

# News From The Pews

News of the First Presbyterian Church

April 2011

Rev. Bob Garrard

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## **UPCOMING WORSHIP/EVENTS**

### **April 3, 2011 – Communion Sunday**

Worship Theme: “That the Blind Might See”

Scriptures: Psalm 23; John 9: 1-41

Rev. Bob Garrard

### **April 10, 2011 – The new Transitional General Presbyter of Wyoming Presbytery, The Rev. Steve Shive, will be preaching. Rev. Shive comes to Wyoming from the First Presbyterian Church of Fargo, ND where he was the head of staff.**

Worship Theme: “One-Anothering”

Scriptures: Psalm 133; 1 Peter 4: 7-11;

1 Thessalonians 5: 8-11

Rev. Steve Shive

### **April 17, 2011 – Palm/Passion Sunday**

Worship Theme: “Palms to Passion”

Scriptures: Matthew 21: 1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29;

*Passion:* Isaiah 50: 4-9a; Psalm 31: 9-16; Philipians 2: 5-11;

Matthew 26: 14 – 27: 66

Rev. Diana Hartman

### **April 21, 2011 – Maundy Thursday (Intinction Communion)**

#### **Worship Service at 7:00 p.m.**

Worship Theme: “Best Church Supper Ever”

Scriptures: Exodus 12: 1-14; 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26;

John 13: 1-17, 31b-35

Rev. Bob Garrard

### **April 22, 2011 – Good Friday**

#### **Worship Service at 7:00 p.m.**

Worship Theme: “The In Between Time”

Scriptures: Isaiah 52: 13 – 53: 12; John 18: 1 – 19: 42

Rev. Diana Hartman

### **April 24, 2011 – Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Sunday**

Worship Theme: “Have You Been Raised With Christ?”

Scriptures: Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3: 1-4;

Matthew 28: 1-10

Rev. Bob Garrard

### *It's Happening Right Here!*

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### **Easter Lily Memorial Program**

The Board of Deacons is sponsoring the annual Easter Lily Memorial Program.

The cost for each memorial is \$12.00. Any monies received above the actual cost of the lilies will be added to the Deacon's Project fund.

All memorials will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

All memorial information including payment, must be submitted to the church office no later than Tuesday, April 19, 2011.

(See Order Form Inside!)



## FROM THE



## Pastor

**Great thanks are due:**

To The Rev. Diana Hartman and the many women of all ages who led us in the worship of God on February 27, Gifts of Women Sunday. It was great to see so many ways in which these women expressed the Gospel story.

To the youth group, our youth director, Heather Dixon and helpers, Jen Hayes, Ashley Braisted, and organist, Dennis Johnson, for a thought provoking and meaningful youth worship service on March 13.

To the members of the congregation who expressed their sympathy to my family over the death of my father, Wes Garrard. Dad was 91 and died on February 19. He was more than ready to go to the Lord.

To God for the successful surgery and continued recovery of our Associate Pastor, Diana Hartman!

April is going to be a very busy and exciting month for our church. Along with all our regular Sunday worship services, Presbyterian Women, Friendship Mariners, Prairie Schooners, Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS), Youth and Children ministries, Sunday School, Deacons, Session Ministry programs, and the continuing development of Small Group Ministries, we have the special worship services during Holy Week. The Palm Sunday service will involve a lot of great music. The new Transitional General Presbyter of Wyoming Presbytery, The Rev. Steve Shive will be preaching on April 10. Rev. Shive comes to Wyoming from the First Presbyterian Church of Fargo, ND where he was the head of staff. Steve was born in Gastonia, NC and has an identical twin brother, Ron, who is the Pastor of First Presbyterian of Burlington, NC. He has served Presbyterian Churches in Missouri, North Carolina and Green Bay, WI.

We also continue to have a great mission opportunity in the One Great Hour of Sharing where we can reach out to a hurting nation and world. Please see information in this newsletter.

Looking ahead to May 8, we will hear from Norm Soden and Tom Muhlback on their mission trip to Nicaragua with The Living Waters Mission group.

Christ's Peace to You!

Bob Garrard

P.S. We still need three people to serve as deacons, please call me if you are interested.

### **Skyline Mission Trip**

A Mission Experience that will keep us closer to home and be more accessible for all the members of the church is in the works! On June 3 – 5 First Presbyterian Church, Cheyenne (along with other Presbyterian churches throughout the state) will be taking a mission trip to Skyline Camp. The mission will be to clean-up the camp and get it ready for the summer.

