

We're publishing a new picture directory of our members!

We are excited to announce that we will be publishing a new pictorial directory of our church family (our last one, done in 2007, is now outdated). The new directory will help us connect names with faces, serve as an outreach tool, and capture a time in the history of our church congregation.

Please participate by making an appointment to come to the church and have your portrait taken by an Olan Mills professional photographer. Picture taking will take place in September, with additional photo dates in the spring.

On three Sundays, July 11, 18 and 25, you will have your first opportunities to sign up for September appointments. Sign-up sheets will be at the Welcome Center before and after each service on these days.

Sign up now to get the best appointment to fit your schedule!

Answers to frequently asked questions:

Every participating household/family that selects a pose for the directory will receive a complimentary directory and 8x10 Custom Natural Portrait.

You will come to the church only once, for less than an hour, for photography and portrait viewing.

The program is available at no cost to the church budget.

You will have the opportunity to order additional portraits during your scheduled appointment time. All purchases are unconditionally guaranteed by Olan Mills.

And here's a suggestion: getting your picture taken on one of our September dates will allow you to order family portraits, if you desire, and receive them in time for Christmas giving.



ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

A personal sampling of General Assembly

First Pres member Virginia Koster has been blogging for the First Pres website about activities and actions at General Assembly, the national gathering of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Visit our web site, www.firstpresbyterian.org, and read her accounts. Go to www.firstpresbyterian.org and search for "General Assembly" to access her posts.

CHURCH LIFE (cont.)

Staff celebrates the marriage of Matt Nickel and Emma Hayes

On July 1, the staff celebrated the marriage (held in Virginia on May 29) of Rev. Matthew Nickel to Rev. Emma Hayes.

(Emma will begin August 1 as the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Warren, Michigan).

Congratulations to the happy couple and God's blessings on your marriage and ministry.



Emma and Matt celebrate with grins and ca-

Mature Singles in July and August

Mature Singles meets Sundays at 11:00 a.m. in the Curtis Room of the church for fellowship and discussion. Upcoming Summer programs include:

July 11: Tom Van Camp will lead us in a game of Bible Trivia.

July 18: Mature Singles will meet for a potluck and planning meeting.

July 25: Laura Berg will play the next DVD in the Teaching Company's series on the old Testament, entitled "The Jacob Saga."

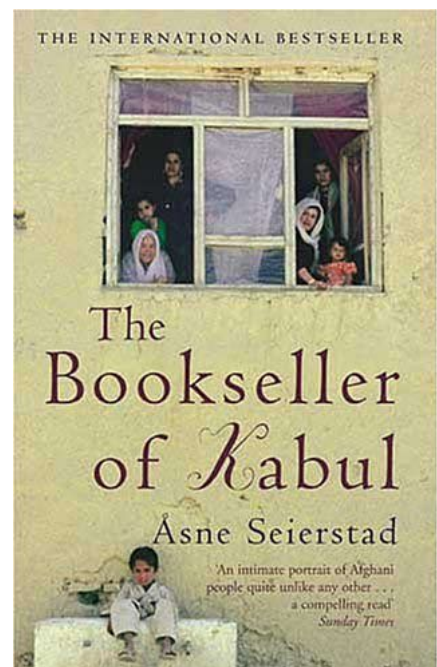
August 1: Lilly Resident Rev. Jenny McDevitt will share some of her experiences in ministry.

August 8: Marcy Toon will lead a discussion on *The Bookseller of Kabul*, by Asne Seierstad. After living with an Afghan family for three months, Western journalist Seierstad provided an intimate portrait of household life in Kabul shortly after the fall of the Taliban.

August 15: Rev. Larry Farris, Interim Pastor at First Pres, will visit Mature Singles and talk on the topic of Comparative Religions.

August 22: Join us for an informal remembrance of Mature Singles member Ben Bourland.

August 29: First Singles will meet for conversation.



CHURCH LIFE (cont.)

Next up for Hilltoppers: The Toledo Museum of Art

Join us August 26 as we travel to the Toledo Museum of Art and Glass Pavilion. We leave at 9:00 a.m. and return at 3:00 p.m. Admission is free! The deadline to sign up is August 15. Sign up with Melissa Anne Rogers, mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org, or 662-4466 ext. 12, or call the Church Office.

