

# Tower Views

Volume 22, Issue 7

July 1-31, 2010

## Special Worship Services In July

Come worship with us on  
Saturday, July 3rd  
6:30 p.m.



FPC labyrinth\*  
Bring lawn chairs;  
stay after the service for  
an ice cream social

\* In case of inclement weather,  
the service will be in the sanctuary.

and

Sunday, July 4th  
10:00 a.m.

General Assembly  
Worship at the  
Minneapolis Convention Center

(bus departs FPC at 9:15 a.m.)



219<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2010) ✠  
THE NEW CITY LIFE AREA IN MINNEAPOLIS

*We strive to be a vibrant Christian community that is loving, nurturing, open, sustainable and renewing, and one that inspires people of all ages to live in the Christian faith and serve the world.*

## For Your Information

### First Presbyterian Church

535 20th Avenue North  
South St. Paul, MN 55075  
651/451-6223  
www.fpcssp.org

*"All Are Welcome Here"*

#### Summer Office Hours:

Monday 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
Pastors day off

Tuesday through Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

#### Email Addresses:

**Pastor Katie Estes Collins**  
katiec@fpcssp.org

**Pastor Tom Watson**  
tomw@fpcssp.org

**Mary Love**  
Administrative Assistant  
admin@fpcssp.org

**Linda Kachelmeier**  
Director of Music  
lindakachelmeier@yahoo.com

**Kendra Brodin**  
Organist and Director of Bells  
kendrabrodin@yahoo.com



In a pastoral emergency  
outside of office hours:

**Pastor Katie**  
651/457-1080 (home)  
651/442-2126 (cell)

**Pastor Tom**  
651/487-7760 (home)  
612/718-1785 (cell)

## Staff Notes

As I sit here in my office the day before the 11 senior high youth and their 5 adult chaperones travel down to Belize for their summer mission trip, I am both relieved and jealous that I am not going with them. These can be the most rewarding, inspiring, aggravating and exhausting adventures one could ever go on. On their return do not ask the adults how they enjoyed their "vacation" with the youth. It most likely will have been an amazing time, but it is no vacation.

It was June of 2000 and I was on the first of three such "vacations" that summer to Estes Park, Colorado and Rocky Mountain National Park with the Confirmation class. We would go on the same hikes every summer starting with easier ones, getting more and more difficult until we ended with a 9 mile hike up 3,000 feet to the summit of Flatop Mountain and the continental divide.

The first hike is tremendous for its breathtaking scenery along the trail, as well, if not more so, for it's lunchtime stopping point at Mills Lake tucked deep into a valley, the snow-capped mountains rising above us, surrounding us in 3 of 4 directions. Before we left, I had gone on and on about taking their time, about the importance of going slow and really seeing and hearing and smelling the beauty all around them. That it was about the journey and not the destination.

For the first hour or so of our adventure, I couldn't have been more frustrated as they followed my advice to the letter taking their own painfully sweet time. Stopping and seeing, laughing and hearing, touching and feeling, particularly the small pebbles in their shoes and the cramps in their legs, they slowly made their way. As the morning dwindled away, and we were still a little over a mile from our lunchtime

destination, I moved to the back of the line, and like a border collie anxiously shepherding his flock, pushed them onward. Pushing the less-experienced, and not necessarily less-able, beyond their natural pace, wanting them to get to where I wanted them to go, at my pace, and to love it as much as I did.

I have a vision of the world and life in general, the correct vision, that if I could just get everyone to follow at my pace, stopping at the places I have marked and walking by those places that I know to be without any constructive value, we would all be a whole lot happier and peaceful, loving each other with the full respect and dignity of the children of God. I forget that the world has somehow managed to survive without me for 14 billion years. While humanity has often gone down the wrong path, stopped to look at scenery from which we probably should have averted our attention, rested when we should have run, caught our breath when we should have shouted ahead, it must also be admitted that it is the ability to learn from our mistakes, to change and grow in the face of the unexpected and unplanned, to define and re-define ourselves through the ups and downs, that gives us life and makes it worth living.

And so we make our way together, hopefully a little less frustrated, sometimes with pebbles in our shoes and cramps in our legs, with faith and patience, trusting in the One who calls us to seek the Lord while he may be found and to listen that we might live. Life unfolds before us in ways that are beyond our control, ways we wouldn't have necessarily chosen for ourselves, sometimes unexpectedly and sometimes by our own doing, but it is still and will always be full of wonder and beauty because at its very source and its ultimate destination is the goodness of God.

