



First Presbyterian Church of Kankakee

THE BELLTOWER



June 2011

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NOTICE

VBS WILL BE HELD JULY 25-29

3:00pm-5:30pm daily

Volunteers are still needed for this summer's VBS snack time and the dinner on Friday night at the VBS closing program.

Registration deadline is June 30, 2011

Bring your kids, their friends, your grandkids, neighbor kids and join in the fun. This year's theme is ***"Jesus Loves the Children of the World"***

Each day will feature a different country, their customs and culture, and their will be a related Bible story. The kids will have the opportunity to artifacts from the countries they study. Their music, craft, recreation time and snack will also be related to the country of the day.

On Friday at 5:30pm there will be a family program with a Mexican Dinner (Fiesta) following the program.

Come join the fun as we travel around the world in a week!

PRESBYTERIAN PEARLS FROM THE PAST

A chapel was built on the Illinois Central property. The size of the Chapel was 26' X 36' on the North West corner of Court Street and Indiana Avenue. "This lot was a gift of Messrs. Kitchem and Gray of the Illinois Central Railroad. It will be noted that the original deed of donation contained the clause by which the lots reverted to the original owners if ever used for other than church purposes."

Staff

Guest Pastors
In the Pulpit

Director
Of Music Ministry
Paul Johnson

Treasurer
Dan Pitkin

Secretary
Kathie Grazis

Nursery Attendant
Tina Pitkin

Custodian
Nick Kupcikevicius

SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

May 01, 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 .

Absent: Ron Armstrong

Meeting opened with prayer at 12:00pm.

D. Pitkin moves and B. Bergeron seconds a motion to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2011, stated meeting. Passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

JOHN 3:6- Judy reported that she , Shadrack and Jeanne met with Pastor Luis and other members of John 3:16 concerning various issues. Pastor Luis expressed that they want to stay here and that their membership is growing. They agreed to an increase in the monthly contribution, \$750. from \$400. starting June 1st pending Session approval. They also will appoint a member to oversee sanitation and will work with the custodian. They will have a member attending Worship Committee and Session. They would like to donate plants and services to update landscaping. John 3:16 would like to sponsor a summer block party with both our churches participating. There may be some additional churches interested also. John 3:16 would also like to find some other ways to have the churches work together. It was felt that it was a very positive meeting.

J. Chapman moved and T. Pitkin seconded that the monthly payment be increased to \$750. effective June 1, 2011. passed unanimously.

J. Markham moved and S. Ndegwa seconded that the report be approved and the changes be incorporated into the agreement. Passed unanimously.

YOUTH GROUP: Chris reported that the gathering at the Pitkin's was cancelled for the 1st because it was too wet. It was rescheduled to May 15th. C. Young moved and S. Ndegwa seconded to approve this gathering and that it is an all church event. Passed unanimously.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS : Thomas advised the committee met on April 10th. The electrical work in the Sanctuary will be done when the funds are moved into the proper account. Girard Electric is to do the work.

Several possible projects were discussed. Spring clean-up is suggested for May 21st. Discussion was held about possibly having John 3:16 assist. Details will be developed at the next Building & Grounds meeting on may 8th. T. Pitkin moved and J. Chapman seconded that the clean up be held May 21st. Passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL: Jeanne reviewed the modifications to the personnel policy. J. Chapman moves and T. Pitkin seconds that the modifications be approved. Unanimously passed.

Additional personnel issues discussed.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Chris reported that the committee discussed the success of the Lenten studies. The committee also discussed about conducting a Bible study. Chris reported that there would be no youth Sunday School during the summer. Vacation Bible School will be held the latter part of July with Tina Pitkin coordinating. Adult Sunday School will possibly be held for June, July and August.

Chris reported that she contacted Rev. Krogh concerning Dr. Garton teaching Sunday School. Rev. Krogh stated that he did not feel that would be a conflict of interest.

Chris further reported that she discussed Confirmation classes with Rev. Krogh. He advised that Session is mandated to take responsibility for this. Rev. Abbott advised that this is usually handled by the minister. Further discussion to be held.

MISSION: Shadrack advised that the committee met last week. He stated that they are revisiting the issue of our church becoming involved with the Angel Food distribution program. The committee reviewed the Shoebox Ministry again possibly distributing the shoeboxes locally instead of shipping them elsewhere. Discussion was held about possible contributions for YMCA scholarships. The committee also discussed members who are no longer coming to church and perhaps contacting them. Additionally, the committee discussed bringing members in the nursing homes, to church...those that are able to do so, and then taking them back home. The committee also began discussions about the bike riders who usually come in June.

WORSHIP: Dan will check with Deborah Heid concerning Dr. Garton's request to use payments for emergency Visits as housing allowance.

Discussion was held about a supplemental hymnal for traditional hymns which have been deleted from the current hymnal.

The issue of the church pursuing landmark status was revisited. J. Markham moved and M.E. Burnett seconded that we not pursue this at this time due to the many issues we are facing right now and concerns that if the building needs to be sold, it may limit potential buyers. Passed with B. Bergeron abstaining.

