

May 2017 Innovator

News

- 9:15 Traditional Worship
- 9:15 Sunday School
- 10:10 Refreshments and Fellowship in the Hall
- 10:45 Christ Connection Praise Worship



9:30 Worship begins May 28th



Please mark your calendars to attend our Annual Congregational Meeting which will be held on May 21st. We will have one service at 9:15am followed by the meeting where we will be electing new members to our session, deacons, audit, personnel, and nominating committees. Following the meeting, you have the opportunity to do a Hands-On Mission project while lunch is being prepared. We hope everyone can attend.

No Coffee/Donuts Before Worship This Summer

Due to lack of volunteers, North Church will not be providing coffee and donuts before worship starting with Memorial Day and through Labor Day worship services. We will resume providing regular coffee/donuts starting again in the fall.



WORK CAMP FUNDRAISERS



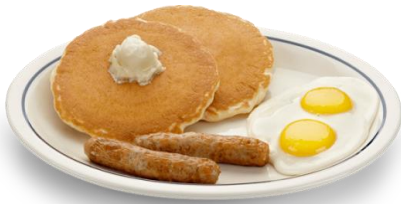
Please support Workcamp 2017 through the “Wall of Money” which can be found in the entryway. Please donate the amount of money indicated on an envelope and follow the enclosed instructions. Your donation will support our youth and their mission work in Racine, Wisconsin from June 16-24. Thank you for making God’s love visible!

GERTEN’S PLANTS & FLOWERS WORKCAMP FUNDRAISER

If you ordered plants, you can pick them up on May 21st between 10:00am—12:15pm and May 22nd between 5:30-6:30pm.



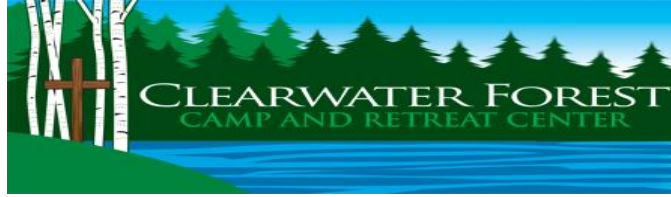
PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER



The youth will be hosting the 3rd Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser after the church service on June 4th. Presale tickets will be available to purchase in the Gathering Space/Narthex beginning April 30th for \$8/adults. Prices at the door are: \$10/adults and \$5/kids 6-12. Kids who are under 5 are free. Please join us!

Please stop by the Culver’s in Stillwater (1725 Market Dr.) on May 22nd between 5pm – 7pm for our workcamp fundraiser. The North Church youth will be working that evening and will earn 10% of all the sales during that time. We hope to see you there!





Financial Assistance for Clearwater

The endowment committee and/ or a few members of our congregation are eager to offer financial assistance to any member in need so they can attend camp. They are glad to invest in the blessings that abound from the camp experience. Talk to Pastor James or Cathy Hickman of the Endowment Committee if your child wants to attend camp but you are short on the funds for the camp.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION

Children are invited to a Sunday School Celebration on Sunday, May 21st, at 9:15am. Please join us for a morning of crafts, games, singing, and goodies as we celebrate the end of the great Sunday School year.



SAVE THE DATE

VBS will be held July 9 – 13 from 6:00pm – 8:30pm. More details to follow.

Seniors you are invited to bring your lunch and fellowship with Pastor James on Tuesday, May 23rd, from 12pm —1:30pm in the Fireside Room. You bring the topic. It could be discussing a recent sermon, scripture selection, hopes for the church, current events, God's activity in our life or something else. Pastor James is eager to enjoy fellowship with you.



The York Family will share pictures and stories from their recent travels on Wednesday, May 3rd at 6pm in Meisenheimer Hall. Everyone is welcome!



Each month we will be featuring the Statement of Faith from one of our confirmands.

By Tanner Behr

I believe that God is the creator of all heaven and earth. In the bible it says he started out with two people to test them. God then realized that all people were born with original sin. I still believe God created heaven and earth but not everything can be as great as him.

I believe that Jesus Christ is God's only son that came down from heaven in spirit. I think God is the only savior that died on the cross for us to live our lives.

