

CHIMES

APRIL 2009

A newsletter for Members and Friends of Memorial Presbyterian Church

Published monthly *except for July*

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Visit our website at www.MemorialPresbyterianAppleton.org



This March was classic Wisconsin. One week we had to cancel soup suppers as a winter storm raged through. Seven days later the sun was shining and it was nearly 60 degrees. By the time you read these words, the crocuses and snow drops will most likely be shining their faces toward the sun, but I've been around long enough to know that we could still be in for one last ferocious burst of winter. Predicting the weather is one sure way to learn humility, especially when you try to do it in Wisconsin!

Yet behind the precocious winds of early spring, there is a most certain movement in the universe around us. Degree by degree the sun is making its way up the horizon, as we continue on our course around the sun. A million years from now might tell a different story, but the alterations will be so miniscule that we will take the very change as a constant. We may not know what tomorrow will bring, but a hundred, or a thousand years from now we will know, as March moves toward April, just where the sun will be in the sky.

In our Thursday morning bible study we have spent a lot of time with the writings of Paul in the past months, and I've been thinking, as we turn the corner in Lent, to the wonder of Palm Sunday and Easter, that much of the wisdom we find in the New Testament is akin to the movements I see, and don't see, in the world around me. To be sure, that early church was beset by doubts and fears. Though they claimed a risen savior who had broken the bonds of death, still the storms of the world raged around them. The Son had risen, and there was nothing in the world that could refute his power over death, and yet still folk suffered, and the pain they experienced was as real as the promise embodied in their Easter proclamation.

Yes, we know *exactly* what will happen on Easter morning, even as we join the Palm Parade, sit beside the disciples at the Last Supper, hide in the shadows on Good Friday, and linger at the tomb, its massive stone in place. It's not so much foreshadowing as it is the fact that as creatures born in time, we often find ourselves living through that which has been set before us, aware that it is but one small piece of a greater wonder that transcends, and includes each of us, and all of us, in its mystery.

Perhaps as much as anything, as we live through the wonder of Easter once more we are called to put our lives in perspective. These are difficult days that we have been living through as a community, a nation, and a world. Maybe one of the most important messages to hear this year is that the God we worship is bigger than the rollercoaster we sometimes find ourselves on. Isn't that precisely the Good News that will greet us on Easter morning? That God's power is greater than not only the power of the tomb, but the power of our imagination! We are not bound to what our eyes and ears and senses can tell us, but are gathered in the hand of the God who causes the sun to rise and the moon to follow on its course. We worship the God for whom Spring never tarries for even a day, though storms may rage, and snowflakes fall in April!

That's Easter—the promise of God beyond sight and touch! Join in the celebration, and claim the blessing once more this year, for the very first time!

Pastor Chuck

Worship in April

April 5

Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms - Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29, Mark 11:1-11 Liturgy of the Passion - Psalm 31:9-16, Isaiah 50:4-9a, Philippians 2:5-11, Mark 14:1-15:47
This Palm Sunday we move from the joyous palm parade to the celebration of the Lord's Supper, reminded of how quickly the songs of praise that rang from the lips of the crowd turned on Jesus, leaving him alone with only those twelve. But Jesus understood that his was not a popularity contest, but a test to fully embody God's will in his life. It is with this mind that we are called to have among ourselves as we begin our journey through the Holy Week.

April 9

Maundy Thursday Tennebrae

We gather once more at the Lord's Table, reminded of the last supper that Jesus shared with his disciples, and the tragic story that unfolds. In readings and in song we will each find our way through that night of desertion and betrayal, until Jesus is led, alone, into the night. "T'was I Lord Jesus! I it was denied thee!"

April 10

Good Friday Noon Service

We join with our sisters and brothers in our neighboring churches for our traditional Good Friday midday service, this year held at First United Methodist Church at 12:10 p.m. The worship will draw us along as the story of John's gospel takes us through Jesus' last hours of life, inviting us to join in the mystery of our salvation, worked out on the cross.

April 10

Good Friday Evening

We invite you to a time of quiet reflection at the tomb on Friday evening, at 7:00. Our organist, Matthew Walsh, will provide musical reflections as we share readings from those who walked beside Jesus through those final hours.

April 12

Easter Sunday

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24, Isaiah 25:6-9, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, John 20:1-18

Our Easter celebration begins at 6:30 a.m. with our traditional Sunrise Communion Service, as we walk beside the women who found their way to the tomb, expecting to anoint the body of their beloved, only to be surprised by the promise of angels. At 8:45 and 11:00 we celebrate the resurrection with music, song and in attendance to God's Word, as we share Mary's quiet moments outside the tomb. It is in Jesus' tender recognition of *her* that she meets the One who is risen!

April 19

Second Sunday of Easter

Psalm 133, Acts 4:32-35, 1 John 1:1-2:2, John 20:19-31

On this second Sunday of Eastertide we join the disciples in the Upper Room as Jesus appears in their midst. Thomas, however, is not present, and as Jesus returns to meet his doubts, we are reminded that the power of God's presence cannot be contained by our own fears. The victory is won, whether we believe it or not. The question is whether or not we live in the blessing.

