

Meet Mandi...by Ted Francis, for the Personnel Committee

We are excited to welcome **Mandi Bundrick** as our new Director of Educational Ministries. Mandi is a December graduate from Logsdon Seminary-Hardin Simmons University in Abilene, Texas. She earned a Master of Divinity Degree with her focus on Christian Education/Children's Ministry.

Mandi brings a wide variety of experiences to First Presbyterian Church. From January 2010-December 2011 she was a Pastoral Intern in Children's Ministry at First Central Presbyterian Church in Abilene. During seminary Mandi was part of a team who ministered to Albanian women and children in Athens, Greece and later she studied abroad for a semester in London. Mandi also served as a Graduate Assistant during seminary to the Christian Education professor.



Mandi has a long list of interests including: reading, writing, traveling, film, theater, art, and music. Her church ministry interests include children's ministry, education, missions, pastoral care, and spiritual formation/discipleship. Mandi is also the proud owner of a tuxedo cat named Brando.

If you had the opportunity to meet Mandi during her visit to Burlington in January you know she is a very dynamic person. We are enthusiastic about the possibilities her ministry will bring to First Presbyterian Church.

When accepting the position Mandi stated, "Please convey to Deb and the entire church my sincere gratitude for this opportunity. I am honored and feel privileged to serve God with you in Burlington. Can't wait to be there!" Mandi is anxious to meet everyone so please introduce yourself the next time you are at the church. Let's give her a warm First Presbyterian Church welcome!

The committee thanks the church for your prayers, support, and encouragement as we worked to bring our church a superior candidate. Thanks be to God for answering our prayers!

Glimpses of Grace...by Rev. Deb Kinney

On Sunday Dr. Jim Hugg asked me if I was going to share with the congregation about my continuing education studies. I have been sharing, albeit in subtle ways, the past two years and will continue to incorporate what I have learned through worship, small groups, counseling, visitations, etc. I will also be more pro-active in sharing what is Christian spirituality, what is spiritual direction and what I am continuing to learn, as I am staying at San Francisco Theological Seminary to pursue a doctor of ministry degree (I will be half-way through the course work in May).

Christian spirituality, as described in *The Westminster Dictionary of Christian Spirituality*, ‘... is a word which has come much into vogue to describe those attitudes, beliefs, practices which animate people’s lives and help them to reach out towards super-sensible realities ... This means that Christian spirituality is not simply for ‘the interior life’ or the inward person, but as much for the body as for the soul, and is directed to the implementation of both the commandments of Christ, to love God and our neighbor. Indeed, our love, like God’s, should extend to the whole of creation. Christian spirituality includes in its scope both humanity and nature.’

The Apostle Paul in Galatians 5:25 reminds that ‘if we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit’. Spirituality begins with lived experience of the sacred in everyday life. Spirituality begins with taking a long, loving look at the seemingly mundane stuff of our lives and seeing God’s active hand there. Spirituality begins with us realizing that in God we live and move and have our very being (Acts 17). Spirituality begins with us realizing it is not about us and all about God!

Thank You

Here in part is the thank you **Cathy Brink** received from the shawl we sent to one of Allie's former teachers in California. Isabel has cancer.

To the Knitwits,

“Most of all thank you for praying for me, and for the beautiful shawl. To think that so many miles away in a church service some wonderful people prayed over and hand made the comfort shawl is truly priceless. I will cherish it forever: please thank all the members of the First Presbyterian Church and the Church Knitwits. It's the best gift ever. May God Bless you all!

Isabel

Dear friends at FPC,

I would like to thank you for the cards, birthday wishes and the cake after church with the Ericksons for my 90th birthday.

Jane Snider

From Your Trustees.....

