

Tower Views

Volume 23, Issue 6

June 1-30, 2011

“Take Me Out to the Ball Game ...”

Twin's Game



June 28 -
7:00 p.m. game
Twins vs
LA Dodgers

\$30 for tickets (children & adults)

Bus leaves FPC at 4:45 p.m.

John Marien will have tickets for sale
starting Sunday, June 5

*Checks payable to
River Heights Chamber of Commerce*

*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"

Office Hours:

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

Pastor Katie off on Monday;
Pastor Tom off on Friday

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)

Adult Education in June

June 5: Benedictine Spirituality for Protestants Barbara Anne Keely returns to discuss Lectio Divina, an ancient art practiced at one time by all Christians. Lectio divina, meaning "divine reading" is a slow, contemplative praying of the Scriptures which enables the Bible to become a means of union with God. Time set aside for lectio divina enables us to discover in our daily life an underlying spiritual rhythm. It is believed that within this rhythm we discover an increasing ability to offer more of ourselves and our relationships to God. Barbara Anne Keely is Director, Masters Studies Programs and Associate Professor, Christian Education and Congregational Spirituality at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, a Benedictine oblate, and an ordained Presbyterian pastor.

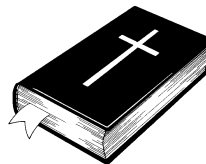
June 12: Sara Liegl, Director of Project Home, will return to update us about this program of the Saint Paul Area Council of Churches and

the issues of homelessness in our community. Project Home provides a safe, clean, comfortable place to sleep for families in our area when the local permanent shelters are at capacity. Each year, FPC hosts Project Home for the month of July.

June 19 & 26: Ever feel like Jesus has been kidnapped by the Christian Right and discarded by the Secular Left? Then join us for *Saving Jesus Redux*, a 12-session DVD-based study from Living the Questions exploring what a credible Jesus looks like for the third millennium. Contributors include Brian McLaren, Diana Butler Bass, Robin Meyers, Marcus Borg, Walter Brueggemann, John Dominic Crossan, Matthew Fox, Amy-Jill Levine, and a host of other theologians, scholars, and pastors. This curriculum will take us through the first Sunday in September. Each session stands alone as its own class so that you do not need to attend them all to participate.

Summer Bible Study

The Wednesday evening Bible Study is starting up again on the evening of June 1 at 7:00 p.m. For the next three months we will be studying Paul's Letter to the Romans using a curriculum from Kerygma, publisher of our previous Bible studies. The importance of this book has perhaps best been summarized by Martin Luther, in the preface to his commentary on Romans: "This Epistle is the chief book of the New Testament, the purest gospel. It deserves not only to be known word for word by every Christian, but to be the



subject of his meditation day by day." Luther also spoke of it as "a light and way into the whole Scriptures."

Do not feel that you need to be able to attend all 14 sessions (or even 13) to be a part of the group, it is summer after all. Each participant will receive a resource book that they can follow along with if they have to be away. And, as with past courses we will ask for a free-will offering to help cover costs. Please let Pastors Tom or Katie know if you are interested or simply show up on June 1 and they will make sure there is a book and a place for you.

Worship Schedule

June 5, 2011

8:30 a.m. Adult Education
10:00 a.m. Worship Celebration
11:00 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship
Graduation Sunday

June 12, 2011

Pentecost

8:30 a.m. Adult Education
10:00 a.m. Worship Celebration
11:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting
11:15 a.m. Pancake Breakfast

June 19, 2011

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

June 26, 2011

Ordination / Installation

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

Congratulations to the Graduates of 2011

Congratulations to our graduating high school students:

Paige Nelson is graduating from South St. Paul High School and will be attending Iowa State this fall. She plans to major in Pre-Veterinary Medicine.

Whitney Swanson is graduating from Simley High School. Whitney will be attending Minnesota State University, Moorhead and plans to major in Biochemistry and minor in Sociology.

Congratulations also to those who graduating from a post-secondary institution:

Brian Love graduated Summa Cum Laude from Augsburg College with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics.

Elliot Love will receive a Master's Degree in Ecology, Evolution and Behavior this summer from the University of Minnesota.

Samantha Miller graduated from

North Dakota State University with a Bachelor of Science in Human Development/Family Science and a minor in Emergency Management.

Becky Prall graduated in December 2010 from University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire with a Bachelor of Science in Teaching Biology with a comprehensive minor in Physical Sciences.

