



First Presbyterian Church of Kankakee

THE BELLTOWER



LENTEN SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Palm Sunday –10:15am Worship with Rev. Franklin Garton in the pulpit.

NO MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Good Friday-6:00pm Service with Rev. Franklin Garton in the Pulpit

Easter Sunday– 10:15am Worship with Revs. Franklin Garton & John McLean in the pulpit.

Children’s Easter Egg Hunt to follow service.

May 2011

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VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed for this year’s VBS program. Leaders to help with Bible stories, crafts, music, and food are needed. The theme for this year will be *Children Around the World*. The kids will be learning about a different group of people or country each day. Right now VBS is expected to run the second or third week of July, from 3-5pm, ending with a dinner and program for the family at 5pm on the final day. The first meeting to finalize plans for VBS will be held in May.

Cultural artifacts from Germany, Mexico, Africa, Greece and from Native Americans, for display and have discussion about with the kids, would be appreciated.

Call the office if you would like to participate in any way.

Staff

Guest Pastors
In the Pulpit

Director
Of Music Ministry
Paul Johnson

Treasurer
Dan Pitkin

Secretary
Kathie Grazis

Nursery Attendant
Tina Pitkin

Custodian/Maintenance
Nick Kupcikevicius

PRESBYTERIAN PEARLS FROM THE PAST

In 1854, in a small room in the home of Jephtha Ripley on west Court Street,, on Sept. 28, 1854, ten persons met with a committee from Chicago New School Presbytery, and organized the church.

SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

MARCH 6, 2011

Moderator: Rev. Al Abbott

Clerk: Mary Elise Burnett

Present: Rev. Al Abbott-Moderator, Mary Elise Burnett-Clerk of Session, , Jeanne Chapman, Bonnie Bergeron, Thomas Pitkin, Shadrack Ndegwa, Chris Young, Judy Markham, and Dan Pitkin.

Meeting opened with prayer at 11:45 am.

Dan Pitkin requests that the minutes of the Feb. 15, 2011, called meeting reflect that Rev. Krough indicated that putting "paid under protest" on the checks to Rev. Harris would be considered inflammatory. Discussion held concerning COM's role vis-à-vis our church. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as amended. It passed unanimously.

Deacons report was given., voted on and unanimously passed.

Clerk's Report noted the death of Shirley Maxfield, bringing membership to 72.

Treasurer's Report: Review of statements and reports. Discussion held concerning past due payments from John 3:16. Task Force to meet with them by next session meeting.

Property Report: Thomas advised that an estimate has been obtained from Holohans in the amount of \$528 for repair work on the boiler. T. Pitkin moved and J. Markham seconded to approve the payment for the maintenance work. J. Chapman moved and J Markham seconded that funds be used from the Alexander memorials for the boiler repair. Passed unanimously.

Christian Education: Chris advised that John McLean may be helping with the youth group. Dan advised that proceeds from bake sales are being used for youth activities including food.

Worship: Bonnie advised that several Session members along with Rev. Krogh from COM will be meeting with Dr. Garton on March.13.

John Mclean will be in the pulpit for Easter Sunday.

Barbara Taylor-Erzinger would like to open the church in the summer during lunch for a brown bag lunch, prayer, meditation and music. Bonnie advised that we would need volunteers for this. Further discussion was

held and decided that we would look into it further.

Bonnie advises of request from Blackburn College requesting housing arrangements for 23 students. They would give a free concert Bonnie will e-mail that we would like to assist but that it would not be workable at this time.

No Old Business

New Business: Jeanne advises that Rev. Isreal Anchan, priest from St. Paul's Episcopal Church came to the church and wants to do some Ecumenical outreach.

- Father Anchan has invited our church to come on Wednesdays for soup and salad at 6pm, with di discussion. Information will be in bulletins and Belltower.

- Discussion re: Father Anchan's offer to visit shut-ins and give communion. Discussion held that these Responsibilities are the Elders and Deacons of our own church. Going to discuss with Rev. Keogh, i.e. Elders/deacons able to take communion and if not, what training is necessary.

- Request by Mary Maddox to use Sanctuary, Parlor and Kitchen on 4/10 for recital. Chapman moved, Ndegwa seconded to approve request. Passes unanimously.

Next stated meeting is April 3, 2011.

D. Pitkin moves and B. Bergeron seconds to adjourn. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting closes with prayer.

Meeting adjourns at 1:40pm.

A LITTLE OF THIS AND A LITTLE OF THAT

There is a call out from the First Presbyterian Easter Bunnies for everyone to bring Easter Baskets that belong to the Church, or your own personal one, along with plastic eggs from last year into the church. They were pretty secretive as to why they wanted them.....but I'm thinking that at this time of the year, no questions should be asked....

(P.S. Easter Bunnies....the Secretary likes Easter Eggs too!)



