displayed in the church and they will be voted on by the congregation.

Again, come to Redbud and see the beauty that only comes from one place!

Respectfully submitted,  
*Mike Byers - Redbud Chair*

Save July 19th for Redbud's outdoor worship service. Redbud's first director, Pastor Leroy Fassett, will be with us to share his message about "The Redbud Experience." Transportation will be provided from the church for those needing assistance. Please watch June's "Bell" for more information.

Tower Bell is a publication of First Presbyterian Church of South Bend. We welcome all visitors!  
Visit our website: [www.fpcsouthbend.org](http://www.fpcsouthbend.org)

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



### **Congregation to Participate in Congregational Life Survey, April 26, 2009**

As part of our Mission Study, we will be using the U.S. Congregational Life Survey. It helps identify First Presbyterian Church's unique strengths in comparison to other congregations and to find ways to build on those strengths. Almost 300,000 worshipers in more than 2,000 congregations across the U.S. have participated in this survey.

The survey asks worshipers about four fundamental building blocks of congregational life – spirituality and faith development, involvement in groups and leadership roles in the congregation, community involvement, and congregational priorities and future directions.

Our answers are completely confidential; unless we choose to share our results with others, no one outside our congregation will see our worshiper's answers.

The survey is designed to be given in worship on a typical Sunday. Every worshiper who is at least 15 years old will be invited to take part, including ushers, people in the choir, and others who help lead the service.

Most worshipers can complete the survey in 15 minutes. On April 26, 2009, we will be taking this survey as part of our two worship services. This is an excellent tool to give us a snapshot of our church and to learn about the kind of leadership you desire for a Pastor/Head of Staff.

**Maize Mill Money**  
Session approved the requested transfer of the maize mill donations and the Christmas Offering to the general Chibanzi account in the amount of \$4233.50 to put towards the quarterly payment for the orphan center feeding program. Christmastime gifts fell short of the \$16,000 needed to purchase a Maize Mill, so the funds will be reallocated to current Malawi projects and needs.