Discussion was held concerning additional funding for marketing. Jeanne raises the issue about the sign as it relates to relationship with John 3:16. Discussion concerning welcoming the people who are visiting. Discussion held concerning the friendship pads. B. Bergeron moved and T. Pitkin seconded to remove friendship pads. Passed unanimously.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE: Various reports were reviewed. J. Markham moved and B. Bergeron seconded to accept the February reports. Passed unanimously.

J. Markham moved and S. Ndegwa seconded to accept the reports for March. Passed unanimously.

Dan passed information for April but for informational purposes only.

Dan also reported that 2 IRS appeals are still up in the air.

Dan further advised that he has forwarded information of the overpayment to the Board of Pensions but has had no reply from them as yet. He further advised that he was told that there is a form which Rev. Deborah needs to sign. He will send her that form certified mail.

Discussion was held about being informed of the church having to pay vacancy dues to the Board of Pensions until new Pastor is obtained. Various issues concerning Presbytery and COM were also discussed.

Session Minutes Cont'd.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jeanne presented the Agency Agreement with Kankakee City Police Dept. J. Chapman moved and T. Pitkin seconded to enter into the agreement. Passed unanimously.

Mary Elise advised that Pastor Luis had requested use of the church at 3:00pm on July 8th for the Quincenera for his daughter. A reception would be held at a different location. M.E. Burnett moved and B. Bergeron seconded to approve the request. Passed unanimously.

Mary Elise advised that John 3:16 has submitted a list of dates for the use of the church. Included on that list was the date of June 11 for the gathering for Pastor Luis' daughter. M.E. Burnett moved and J. Chapman seconded that all dates be approved if no current conflict with our own church schedule. Passed unanimously.

Request was made for the payroll days to be changed to the 2nd Thursday and last Thursday of the month with the cut-off being the day before. J. Chapman moved and T. Pitkin seconded to make this change. Passed unanimously.

Administrative Assistant issues stemming from the fact that the job description provides that this position reports to the Pastor and problems in that we do not have a pastor at present. Jeanne advised that this has been resolved with Kathie working with Rev. Abbott. Rev Abbott reiterated that if there are any issues with committees, the committee heads should contact him.

T. Pitkin moved and B. Bergeron seconded to adjourn.

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Meeting closed with prayer and adjourned at 2:45pm.

Next stated meeting will be June 5, 2011

THIS AND THAT**COMMON ENGLISH PHRASES FOUND IN THE KING JAMES BIBLE:**

Though it cannot be said that all of these phrases *originated* in the Bible, it is likely that the King James Bible was the first time that many of them appeared in English. Here's part of the list, the rest to appear in next month's BellTower. Thanks to Rev. Garton for passing them along!

A drop in the bucket (Isaiah 40:15)

A house divided against itself cannot stand (Matthew 12:25)

A man after his own heart (Samuel 13:14 or Acts 13:22)

A wolf in sheep's clothing (Matthew 7:15)

An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth (Exodus 21:24; Leviticus 24: 20; Deuteronomy 19:21; Matthew 5:38)

Apple of your eye (Deuteronomy 32:10, Zechariah 2:8)

At their wit's end (Psalms 107: 27)

Baptism of fire (Matthew 3: 11)

Bite the dust (adapted from Psalms 72)

Broken heart (Psalms 34:18)

By the skin of your teeth (Job 19:20)

By the sweat of your brow (Genesis 3:19)

Can a leopard change it's spots? (Jeremiah 13:23)

Cast the first stone (John 8:7)

Chariots of fire (2Kings 6:17)

Cross to bear (Luke 14:27)

Don't cast your pearls before swine (Matthew 7:6)

Eat drink and be merry (Ecclesiastes 8:15)

Fall by the wayside (Matthew 13:4)

Fall from grace (Galatians 5:4)

Fat of the land (Genesis 45:18)

Feet of clay (Daniel 2: 31-33)

Fight the good fight (1 Timothy 6:12)

Fire and brimstone (Genesis 19: 24-26)

Flesh and blood (Matthew 16:17)

Fly in the ointment (adapted from Ecclesiastes 10:1)



KIDS & YOUTH



**BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS AND
COME TO VBS THIS SUMMER!**

JULY 25-29

3:00PM-5:30PM

A GOOD TIME WILL BE HAD BY ALL!

Worship Volunteers 2010

June 5-Communion Sunday

Liturgist Chris Young
 Acolyte Sophia LaMore
 Ushers Elizabeth Bauer, Richard Logan
 Communion Thomas Pitkin
 Chris Young

June 12

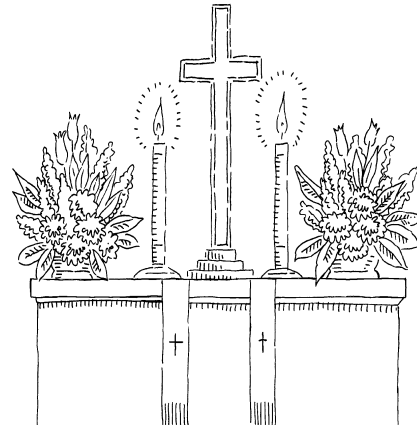
Liturgist Thomas Pitkin
 Acolyte Alexis Zunke
 Ushers Jerry & Trudy Curtis