## Worship Schedule

**July 3, 2010**  
 6:30 p.m. Worship Celebration  
 7:30 p.m. Ice Cream Social

**July 4, 2010**  
 10:00 a.m. Worship Celebration  
 at General Assembly  
 (NOTE: No service will be held at FPC today)

**July 11, 2010**  
 8:30 a.m. Adult Education  
 10:00 a.m. Worship Celebration  
 11:00 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship

**July 18, 2010**  
 8:30 a.m. Adult Education  
 10:00 a.m. Worship Celebration  
 11:00 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship

**July 25, 2010**  
 8:30 a.m. Adult Education  
 10:00 a.m. Worship Celebration  
 11:00 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship

### Adult Education

We will continue the DVD based series "First Light: Jesus and the Kingdom of God" with John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg (in the DVD, not in person). This series is similar to the "Living the Questions 2.0" series we studied last summer and is produced by the same



people. Our classes will be led by Paul Truran and others. We will not have class on Sunday, July 4, since

you will all be at the General Assembly opening worship service in Minneapolis. We will meet again on July 11, 18 and 25. During these three sessions we will learn about and discuss the role of baptism and healing in the Kingdom movement of Jesus and his disciples as well as the importance of its location and geography. Classes will not meet on August 1 (Outdoor worship service at Kaposia Park), but will otherwise continue through the rest of August and the first Sunday in September.

### Spiritual Direction

During an Adult Education hour recently, Sister Carol Rennie explained Spiritual Direction as an "opportunity to journey with someone who can help us awaken to the mystery called God in all of life and to respond to that discovery in a growing relationship of freedom and commitment." She described it as a contemplative practice that can happen by meeting individually with a director or meeting as a group. Sister Rennie is a trained professional educator and a member of St. Paul's Benedictine Monastery. If you are interested in learning more about spiritual direction, or in joining a group, you may contact Sister Rennie at 651/408-2568.

### Dead Sea Scrolls

Watch for more information concerning an FPC group visit to the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at the Science Museum sometime in August. Together our group would do the self-directed tour of the exhibit and, following the exhibit, hope to meet and discuss further any questions about the Scrolls with Dr. Ed Fleming, Curator of Archaeology at the Museum. Ed was a recent speaker about the scrolls and exhibit to thirty-three FPC adults during the Adult Education hour.



### Book Club Selection for July

The FPC Book Club is meeting on Saturday, July 17 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commons. The selection for this month is *Mister Pip* by Lloyd Jones. "As artillery echoes in the mountains, thirteen-year-old Matilda and her peers are riveted by the adventures of a young orphan named Pip in a city called London, a city whose contours soon become more

real than their own blighted landscape. But in a ravaged place where even children are forced to live by their wits and daily survival is the only objective, imagination can be a dangerous thing." (back cover)  
 If you would like to be a part of the group, contact Julie Vigness-Pint for more information and a copy of the book.

## Middle School Mission Trip

Later in the afternoon on Sunday, July 11, nine of our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders along with Pastor Katie and Pastor Tom are going to pile into two



vehicles as they set out on this year's mission trip adventure. They hope to arrive safely at their destination

about 30 minutes later in beautiful downtown Minneapolis, MN. Since they will all probably be exhausted from their travels, it is fair to assume that they will want to find where they are going to sleep and head directly to bed. However, when they wake up (at 6:30 a.m.) the next day, the

real fun will commence.

Working through the organization Urban Immersion Service Retreats and the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches, our youth and pastors will spend the next five days working with various urban ministries and social agencies that provide basic necessities to the poor and the homeless. Some of these include: Bridging, Inc., Catholic Charities, Families Moving Forward, People Serving People and the Harriet Tubman Center. They will work 6-8 hours each day and then return to the Urban Immersion's facilities where we will be staying. Keep them all in your prayers and look forward to hearing more about their experiences when they return home from their long journey.

## Hungry Kids Need You!

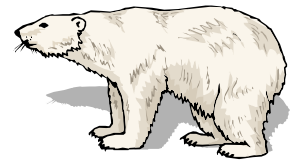
We all know that there are hungry kids right in our own community, but what can we do about it? Neighbors, Inc. is offering us an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of kids this summer. Free breakfast and lunch is being served at several local schools this summer to kids who may not otherwise be eating good meals, and all we need to do is show up and help serve the food! Our week is August 2-6 and our assigned school is Henry Sibley High School, where we'll be serving (cold) breakfast and lunch to between 300 and 500 low income students each day. Can you help us out? We need four volunteers for

breakfast and six at lunchtime; shifts are 7:30 to 10:00 a.m. for breakfast and 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for lunch. All food comes pre-packaged and prepared. We served this program at Kaposia School last summer and it truly couldn't be an easier job! Please contact Pastors Katie or Tom for more information, and sign up today on the kiosk to join us in feeding the hungry in our community. Thanks!