I believe that everyone sins even though we try not to sin. I looked up the word sin and it says, "an immoral act considered to be against the divine law". I think this word has more of a meaning behind it. I think this word means that if we sin that the act can be forgiven by God's grace.

I believe that when you sin you do a bad action, but I also believe that God's grace forgives you for doing that bad action. Even though we don't deserve God's grace, God gives us it anyways. I think we should spread God's grace with each other and hope that they will spread God's grace in return, because I know that I make many mistakes in life and people always don't forgive me.

I believe that the Holy Spirit helps us and guides us to God's kingdom. The Holy Spirit is a hard word to describe. It's kind of just a thing you can feel and a thing that you know is just there. I think the Holy Spirit is just here to guide us on our own path and to help us get through life.

I believe that church is there to help us through the tough times on earth. I think that the church helps us to communicate with God and helps us take time to be in the presence of God. I know you are supposed to always set aside a time to be with God, but it's kind of hard to do, so church helps me with that.

I believe that the holy sacraments help us better understand the church and God's plan for us. The sacraments are important in many ways. Baptism helps welcome us into the faith and the Last Supper reminds us of the sacrifice Jesus made for us on the cross. They help us reach out to God in our own way and help us to get to heaven.

I believe that I can be a disciple of God. I can participate in church by being there and helping with the service in the morning. I think I can help with the church's mission as well. I think I can teach and serve God by teaching people the word of God even though they might not believe. I will be an example of grace and forgiveness.



P.W. NEWS

By Pat McKisson, Moderator

'Healthy Women Healthy Families' Mission Project Our Mother's Day Celebration Support this mission at the Bake Sale on May 7, 2017

There are so many stories of how money given to the Global Poverty program of Presbyterian World Mission helps out in our world but here is one which shows exactly what one woman was able to accomplish with a loan.

'In a small village in Africa, a middle-aged woman named Linley dreamed of becoming a small-business owner. However, famine and lack of access to capital made it difficult for Linley to achieve her dream. In January 2014, Linley attended a local program sponsored by a Presbyterian World Mission partner, the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, and learned about a project funded by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to help rural women save money and obtain loans. The village's savings and loan group was established, and Linley was one of its founding members. After three months, the group had accumulated enough money that members were able to start borrowing for their small businesses. Linley received a loan equal to about \$76 to start a business selling produce, such as potatoes and vegetables. Her business grew, and today Linley has installed a solar panel on her house, bought livestock, and secured a four-acre plot where she does irrigation farming. She uses her solar power to generate income by charging people's mobile phone batteries for a small fee. The irrigation farming has allowed her to have food year-round, and the surplus is sold to help pay for her children's school fees. Your gifts to *Healthy Women Healthy Families* support projects like the one that created the village's savings and loan group. Without donors' support, Linley wouldn't have been able to obtain a loan to start her own small business.' *Healthy Women Healthy Families* is a year-round support ministry of the Global Poverty program of Presbyterian World Mission in collaboration with Presbyterian Women.



PW will be holding a bake sale on May 7th to support the *Healthy Women Healthy Families' Mission Project*. Will you volunteer to bake cookies, bars, mini-breads, cakes or other goodies for this cause? If you would like to donate a baked item or two, please sign up in the Gathering Area on Sunday, April 30th. All donated items should be put on paper plates or in containers that you don't want returned and covered with a clear wrap. Please be sure to label your items stating what they are, whether they contain nuts, and if they are gluten-free.

MISSION MATTERS

By Pat McKisson

“The Pentecost Story”

Verses from Acts 2, Good News Translation

When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak. ... Then Peter stood up with the other eleven apostles and in a loud voice began to speak to the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, listen to me and let me tell you what this means. ...” Listen to these words, fellow Israelites! Jesus of Nazareth was a man whose divine authority was clearly proven to you by all the miracles and wonders which God performed through him. “You yourselves know this, for it happened here among you. “In accordance with his own plan God had already decided that Jesus would be handed over to you; and you killed him by letting sinful men crucify him. “But God raised him from death, setting him free from its power, because it was impossible that death should hold him prisoner. ...” God has raised this very Jesus from death, and we are all witnesses to this fact. “He has been raised to the right side of God, his Father, and has received from him the Holy Spirit, as he had promised. “What you now see and hear is his gift that he has poured out on us.” When the people heard this, they were deeply troubled and said to Peter and the other apostles, “What shall we do, brothers?” Peter said to them, “Each one of you must turn away from your sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins will be forgiven; and you will receive God’s gift, the Holy Spirit. For God’s promise was made to you and your children, and to all who are far away—all whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

THE PENTECOST OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN ON JUNE 4, 2017

THE PENTECOST OFFERING HELPS OUR YOUTH BEGIN LIFE WITH A STRONG START—A SOLID FOUNDATION OF FAITH FORMED IN THE FIRST THIRD OF LIFE, FROM CHILDHOOD THROUGH YOUNG ADULTHOOD.