There are many different projects that are available at the camp from cleaning the lodge and cabins to cutting down trees affected by the beetle kill. There will be jobs for everyone who is willing to work. The event will begin on Friday evening with dinner, worship and games. We will work the majority of the day Saturday and will enjoy a camp fire that evening. Sunday, we will finish cleaning up and worship at the outdoor chapel.

This promises to be an amazing experience for all who attend. Anyone of any age is encouraged to attend. Childcare is even available for families with small children. The anticipated cost is \$15 per person.

Informational brochures are available in the parlor and the west hallway. Please save the date on your calendar! Questions? Call Heather or Diana at 638-3345.

Face-to-Face and Heart-to-Heart  
By Diana Hartman

As we continue to look at “The Twelve Dynamic Shifts for Transforming Your Church” by E. Stanley Ott we find a very timely discussion. This “Shift” moves us from a primarily audience-oriented programming to a balance of audience-oriented ministry and face-to-face ministry. In this shift we work toward balancing the large group and small group ministries.

In the large group or audience-oriented format, one person speaks to many. This would include most worship services, some Sunday School classes, and many women’s group meetings. We are consumers or receivers of other people’s knowledge and insights. This is an important aspect of spiritual formation and growth as we listen to teachers and preachers and value the wisdom gained from their study. We are most familiar with this program design in the church.

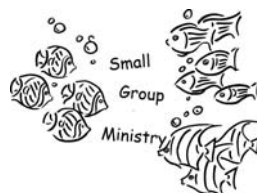
However, growth in discipleship is equally and in some cases more effectively achieved through small groups. This model of ministry is becoming more familiar to us as our Small Group Ministry Team continues to define and introduce small group ministry to our congregation. In this arrangement, face-to-face and heart-to-heart conversations about our faith, our questions about faith, and our experiences provide significant opportunities for spiritual growth.

In addition, small groups help us to develop deeper and more genuine friendships in the church. We are no longer merely attending meetings. Face-to-face in groups of seven to twelve people, where we can share the ordinary experiences of our lives on a regular basis, we become more fully known and deeply loved within the church.

Some of us, like my friend Rick, may offer excuse after excuse for avoiding participating in a small group. But finally, after years of excuses he joined a group and loved it. His small group helped him to grow in his spiritual life. After he had been a part of a small group for a while, Rick said, “The reason I put off joining a small group was that I did not want to reveal my ignorance of the Bible.” Even though he had served many times as an elder, chaired a variety of ministries, led the pastoral search committee, and was a member for 50 years these other activities had not given him the opportunities to thoroughly explore the content and substance of scripture. In his small group he spoke with others about his insights and struggled more personally with those insights for his own life. The balance of large group worship and his small group offered him tremendous encouragement and growth in his spiritual life.

Forming and sustaining a Small Group Ministry in our congregation will take a tremendous amount of work. But the care-giving and faith-nurturing will be fruitful and powerful in the lives of those involved and that is well worth the effort.

*“Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts (large group). They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people (small group). And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved (spiritual growth).” (Acts 2:46-47).*



## A PRESBYTERIAN MISSION WORKER IN EGYPT WRITES ABOUT NEW HOPES FOR PEACE

*Mission Ministry received the letter below and thought you might be interested in reading it. It is a first-hand account from a mission worker who was in Egypt when President Mubarak stepped down and a reminder that we all yearn for peace and freedom. Please pray for Egyptian Christians and Muslims to work together in establishing a more democratic and just government.*

**Feb. 17, 2010**

*Editor's note: We have withheld the name for security reasons*

Not surprisingly, Egyptian Christians love to read Isaiah 19:25 when the Lord of hosts proclaims, "Blessed be my people Egypt." The verse has a larger context and demands careful interpretation. Nevertheless, these words of promise from the mouth of God encourage and strengthen Egyptian Christians in a remarkable way. In Arabic, the verse reads phonetically, "Mubarak shaaby Masr" or to try and translate the pun, "Mubaarak is my people Egypt." There is deep irony in the fact that President Mubarak's name means "blessed."

One of our former students who is currently a wonderful leader in a church standing approximately 200 meters from Tahrir Square suggested a new translation for the verse: "Freely elected representative government is my people Egypt"! The removal of Mubarak and the hopes of a newer, freer future reflect the blessing that most Egyptians deeply desire today. We pray for Egypt to experience God's blessings in every way, but we are happy to join the rest of the country in praying that God would bless this nation with a more democratic and just government in the months ahead.