Mature Ministries enjoys a day at the Frederic Meijer Sculpture Garden



On June 24, 17 members of Mature Ministries enjoyed a wonderful, warm day at the Frederick Meijer Sculpture Garden in Grand Rapids. Above, the entire group listens to a lecture by Ardith, our docent (also the sister-in-law of member Marilyn Trytten). At right, Barbara Black and Sue Leong enjoy the orchids at the indoor conservatory.

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CHURCH LIFE (cont.)

Jesus said, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them.”

YOU’RE INVITED

Everyone is invited, on Sunday morning September 12, to find a group at First Presbyterian Church. Our group offerings are many and diverse! You may join everything from Bible study, to a mission task force or trip, to an exercise class for body, mind, or spirit, to skill groups (like knitting or card-making) to service groups that make meals, cookies, or lend a hand to those in need, to a leadership-building group, to certain committees of Session, and more! Please join us for an exciting morning of fun, exploring these many groups, and considering where you will join in participation and service at First Pres.

PARTICIPATION

The Abide Committee – whose work will become part of the January 2011 new Congregational Life Committee – has been notifying all groups who have previously participated in the Activity Fair and our “Blue Book” (a listing of opportunities we offer for involvement at First Pres) with details for the fair.

If you have not previously participated and would like to, or if your group has not yet been contacted about participating, please contact Lillian Henry, lhenry1969@yahoo.com, or Jenny McDevitt, jmcdevitt@firstpresbyterian.org.

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS



Pearl and Larry Summers

Honoring our Archivists

At First Presbyterian Church, we have an outstanding pair of archivists who are working diligently every week to help us maintain the church’s life and history. Each day in the life of this church, our life together becomes a rich history that needs to be documents and protected. Everything from *First Press* to audio and text sermons to a newspaper index, to ministers’ portraits - all are organized and protected under the watchful eye of Larry and Pearl Summers. They have now invested more than 10,000 volunteer hours in the hard work of archiving the active life of this vital congregation, and our staff felt it was high time to finally say a proper thank-you to them.

Protecting the details of how our church serves the Lord and this community is a benefit to all of us. And it is a kind of work most members take for granted. But we are indeed blessed with their expertise and dedication.

When Larry and Pearl assumed archives management in 1992, they began to reorganize the very basic collection handed over from previous volunteers, and moved it to a digital collection. They write about

their work, “Over the past eighteen years we have learned that our members are concerned with mission activities, social issues, historical events, and preserving our church heritage. Our church goals have always been met in spite of intervening hardships – wars, depressions, social disturbances, and even conflicts within the congregation. We have gained almost a personal relationship with many of the past members and their faith. Serving as archivists has given us an appreciation of all the members who have worshiped here in the past 188 years, what they endured and the legacy of faith they have passed down to us. It has given us a feeling that “this is our church.”

On July 18, at the coffee hour, we will celebrate the work of Larry and Pearl. As it happens, a few short weeks

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS (cont.)

ago, they celebrated 55 years of marriage. On July 27, Larry celebrates his 80th birthday. Pearl follows closely, celebrating her 80th on August 27. This is a fitting time to say thanks to them and show them our appreciation.

When our church celebrated Budge Gere's 30th anniversary of his ordination to ordained ministry, within minutes of the request for his picture from 30 years ago came a digital photo sent to the church office by the archivists. If you saw the unique cakes that we devoured at that reception for Budge, you know how those kinds of remembrances are special and touching.

So come and say thank you to Larry and Pearl. Then stay and tour the archives at an open house there at 11:00 a.m. (If you've never been there, the archives are located on the first floor of the church.)

Friends in Christ, there are many unsung heroes at First Presbyterian Church. Larry and Pearl are two people who have a rather hidden but critical ministry. They are eager to share the work with new volunteers who have interest and expertise. As they celebrate significant milestones in their lives, we say congratulations, pray God's blessings upon them, and offer our heart-felt thanks. —*Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers*

A Celebration of Ministry



Rev. Brewster H. Gere was treated to a surprise celebration of his 40 years in ordained ministry at coffee hour on June 13, organized by the Personnel Committee. Gifts were given, and the cake featured a photo of Budge from four decades ago. Below at left, Anne Gere and Denali enjoy the proceedings (and the cake).



A CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY (cont.)

My Dear Church Family,

Thank you, thank you, thank you for the gift of the fantastic party celebrating the 40th anniversary of my ordination as a Presbyterian minister. You surprised me beyond measure both at worship and at the party on the patio during the Coffee Hour with your tributes, heartfelt expressions of congratulations, highlights of ministry and the variety of gifts showered upon me at the party. They all will remain treasures, just as I treasure you and this church, the church that nurtured and guided me during my first call and that now sustains me as I am privileged to work in your midst at this time in my ministry. You are the greatest! — *Blessings, Budge*

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

New backpacks needed

At our recent Vacation Bible School event, children brought in school supplies to be donated to Alpha House. Alpha House provides temporary shelter, food and support to services to families experiencing homelessness in Washtenaw County. Our congregation supports Alpha House through the Interfaith Hospitality Network.

In addition to school supplies, we would like to donate new, sturdy backpacks. Sooo, we are asking the members of the congregation to consider donating such backpacks for this project.

Good quality backpacks are important because these children are packing all of their worldly possessions in them.

Both Costco and Walmart have a good, sturdy backpack for about \$15. Other stores like Target, Meijers, Kmart, Office Depot and Office Max also carry good quality backpacks for about \$25 to \$30 (look for sales.)

On September 5, we will include these backpacks and supplies in our annual “Blessing of the backpacks.” For further information, contact Deborah MacVey, Director of Children’s Education, at 662-4466, ext. 15, or dmacvey@firstpresbyterian.org.

Youth News: All hands on deck for Art Fair Parking

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year for Youth Mission. We need at least 30 people – parents, older adults, twenty-somethings and everyone in between – to help during this great event, Wednesday, July 21 to Saturday, July 24.

Volunteer jobs include directing traffic, taking money, serving cold water, keeping an eye on the available parking spaces, and more. Contact Rev. Jim Monnett to sign up for one or two shifts at 734-662-4466 x20 or jmonnett@firstpresbyterian.org.

Shift Schedule:

Wednesday, July 21 – Captain Cindy King

Shift 1 – 8:30-Noon
Shift 2 – Noon-3:30
Shift 3 – 3:30-7:00

Thursday, July 22 – Captain Lori Wolters

Shift 1 – 8:30-Noon
Shift 2 – Noon-3:30
Shift 3 – 3:30-7:00

Friday, July 23 – Captain Greg Detmer

Shift 1 – 8:30-Noon
Shift 2 – Noon-3:30

Shift 3 – 3:30-7

Saturday, July 24 – Captain Craig Blogin

Welcome the Wombat

The MIDS Wet Wombat will be held Tuesday, July 13, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All new 6th-8th graders are invited to come out for great games, pizza, water balloons, and other assorted mayhem for the Wombat (a furry animal who loves to have extreme fun).

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES (cont.)

See you at Booth 38

Youth & Parents – Coming this fall, we will again be serving concessions during home UM football games at Booth 38, as a fundraiser. We need 15 volunteers to help September 18 (UMASS), October 9 (MSU), and as an added bonus, December 11 for a hockey game against MSU.

Email or call Rev. Jim Monnett to sign up today, and help us earn money for youth mission!

Join Mothers' Morning for low-stress summer fun, suitable for families with young children

Tuesday, July 20: Blueberry Picking, Dexter Blueberry Farm, 10:00am, bring lunch if you like (and blanket, as there are no picnic tables). 11024 Beach Road, Dexter, 734-426-2900, www.dexterblueberry.com

Tuesday, Aug 3: Gallup Park, 10:00am, bring picnic lunch if you like. Enter off Geddes west of Huron Pkwy and go to the second parking lot past the bridge.

Tuesday, August 10: Veterans Memorial Park & Pool, public swim, 1:00-4:45 pm. Located at 2150 Jackson Ave. 761-7240; bring snacks, suits & towels.

Tuesday, August 17: Rolling Hills Water Park, 11:30 am for picnic and then swimming. Located at 7660 Stoney Creek Road, Ypsilanti; \$5 per car + \$6 per person, under 36" free. Spray structure, wave pool, lazy river, one small, one large water slide, snack bar.