Statement of Income & Expense December 31, 2011

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Percent of Budget
Income				
Offerings	170,981.00	184,280.41	-13,299.41	107.8%
Investment In- come	65,027.00	55,478.01	9,548.99	85.3%
PerCapita	5,000.00	2,210.00	2,790.00	44.2%
Christian Ed In- come	0.00	2,387.61		
Congregational Life Income	0.00	621.49		
Misc Income	0.00	2,000.89		
Mission Income	0.00	1,173.13		
Total Income	241,008.00	248,151.54	-7,143.54	103.0%
Expenses				
Personnel	137,266.00	130,968.73	6,297.27	95.4%
Christian Educa- tion	3,000.00	5,091.54	-2,091.54	169.7%
Congregational Life	2,250.00	2,598.25	-348.25	115.5%
Deacons	250.00	186.75	63.25	74.7%
Mission	26,202.00	18,354.50	7,847.50	70.0%
PerCapita	9,758.00	9,150.40	607.60	93.8%
Property	48,104.00	65,213.04	-17,109.04	135.6%
Finance	9,178.00	9,954.80	-776.80	108.5%
Worship	3,000.00	2,748.07	251.93	91.6%
Welcoming Com- mittee	2,000.00	2,197.24	-197.24	109.9%
Total Expenses	241,008.00	246,463.32	-5,455.32	102.3%
Differential		1,688.22		

Pastor's Report for December, 2011

Worship	C4C trip to Peoria
5 worship services	Godly Play Christingle making
1 funeral; graveside	Delivered Christmas food baskets
3 infant baptisms	Discipleship Supper
Christian Education	Because We Care/Salvation Army bell ringing
Led 4 Bible studies on Wednesday mornings	Presbytery
Led 1 Sunday morning Bible study	Committee on Preparation for Ministry
Conversation	Worship Workshop
19 Drop-ins/appointments/calls	Education
Hospital/home	Prep for Bible studies/sermons
5 visits	1 Spiritual Direction sessions
Church Meetings	Other
Worship	<i>Connections</i> articles & coordination
Session	Worship service prep
Personnel	Meetings with individual Staff (2)
Trustees	1 telephone interview with prospective
Staff lunch for Sue Genereux	Director of EM
Staff meeting	Community
PW Brunch	2 Spiritual Direction sessions
Church Activities/Events Attended	Kiwanis meetings (2); gave invocation
Knitwits	50 th wedding anniversary celebration
Christmas Tea	

Open Your Hearts on February 12th

The Love Fund provides money for anyone in the congregation who is in need of financial help because of unforeseen circumstances — to help out of tight spot. It is to be funded solely by donations.

Sources of Income:

Seed money from Riceland Food, Inc.

Loose offering around Valentine's Day

Love Fund envelopes in pews; congregation can donate any time

Fund-raisers or special appeals if someone needs extra help

How it works:

The fund will be under the Board of Deacons, which will make decisions on requests for money.

Recommendations can come from anyone — the pastor, elders, deacons, trustees, members of the congregation.

When a need is brought to the Deacons' attention, they will decide the amount to be dispersed, and ask the Board of Trustees to pay the money from the Love Fund.

The amount given will depend on the need, and how much money is in the Love Fund.

Please give generously on February 12th, which is the day of the Love Offering this year.



Fifth Sunday Mission...by Ed Whitmore

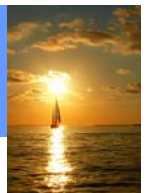


The Mission Committee will be sponsoring local small projects on two different occasions during the 2012 calendar year. The project work will be done in the spring and fall on the fifth Sunday of the month. Members of the congregation who are willing to do some extra work after the morning church service will be invited to wear their work clothes to church. On those days, we will become **“the dirty hands people”**, going out into the neighborhoods to work on a pre-selected project or projects. Before departing for the work project, there will be a simple lunch in the Fellowship Hall for participants.

The **Dirty Hands Days** will most likely be on April 29 and September 30, which are fifth Sundays of the month. Projects might consist of painting, minor repairs, yard work, etc. As of this writing, no projects have been pre-identified. The Mission Committee will be gleaning opportunities for potential projects, and are most receptive to hear of possibilities from the congregation. Church members are eligible to be recipients of the work, as well as members of the community at large. The idea behind the work is to help people who are not physically able to do the work themselves, or the task is beyond their ability to accomplish.