STEPS TO HOPE HOSPICE OF KANKAKEE VALLEY' 5K SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2011

FIRST ANNUAL STEPS TO HOPE 5K WALK AND RUN TO SUPPORT HOSPICE OF KANKAKEE VALLEY. ENTRY FORMS AND SPONSER FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED IN THE CHURCH OFFICE. YOU MAY PRE-REGISTER BY FILLING OUT AND SENDING THE ENTRY FEE OF \$20 INTO HOSPICE OF KANKAKEE VALLEY NO LATER THAN MAY 18, 2011. THERE WILL BE FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD PLACE MEDALS AWARDED TO BOTH TOP MALES AND FEMALES.

FOR MORE DETAILS, CHECK WITH THE OFFICE. LET'S SEE IF WE CAN'T GET TOGETHER A FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TEAM TO SUPPORT THIS VERY WORTHY PART OF OUR COMMUNITY.



With great sadness we learned of the passing of Shirley Maxfield on March 4, 2011. A visitation was held Mar. 11 at the Kankakee Schreffler Funeral Home, with a Service done on the 12th, with Rev. Franklin Garton officiating. She was laid to rest at the Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Our deepest sympathies to all her family and friends at this time of sadness.

Our deepest sympathies go out to former members, Keith & Lucy Kern, at the passing of their daughter Carolyn, after a valiant battle with cancer. Let us remember the Kerns in our prayers as they deal with their loss. We pray God's blessings and comfort for Keith & Lucy. Our thoughts are with them.

NEWS FLASH!!!

MR.PRESBY IS IN THE HOUSE!

A NEW , SVELT , MR. PRESBY MADE HIS RETURN DEBUT ON FRIDAY, MARCH 18TH, TO THE DELIGHT OF YOUR SECRETARY. HE STAYED FOR A SHORT TIME, ATE A BITE ,AND WENT BACK DOWN IN HIS BURROW.

...AND ALL IS , ONCE AGAIN, RIGHT WITH THE WORLD....



SAVE THE DATE

LADIES DAY

Saturday, April 16, 2011

From 9:30am-3:30pm

Betty & Kenneth Hawkins Centennial Chapel at Olivet Nazarene University.

Featuring Patsy Clairmont and Beth Fox

Also featuring *The Olivetions, Orpheus Choir, Jazz Band and Proclamation Gospel Choir.*

Cost is \$32 and includes all programming, lunch and a special gift.

Call 815-928-5791 to register . All mail-in registrations must be in by Monday, April 11, 2011.

See Kathie in the Church Office for a registration form if you're interested in attending.



KIDS & YOUTH



YOUTH BIBLE STUDY



Sundays, during the Lenten Season, all youth are invited to join Chris Young for a youth *Lenten Study* to be held each Sunday morning from 9:15-10:00 am. The study is entitled *Moments for Youth*.

Come out for a good time of learning and fellowship.

CALLING ALL YOUTH!

Practice for a song to be sung by the youth on Easter Sunday, will be held each Sunday morning before Easter, at 9:15am. Come out and join the fun. See you Sunday mornings at practice!

Worship Volunteers 2010

April 3-Communion Sunday

Liturgist Thomas Pitkin
 Acolyte Alexis Zunke
 Ushers Ralph Klein, Ron Armstrong
 Communion Jeanne Chapman
 Judy Markham

April 10

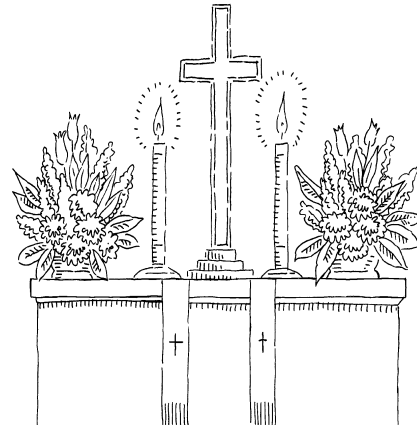
Liturgist Bonnie Bergeron
 Acolyte Shea Kosyla
 Ushers Ron & Marlene Redenius

April 17 Palm Sunday

Liturgist Chris Young
 Acolyte Sophie LaMore
 Ushers Elizabeth Bauer & Judy Markham

April 24 Easter Sunday

Liturgist Jeanne Chapman
 Acolyte Billy Pitkin
 Ushers Bernadette & Sophie LaMore