Each year on Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the arrival of the Holy Spirit as a bringer of new life with an Offering intended to nurture the faith of those newest among us.

As one of the four Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Pentecost Offering unites us in a churchwide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

Presbyterian congregations are finding new ways to minister to children at risk in their own communities. General Assembly programs are advocating for children and developing youth and young adult leaders.

By giving to the Pentecost Offering, we participate in the promise of the Holy Spirit—which is “for you, for your children, and for all ...” —Acts 2:39.

HISTORY OF PENTECOST OFFERING

Since the Pentecost Offering started in 1998, Presbyterians have raised more than \$11 million for ministries that benefit younger members of God's family. We believe we are called to do even more—to support and care for young people as they build a strong foundation of faith.

QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE PENTECOST OFFERING

Congregations keep 40% of raised funds to initiate or support programs for young people in their communities.

- The first Presbyterian Youth Triennium was held in 1980.
- The Day of Pentecost is referred to as the birthday of the Church.
- Pentecost is usually represented with the color red, which symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit.



THERAPEUTIC MUSIC MINISTRY UPDATE

As of mid-April, Mary Livingston has conducted 26 therapeutic music visits to people within our North Church family dealing with a variety of health issues. The response has been very positive! Therapeutic Music Ministry sessions are a gift from the church and are therefore free to the person receiving the visit. Money has been granted from the Session and the Endowment General Cash Fund to fund this music ministry program through 2017. **In March of 2017, the Session also approved the creation of a new liability account for Therapeutic Music Ministry. This means that donations, contributions, and memorials can be designated to go directly to the TMM program.** If you would like to make a donation to this account, simply indicate Therapeutic Music Ministry, or "TMM", on the memo line of your check made out to North Presbyterian Church.

The Therapeutic Music Ministry program is facilitated by the Board of Deacons. Mary Livingston, our Sanctuary Choir Director, is also a Certified Music Practitioner and provides one-on-one music sessions to create a healing environment based on each individual's needs – examples include coping with pain, memory loss, anxiety, loneliness, or nearing the end of life. The visits can take place at home, in a hospital, or other care facility. Mary plays keyboard, accordion, or harp depending on the needs or preferences of the individual. **For more information, or to arrange a therapeutic music session, please contact any current deacon or the church office.**



I want to thank everyone from North Church who participated in the blood drive in April. We had a wonderful turnout from our church. Many lives will be saved, because of your donations. ~ Kathy Johansen, North Church Blood Drive Coordinator

I want to thank you for all the cards that so many of you sent me at the time of my sister Betty's passing. It means so much to be remembered by so many caring people.
~ Porg Andrus

I want to thank everyone that inquired about me during this very long waiting period. The many cards and phone calls I received have been much appreciated. My surgery is soon and I am grateful for all the well wishes. I also want to thank Pastor James for the nice afternoon visit and giving me reassurance that God will be walking with me on my journey of recovery. I hope to be back in church as soon as I am able. God's Blessings to all. ~ Ginny Pleban

Thank you for your donation of 27 pounds of food items which helped our food shelf's participation in the Minnesota Food Share March Campaign. Your donation will help us to continue to serve families from North St. Paul and Oakdale. Thank you again and God bless you. ~ Linda and Dave Zick, North St. Paul Area Food Shelf

Thank you for your recent contribution of household items to Solid Ground. Your donation supports our mission to prevent and end homelessness for families with children through housing, resources, and opportunity. ~Trisha Cummins Kauffman, Executive Director, Solid Ground

In the absence of the pastor or when contact with the session is desired, the elder on call for the month of May is Jim Holle, 612-919-4183.