Members of the Mission Committee are Bruce Morrison, Chair; Barb and Curtis Blom, Wilma Hemphill, Toddy and Mike Gorman, Janet Calvin, Lou Harter, and Pat and Ed Whitmore. Please contact any of these members if you have a prospective project. The idea behind this endeavor is not for it to be projects that only the Mission Committee is committed to accomplishing, but that members of the congregation have ownership as well. “Working together on projects is one of the best ways to get to know not only each other but also those outside our church family, and to build on these caring relationships”, commented Bruce Morrison during the regular Mission Committee meeting. As the time approaches, signup sheets will be posted in the Fellowship Hall.

Junk in the Trunk Sale...by Cindy Murphy



Save that good “junk” you don’t want any more! On March 31, the Mariners group will be hosting a “Junk In The Trunk” sale in conjunction with the Bluegrass Festival being held in Burlington. We hope to borrow the city lot behind the church, and have as much as we can for sale.

From 8:00 am to 1:00 pm, participants will have four options:

1. Park your vehicle and sell your own items from your vehicle’s trunk.
2. Sell your own items from a table.
3. Donate your items to the church, and someone will sell them from a vehicle trunk.
4. Donate your items to the church, and someone will sell them from a table.

Sellers will be encouraged to donate at least 25% of the proceeds of their individual sales to the church (or more if they wish to!).

Just for fun, there will be two contests: one for the best decorated trunk, and one for the highest sales total. Winners will receive two tickets to the next soup supper.

Any donated items that are not sold will be donated to Hopefully Yours.

You will find a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall for this activity. Please sign up right away to let us know of your interest so we can make final plans. If you have any questions, please call Cindy Murphy.

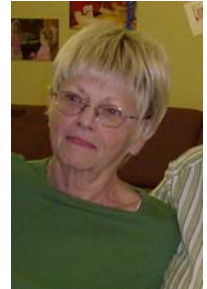




Newsorthy Notes...



Many thanks to Polly Rein and Claudine Capps for planning and implementing the Birthday Potluck. It was fun to sit at our birthday month tables and get to know the people with whom we share birthdays.



A big thank you to Bonnie White, who spent many hours in January at the church cleaning, organizing and taking off an outdated border in Deb's office.



Thanks also to Mike Gorman, who organized the Kids Against Hunger work day on January 21st. It was a successful day and all enjoyed it so much that they plan to do it again soon.



Thank you, Terri Huddleston, who, with a fantastic crew, decorated the sanctuary for the holiday season and then dismantled and stored everything in January. We all enjoyed the results of your labor.



A big thank you to Sue Sattler, who so graciously, in the absence of a Director of Educational Ministries, stepped in and kept our Godly Play program running smoothly.

Request from the Deacons...by Barbara Blom

The Deacons are looking for people who would be willing to drive members of our congregation to church or doctor's appointments. There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Those of you who are presently doing this, please sign the list also. Even if you can only drive on Sunday or one day a week, let us know when you could be available. We want to know who has interest so that we can keep the list updated and current. This will give all a chance to help out and share the work that a few are doing now.

There is also a sign up sheet for those who would like assistance in getting to their doctor appointments and coming to church on a regular basis. The office (752-6626) can always be called to make arrangements. For more information, call Barbara Blom at 753-1961.



Serving You...



USHERS...

- Feb 5: *Dick Fischer, Adele Coulter, Bruce Morrison, Kel Stensland, Tom White
- Feb. 12: *Curtis Blom, Rex Beetner, Bill Carter, Sandy Russell, Toshiko Velharticky
- Feb. 19: *Mike Gorman, Carl Boley, Ted Francis, Barb Garcia, Linda Tickel
- Feb. 26: *Craig Gilchrist, Kevin Eibes, Jim French, Pat Saldeen, Ron Stewart

GREETERS...