Roxanne Sanchez graduated from Kansas State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Photography.

Congregational Meeting

Calling all members! A meeting of the congregation has been called for Sunday, June 12 immediately following worship for the purpose of electing church officers for the new term. Elders and Deacons will be presented by the Nominating Committee to fill a few unexpired terms in the class of 2012 and a full slate for the class of 2013. Also provided will be at-large nominees for the Nominating Committee for the next year. This meeting is always quite brief and all members of the congregation are encouraged to attend and vote. Thank you!

Pentecost and Pancakes!

We can accomplish two important things on one special day! Forty percent of our Pentecost Offering on June 12 will serve our local Restorative Justice group that works with youth who may be troubled and needing help. The remaining 60% goes to the denomination for leadership development opportunities for Presbyterian youth and young adults and supports children-at-risk programs at the national level.

Our Mission Committee's first pancake breakfast of the summer on June 12 will also support Restorative Justice with whatever

profits exceed our More Light dues of \$100. Youth are our future here at First

Presbyterian Church and we need to care not only for our own, but all youth in these difficult years of their lives.

Please join us in worship on June 12 and then after in Fellowship Hall for some delicious pancakes, sausages and fellowship. A free-will offering will be taken.



SUMMER YOUTH GROUP Book Club

Do you like to read? Summer's here and there's no homework, right? You have lots of free time to



join Libby Huettl in her first Summer Youth Group Book Club. We will be reading the book *Heaven is for Real* by Todd Burpo. It is a true story of a 4 year-old boy who emerges from life-saving surgery with remarkable stories of his visit to heaven.

Please sign up on the kiosk in the South Commons so Libby knows how many books to purchase. The date and time is being planned so keep your ears and eyes open for details.

Kid's Club Pool Party

Calling all kids (and parents) for the June Kids Club!!! Jack and Madee Luhrs (along with their parents) have agreed to host a swim party at their house on Saturday, June 25 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Hotdogs, condiments and beverages will be provided--you are just asked to bring your own swimsuits, towels AND a dish to pass. Come join your friends from Sunday school for some family fun. The Luhrs live at 424 12th Ave. N. in South St. Paul. We'll have some lunch, take a quick dip and we can all go on to our Saturday afternoon plans (or naps for those who need one!). Please sign up on the kiosk so we know how many to expect.



Water Is Essential To Life ...

Water is essential to life. We simply can't get along without it, yet a billion people worldwide lack clean water. Eighty percent of disease in the developing world, including the deaths of 4,500 children daily, traces back to that fact. A lack of water for drinking and simple irrigation is inextricably linked to hunger and malnutrition. Those are the hard facts.

Thanks to the work of Church World Service, we're helping many of our neighbors around the world gain access to clean water. Rev. John L. McCullough, Executive Director and CEO of Church World Service reports on some of the projects in the *Water: Enough For All* work that has taken place in the last few years. He writes, "I've seen the difference safe, accessible water can make—healthier families, better nutrition, and new opportunity for women and girls."

For example, in Vietnam some 33,000 people in three mountainous communities in Pho Yen district of northeast Vietnam are benefiting from a new clean water supply and sanitary latrines provided with the help of Church World Service and local community partners. In addition, these villagers, with help from Church World Service are developing water supply facilities and hygienic latrines for three clinics, plus pipelines to distribute water to hundreds of households. They are also learning to operate and manage the systems effectively, helping prevent transmission of water-related diseases.

Our giving to *End Hunger Now* for this quarter will support Church World Service for ALL water projects around the world. Our continued support is critical.

Confirmation Class To Be Sainted

Not really, but we're going to a Saints baseball game, which is almost the same thing! The Confirmation Class of 2011, plus incoming 7th graders and rising 8th graders are invited to join us for a serious theological discussion of the deep meaning of baseball on Sunday, June



26 for the 1:05 p.m. game with tailgating planned at the parking lot before we go in. Friends are welcome to attend! Call the church office or sign up on the kiosk in the Commons to reserve your seat.

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For Sale

The Property Committee has determined that the Snapper riding lawnmower and the John Deere snow blower are no longer needed and should be sold.



- Snapper riding lawnmower - starts and runs - \$75 minimum bid
- John Deere snow blower - electric start needs work - \$75 minimum bid

All bids must be received in the church office by noon on June 17.

Bids are not limited to church members. Tie bids will be broken by a drawing. If you would like further information, please call Andy Tourville at 651/458-0098 or David Mahle at 651/451-1439.