April 26

Third Sunday of Easter

Psalm 4, Acts 3:12-19, 1 John 3:1-7, Luke 24:36b-48 (Luke 24:1-43) (Luke 24:44-53)

Pastor Sara will lead us in worship on this third Sunday of Eastertide, as Jesus shows himself once more to the disciples, this time in Luke's telling, as Jesus eats and drinks with his disciples, providing them proof that this was no cheap trick or hazy spirit come to haunt them. Jesus was truly risen, to rule this world in love.

Upcoming Dates

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY: Join us for an exciting game of baseball as the Milwaukee Brewers take on the San Francisco Giants on June 27th at 6:05 p.m. We are planning to meet at the church and caravan down to the game in Milwaukee. More

TASK FORCE FOLLOW-UP: Mark the date of May 17th on your calendar. You will not want to miss the introductory presentation of "Healthy Congregations". Joan Johanson will explain the Healthy Congregations curriculum to all members of MPC who can join us between services. Joan has worked with 60 congregations to lead them through this

process. The plan is to hear what Joan has to tell us. The task force will gather your thoughts and ideas and then, if the program has support, ask Session for their approval. In order to achieve the maximum participation by the congregation, we expect to launch this program in the fall. Look for May's *Chimes* for more details!

details on ticket price and times we will be leaving will come as we get an idea of how many people are interested in going. A sign-up sheet will be coming soon in the Narthex. Hope to see you there!

Where is Your Treasure?

One Great Hour of Sharing ...what does that mean to you? It started in 1949, when church leadership and members of countless congregations recognized the serious need for assistance around the world following a devastating global war. Even though they all had needs of their own, they rose to the cause, helping others while also forging ahead themselves.

There is a similar devastation going on today: a global economic devastation. It has turned many of us inward, worrying only about our own survival. That is a natural tendency. Yet, the majority of Americans really don't have to worry about being penniless, homeless and without food. Some do, however, and we have the opportunity to help.



Even after an economic devastation of WWII, many Americans felt that by helping out the greater community, they too would benefit. That strategy proved to be correct. Perhaps we can find it in ourselves again to believe in that philosophy. One Great Hour of Sharing is the perfect opportunity to show our support and get on the path to national and global recovery.

Your offering envelope is enclosed with this newsletter. You will see announcements in the Sunday bulletins and envelopes in the pews. We will dedicate these offerings on Easter Sunday. Please think about what this offering can do and give generously.

Fellowship Action Group Update

The Fellowship Action Group has been working to plan a number of opportunities for members and friends of MPC to participate in according to their varied interests and availability. You will read about some of these activities throughout the pages of this issue of *Chimes*. You will learn more about other opportunities in the coming weeks and months.

When I was preparing for this article, I took a moment to look up the definition of Fellowship. I was a bit surprised to find this among the list of definitions:

“Communion, as between members of the same church.”

The more I thought about it, though, the more sense it made to me. In Communion – The Lord's Supper – we come together to share Christ's Body, which is given for us. The Church is the Body of Christ and the Hands and Feet of God. So is it such a stretch to believe that when we gather together at a Fellowship dinner, or at a theater activity, or a movie night we are continuing to share Christ's Body with one another - Communion?

In the years that I have been a member of MPC, I have found fellowship activities to be a golden opportunity to learn more about the people who I join in worship each Sunday. They have provided occasions to interact with people in different settings

and, in some cases, to discover a connection that I may not have realized existed. I have learned more about people who were new to MPC as well as people who had been members for years. I have found that Fellowship activities also provide a wonderful opportunity for MPC members and friends to invite newcomers to make connections with other members. These connections go a long way in making MPC feel like a church home to many people.

The Fellowship Action Group is looking for people to join in the planning and implementation of upcoming fellowship activities. Please consider joining us at our meetings on the first Monday of every month. If you are unable to make a long-term commitment to join the Action Group at this time, please consider offering short-term assistance for individual activities, such as set-up, clean-up, or sign-ups. We also could use assistance from people who would be willing to inventory supplies for Sunday Fellowship Hour (coffee, cups, cream, sugar, etc.) and advise Paula when items need to be ordered.

Think about the connections you can help facilitate among the members of MPC. Please contact me with any questions or comments at 725-5492.

-- Nancy Umland, Elder, Member Nurture and Development Ministry

The Spirituality of Stewardship

In January, the Deacons and Elders spent a day with Ed White learning about leadership and navigating conflict in the church. It was an informative and thought provoking day, as many will be willing to attest.

As a result of that day, the Session has taken time at each of our last two meetings to discuss different aspects of the things we learned from Mr. White. One of the challenges that we have placed on ourselves is to try and purposely reflect on the spirituality of our work versus just the management and duties that come with being an elder. At our March Session meeting, we discussed the perceptions that go with being a membership-based church versus being a discipleship-based church.

It never fails to amaze me how, in the midst of a discussion such as these, I will have an “aha” moment. As we discussed the roles of spirituality and discipleship in a membership-based versus a discipleship-based church, I began to feverishly write notes about how those thoughts tied into Stewardship at MPC.

So often we think of Stewardship as the time of year where a committee asks you to pledge money for the next year. Face it, for many of us, the term Stewardship equates to someone asking for money. Before becoming involved this past fall with the Stewardship campaign, I confess that I was one of those people who thought it was mostly about money. I had heard the phrase “time, talent and treasure”, but never really put much thought into the components other than treasure.