- Feb. 5: Bonnie White, Leona Byars
- Feb. 12: Lou Harter, Jean Miller
- Feb. 19: Dick Fischer, Mark & Deb Scott
- Feb. 26: Marilyn Malcom, Polly Rein

ELDERS: Arnie Anderson, Marcia Bailey, Claudine Capps, Ted Francis (clerk of session), Jesse McCormick, Bruce Morrison, Cindy Murphy, Marilyn Nuss & Sue Sattler.

DEACONS: Barbara Blom, Curtis Blom, Brenda Frederick, Sue Gilchrist, Jo Hamilton, Lou Harter, Don Krekel, Penny Rucker, Carl Siefken, Donna Siefken, Linda Tickel & Ken Velharticky.

TRUSTEES: Carrie Blom, Carl Boley, Tom Murphy (Secretary), Debbie Opiekun (President), Marilyn Leight (Treasurer), Ed Whitmore (Vice President).

COMMITTEE MODERATORS:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Educational Ministries: | Nominating: Bruce Morrison |
| Congregational Life: Claudine Capps | Personnel: Ted Francis |
| Deacons: Ken Velharticky | Maintenance: Arnie Anderson |
| Endowment: Wilma Hemphill | Jesse McCormick |
| Memorials: Marcia Bailey | Mission: Bruce Morrison |
| Welcoming: Sue Sattler | Worship: Marilyn Nuss |

- February 4..... Kelly Osborn
- February 8..... Ruby McCormick
..... Donna Moyer
- February 9..... Jesse McCormick
- February 10..... Ron Stewart
- February 11..... Dick Wells
- February 12..... Leona Byars
- February 14... Emily Abramsohn
..... Dick Fischer
- February 15..... Marcia Bailey
..... Edie Blom
- February 18..... Mary Ann
..... McCartney
- February 20..... Linda Cochran
- February 22..... Shirley Webster
- February 27..... Patrick Calvin
- February 28..... Hazel Francik
..... Hope Stensland

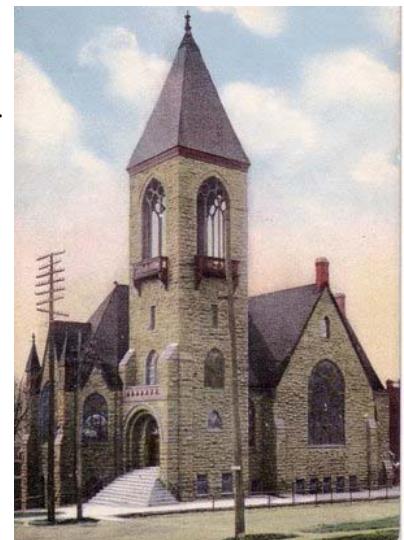


Watch for details about the upcoming Lenten Study Series.

Did You Know??

In 1836, Rev. Launcelot Graham Bell came to Burlington on the Mississippi to establish a Presbyterian Church of the "Old School." Services were held in homes or schoolrooms. After a General Assembly charter was issued, plans for the church building were made and the lot selected. Our present church building is on that same lot, which was purchased for \$400 in 1845. The building was completed in 1848, costing \$4000. The pews had doors, the church was lighted with tallow candles in sconces nailed to the wall and heated by stoves, supplemented with tiny foot stoves filled with hot coals in the coldest weather.

This year is the 167th birthday/anniversary of First Presbyterian Church.



to

Church Connections

PW News

February 1, 2012



Location: First Presbyterian Church
Co-Hostesses: Hazel Francik, Judy Parks
Shirley Webster
Study Leader: Judy Parks
Mission: CCC (bring a can)

Thank You

On December 17, 2011 sixty treasure chest items were delivered to the pediatric cancer unit along with Christmas gifts to the Adult and Pediatric units. Gifts are needed monthly to keep items in the treasure chest in the pediatric cancer unit for children to choose a gift after their treatments.

Thank you to everyone that brought gifts for the treasure chest. God's love is given to each child that receives a gift.