Update from the Finance Committee

2011 has been a good year so far with giving remaining strong. As of mid-May, regular offering is \$2,700 behind where we were in 2010 but by this time in 2010, we'd already brought in over \$13,000 for the 50-Cents-a-Day Fund, a special effort that we are not doing this year. Our operating expenses are within budget thus far in 2011 and we do not anticipate any major deviations for the balance of the year.

There are two challenges that we will need to address in coming months. Our 2011 budget requires that we raise \$4,500 in new revenue to meet expenses so we will need some kind of special fundraiser. We have also set a goal of raising \$10,000 for Neighbors, Inc. Capital Campaign and will do that through an event fundraiser in September.

In January of this year we switched our financial software to a

new system. Contributors will see the first evidence of this switch when giving statements are distributed early in July. The biggest change is that all payments to the church are included on the statement and some are listed as non-tax deductible payments. For example, if you pay \$40 for flowers for worship on Sunday morning but you take the flowers home with you, that is not really a tax-deductible donation because you received goods and services for your payment. If, however, you donate the flowers to the Deacons for the purpose of giving them to a shut-in or care center, then the \$40 is tax-deductible. In another example, if you bought pizza from the youth, your payment is not tax-deductible since you received something in return. Because the pizza is a fundraiser for the youth group, you

are obviously paying more than the wholesale cost of the pizza. Your accountant may advise that you could claim up to 50% of that purchase as a contribution. Another common example is the Pancake Breakfast fundraisers for Missions. If you write a check at the breakfast, it will be listed on your giving statement as a contribution because we have no way of knowing if you actually ate pancakes or not. Claiming those payments as tax-deductible contributions is left to your own judgment. None of this has changed any church policies concerning contributions; it just changes the way contributions are recorded. Questions, please contact Financial Secretary Lois Glewwe at 651-457-3403 or email her at lglewwe@hotmail.com.

Is Sky Diving on Your "Bucket List"?

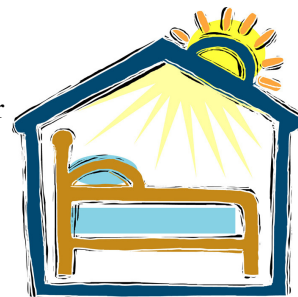
Here's a great opportunity to fulfill your wish! If you want to have a FREE sky diving experience, our members will help sponsor you to this adventure and also be helping Neighbors, Inc. with their capital fund rising. As an adult, you will need \$700 in sponsorship, or as a college student, the amount is \$300. The jump is east of Baldwin, Wisconsin on July 30 and you will be diving in tandem with a

professional. Sound exciting? Let the office know now if you are interested since only 100 jumpers can be accommodated. Talk to your risk-loving friends ... anyone who may be dreaming of such a super deal! Let's hear from you soon.

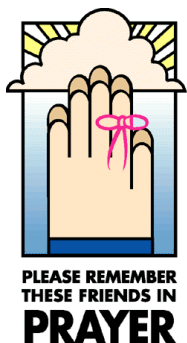


July Homeless Shelter

A roof over our heads? Of course. But not everyone can say that. Imagine, if you will, a teenage son or daughter with no place to call home. A single Mom, no work, no place for her children to feel comfy. A man who has always taken care of his



family, until he lost his job and is without the skills to be easily employed in our "techy" culture. We need your help to host our July homeless guests. Two shifts are available—5:50 to 9:30 p.m. or 9:30 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. Please contact the church office if you can help.



These members and friends of FPC have had surgery, been hospitalized or ill in recent weeks: Willard Lee, Pam Davenport, Bona Faye Venburg, Evelyn Luurtsema, Dorothy Hunter, Phyllis Krefting, Maureen Kutz, Sally Lee, and Jenni Christensen.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

- family of Bill Beyer upon his death, April 25
- Duane Roberts on the death of his sister, May 9
- Sue Krey on the death of her father, May 17

First Presbyterian Church

535 20th Avenue North
South St. Paul MN 55075
Phone: 651/451-6223
Fax: 651/451-3866
www.fpcssp.org
admin@fpcssp.org



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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
South St. Paul, MN
Permit No. 156

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

June 15, 2011

For events taking place in July 2011



Outdoor Worship

July 17, 2011 –
Kaposia Park

(just east of Hwy. 52, off of Butler)

An all church picnic will follow the service.
Hotdogs and lemonade will be provided;
please bring a dish to share.