Jesus called to an assortment of men to become his disciples. He nurtured and taught those disciples so that they could minister to others. With time, the continuation of that process brought us our Christian faith and our commitment to serve. Jesus called on people to give of themselves... “if you have two coats, give one away”. In today’s church, we too are called to serve. It is in responding to this call that we have a meeting of spirituality and stewardship.

At our Session meeting we talked about whether we reflect on our decisions and choices with prayer and spirituality. When I fill out the financial pledge card each year, do I truly pray about my decision and commit to that decision? When asked to serve on a committee or as a Deacon or Elder, do I reflect on that decision with prayer and reflection or do I just give a quick answer? As I join others in small group events at church, do we take time as Christians to join together in prayer and keep mindful that even our fun is a gift from God?

Three years ago, I got a call to become an elder. That call came just after the 1st anniversary of the death of our daughter. I had been an elder once before and it was a tough time in our church. I knew it meant meetings, committee work and many hours that I would prefer to be doing other things. I also knew that it was the church who shepherded our family through the toughest time in our lives. God sent His only Son for me ... the least I could do is give back some meetings and an extra gift of my time to the family that has meant so much to me.

This is my stewardship and it is a three year-long stewardship. It is not a financial stewardship. The work can be hard and the choices I make as part of Session may not always be the most popular at any given moment ... but when making those choices, I try to care for what God has given us and honor those gifts.

As the calendar year progresses, we plan to keep the idea of Stewardship in front of you. As we discuss more about discipleship and spirituality at Session, you will see more “aha” moments translated into *Chimes* articles. We are the church, the body of Christ. We are more than a sermon or a program – both individually and as a group. The work of the church depends on each of us. When asked to participate in the life of the church as a teacher, elder, committee member, etc., give prayerful consideration to your answer and remember ... *What is your Stewardship?*

- Emily Guttenberg – Elder, Member Nurture & Development

March Mission Mail

Every month the church receives lots of mission-related mail. The mail includes newsletters from local and national organizations that MPC supports, and newsletters about the mission programs of the national church. Contact Tom Neal if you are interested in any of the following:

1. Emergency Shelter newsletter
2. Harbor House newsletter
3. Human Race Application form – this is a 5K run/walk to be held on May 2 to benefit LEAVEN
4. E.S.T.H.E.R. newsletter
5. Habitat Word magazine
6. Mission Mosaic – publication of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
7. World Ark – Heifer News magazine
8. Presbyterian Hunger Program newsletter - emphasis on water
9. Heifer thank-you note
10. Thank-you note from the Council of Churches of the Ozarks
11. Community Clothes Closet brochure and authorization referral form.
12. Church World Service Blankets + information
13. PC(USA) International Health Ministry news
14. Presbyterian World Mission newsletter.

Property Action Group Has Spring (Clean-up Day) Fever!



As sure as rainfall in April, the Property Action Group has been yet again stricken with its annual spring fever. Characterized by an intense itching to get outside, the only real cure that they've found is to host the MPC Spring Clean-up Day! Let's all recover from this brutal winter by joining together with our MPC friends on Saturday, April

25th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. We'll have plenty of coffee, beverages, and doughnuts to fuel us for a morning of raking, washing windows, cleaning closets, etc. The possibilities are endless! Bring your rakes, garden tools, garden gloves, and anything else you think might come in handy. See you then! (*Oh yes – the best cure for aching muscles from all that raking: ibuprofen.*)

Deacon Article

As we face life's challenges...individually and with others...these words by Susan Polis Schultz may bring a sense of direction and focus. They are a reminder to me, as a Deacon at MPC, that we truly are One.

We need to feel more to understand others
We need to love more to be loved back
We need to cry more to cleanse ourselves
We need to laugh more to enjoy ourselves

We need to be honest and fair
when interacting with people
We need to establish a strong
ethical basis
as a way of life
We need to see more than our own
fantasies
We need to hear more
and listen to the needs of others

We need to give more and take less
We need to share more and own less
We need to realize the importance of the family
as a backbone to stability
We need to look more and realize that we are not so
different from one another



We need to create a world where we can
trust one another
We need to create a world where we can
all peacefully live the life we choose

-- Shared by Christine Cornell

Sunday School News

This winter the children at MPC have been learning some New Testament Bible stories. They talked about Jesus in the temple as a youth, His baptism and His calling the disciples. They are just starting to learn about some of Jesus' miracles. During the Lenten season, we will spend two weeks on a special Easter Unit. The Junior and Senior Highs will each present a skit to the younger children: the first about Palm Sunday and the second about the empty tomb. Then the children will go to their age-level classes and discuss the stories.

In addition to working on the skit, teacher Joy Marie Doersch tells me that the Senior High class has talked about the importance of communicating God's word to others, the importance of fellowship, and they've even used class time to complete the all-member

church survey. Teacher Susan Schuldes reports, "We have talked about role models – celebrities and athletes who are thrust into those roles, we have played Bible Trivia, and determined that Veggie Tales is an excellent means for learning the Bible!"