Janet Calvin

Local Mission Outing

January's "Kids Against Hunger" church mission activity was such a rewarding outing that eleven (11) members signed up to repeat the experience in February. There are still openings for anyone that would like to join in the fellowship of this mission project. Call Mike Gorman, 208-0842, for available times.

Date: Saturday, February 25th
Place: Messiah Lutheran Church
West Avenue, Burlington

Thank You

Dear Members of First Presbyterian,

On behalf of the Board of Directors for the Burlington Community School District, I would like to thank you for your donation of hats, gloves, scarves, sweatshirts, sweat pants, underwear and socks to the students of Grimes Elementary School.

Your gift is sincerely appreciated and we thank you for all your support.

Sincerely,

Jane Evans, Superintendent of Schools

Yum Yum Group

The Yum Yums will meet at Gator's on Agency Street in Burlington on Thursday, February 16 at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and great conversation. All are welcome. Please call Toddy & Mike Gorman at 208-0842 to make a reservation.



Knitwits Ministry

Meets: Second Wednesday of each month

Where: FPC Parlor

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.



Prayer
Shawl
Ministry

Prayer shawls are made for those who are ill, in transition, celebrating, or need a show of friendship and love. Chemo caps are made and given to Great River Medical Center, Oncology Department.

Yarn, needles, patterns, and teaching how to make shawls and/or chemo caps are provided.

More Information: Brenda Frederick (319) 752-7969
Marilyn Nuss (309) 924-1159
Church Office (319) 752-6626





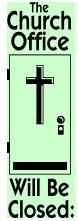
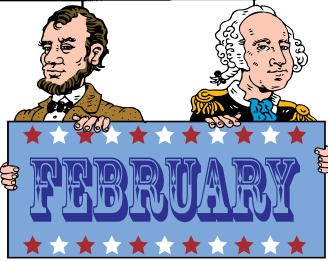
Come to Church with a Can

The final count for food items donated was 1,340 versus our goal of 1,200! We are off to a great start in 2012 aiming for the same target as 2011, but with the expectation we will exceed that goal once again. The Neighborhood Community Action Center continues to acknowledge their appreciation for the support First Presbyterian provides to the families in the Burlington area.



**Come to Church
with a Can**

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:15 AM M. Bible Study 8:30 AM W. Bible Study 9:45 AM Presbyterian Women 6:00 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	2 10:30 AM Gems 	3	4 8:30 AM Presbytery Meeting
			5 9:00 AM Godly Play 10:00 AM Worship	6 7:00 PM Worship Committee	7	8 7:15 AM M. Bible Study 8:30 AM W. Bible Study 9:30 AM Knitwits 6:00 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice
12 9:00 AM Godly Play 10:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Eagle Scout Ceremony for Javier Garcia 	13 3:45 PM Staff Meeting	14 7:00 PM Mission Committee 	15 7:15 AM M. Bible Study 8:30 AM W. Bible Study 6:00 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	16 10:30 AM Gems 1:30 PM Hope Haven Birthday Party 6:00 PM Yum Yum Group @ Gator's	17	18 6:30 PM Game & Card Night @ Carter's
19 Hallelujah Handbells Perform 9:00 AM Godly Play 10:00 AM Worship	20 7:00 PM Session Meeting 	21 4:15 PM Trustees Meeting	22 7:15 AM M. Bible Study 8:30 AM W. Bible Study 6:00 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service	23 10:30 AM Gems	24	25 9:00 AM Kid's Against Hunger
26 9:00 AM Godly Play 10:00 AM Worship	27	28	29 7:15 AM M. Bible Study 8:30 AM W. Bible Study 6:00 PM Handbell Practice 5:30 PM Lenten Supper 7:00 PM Choir Practice			

Come one – come all!

On Saturday, February 18, the Mariners will host a card party at the home of Bill Carter and Sue Lyon. Festivities will begin at 6:30. Please bring finger food and snacks to share through the evening, as well as your beverage of choice. No dinner will be served! Rules for the game(s) will be provided that evening. A signup sheet is available in Fellowship Hall.