The past three weeks have been incredibly challenging. Things have settled down enough that we felt comfortable reuniting our family here in Cairo. This was a wonderful answer to the prayers of many. We are all safe, together, and hopeful for the future. Anyone who has not been here would be struck by the rows of tanks and barbed wire along the road from the airport. Even after just two weeks, my experiences have warped my perspective to the point of actually thinking the reduced number of tanks was rather hopeful. But the reality is that even half the tanks are too many.

The experience of the last three decades under President Mubarak has had a similar effect on Christians in Egypt. Many see the relative stability of an oppressive dictator to be more comforting than the specter of an Islamicist regime like Iran. Today, many are starting to believe that the choice between dictator and theocracy does not exhaust the options. The Facebook revolutionaries in Tahrir Square have inspired many—both inside and outside the Church—to believe that freedom and democracy can be achieved and lived here in Egypt. Please pray for Egyptian Christians to recover the influential role they once had in the civic sphere. Six decades of living under military rulers has created a false dichotomy between the spiritual and the physical; the theological and the political. Pray that Egyptian Christians would regain their voice in social, political, and economic affairs, to fully participate in building Egypt's future and cooperating with neighbors.

Last Friday night, the newly appointed vice-president of Egypt delivered a 50-word announcement that sent at least 50 million Egyptians into ecstasy: President Hosni Mubarak was stepping down. For weeks, we had been abiding by the government curfew and even choosing to stay off the streets during the day. The whole country, but especially Cairo, prepared for the worst. Then, with that short, austere announcement the people flooded into the streets.

I went out with a young friend from our seminary to join in the celebrations, a 17-year-old Presbyterian who deeply loves his country. He is a wonderful example of the young people that give me and so many others hope about Egypt's future. His talent, character, and energy will bring great blessings to so many, if he (and many others) is only given the chance. Please pray for the young people of Egypt as they seek to build a new Egypt.

By God's grace, Christian and Muslim young people can make this country a source of blessing for its people and the region as a whole.

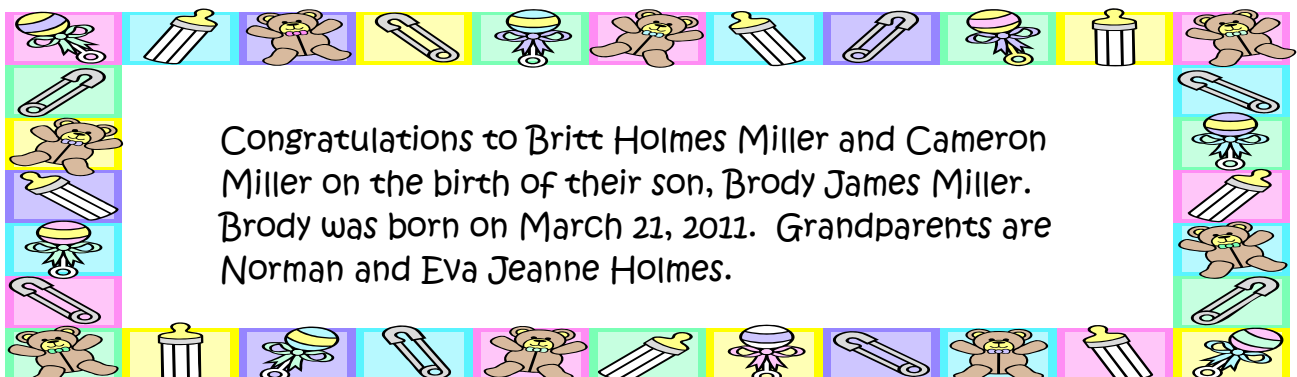
The first glimpse I had of Tahrir Square came from the 6th of October Bridge. We stood behind a crowd of people looking down at another crowd of people who were waiting for another crowd of people to let them into Tahrir. Trying to find a space to take some pictures at the rail, I noticed a man holding his baby boy. Then I noticed the tears starting to flow down his face. After a brief and emotional conversation, it became clear that the tears were tears of hope and joy for the baby boy in his arms. He, like so many other Egyptian parents, disregarded the army's curfew and bedtimes, because he wanted his son to be there for the start of a new day in Egypt. Inspired by the youth of Tahrir Square, this man believed that tomorrow would be better for Egypt, Egyptians, and especially his son. Moreover, he wanted me to be there too. He made room for me at the rail and made certain that I took those pictures.

The demographics of the crowds were remarkable. Certainly, we encountered many Muslims throughout the crowds. As Muslims make up nearly 90% of Egypt's population, they were well-represented. But these were not radicals crying out for theocracy or sharia law. People like that may have been in the crowds, but we did not see them. We saw Egyptian Muslims celebrating freedom, hope, and the end of a military regime. The Muslims that we saw were there primarily for greater freedom, less corruption, and a brighter future for their children. Every Egyptian Christian I know fully supports these hopes. Please pray that Christians and Muslims would have the wisdom and integrity to overcome distrust of one another and seek common goals together.