The Junior High class began the school year learning about the history of the early church. Recently they have been learning about Hebrew history in the Old Testament, the Ten Commandments, and they are just starting a unit about Paul's letters. The teachers have even included some You Tube movies on the study topics. The students enjoy the competition of quizzes on the information they have studied, especially if the prizes include food! (Last week the kids ASKED if they could take notes on a video so they would be prepared to answer the questions!!)

Teaching Positions Available

The Children's Christian Education Action group is already looking for next year's teachers. If you are asked to be a teacher, please prayerfully consider becoming involved in this important part of MPC. Ask some current teachers about teaching, and I think

you will find they enjoy the curriculum and the children! We have teams of teachers at each level, so you will have a built-in support group. Help us keep the promise we make at a child's baptism that we will all help raise the child in faith.

Youth Happenings

Spring Break game night is April 5! We'll be kicking off Spring Break by meeting together for pizza and games from 6:30-8:00 p.m. For more information, contact Pastor Sara.

Youth Spring Thing:

The Presbytery has decided to focus energy on Fall Camp, so... Pastor Sara put out the invitation to all Presbytery youth to join us for the 30-Hour Famine Lock-In on May 8-9. Due to the scheduling delay, this is now a great opportunity not only to join in mission for WorldVision, but to get together with youth from all over our Presbytery right here at Memorial. Let's be hungry together in love and fellowship for God.

Jr High Events:

April 19th: We will be planning hard for the Retiree Luncheon on April 26th.

Sr. High Events:

April 19th: Random Acts of Kindness Scavenger Hunt. We will be breaking into teams and going throughout Appleton for this Digital Scavenger Hunt. Prizes will be awarded for the best team. Must bring a digital camera!

April 26th: Indoor Waterpark Adventure. Just because it has been months and months since our legs have seen the light of day is no excuse that we shouldn't have the opportunity to jump into our swimsuits and go down a waterslide. Keep your eyes out for more information.

April 25th: Fundraiser Opportunity. The young adults will be having a fellowship dinner at the church. Sr. Highs will be providing babysitting. All money raised will go to the work trip this summer.

Want to see what our Questors have been up to?

As our Questors learn about Presbyterian heritage and polity, they had the opportunity to learn more about the moderator of General Assembly. Go to pcusa.org or <http://www.mod.reyes-chow.com> and

look at the blog for our GA Moderator Bruce Reyes-Chow where you can see their comments and his replies.

Teachers Mark Your Calendars

It seems hard to believe, but the school year is drawing to a close. To celebrate a successful year of Sunday School, Ellen Braatz and the Children's Christian Education Action Group will host a

Teacher Appreciation dinner on Sunday, April 26th at 5:30 p.m. in the parlor. All Sunday morning teachers are invited.

Fellowship Dinner for Parents of Young Children

Feed the kids dinner and head down to church for an adults-only pot luck! The Senior Highs will be watching the kids as a fundraiser while the parents can enjoy food, games, and conversation in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner for the parents will start at 6:30 p.m. The kids will have a snack only, so they

should eat dinner beforehand. Everyone is welcome to come, so please join us even if you don't need a babysitter. RSVP to Nancy Umland or Beth Podlasek by April 19. There will also be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Many Thanks

We have received the following notes of appreciation from families within our congregation:

"Thank you for the love, prayers and support you have given Ken, me and our entire family. Special thanks to Pastor Chuck for his visits to Ken in the hospital. Thanks to Pastor Chuck and Pastor Sara for the memorial service, Arthur Steiner for the assistance with floral arrangements in the lounge and sanctuary, Betty Lockhart and wonderful team in the kitchen for the luncheon, and All Things Considered for assistance in set-up, serving and clean-up after the lunch, besides their deep friendship! Thanks, too, to the Board of Deacons for the rose." *Most sincerely, Ruth Abraham*

grateful for you, the community of believers in that place. Thank you for the care you took of Mother, for your thoughtfulness to her, and for your wonderful and worshipful celebration of her life on January 25th. Each detail, each musical note, each word preached, each word spoken in love, each hug, each cookie, and each cup of fellowship paid tribute to Mom, to your caring to your serving, and to your faith. We wish for you continued strength in ministry, extension of hospitality, and joy in God's blessings." *Sincerely, Peggy, Gail, Chic and Mark, the children of Shirley Jacobi*

"Dear Friends, For your gifts shared with each other and with us we are most grateful. Memorial Presbyterian Church has been an important part of our lives and the lives of our parents, and we are

"Thank you so much for the outpouring of love and support on the birth of our Gabriel James on Ash Wednesday. Everything was so much appreciated." – *Matthew Walsh and Steffanie Forster*

Mislaid, Forgotten, or Adopted?

Several books from our library are AWOL. Some are checked out to borrowers who may still be reading them. Others may have been lost or forgotten. Still others may have been enjoyed so much that they were sort of "adopted" by the borrowers. In any case, please look around your home and see if there are

any MPC library books that could be returned. If you have a book that you aren't finished reading, or, if you need someone to pick it up, please let the church office know. Those borrowers that we don't hear from soon will receive reminder notes. Thanks for your help.

Read Any Good Books Lately?



We're beginning a new feature in *Chimes* – a monthly book review of a book in our church library. Many thanks to Valerie Bayer for providing these reviews.