Monday, May 1

9:30am PW Coordinating Team
7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, May 2

9:00am Comforters
12:00pm RPR
7:00pm 12-Step Program
7:00pm Northern Bells

Wednesday, May 3

10:00am Choral Bells
6:00pm York Travels
7:00pm Choir Practice
7:30pm Praise Band

Thursday, May 4

6:00pm El Shadai
6:30pm Faith Commission
6:30pm Music Sense Band
7:00pm Life, Stewardship, Nurture

Friday, May 5

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, May 6

2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, May 7

9:15am Sunday School
9:15am Traditional Worship
10:10am Refreshments
10:45am Praise Worship
12:45pm El Shadai Leadership Meeting
1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, May 8

8:00am ARM Breakfast
9:30am Ruth Circle
1:00pm Rachel Circle
7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, May 9

9:00am Comforters
12:00pm RPR
6:30pm Girl Scouts
7:00pm 12-Step Program
7:00pm Northern Bells

Wednesday, May 10

10:00am Choral Bells
6:00pm Wednesday Women
7:00pm Choir Practice
7:30pm Praise Band

Thursday, May 11

5:30pm Great Rivers District Meeting
6:00pm El Shadai
6:30pm Cub Scouts

Friday, May 12

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, May 13

2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, May 14

9:15am Sunday School
9:15am Traditional Worship
10:10am Refreshments
10:45am Praise Worship
12:00pm El Shadai Mother's Day Celebration

Monday, May 15

3:00pm Guild Meeting
6:00pm Quilt Guild
7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, May 16

9:00am Comforters
12:00pm RPR
6:30pm Girl Scouts
7:00pm 12-Step Program

Wednesday, May 17

10:00am Choral Bells
1:00pm El Shadai/Staff Meeting
7:00pm Choir Practice
7:30pm Praise Band

Thursday, May 18

6:00pm El Shadai
6:30pm Music Sense Band

Friday, May 19

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, May 20

8:00am Gerten's Flower Delivery
9:00am Computer Meeting
11:00am PW Spring Brunch
9:30am El Shadai
2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, May 21

9:15am Blended Worship
9:15am Sunday School Celebration
10:15am Annual Congregational Meeting
10:15am Refreshments
10:45am Gerten Flower Pick-Up
10:45am Hands-On Mission
12:00pm Lunch
12:45pm El Shadai Leadership Meeting
1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, May 22

5:00pm Culvers Fundraiser - Stillwater
 5:30pm Gerten Flower Pick-Up
 7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, May 23

9:00am Comforters
 12:00pm RPR
 12:00pm Senior Lunch

Wednesday, May 24

10:00am Choral Bells
 6:30pm New Officer Orientation
 7:00pm Choir Practice
 7:30pm Praise Band

Thursday, May 25

6:00pm El Shadai
 6:30pm Music Sense Band
 7:00pm Session
 7:30pm New Officers & Session

Friday, May 26

7:00pm El Shadai Graduation

Sunday, May 28

9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary
 12:45pm El Shadai Leadership Meeting
 1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, May 29 ~ OFFICE CLOSED**Innovator Articles Due**

7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, May 30

9:00am Comforters
 12:00pm RPR
 6:30pm Girl Scouts
 7:00pm 12-Step Program

Wednesday, May 31

10:00am Choral Bell



Cathy Hickman	May 3	Jan Nelson	May 16
Harold Yates	May 4	Kevin Carlson	May 17
Craig Seyforth	May 4	Robyn Marah	May 17
Harold Yates	May 4	John Ruppel	May 19
Gary Lambert	May 5	Janet Schroeder	May 20
Karen Pepin	May 6	Dale Grapp	May 24
Lynne Beck	May 7	Marye Snyder	May 24
Betsy Hoffman	May 8	Sean Bearth	May 25
Erik Pepin	May 9	Sarah Bearth	May 25
Linda Hagen	May 10	Virginia Gleason	May 26
Henry Rausch	May 11	Annaliese Miller	May 27
Allen Hicks	May 11	Sam Glasenapp	May 27
Joshua Oji	May 11	Jade Gray	May 28
Doug Pepin	May 13	Jane Wolfram	May 29
Bryan Ross	May 13	Ruth Bullis	May 30
Solii Yuven	May 13	Julliet Tah	May 31