We also encountered Christians celebrating Egypt's revolution. Young people like my friend from seminary were inspired by the way that the protesters kept countering violent attacks by the authorities with a resolute decision to carry on their protests peacefully. Not surprisingly, this resonated with Jesus' teachings about turning the other cheek.

There is a long, long road ahead for Egypt. There are many challenges and dangers on this road. Nevertheless, the events of the past three weeks have brought inspiration and hope to many people here (including each of us). Please continue to pray that the Prince of Peace would continue to work in and through Egyptians so that we would join in the affirmation, "Blessed be God's people Egypt."

Thank you for your prayers and support. Pray for peace and freedom!



# Women of First Presbyterian Church

Submitted by Kay Barnes

**Spring Gathering Coming Up Soon!** Presbyterian Women from all over the state will be heading for Mountain View, WY for the Spring Gathering on Thursday evening, April 14<sup>th</sup> through noon Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. Several speakers will share information on how women in various parts of the world, including the U.S., are working to solve the particular problems they face and what can be done to help them succeed. The weekend will include fellowship, food, inspiration, review of next year's Bible study, and a mission project. Forms for registration are on the long table in the parlor. If you plan to go, please contact Kay Barnes (778-7445) so transportation can be arranged for all.

## **Upcoming Events:**

April 14 -16: Spring Gathering in Mountain View, Wyoming

April 29, Noon: Coordinating Team meeting in the Library

April 30, 10:00 a.m.: Stitch-by-Stitch Workshop

May 7, 10:00 a.m.: Women's Brunch and program by Heather Dixon sharing about her time in The Gambia

May 21: Stitch-by-Stitch Workshops go back to every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

Watch the bulletin for dates for future Chrismon workshops

## **FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY**

Last year the Worship and Music Ministry read and discussed a book entitled "A More Profound Alleluia," edited by Leanne Van Dyk. In a chapter on Communion, or the Eucharist, it is pointed out that the word "Eucharist" comes from a Greek word meaning, "thanksgiving." Partaking of the bread and grape juice in Communion reminds us to be thankful for God's gift of His only begotten Son who died for our sins on the cross so that we might have eternal life.

One response to the abundance of God's goodness and gift is to, in turn, give to those around us who are in need.

The Session of our church, therefore, approved a change in our celebration of Communion. The first Sunday of each month we are asked to bring non-perishable food items to church. During the service we will have the opportunity to bring the food to the front of the sanctuary and place it on the parlor floor in front of the sliding doors on the left (east) side. The Deacons will then take charge of distributing the food where it is needed here in our community.

We hope this practice will make Communion more meaningful and relevant to worshipers and, of course, provide more support for those who go hungry in our community.

Eric Wedell and Walt George, Co-Chairmen, Worship and Music Ministry

## One Great Hour of Sharing Campaign March 20 – April 17

-Greta Morrow, Mission Ministry



Luke 1:79 instructs us to “give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.” That’s exactly what we are called to focus on during our annual One Great Hour of Sharing campaign, which began March 20 and continues through April 17.

Our donations will help Presbyterian Church USA make a difference in the lives of those who struggle here in the United States and all over the world.

Imagine the good that comes when the people of Detroit can use vacant lots to grow fresh vegetables, which have become increasingly hard to find since the recession devastated the city. Think about the people of Haiti and how we helped them last year when they were rebuilding following the tragic earthquake. Now it’s time to rebuild hospitals and make sure farmers continue to have the tools needed for farming. These are examples of how our donations will be used.

Of course, hard times know no national boundaries. Donations from Presbyterians across the country will go where they are needed. In the past, we have helped establish after-school programs in Mozambique; drill water wells in Kenya; help flood victims in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; grow gardens in Youngstown, Iowa; teach sustainable farming in Guatemala; work against indentured servitude in Pakistan; bring assistance to refugees in Chad, and help with a vast array of other projects, all clearly illustrating the Presbyterian Church (USA) focus on “giving light” to those who struggle.

Feel free to use one of the special offering envelopes in the pews or the One Great Hour of Sharing offering envelope in your offering box. Please also write “One Great Hour of Sharing” in the memo line on your check. We would appreciate your prayerful consideration of this offering!