A Village Called Harmony

A fable by James Kavanaugh. 64 pages.

This is a story about a town where everybody lives in harmony until one day a stranger moves in. He introduces greed and suddenly nobody is happy. On the day he dies, the people realize gold cannot make them happy and they return to their former ways and live happily ever after. If you'd like to read this book, you can find it in the Juvenile section of our library. For easier reference, all the books in that section have a red dot on the spine label. Look for the call number JUV F KAV printed on the spine of the book.

Johnathan Livingston Seagull

By Richard Bach. 127 pages

This book is a story about flying to your freedom and going where you never thought you could before. It teaches you to stand up for what you believe in and to go there even though many may laugh at you. It is a good story. I enjoyed it.

If you'd like to read this book, you can find it in the Youth section of our library. For easier reference, all the books in that section have a blue dot on the spine label. Look for the call number- Youth F BAC printed on the spine of the book.

Within These Welcoming Walls

Have you ever thought of inviting a friend to church? Our sanctuary and our beautiful windows provide a wonderful space for worship and welcome. The



architecture, art, and furnishings speak to the beliefs and practices that this congregation holds most dear. Our members are always

ready to welcome newcomers.

Sunday, April 19th would be a great time to bring a friend. Immediately following the postlude at either service, we will be offering a 20-minute introduction to Memorial Church using our worship space as a teaching tool. As part of this presentation, information about how to become a member will be available to anyone who is interested.

Look for me, Linda Boldt, in the purple hat, following worship and find out what our walls would say if they could talk. Questions? Contact Linda Boldt in the church office, 734-1787.

Inquirer Class

If you are considering membership in Memorial Presbyterian Church, or if you're just curious about this church, here's a great opportunity to learn more about our people, programs, and activities. This class, which is one of two classes for preparation for membership, will begin at 6:30 p.m. on



Thursday evening, April 16th in the Parlor. Enjoy a simple meal and presentation with some of the elders and deacons of our church. Reservations for dinner would be appreciated. Child care can be arranged, if requested ahead of time. Call the church office at 734-1787. Please indicate any food allergies.

Bread for the World Saturday Morning Workshop



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

On Saturday, April 18, Memorial will host a Bread for the World Workshop on this year's Offering of Letters seeking to urge Congress to rework U.S. Foreign Assistance. (More about this topic in the following article "A Dozen Numbers to Think About.") Tammy Walhof, Bread for the World Senior Upper Midwest Regional Organizer, will be here to lead the workshop from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 18 in the Parlor. You are invited to join us to learn more about Bread for the World and about the opportunity to make U.S. foreign aid more effective by making needed reforms and improvements.

Workshop Outline:

Opening Worship
Foreign Aid Successes and Limitations
A Learning Game
Reforming Foreign Aid: How to Get More Bang for the Bucks
How to Advocate Effectively
Resources available to learn more, including children's resources
Closing Worship

A Dozen Numbers to Think About

- ◆ **27,000** the number of children under the age of 5 who die *each day* of preventable causes: malnutrition, diarrhea, unsafe drinking water, or diseases that are easily preventable by vaccinations.
- ◆ **Less than ½ of 1%** the amount of poverty-focused U.S. foreign aid in the federal budget.
- ◆ **1961** the year that the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act, which governs our foreign aid, was enacted. Many things have changed since 1961. We now have an opportunity for a major updating of this act.
- ◆ **75** priority areas and are now encompassed by the foreign assistance efforts of the United States.
- ◆ **25** different agencies and **almost 60** government offices administer parts of our foreign assistance.

- ◆ **2,400** the number of quarterly progress reports required to be submitted by some recipient countries for receiving different pieces of foreign assistance.
- ◆ **1000** the number of different mission visits hosted by some recipient countries in one year.

Even so, important progress has already been demonstrated against poverty and hunger.

- ◆ **17%** the number of children under 5 years of age who were malnourished in Ghana in 2006, down from **30%** in 1993.
- ◆ **91%** reduction in deaths from measles in sub-Saharan Africa with improved routine vaccinations. Worldwide, deaths from measles dropped by two-thirds since 1990.
- ◆ **29 million** additional children enrolled in primary schools in sub-Saharan Africa between 1995 and 2005, thanks in large part to debt-relief efforts.

Thinking about these numbers, it has occurred to the policy staff at Bread for the World* that our foreign assistance dollars have been shown to be doing much good in the world, but they could be doing much more. Much money and time is being wasted in excessive bureaucracy as this system has grown and split over the past 50 years. (*Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. Memorial Presbyterian Church has been a Bread for the World Covenant Church since 1979.)

What Bread for the World Hopes to Achieve in 2009

Urge Congress and the President to work together to rewrite the Foreign Assistance Act to chart a new course with the following principles: make poverty reduction a primary goal, develop a national strategy for global development, provide reliable, flexible assistance in partnership with recipient countries, with participation in priority-setting, focus assistance on outcomes and include systems of accountability, align U.S. aid, trade, migration, energy and environmental policies to work together in reducing poverty, and coordinate better with other international donors. Our Offering of Letters this year will focus on supporting these principles in reforming foreign aid.