Tuesday, August 24: Detroit Zoo, 10:30 am, bring picnic or buy at concessions. Follow 23N to 14E to I-275 north to I-696 East. Follow I-696 to exit #16 (Zoo exit). \$11 adult, \$7 kids, under 2 free plus \$5 parking.

Tuesday, August 31: Raspberry Picking, 10:00 am, at Makielski's, 7130 Platt Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197 (<http://www.makielskiberryfarm.com/>)

Questions? Contact Carolyn Gehrke, gehrkecj@hotmail.com

Mothers' Morning kids party down at the annual Mothers' Morning Brunch, held in May



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES (cont.)

St. Clare's presents ... *Once Upon a Parable*

St. Clare's Episcopal Church, one of the churches with whom we partner for our Summer Vacation Bible School, is planning its fifth annual summer Music Theater Church Camp, and children and youth from First Presbyterian (entering second-eighth grade) are invited to participate!

The camp goes from Monday, August 30 to Friday, September 3, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with a 6:00 p.m performance of *Once Upon a Parable* on Saturday, September 4.

Activities will include singing, acting, exploring faith, swimming, games, and a drum circle with Drummu- nity.

Scenes from Summer Vacation Bible School



Don Strobel and his wonderful animals are a favorite attraction at Summer Vacation Bible School. Here, Ophelia the camel enjoys a nosh and some gentle petting.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES (cont.)



At left, goats, sheep, a miniature donkey, a miniature pony, and a Jacob's Four-Horned Sheep enjoy the grass on the Hill Street property (and a steady stream of curious visitors).

Below at left, a VBS participant tries on a helmet and other period gear with help from Virginia Patton Moss, a church member and docent from the Kelsey Museum who brings period artifacts to Vacation Bible School each summer for participants to explore.

Below at right, one of our Bible School participants tries her hand at stone sculpture.



CAMPUS CONNECTION

Are you a grad student?

Please join us for a Summer Bible Study that meets weekly on Mondays, July 12-August 30, from noon to 1:00 pm. on the lower level of Espresso Royale on South University. This is open to any and all grad students looking to build community and explore/grow in knowing Christ. We are discussing Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount. Questions? Please contact Rev. Julie Marks, Director of Campus Ministry, at jmarks@firstpresbyterian.org or 734-662-4466, ext. 14. Hope to see you there! — *Rev. Julie Marks*

CHURCH, COMMUNITY & WORLD

Please participate in our July 13 Blood Drive

Our summer blood drive will take place on Tuesday, July 13 in the Social Hall from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. To schedule an appointment online, go to www.redcrossblood.org, click the blue "Make a Blood Donation Appointment" box in the upper right corner, and enter "First" in the "Enter the Sponsor Code" box. This will bring up the First Pres Blood Drive screen. Follow the instructions to schedule an appointment.

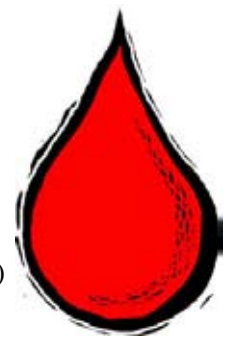
To give blood for transfusion to another person, you must be at least 17 years old, must weigh at least 110 pounds, and must not have donated whole blood in the last 8 weeks (56 days) or double red cells in the last 16 weeks (112 days).

If you'd like to confirm in advance that you are eligible to donate, please call 1-866-236-3276 and choose option 3. This is a toll-free number, and a live operator is available 24 hours/day to answer your questions.

Facts: Whole blood contains red cells, white cells, and platelets suspended in plasma. Because patients seldom require all of the components of whole blood, it is rarely transfused as an individual unit. Instead, it is separated into units of red cells, plasma, and platelets before it reaches a patient. Trauma patients and most surgery patients need red cells. Cancer patients, organ transplant patients, and other surgery patients require platelets. Burn patients or those with bleeding disorders need plasma.

Our 2010 goal is 33 units of blood collected per drive. We collected 29 units in April.

Hope to see you on July 13! — *Linda Koopmann, Blood Drive Coordinator.*



Are you willing to host a Korean student for two nights?