### Friendship Mariners

Everyone is warmly invited to S. S. Friendship Mariners on Wednesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> of April, at 6:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall! We’ll begin with a potluck dinner, followed by our annual service auction that is not only an awesome opportunity for a great time of wonderful Christian fellowship, but thanks to the very, very generous contributions of a myriad of services (including donated items/treasures...old and new) by members and friends of our church family, many others are able to benefit from this event because of the joyous monetary giving. In the past, some of the proceeds from the service auction have been shared with our church youth group, COMEA shelter, Salvation Army, Laramie County Adolescent Services, school children’s fund, MOPS, Family Promise, purchase of comfortable folding chairs in fellowship hall, redecorating the bathrooms, etc. (all with enormous and grateful thanks to our generous bidders)!! If you have any items or services, i.e., dinners, picnics, breakfasts, car washes, painting, cleaning, mowing grass, fishing expeditions, sports games, baked goods, cards/scrapbooking, books, handcrafted items, paintings, etc., (the list is endless) which you would like to share, please advise Mary Lou McMIndes, Joe and Becky Dougherty, or Arn and Barb Lutz. If you and your friends and your friends’ friends would like to attend our evening of fun, food, and fellowship, please come one and all—we’d love to have you, and we promise you a very good time! ☺



**HYSTERICAL  
HISTORICAL  
ARCHIVES**

Submitted by Peggy Williams

This information was printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin of March 25, 1951.

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## **The Power of Resurrection**

There is a line in St. Paul's letter to the Philippians in which he says: "That I may know Him and the power of His Resurrection." That power of Christ which swept like a flood over the ancient world, and conquered it, still is an effective force in the lives of men and women, transforming them, as it did the disciples and turning sunset into sunrise.

We have all known valiant souls who have looked straight into the eyes of death without the slightest trace of fear, thinking in their last hours, not of themselves, but of their families, their friends, their God. Such nobility has not been put into the souls of men, only in the end to be extinguished as though it were of no consequence. The courage with which countless men faced danger and death during the war, and the strength with which bereaved families met their sorrow, proves that what St. Paul called "the power of the Resurrection" is still a potent force in the world, steadying people as nothing else under heaven can do. The condition that burned like a fire in the early Church, changing a little group of bewildered and heartbroken men into a united and confident group prepared to face death for their living Lord, still brings victory out of defeat.

There is a God who has made the world and man. That man is not a body possessing a soul, but a soul possessing a body. That God is a Father Who cares for all of his children—that love abides and lasts beyond all earthly change—"the grave itself is but a covered bridge leading from light to light through a brief darkness."

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*Don't forget to put your pennies in the Pennies for Stained Glass jar toward the rear of the sanctuary. We aren't able to empty the Penny Jar very often but when we do, we usually find \$100.00 or so. We need to continue saving our pennies as this fund goes toward any maintenance or cleaning needed on our beautiful windows. Try putting your age in pennies every year on your birthday.*

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If you are interested in serving on this committee or just helping with some of our projects, please contact any member of the committee.

Paula Qualls	638-8805	Glen Oslund	638-8884
Mel Qualls	638-8805	Peggy Williams	634-0147
Ralph DeWyke	632-8210		

***Remember, it is important to know where we have come from as we journey forward making our own history.***

## **PER CAPITA INFORMATION**

Per capita for our church for the year 2011 is \$39.25. You have seen this amount listed frequently in our bulletins and in our newsletters. But many have been asking what does this mean?

The per capita amount is what our church pays per member to the Wyoming Presbytery. Since this amount is paid directly out of our budget, many members choose to pay this amount in addition to their pledge or non-pledge giving.

Below is more detailed information regarding per capita as noted on the PC (USA) website:

### **Frequently asked questions**

#### **What is per capita?**

*The official definition:* "Per capita is an opportunity for all communicant members of the Presbyterian church through the governing bodies to participate equally, responsibly, and interdependently by sharing the cost of coordination and evaluation of mission; and of performing ecclesiastical, legislative, and judicial functions that identify a Reformed Church, while at the same time strengthening the sense of community among all Presbyterians" (GA Minutes, Part I, 1995).

*In essence:* Per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Said another way, it is a Presbyterian Covenant Community Fund — part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together. Because every Presbyterian shares in the benefit of the PC(USA)'s system of government, the expenses associated with coordinating and performing the functions of that system should be shared by everyone as well.

#### **Who pays per capita, and how much?**

Congregations (through their sessions) pay an annual amount of money per church member — per capita apportionment — to their respective presbyteries. The per capita amount requested from a congregation is a combined total of requests from that congregation's presbytery, the synod in which the presbytery is located and the General Assembly — based on their respective budgets for the coming year(s).