News of Our Members and Friends

We are sad to report the passing of Ken Abraham on Wednesday, February 25. Many remember Ken for his enthusiastic participation in the Thursday morning All Things Considered Men's Forum. A service celebrating his life was held at MPC on February 28, with Pastor Chuck and Rev. Jim Wiebel of Faith Lutheran Church. We extend our deepest condolences to his wife, Ruth, and their five children, eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

The Memorial Church family lost a dear member of our congregation on March 3rd, with the passing of LaRae Patterson. LaRae served her church faithfully in so many capacities over the years, including usher, greeter, newsletter crew member, and especially as one of the original "church mice," taking care of the sanctuary pews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Wilson, on 1993 after 35 years of marriage,

and is survived by 11 nieces and nephews, and special friend, Alvera Raab. According to her wishes, no service was held; she was buried in Riverside Cemetery.

Many hugs of happiness go out to organist Matthew Walsh and Steffanie Forster, along with big sister Hayleigh, on the birth of Gabriel James, born on Ash Wednesday. Gabriel weighed in at a hale and hearty 9 # 4 oz. Also thanks to Michelle Marr, who took Matthew's place at the piano that night!

We have two "award-winning" members in our midst! We send our heartiest congratulations to Eric Edwards, the 2009 recipient of the Appleton East High School Patriot Award, and to Dr. John Mielke, who was awarded the Thomas G. Scullen Leadership Award. Well done, gentlemen!

Think Summer Camp!

As the weather warms up and the world becomes green again, it is time to start thinking about summer. Pilgrim Center and Moon Beach Camp have opportunities for pre-schoolers through retirees. Take a moment to look through all the different

camp options available and find the perfect one for you. Catalogs are available at church or online at www.ucci.org. Scholarships are also available; just call the church office for more information.

Parents2 Play Dates

After spending exciting mornings at the children's museum and Barnes & Noble in March as well as being guests at the Junior Highs' Easter Party, the Parents2 crew would like to invite any young children and their parents to our April play dates. We'll gather at the Family Resource Center on Tuesday, April 14th at 9:30 a.m. The Family Resource Center is located at 1165 Appleton Road, Menasha. Their telephone number is 886-0123. On Tuesday,

April 28th, we'll meet at the Marinans' home, 3184 Sweet Meadow Drive in De Pere. We invite all young children and their parents to join our play dates, which are typically held the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. or thereabouts. New faces are always welcome! Come when you can; leave when you must. Hope to see you soon!

Weekender Play Dates

All families with young children are invited to meet at Funset Boulevard at 11:00 a.m. on April 18th for a morning of great fun and friendship.

And, if that's not exciting enough, the Fellowship Action Group has planned a special dinner for young adults and families of young children. Parents can enjoy food, games, and conversation in Fellowship

Hall while the Senior Highs provide child care as a fund-raiser for their work trip. Dinner for the parents will start at 6:30 p.m. The kids will be given a snack only, so they should eat dinner beforehand. RSVP to Nancy Umland or Beth Podlasek by April 19. There will also be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If you have suggestions for future activities, call or speak to Beth Podlasek.

Kiwanis Golden K Chili Fest

The Kiwanis Club of Appleton, Golden K, will host their annual "All You Can Eat" Chili Fest on Sunday, April 26 at the Thompson Community Center, 820 W. College Ave., Appleton. There will be two kinds of chili: American (mild) and Texas (hot). Serving will begin at 11:00 a.m. and continue until 6:00 p.m. Adults are \$6.00, children 11 and under are \$3.00

(hot dog or chili), children 3 and under, no charge. Coffee, milk, dessert and condiments included. Quart take-outs are \$6.00 or 2 for \$10.00. All proceeds will be used for community youth projects. Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.

Hands and Feet of God

Children even at a very early age have a curiosity and appreciation for the God who creates, redeems, and sustains us. They are at least as capable as any adult of worshipping God. In fact, they worship without reservation, using their whole bodies, minds, and spirits, so it looks and sounds very different from "grown-up" worship! Each Sunday morning, usually right after the Time for Children, our children ages 3 through 6 are dismissed to attend Kinderchurch. During their time together, the children share joys and concerns using a Talking Stick, listen to a Bible story, do an activity or sing a song, do an art project, and have a snack. The children's offering is collected and a prayer is said, as well. Ellen Braatz, our Christian Education Director, provides ideas for activities and the scripture lesson for the morning. The scripture is the same that is being used in our "grown-up" worship, so that the children and their parents can reflect on it together during the week.

Several people are involved in the Kinderchurch ministry. Currently, Ellen Braatz, Jim Dahlen, Dan Graham, and Margaret Tornio provide the leadership. Patti Athanas, Renee Boldt, Jill McElhaney, and Beth Podlasek also led various Sundays this past summer. In addition, several adults and youth serve as Kinderchurch Assistants, so that the class always has an extra person and set of hands to take care of our young worshipers.

Nurturing and passing on our faith to our children is an essential responsibility of every congregation. It's also a fun and very rewarding experience for those who feel called to this ministry. We thank all of our Kinderchurch lay ministers for their devotion to our children and their budding faith. We recognize and salute them for being the Hands and Feet of God.

Readers and Greeters and Newbies- Oh my!