The Korea-America Student Conference is an annual student-run conference which brings 50 American and Korean students for a month of intellectual discussion, travel, and cross-cultural engagement. Students are highly motivated and selected from a range of backgrounds and academic interests. Students study culture and round-table topics that include Education Systems in U.S. and Korea, War and Peace in East Asia, and Environmental Social Movements.

This year's Korea-America Student Conference is visiting four schools this summer, including U-M. and hopes to find church members willing to host a homestead on July 31 - August 1. It would be one afternoon, night, and getting together with all the homestay families the next morning for a cookout. This will be a great opportunity for families with kids to get to learn about another culture. If you are interested, contact Kathy Hill, University of Arkansas, 501-317-1094.

A thank-you from the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County

Please let your congregation and all those who volunteered for the Rotating Shelter know how grateful we are for your commitment and dedication to those experiencing homelessness, through your involvement in our 2009-2010 program. Your support made it possible for over 130 people to have a warm, safe place to sleep each night during this past winter season. Thank you for your kindness and compassion!

CHURCH, COMMUNITY & WORLD (cont.)

As you may know, the Rotating Shelter Program is at the heart of our winter services. Emergency shelter is provided through both the Rotating Shelter and the Warming Center, where each night up to 91 individuals can seek refuge from the cold. The participation of your congregation allows us to provide a maximum number of people with a warm and safe place to sleep at night. We extend our deep appreciation to you and all the members of your congregation for your hospitality and dedication to this project.
—Ellen R. Schulmeister, Executive Director

A new local mission: Military Veterans Friendship and Support

Military Veterans who are members of the Ann Arbor First Presbyterian Church, or local ROTC college students, will be forming a group, tentatively called Military Veterans Friendship and Support (MVF&S).

There is a two-fold purpose for this group: outreach to and visitation with local veterans, and outreach, friendship and support to those who are currently serving, or recently discharged from the military.

Members of MVF&S will meet monthly at First Presbyterian to coordinate visits with patients in local VA medical, rehabilitation and nursing facilities, to organize social events such as “bingo nights” for hospitalized Veterans, or for their own fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. The group will develop the details of the program in the early meetings.

The MVF&S group could develop outreach efforts for all military veterans — those who are currently students at local colleges and universities and those recently returned. The group could also support local, currently serving men and women who have been identified to MVF&S by family members and friends, through prayer and sending of “Care Packages.” It may also be able to provide some form of active support to the church families of members currently serving. MVF&S could call on the many talents of other members of our congregation to help with programs developed by the group.

The first meeting of this recently approved group will be held on Sunday, July 18, in the Founders Room, from noon to 2:00 p.m. All military Veterans are invited to attend. We will review the mission of the group and begin planning possible activities. Please bring a photo of you in the service to share with others.

Questions? Please contact John Kinzinger, 734-994-0444.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Glacier Hills looking for HOST Volunteers

Glacier Hills Senior Living Community is looking for volunteers for our HOST program. Helping Our Seniors Transfer allows for a volunteer to meet one of our residents at the E.R. should the need arise. The volunteer would offer support and companionship during this sometimes difficult time. All interested volunteers should contact Priscilla Johnson, Volunteer Coordinator (734) 929-6765 or prijoh@glacierhills.org.

—Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers, M.Div., M.F.T., Director of Pastoral Care

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Thanks to the Helping Hands Group!

I would like to thank all of the women who brought meals for my son Rob and myself after his surgery and lengthy hospitalization recently. Our “Helping Hands” meal-makers offer a wonderful resource from our church when things get really rough for a family in crisis. This particular kind of help meant a great deal to both of us. — *Carole and Rob Mayer*

Caregivers Support Group meets July 26

The July Caregivers Support Group meeting will be Monday, July 26, at 7:00 p.m in the Hillegonds Chapel. (We will not be meeting on July 12th or August 9th). Thanks so much! — *Martine Blogin, R.N., M.P.H., Parish Nurse*

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

New leaders of Presbyterian Women for the coming Year

Moderator: Jane Kinzinger

Secretary: Marian West

Treasurer: Jenny Lombard

Vice Moderators:

Mission - Jill Binkley, Jean White

Justice and Peace: Joan Bentz, Elsa Stuber

Program: Marolin Bellefleur

Coordinators:

Membership: Jennie Lombard, Anna Marie Austin, Katie Beery

Publicity: Eleanor Hauser, Betty Anderson

Standing Committees:

Honorary Members: Martha Krehbiel, Marian West, Ann Andrews

Nominations: Martha Krehbiel, Barbara Black, Carole Hendrickson

Scholarships: Sue Leong, Marcia Van Tuyl

Circles:

Horizon: Eleanor Shaw, Lois Foyl

Women's Afternoon Reading Group: Meredith Jones

Body and Soul: Nancy Heers, Lynn Haddan, Marie Moore

Special Assignments:

Church Women United:

Alma Chand, Nancy Briggs

Receptions/Funerals: Barbara Black

Hospitality: Eleanor Shaw, Marilyn Trytten

Session Liaison: Sandy Herbertson

BUSINESS OF THE CONGREGATION

Session Notes

A regular meeting of Session was held on April 21, 2010. The following is a summary of the matters discussed and actions taken.

Interim Pastor's Report: The Self-Study Report was approved by the Committee on Ministry. An "errata" sheet has been added to the Report.

Rev. Farris then presented an update from the APNC. The members are Barb Campbell--Chair, Pam Wood--Secretary, Nancy Pflasterer--Corresponding Secretary, John Kinzinger, Mark Endicott and Richard Jones--the Committee on Ministry (COM) representative from the Presbytery of Detroit. The APNC has met twice, and has reviewed the Self-Study Report. Using the Self-Study, they have begun drafting the Church Information Form (CIF), and anticipate completing it at their May 5th meeting so that Session may act upon it on the May 19th stated meeting of Session. Once the CIF is approved, it will be submitted to Presbytery. After approval by the COM, the job will be posted and the interview process will begin.

Rev. Farris asked that the June 16th stated meeting of Session be moved to June 9th. A motion was made, supported and passed.

Focus Report: Personnel Committee--Revising the Personnel Manual

The chair of Personnel, Elder Parker, began by thanking the members of the Personnel Committee for all their hard work in revising the Manual: Sandy Herberton, Pam Wood, Richard Bird, Anne Nerenz and John Brent.

The project has been ongoing for some time. They have tried to be complete without micromanaging the process. The Manual is revised every five to seven years, and follows the Book of Order, federal and state law. Staff was involved in writing the job descriptions and time allocations for their own positions. The church employs called and non-called staff. Everyone is valued.

A number of policies have been enacted by Session, but were not found in the prior manual. An example of this is the lack of a statement that all employment is deemed to be "at will"--a point of debate in presbyteries and at the General Assembly. The General Assembly finally decided to go with "at will" employment due to the amount of litigation that has arisen from the employment relationship at churches in a variety of denominations. There is now an "employee acknowledgement form" that each employee must sign, to show they understand their employment is "at will" and that the manual may be changed at any time.

The Committee tried to retain the sense that church employment/community is different from the secular world. Employees are valued, and have the opportunity for additional training and education. Elder Parker noted that state and federal law does apply, even though we are a church.

The position descriptions were written with input from the person who currently performs that job. Some positions are quite detailed, such as Financial Officer, Director of Christian Education; others are not. Each employee signed off on his or her job description. The Lilly Residents in Ministry description still needs to be completed. There will be a job description for the Campus Interns, although they are not employees of the church. However, they are supervised by Rev. Marks.

Questions were raised regarding program staff who are ordained but not called, and those who are not ordained. In addition, it was noted that the program staff works closely with certain committees. The pertinent committees will be asked for their input each year before job reviews begin, in order to make certain that the job description matches the work being done. Questions were also asked about the amount of notice required when an employee leaves the staff, and whether this includes called staff. The issue of notice was then discussed.

BUSINESS OF THE CONGREGATION (cont.)