### **2012 Member Giving Envelopes to Receive Changes**

In an effort to reduce costs, the Finance Ministry will be reducing the number of giving envelopes ordered for use in 2012. For the past few years, 575 boxes of giving envelopes have been ordered for our members to use. Many of these envelope boxes sit on the shelf unclaimed only to be destroyed at the end of the year.

By reducing the order by the number of boxes that are not used, we can reduce our cost by at least 40%. In doing so, we will have to assign new envelope numbers to our faithful givers. The Finance Ministry and session feel that the potential savings of at least \$600 makes this change worthwhile.

We thank you for your understanding and ask that you contact Ken Sherman, Finance Ministry chairperson, or any other Finance Ministry member if you have any questions.



# Deacon's Beacons

Submitted by Jane Nelson

Prayer pulls the rope below and the great bell rings above in the ears of God. Some scarcely stir the bell for they pray so languidly; others give an occasional pluck at the rope; but he who wins with heaven grasps the rope boldly and pulls continuously, with all his might. - Charles Haddon Spurgeon

Grasp that rope of prayer and pull with all your might for the recovery of:

Stacy "Skoumal" Adams	Scott Coulson	Rev. Tom Kittleman	Paula Qualls
Meryl Adams	Virginia Donaldson	Jim Kleine	Mary Alice Radford
Loretta Adsit	Robert Drummond	Dr. Robert Lanier	Aaron Rebout
Lil Barbour	Pat Fairbanks	Mary Jane Larson	Midge Reed
Richard Beauchamp	Adam George	Ronan Louis	Rev. Skip Reeves
John Bishop	Bob Goss	Bob McGuire	Douglas Rice
Betty Brown	Joan Gray	Cindy Buntin Miller	Doris Rogers
Del Brown	Karen Grover	Jane Nelson	Patti Sandison
Jay Brown	Jim Hamil	Carla Nolen	Lana, Leann Smith & Ken Smith
R.J. Brown	Marydee Hartsook	Alice Norfleet	Austin Strietmatter
Dennis Butler	Marjorie Hoflund	Kim Olson	Thyra Thomson
Bonnie Carley	Marv Hoflund	Glen Oslund	John Townsend
Caroline Carver	Bob and Karen Hruby	Kari Pace-Murdoch	Javen Westby
Eric Case	Michelle Ivester	Virgil Payne	Margy Will
James Chaney	Marcy Jacobsen	Robin Peterson	Harry Williams
Richard Chatfield	Margret Jones	Sherry Popham	B.J. Wise
Gary Child	Roshni Joseph	Bertie Price	

*- If anyone listed on the above list needs to be removed, please let the church office know. -*

Be patient with yourself; grief takes time.

You will want to rush the process, but it moves at its own pace. -Catherine M. Sanders

In dealing with grief, there are no set rules, no right or wrong feelings. -Harriet Sarnoff Schiff

Remembering those who have lost loved ones:

Diane Coleman - Loss of Mother  
Susan Payne - Loss of Father  
Family of Velma Steward  
Rick Stratton - Loss of Father





**THANK YOU!**  
 THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!  
**THANK YOU!**



- Thank You! I have so appreciated all of your prayers, cards, well wishes and other acts of kindness during my recent recovery from surgery. I know that your caring has helped my healing to move quickly. Diana Hartman
- First Presbyterian Church ~  
 On behalf of Afflerbach Elementary School, we would like to thank you for your most generous donation of \$10 gift cards! Our families are so appreciative of them and your church's generosity. Also, thank you for thinking of our students during the cold winter months with the donations of hats, gloves, and scarves ~ these were definitely needed and quickly distributed. Thank you for thinking of Afflerbach students and your continuous support! Afflerbach Elementary School
- THANK YOU!  
 Our grateful thanks to all who donated items for our Presbyterian Women's mission projects and the Chrismon stitching. We really appreciate such generous support. Please know that if we are not able to use something you donated, we will find a new home for it or donate it to Meals on Wheels.



## Notes & Church News



**New Life Comment Box** – In April, New Life Ministry will place a comment box on the table in the west foyer. We welcome your suggestions and comments. Please be sure to put your name and phone number on the comment note so we will be able to address your suggestions or concerns.

**Parents "R" Us** – Parents "R" Us will meet from 9:15am - 10:15am on Sunday morning. If you are looking for a place to be while your children are in Sunday School and if you are not attending the Adult class on "How the New Testament was Formed," then come join us in the newly redecorated Stage Room next to the Fellowship Hall. This will be an informal gathering where you will meet other parents, share ideas, enjoy fellowship or read the Sunday paper. Coffee will be provided.