Things change. Interests, talents, and schedules all grow and change as we move through the stages of our lives. To help us keep our database current, all greeters, ushers, head ushers, scripture readers, coffee hosts, Kinderchurch assistants, and counters are being sent a Gifts and Talents Inventory to indicate their current interests and talents as well as their willingness and availability to serve in any of the many Sunday morning ministry opportunities at Memorial. This information will be immediately used in putting together the next Sunday Morning Volunteers schedule, slated to be distributed by mid-May.

Not a Sunday Morning volunteer yet? These are quick and easy assignments that are vital in providing a welcoming home for our faith community and a nurturing environment for our faith journey. Volunteering for these roles can help you get to know more of the people in your church family and is deeply appreciated. We're always looking for more volunteers, so if you or anyone you know would just let us know of your interest, we'd be happy to put you to work. Talk to Sharon McElrath or Linda Boldt, 734-1787, or complete one of the Gifts and Talents Inventories, which are available outside the church office door or by email from Linda Boldt in the church office, laymin@athenet.net.

Readers Theatre

The Readers Theatre is open to all who are interested in this new venture. Our newly formed group is beginning to read and perform a variety of materials for our own entertainment. Right now we're getting our feet wet with a children's story about dragons and the value of reading.

church library. The April meetings will be on Friday, April 3rd and Monday, April 20th. Anyone interested is welcome to participate; just bring a pencil, a highlighter, and ideas of materials you'd like to perform. Questions? Call Linda Boldt in the church office at 734-1787 or talk to Sheldon Hampton. See you there!

The group meets twice a month on the first Fridays and third Mondays of the month at 6:30 p.m., in the

Sunday Morning Volunteers - April 2009

Date	Time of Service	Greeters	Head Usher	General Ushers	Reader	Prayer Card Reader	Kinderchurch Asst	Coffee Servers
April 5 Palm Sunday	8:45AM	Mitch & Lisa Lux	Andy Ogilvie	Lynn Mulholland, Jim Tilkens, Julie Tilkens, Connie Ogilvie	Jane Stevenson	N/A	Hannah Herzog	Darren & Shelly Peterson
	11:00AM	Phyllis Stevenson, John Stevenson	Tom Boldt	Renee Boldt, Marie Desens, Kim Gilbride, Sean Gilbride	Nancy Umland	N/A	N/A	N/A
April 9 Maundy Thursday	7:00PM	Spiritual Quest	Jim Baumbach	Spiritual Quest	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
April 12 Easter	6:30AM Sunrise	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8:45AM	Len & Dorothy Lindgren	John Hill	Diane Lightfield, Ken Lightfield, Mike Schuldes, Susan Schuldes	Mary Lou Oppenorth	Paula Hoglelund	N/A	The Bill & Sarah Beard Family
	11:00AM	Fred Umland, Linda Boldt	Mark Smith	Amy Clark, Peter Clark, Mary Peterson, Ann Smith	Kathy Privatt	Lynne Selle	N/A	N/A
April 19	8:45AM	Stu & Barb Leslie	Jon McElhane	Amanda Doersch, Dave Doersch, Bill Griffith, Connor McElhane	Bob Schimmelpfenning	Stephanie Schuldes	Emily Peterson	Deacons
	11:00AM	John & Sally Mielke	Tom Neal	Sue Neal, Connie Trettin, Casey Van Camp, Cory Van Camp	Lowell Peterson	Tom Neal	N/A	N/A
April 26	8:45AM	Jane Cavey, Meeilei Chen	Richard Dodge	Walt Kleman, Ann Kleman, Pat Spindler, Georgia Strickler	Gayle Hardt	Bob Schimmelpfenning	Beth Podlasek	Tracey Hornung, Jane Slater
	11:00AM	Mark & Ann Smith	Dave Mayefske	Diane Jacobson, Scott Jacobson, Quinn Shaffer, Tim Shaffer	Margaret Fulton		N/A	N/A



Easter Lilies Order Form

If you would like to contribute money toward Easter lilies and decorations for the Easter services, please complete this form and return it to the church office with your check by **12:00 noon on Wednesday, April 8**. You may contribute any amount; all contributions will be recognized in the Easter worship service bulletins.

Please print clearly – this information will be printed in the bulletin.

From: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

(Suggested contribution is \$12.00 per plant. Please make checks payable to MPC and note "Easter Flowers" in the memo portion of the check.)

Would you like to take an Easter lily home with you after the 11:00 a.m. service on Easter? Please indicate below:

Yes

No

My Name: _____

Daytime Telephone Number: _____

If you have any questions, please call the church office at 734-1787.

Thank you for helping to decorate the Sanctuary.



The Adult Education Action Group has several great Sunday morning sessions planned for the month of April. All sessions will take place at 9:50 a.m. in the parlor, so grab a cup of coffee and join in!

April 5th: Jim Baumbach will be giving a presentation on his time in Colombia. Jim served as part of a group from Winnebago Presbytery that spent several days last fall touring Columbia and renewing our Presbytery's covenant with that community.

April 19th: Susan and Rev. John McFadden will give a presentation about Friendship, Community, and Dementia.


April 26th: Beth Lepinski will be giving a presentation on Bread for the World in preparation for the dedication of Offering of Letters, scheduled for May 10.