June 19

Liturgist Bonnie Bergeron
 Acolyte Francis Ndegwa
 Ushers Doug & Sue Barclay

June 26

Liturgist Kathie Grazis
 Acolyte Billy Pitkin
 Ushers Ralph Klein & Ron Armstrong



Worship Schedule

June 5 – Communion Sunday– Rev. Al Abbott in the pulpit

June 12— Rev. Franklin Garton in the pulpit

“The Coming of the Holy Spirit-The Day of Pentecost”
 Acts 2: 1-20

June 19—Rev. John McLean in the pulpit

June 26— Hymn Sing



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

Congregational News

PRAYER CONCERNS

Brooks & Dorothy Kerr (Butterfield Court), **Jean Parlin** (Heritage Village), **Lorraine Schneider** (Butterfield Court), **Jack Walters** (Bickford House), **Nyla Wepprecht** (Bridges at Butterfield), **Linda Wertz** (at home), **Charlotte Carney** (Manor Care), **Elizabeth Bauer** (Health Concerns), **Bonnie Bergeron (Recuperating from back surgery)** , **Ruth Brooks** (Sue Barclay's mother), **Trudy Curtis** (serious health concerns) , **Kay Jones** (Cancer issues), **Mary & Don Maddox**, **Lara Plecas** (Jeanne's daughter, Mother-To-Be), Those devastated by tornados in Missouri, **First Presbyterian Church**, 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.

Rev. Al Abbott as he helps to lead us towards a more promising and productive future here at **First Presbyterian Church**



Don't forget to be in prayer about the **MAP** process as we proceed forward with it over the weeks to come. Be sure to come and attend these important meeting which are being held in the parlor of the church every other Monday, at 6:00pm.

Dates for June will be June 6th and 20th.

DATES TO REMEMBER
JOHN 3:16 HAS A LADIES CAMPAIGN GOING ON JUNE 3, 4, AND 5TH, WITH REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE SUNDAY, JUNE 5TH SESSION WHICH IS AT 1PM. FRIDAY & SATURDAY'S SESSIONS ARE AT 7PM.

MUSIC NOTES

PAUL JOHNSON

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY



Hey All!

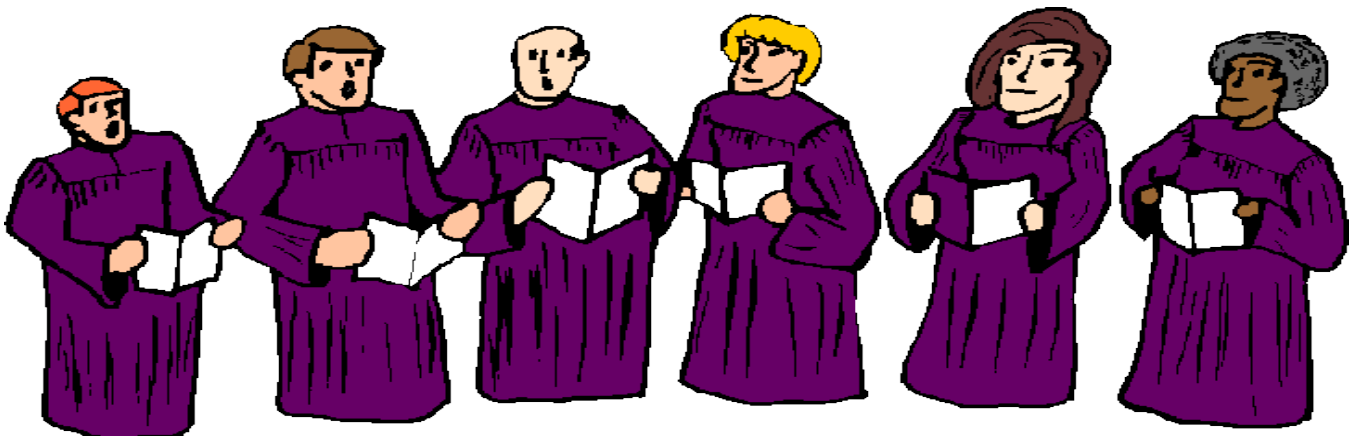
It's the beginning of June—time for school age kids to enjoy summer vacation, and the rest of us to, hopefully, get out and enjoy the weather. I hope you all get the chance to do that as much as possible.

This summer we will continue to try to have as much special music as possible. Also, the Worship Committee has scheduled two Hymn Sings. The dates for those are June 26th and July 4th. They will take place during the sermon time both Sundays. Be sure to be thinking about what you'd like to have sung!

I know we are all enjoying the teaching of Rev. Garton, and I am enjoying working with him. Thank you Rev. Garton, for what you do for me and for the church.

Enjoy the summer— even though the weather may be really nice outside— I hope to see you in church as much as possible!

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) Vacant

Class of 2013

Shadrack Ndegwa
Chris Young

Deacons

Class of 2011

Bernadette LaMore
Gina Zunke

Class of 2012

Kathie Grazis
Anne Muchemi

Class of 2013

Elizabeth Bauer
Tina Pitkin