Worship Schedule

April 3 – Communion Sunday– Rev. Al Abbott in the pulpit

April 10— Rev. Franklin Garton in the pulpit

April 17– Palm Sunday - Rev. Franklin Garton in the pulpit

April 24– Easter Sunday-Revs. Franklin Garton and John McLean in the pulpit

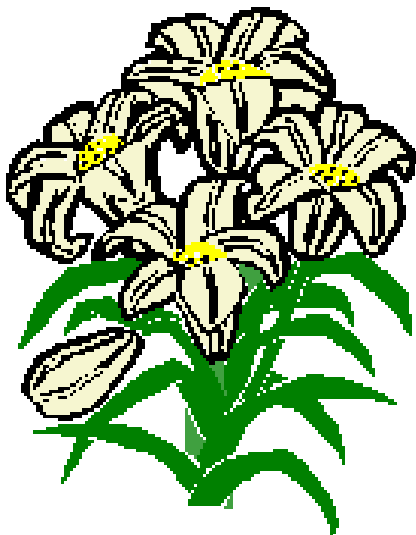


**Be a part of the
 Worship Team!**

Congregational News

PRAYER CONCERNS

Brooks & Dorothy Kerr (Butterfield Court), **Jean Parlin** (Heritage Village), **Lorraine Schneider** (Butterfield Court), **Arain Tompkins** (at her daughter's in Momenca), **Jack Walters** (Bickford House), **Nyla Wepprecht** (Bridges at Butterfield), **Linda Wertz** (at home), **Charlotte Carney** (Manor Care), **Elizabeth Bauer** (Health Concerns), **Ruth Brooks** (Sue Barclay's mother), **Kay Jones** (Cancer issues), **Mary & Don Maddox**, **Lara Plecas** (Jeanne's daughter, Mother-To-Be), **First Presbyterian Church**, **All of those affected by the earthquake and tsunami in Japan**, **our country as we make decisions concerning our involvement in the Libyan conflict**, **all our Military personnel who continue to serve in Afghanistan and Iraq**, **all of our elderly in our country who continue to struggle with day-to-day life in this economy.**



ORDER YOUR EASTER LILY NOW!

Now is the time to order your Lily to adorn the church for the Glory of God. See the order form enclosed in this publication, fill it out and give it to the

MUSIC NOTES

PAUL JOHNSON

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY



Well Spring is officially here, although you can't tell much by the temperatures lately! Anyway, plans are being made for Holy Week and Easter. Most of you know that Dr. Garton is returning and he and I are already preparing services together. It is a real joy to be doing so.

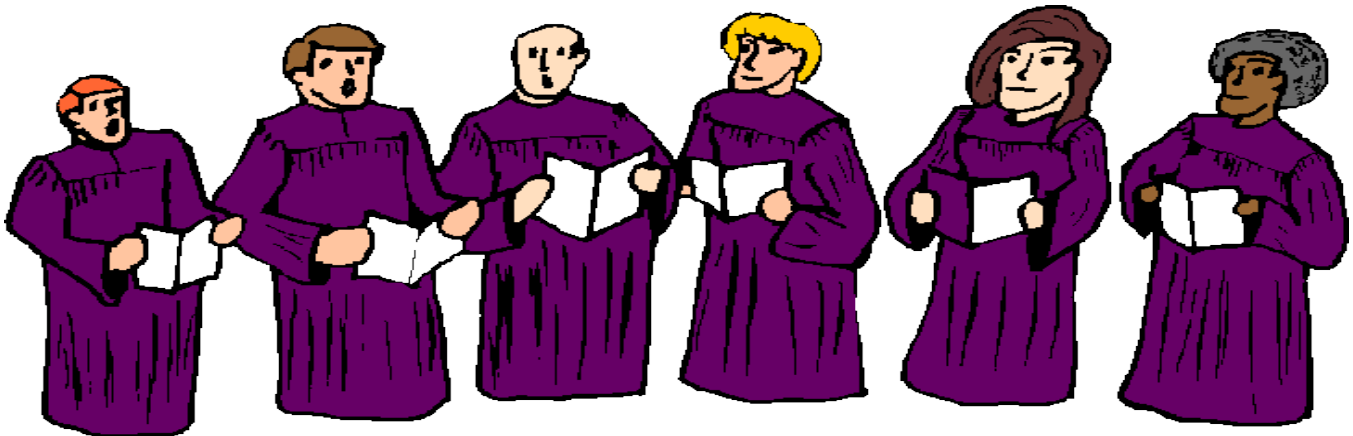
I have enjoyed working with Rev. Thompson, Rev. Abbott and Rev. McLean and appreciate their willingness to fill the pulpit.

If all goes according to plan, there will be a musical number presented by the children at the Easter service.

There will not be a Maundy Thursday service, but a Good Friday service will be held from 6-6:45pm that evening. It will feature readers and I'm planning special music for that service as well.

As we, as a church, continue forward, let's keep our thoughts focused on Christ, who is our Savior, our Lord, and our King.

Paul



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**We Are A Bridge-Building,
Peacemaking Church!!**

Session

Class of 2011

Bonnie Bergeron
Mary Elise Burnett
Jeanne Chapman

Class of 2012

Judy Markham
Dan Pitkin
Thomas Pitkin (1 yr. term)

Class of 2013

Shadrack Ndegwa
Chris Young

Vacant

Deacons

Class of 2011

Bernadette LaMore
Gina Zunke

Class of 2012

Kathie Grazis
Anne Muchemi

Class of 2013

Elizabeth Bauer
Tina Pitkin