Synod School: Building a Culture of Peace

This year's Synod School convenes July 26-31 around "Building a Culture of Peace" at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. You can read all about the 2009 Synod School catalog and register at their web site at <http://www.lakesandprairies.org/school.html>.

An educational ministry of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, Synod School offers a welcoming and safe community for people of all ages and interests to learn, to grow spiritually and to share in fellowship. Special programs for children and youth – infant through grade 12 – allow parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and more to attend classes with other adults, knowing that their children are in good care and having a great time.

Sara Lisherness, director of the Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), will be the convocation speaker. Evening worship will be led by "Sweet the Sound," featuring Matt and Liz Myer Boulton, and Burns and Lorraine Stanfield, who are all colleagues in ministry in the Boston area.



Synod School 2009

**Building a
Culture of Peace**

Why do they Keep returning to Synod School?

- Christian fellowship
- Inspiring worship and song
- Growth in knowledge and faith
- Personal and spiritual renewal
- Fun for families and singles of all ages

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July 26–31, 2009

Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Iowa

Discover Synod School!

Go to www.lakesandprairies.org/school.html
or phone 1-800-328-1880, ext. 207.

APRIL 2009

For daily calendar updates, go to www.memorialpresbyterianappleton.org and click on "MPC Calendar"


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:45 & 11 Reg Schedule* 9:50am - Adult Ed 5pm - Soup Supper 5pm - Sr Hi Fell	30 6:30pm - Moving Fwd TF	31 6:30am - Gd Nws Women 10am - Parents 2 10am - Staff Meeting 6pm - PB Board Mtg-FR 6:30pm - Children's CE	1 6pm - Bell Choir 6:15pm - Spiritual Quest 7:30pm - Chancel Choir	2 S-Evening Conferences 6:30am - All Things Cons 9am - Bible Study 1pm - Quilting Bees 6:30pm - Property AG	3 E/M/S-No School 6:30pm - Readers Th	4
5 8:45 & 11 Reg Schedule* Communion** Palm Sunday 9:50am - Parents & Tots 6pm - Jr/Sr Hi Games	6 Spring Break 7pm - Fellowship AG	7 Spring Break 6:30am - Gd Nws Women 10am - Staff Meeting 7pm - Worship AG	8 Spring Break 6:15pm - Spiritual Quest	9 Spring Break 6:30am - All Things Cons 9am - Bible Study 6pm - Chancel Choir Reh 7pm - Maundy Thurs Svc	10 Spring Break 12:10pm - Ecumen Svc 7pm - Meditative Svc	11 8am - Housing Part Work 12pm - Housing Part AG
12 6:30 am Sunrise Service 8:45 & 11 Festival Svcs Easter One Great Hour Sharing	13 E/M/S-No School 6:30pm - Moving Fwd TF 7pm - Memb Renewal AG	14 6:30am - Gd Nws Women 9:30am - Parents 2 10am - Staff Meeting 6:30pm - Elder Teams 7:15pm - Session w/SQ	15 9am - Chimes Deadline 6pm - Bell Choir 7:30pm - Chancel Choir	16 6:30am - All Things Cons 9am - Bible Study 1pm - Prayer Shawls 1pm - Quilting Bees 6:30pm - Inquirers	17 9am - BFW Workshop 11am - Weekenders	18
19 8:45 & 11 Reg Schedule* 9:50 & 12 Welcome Walls Salvation Army Coll. 6pm - Jr/Sr Hi Fell	20 9:30am - PB Ctr Sing-P 6:30pm - Readers Th 7pm - Mission Outreach	21 6:30am - Gd Nws Women 10am - Staff Meeting 5:30pm - PB Parents-FH 7pm - Deacons Mtg	22 6pm - Bell Choir 6:15pm - Spiritual Quest 7:30pm - Chancel Choir	23 6:30am - All Things Cons 9am - Bible Study	24 PB Staff Dev-FH/Parlor	25 8am - Spring Clean-up 6:30pm - Potluck Dinner
26 8:45 & 11 Reg Schedule* 12pm - Retiree Luncheon 5:30pm - Teacher Apprec 6pm - Sr Hi Fell	27 6:30pm - Moving Fwd TF 7pm - Knitty Bittys	28 6:30am - Gd Nws Women 9:30am - Parents 2 10am - Staff Meeting 5:45pm - Personnel AG 6pm - PB Board Mtg-FR 6:30pm - Adult Ed AG	29 6pm - Bell Choir 6:15pm - SQ-Sess & Reh 7:30pm - Chancel Choir	30 Scholarship Apps Due 6:30am - All Things Cons 9am - Bible Study	1 Wedding Rehearsal 6:30pm - Readers Th	2 Wedding 4:30pm - Emerg Shelter

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HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, April 5
8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Worship Services

Maundy Thursday, April 9
7:00 p.m. Communion Worship Service

Good Friday, April 10
12:10 p.m. Ecumenical Good Friday Service
First United Methodist Church, 325 E. Franklin St.

7:00 p.m. Meditative Service
Memorial Presbyterian Church, 803 E. College Ave.

Easter Sunday, April 12
6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service
8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Festival Worship Services
Nursery care provided