**Help With Sending Kids to Camp** – Anyone interested in helping to coordinate this year's efforts to get needy children to church camp is urged to call Deacon Marion Yoder at 514-3455. Last year, with the help of the Myra George bequest, five Cheyenne children were able to spend a wonderful week in July at Skyline Camp, near Encampment, WY.

**Did You Help?** – From 1999-2002, the Deacons began a project to make ornaments in memory of and in honor of many former and current ministers of our church. We are now working to complete the project by adding ornaments for those not already represented on the tree. If you participated earlier in making these ornaments, please let Kay Barnes know (778-7445). We would like to have a record of all who helped in the project, but some of the ornaments have no initials on them.

## CHURCH WELCOMES FIVE NEW MEMBERS!

We were pleased to welcome Chris and Cori Cooper, Ryan Cook, Paul Hartman and Rachel Sato on March 20, 2011 during the second service. Cori was born in Cheyenne and Chris was born in Rock Springs and previously lived in Laramie. He has taught for Laramie County School District No. 2 for nine years and works as an archeologist during the summer. They have two daughters, Cassidy and Cadence. Cori is a pharmacist at the VA. The Coopers say they were attracted to our church by our friendly congregation and spiritual attitude. They join by letter of transfer. Ryan Cook was born and raised in Cheyenne and attends East High School and enjoys basketball and football. Rachel Sato is also a student, and will be attending Central High next year. Before moving to Cheyenne nine years ago, Rachel lived in Great Falls, Montana. Paul Hartman comes to us from Tulsa, Oklahoma, and joins by letter of transfer. In addition to being a preacher's spouse, Paul is a preacher's kid. He was born in Youngstown, Ohio and is a teacher. He and his wife have three children, one son-in-law and a granddaughter. We warmly welcome all of these new members to our church family.



## Youth Ministry

Youth Sunday was a huge success! Thank you to everyone that joined us for worship. An extra special thank you to everyone who supported the youth bake sale; we raised over \$750 for our mission trip to the Appalachian Mountains this June. Our church family never ceases to amaze me.

The youth will be serving during the fellowship time after services in the month of April.

Here's a look at the plans for April:

- April 2 – 10 Spring Break (Let's pray for Spring weather)  
 6 – No *Cast of Characters* or Junior High Only  
 17 – Palm Sunday  
 22 – Early out for Easter  
 24 – Easter – No Sunday School



As always, all (7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade) youth are invited to our many events every week: Sunday School (9:15 – 10:15), Youth Group (Sundays 6:30 – 8), Junior High Only (Wednesdays 6:30 – 8), and *Cast of Characters* Book Study (Wednesdays 3 – 4:30).

~Heather

## Caring All Kids!



## Children's Ministry

This year as we move into Lent and also prepare for One Great Hour of Sharing, I can't help but be grateful for the ministries made possible by this churchwide special offering. From Detroit to Darfur, from Louisiana to Libya, those most in need are finding hope and help through the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, the Self-Development of People program, and their partners in ministry. Our hearts are full of compassion, but our ears are full of whatever is on the mind of the media this week. In this environment, it becomes incredibly easy to forget the pain of those in trouble spots around the world like Haiti, New Zealand, Japan and Pakistan, and all the other places where poverty, disaster, and war cause displacement and suffering. Feeding the hungry, helping people build up their own livelihoods, responding to disasters—these are all ways that One Great Hour of Sharing is changing lives, changing communities, and changing the world. The children of the church will also be participating in One Great Hour of Sharing. They were all given fish banks to fill with loose change and return on April 17 for the Palm Sunday processional. This is a great opportunity for our children to participate in a mission project. Please, fill those banks in order to help people in need!

Kirk Weaver with Family Time Training has expressed the need for teaching Christian faith in the home. The mission of Family Time Training is to train families to teach children Christian principles and values in the home. "Family Time" is a term used to describe fun, intentional, spiritual lessons in the home. For some, the term "Family Time" may conjure up visions of adults and children playing a board game or watching a movie together. But here, Family Time represented so much more. In addition to spending fun time together, Family Time lessons are used to teach specific Christian values, character qualities and spiritual beliefs. Kirk encourages families to do a lesson once a week. And, most Family Time lessons take less than 20 minutes. Yes, we are busy, but most families would agree that we can take 20 minutes out of the 10,080 minutes in each week to provide home-based spiritual training for our children. Twenty minutes of formal training each week sets up informal training throughout the week. For example, let's say that this week you teach your children a Family Time lesson on self-control. How many times will you be able to apply that lesson on self-control in the week ahead? Countless times! Kirk has agreed to *Passing on the Faith* with our church on April 10, 2011 at 11:30. Lunch will be provided, and all are highly encouraged to attend. *Passing on the Faith* is not only for young families. This program focuses on children, youth, parenting, marriage, and the importance of grandparents!