## We Belong In A Zoo!

Kids and families are invited on a special summer outing to Como Park in St. Paul on Sunday, July 18. All ages are welcome—make a space in your busy summer calendar to join with other FPC-SSP families for a fun afternoon! We'll gather after worship to carpool and caravan to Como Park. Bring along a picnic lunch for your family (or stop to pick up something on the way) and meet at our marked location outside the ComoTown entrance. Some may play mini golf, others will walk through the expanded zoo (have you seen the polar bears yet?)



and/or the Conservatory, do some rides at ComoTown, and just generally play together. Sign up on the kiosk or call the church office to let us know you'll come along.

## BELIZE IT!

Mark your calendars for Sunday August 1 at 5:30 p.m. for the Shareholder's Dinner. This is an appreciation dinner for our shareholders who have helped to support our youth. The Shareholder's Dinner is the end of the year for our youth event calendar. The dinner is designed to share the life altering experience with food, photos, stories, and youth from the mission trip. This is the first all youth trip to a third world country (Belize) as well as the first time many of our youth have ever flown on a plane much less, left the country. This is also the last time our graduating seniors will participate in the youth program. Watch for your Shareholder invitation in the mail.

## Joint Elder / Deacon Potluck & Meeting

July 22 - 6:00 p.m.

At the home of Kathy Junek

For the Class of 2010, 2011 and 2012 officers

## WATER—the greatest long-term problem facing our world!

“Next to oxygen, water is indisputably the most precious resource we have, and the shortage of freshwater is the biggest long-term problem facing the planet Earth. Even energy is a distant second—with energy, we have alternatives. With water there is none,” said National Geographic Society chairman, Gil Grosvenor when he addressed the high profile water advocates at the World Water Day Conference in Washington, D.C. this past March, where top U.S. public and private sector leaders gathered to announce new commitments to combat the world’s growing water crisis.

Church World Service (CWS) executive director and CEO John L.

McCullough told the gathering that water is “a gift from God to be preserved and shared for the benefit of all people.” He said CWS would continue its priority commitment to “supporting communities in obtaining and managing their own potable and sustainable water supplies and watershed sources.”

He added, “Water is a key element to our work around food and nutrition security, peace and conflict resolution, and assistance to refugees and internally displaced

people ... It is vital to the empowerment of women, and it is intimately tied to our efforts to address the ravages of climate change.”

While the conference’s sector leaders universally urged greater worldwide commitments to solving the growing water and sanitation crisis, funding remains a paramount need.

Through Church World Service, we can empower communities to access clean, safe water for drinking and domestic use, and educate communities for improved health, hygiene and sanitation.

**PLEASE**—continue your faithful giving through End Hunger Now to support this vital mission effort.



### 50-Cents-A-Day Update

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! As of June 13, 2010, the 50-Cents-A-Day Fund to erase our projected 2010 deficit of \$15,000 is at \$13,616! If you were able to contribute to this fund please know that your generosity will make a tremendous difference to our bottom line for this calendar year. If you haven't given yet, please consider doing so.



### Intergenerational Choir

Looking for a fun activity for the whole family this summer? Come sing in the Intergenerational Choir on Sunday, July 18. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. that morning in the sanctuary to learn the piece (don't worry, I promise it will be easy) and then sing it in the service. Open to all ages and abilities.

Contact Music Director Linda Kachelmeier with any questions.



### Calling All FPC Artists

Are you willing to share your photography, pottery, paintings or other type of creative artwork? As part of the “Art at FPC” program, Adult Ministry would like to showcase FPC artists or collections beginning mid-July until the end of August. Please notify the church office or Rochelle LeTourneau of your interest to exhibit and the type of work you have available to display as soon as possible so we can give you a call to



schedule and plan exhibits. Don't worry if you do not have enough pieces to fill our entire exhibit space. If you have a smaller number of pieces we may combine several similar types of art.



These members and friends of FPC have had surgery, been hospitalized or ill in recent weeks: Bill Beyer, Betty Bohmert, Jean Sites, Willard Lee, Bea Meers, and Margaret Braun.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Shirley Lindberg upon her death, May 26.

The congregation also extends its sympathy to Dian Rech on the death of her sister.

## **First Presbyterian Church**

535 20th Avenue North  
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Phone: 651/451-6223

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Adult Education at 8:30 a.m.

 Worship celebration at 10:00 a.m.  
Coffee and Fellowship at 11:00 a.m.

**Address Service Requested**

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### ***Tower Views***

is a monthly publication of the  
First Presbyterian Church, South St. Paul,  
MN

**Rev. Katie Estes Collins**

**Rev. Tom Watson**

Pastors

**Mary Love**

Administrative Assistant

### ***Tower Views Deadline***

***July 15, 2010***

***For events taking place in August 2010***



## **Outdoor Worship**

Sunday, August 1, 2010

10:00 a.m.

Kaposia Park, South St. Paul  
(just east of Hwy. 52, off of Butler)

An all church picnic  
will follow the Outdoor Service.

Hotdogs and lemonade  
will be provided;  
please bring a dish to share.