Rev. Farris suggested deferral of action on the Personnel Manual until the May stated meeting of Session, to give the Personnel Committee time to review and react to the suggestions and concerns raised by Session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Worship: Elder Slade presented a **motion** to approve a grant proposal (after the fact) to the Calvin Institute for instituted liturgical dance into all services, with an emphasis on the 5:45 Service. The motion was **supported**, and discussed. Concern was expressed that the individuals who applied for the grant did so in the name of First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor, without any authority to do so, and without the approval of the Worship Committee or Session. It was requested that Session address these issues at a future meeting. A **motion** was substituted for the above motion: That Session ask the Calvin Institute to withdraw the grant application without prejudice for possible grant applications in the future. The substitute motion was **supported**, and discussed. It was noted that while there may be interest in the subject matter of the grant request, Session should not endorse the method by which it was brought to Session. The substitute motion was then **passed**.

Elder Slade then presented a **motion** to hire a professional musician to act as a song leader at the 5:45 Service, at the cost of \$60.00 to \$100.00 per week for a period of six months. The motion was **supported and passed**.

YEMC: Elder Wolter informed the Session that the Confirmation dinner will take place on May 22, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Elders are invited. There will be a Special Meeting of Session which will begin at 6:50 p.m. (following the dinner).

Abide: Elder Henry **moved** for the approval of a Pasta Party to be held at church (on the patio) on Wednesday, May 12th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in preparation for the Dexter-Ann Arbor Run. Donation will be accepted for the meal, with additional funds going to the PaZaPa mission. The motion was **supported and passed**.

Children's Education and Family Ministry: Elder Hoffman made the following **motion:** CEFMC hereby moves that Session approve a solicitation of (i) the congregation to purchase and/or donate good sturdy backpacks to CEFMC and (ii) the children of the Vacation Bible School and Sunday school programs to collect and donate school supplies for back-to-school backpacks, both of which shall be donated to Alpha House or others in the congregation, to be distributed to needy children. The motion was **supported and passed**.

Evangelism: Elder McClamroch reported that in February, an ad hoc committee began to look at combining Abide and Evangelism. They will report to Session in May.

There have been some changes in the New Members classes. Only two have been held this year: one in the fall and one in the winter. An experimental type of class will be held on May 5th and May 12th, led by Rev. McDevitt. The classes will be 1½ hours long. Unfortunately, there will be no New Members Brunch for this group.

Finance: Elder Brandt made the following report:

March 2010 Statements

Income:

- March pledge receipts were \$4,088 under budget
- YTD pledge receipts are \$2,594 under budget
- YTD pledge receipts are \$10,531 ahead of last year
- March contributions were \$7,336 under budget.
- YTD contributions are \$24,419 under budget.
- Note that we recorded over \$115,000 in contribution income in the last quarter of last year.

BUSINESS OF THE CONGREGATION (cont.)

Expenses:

- March expenses were \$4,849 over budget
- March expenses exceeded income by \$28,147
- YTD expenses exceeded revenue by \$41,259
- Property expenses exceeded budget for March by \$19,427. These expenses included \$7,009 for insurance, \$6,922 for natural gas, \$7,210 for annual elevator maintenance, and a heating system related plumbing bill of \$9,165.

Pledge status update

As of April 12, 2010, we have received 562 pledges for a total of \$1,418,593. The average pledge is \$2,530. In comparison with last year, as of April 17, 2009, we received 588 pledges for a total of \$1,423,827. The average pledge was \$2,421.

A **motion** to receive the Finance report was made, **supported and passed**.

Nominating Committee: Elder Stahl reported that they will have a slate of nine candidates for the Pastor Nominating Committee by May 2nd. So far, four people have agreed to serve.

OTHER REPORTS

Deacon Liaison: Deacon Shannon Slater thanked the Session for inviting her to the meeting. She reported that Elder Clark presented a report to the deacons on the Residency Program. The deacons recently had a learning module about the Stephen Ministry Program, presented by Kathy Wirstrom. The Blood Drive was very successful: 31 people signed up and 29 units were collected. Bill Keesor has been co-opted as the New Member deacon.

Presbyterian Women: Elder Herbertson reported that Presbyterian Women recently held a joint meeting with Mothers Morning. "Lots of stuff" is going on--look at your First Press for details! Jane Kinzinger and Linda Gunderson received recognition for their many years of service.

Pastor's Reports: Rev. Gere noted that the building receives an enormous amount of use by a huge variety of ministries.

ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER: A **motion** to adjourn was **supported and passed**. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. with a prayer led by Elder Brandt.

Respectfully Submitted,
Diana Gardner
Clerk of Session