I would like to thank Raymond Hamburg and Rick Stratton for all their help installing the Smart Board in the CE wing. The children are truly grateful for all the hard work and long hours installing it! Also, a special thanks goes out to Linda Stratton for sewing window valences for the Sunday School classroom. If you have not had the opportunity to see all the wonderful changes, please take time to do so.

### Up Coming Events-

- April 10: Passing on the Faith 11:30 Lunch provided (everyone is encouraged to attend)
- April 17: Palm Sunday (Palm Processional 10:30 a.m. service)
- April 17: One Great Hour of Sharing banks returned
- April 22: Last ½ Fun (12:30- 5:30 in CE wing lunch provide)
- April 24: No Sunday School (Easter)
- May 22: Last Day of Sunday School
- June 6-10: VBS (here at the church)

With God's Grace

Ashley Braisted, Children's Ministry Director





Family communication, exercise, fine arts, Graffitos, relaxation and service are the subjects MOPS has covered since January. Fun, fellowship and faith make our meetings a bright time for those of us attending. Our average number of moms this year is 18 per meeting. This is an increase of 60% over last year. We are very pleased with the positive growth MOPS has experienced in its second year. Thank you to everyone attending, helping and financially supporting this ministry!

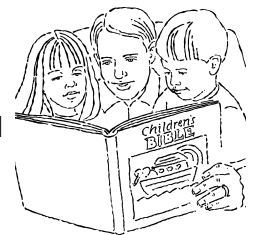


A big thank you goes out to Becky Tish for sharing the benefits of fine arts for our children on February 3. We all enjoyed the reminder that we don't have to sing like a star to be a star for our children. That same evening we had the pleasure of creating Valentines with Mary Lou McMIndes. Thank you Mary Lou!

On March 17 we explored the art and science of service with Heather Dixon. She shared her Peace Corp experience in Africa. She also offered suggestions on how to keep our children serving and focusing on Christianity in our secular world. Heather, thank you!

Several local people and companies have contributed to MOPS in one way or another this spring. Great Harvest Bread Company has donated dinner three times. Sara Bohlinger from Smart Sports gave a presentation on the importance of exercising. Graffito's came to us. Georgia Spicer, Cherie Pryzmus, Bess Wadleigh and Adora Day Spa offered massage, pedicures and product to the ladies.

In order for a mother to return to our church and MOPS we must have a strong children's program. We thank those who have answered the call to help with the MOPPETS program. Debbie and Cathy Riedl, Jessica Sanchez, Jen Andrews, Angie, Jazmene and Justice Lane, Sharon Cicarelli, Sally, Madeleine and Rachel Sato, Libby and Maggie Cave, Becky Tish and Deanna Dyekman!



Please remember to invite your friends and family to join us on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 5:30 to 7:30. Please note that we will meet one time in April – April 14 - due to Spring Break and Maundy Thursday. If you'd like more information or would like to know how you can help, please contact Stephanie Prescott at 634-3765.

Put these words of mine in  
your heart and soul ....  
Teach them to your children ....  
Deuteronomy 11:18-19, NRSV

### IN THE LIBRARY - submitted by the Library Committee



The subtitle of The Journey, by Billy Graham, is "How to Live by Faith in an Uncertain World." Graham says that each of us is at a different point in the journey of life - just starting out, in the middle, or nearing the end. As we journey we come to many places where the path splits and we have to make a choice. While some of these choices lead to minor results, others can lead you to a very different life. All of us face such choices, but we aren't alone in making them. God has made these paths open to us and wants to accompany us as we move. Graham includes ideas to help us reach out to God so as to have strength for the journey, solutions for challenges and help to be persistent in continuing in our faith. [248.4 GRA.JOU]

Another book about the journey of life is Max Lucado's When God Whispers Your Name. Lucado says it should give us comfort that God does indeed know our name. Lucado uses stories of people from the Bible and people from everyday life to show you how God can give you the power to keep on moving ahead in your journey. [231.1 LUC.Whe]

Robert Schuller, in Tough Minded Faith For Tender Hearted People, has a daily commentary on a Bible verse(s) to help us move to a more fulfilling life by strengthening our faith and showing us how to manage the creative ideas we have. The message for each day helps us understand what Tough Minded Faith means. [242.7 SCH.TOU]