

Dear Friends,

To me, we live in the perfect climate for Lent, because Lent seems like the early spring of the soul. We begin at Ash Wednesday – “ashes to ashes, dust to dust” – and if we turn ourselves to more spiritual focus during this season, we can sense the stirrings of new life deep within, just as we know there is new life outside, deep in the soil under the snow.

Where this differs from the example in the natural world is that we have a role to play – in taking up practices such as stillness, for prayer, for spiritual reading; in letting go of some of the clutter that over time fills our days. And yet as outside, the greater work is God's: the slow growth that nourishes a greater openness within, a deeper love, more grounded understanding, and a more profound sense of centeredness.

Our Sunday sermons during Lent will be looking at some of the clutter that creeps into our lifestyles – clutter such as hurry, worry, anger, addiction and self-image issues. How do these habits of the heart de-center us? How can we allow God to transform us? Are there things that we can do, or not do, that will allow change to happen in our lives?

During our midweek services this Lent, we will be experiencing different prayer practices that some may find nourishing, such as: ongoing thanksgiving, a way of reading the Bible called *lectio divina*, a discernment practice known as *examen*, centering prayer, a Celtic prayer evening (led by Brita Hansen!), prayer journaling, and Taizé, all within the context of a brief service of readings, prayer and music.

This year, the Worship Committee suggested having the Tenebrae service (a service of shadows) as part of our Maundy Thursday service. Since the Tenebrae service really is a reflection on the death of Jesus, the Worship Committee then decided not to have a separate Good Friday service. There are many services in town with special dimensions to the worship – there are usually services such as a Stations of the Cross service at Intercession Episcopal church, the walking Good Friday community Stations of the Cross downtown (we'll share that information when it comes), and the music of an ecumenical service at Trinity Lutheran. We'll have a fuller list in the *April Presbyterian Post*.

May this season be a time of rest, reflection and growth for us all!

Peace, Susan



## LENTEN CALENDAR

Feb. 28: Second Sunday of Lent – Sermon topic: “Worry”

March 7: Third Sunday of Lent – Sermon topic: “Anger”

March 14: Fourth Sunday of Lent – Sermon topic: “Addiction”

March 21: Fifth Sunday of Lent – Sermon topic: “Self-image”

March 28: Palm Sunday

April 1: Maundy Thursday – 5:30 Simple Supper

6:30 Worship: Communion & Tenebrae

April 4: Easter Sunday worship

*All Wednesdays in March (except 3/31) – Lenten worship at 6:30 p.m.*

### **WELCOME OUR NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR – BARBARA WOLFMAN**

While Barbara has been part of the Frame community for some time now, first as a Choral Scholarship student, then as a summer accompanist, then as interim musician, she is new to her current position as Music Director, including both the choir director and musician pieces. The Music Task Force recommended offering the position to Barbara, and it was approved by the Worship Committee and Personnel Committee, before the Session approved offering Barbara the position of Music Director. Barbara comes to Frame with a wealth of experience, both as a composer and as a church music director. She had served as a music director in a church in Montana for several years before returning to her home state of Wisconsin to finish a Music Education degree, which she completed in December of 2009. Barbara is looking for a fulltime position teaching music, and so we are all hoping that she will find a position near enough so that she can stay with us! In addition to earning her degree in December, Barbara also became a grandmother! She has twin granddaughters: Violet and Autumn. Welcome Barbara!

## PRESBYTERIAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN MINNEAPOLIS, July 3-10!



Every two years, our national governing body, General Assembly [GA], holds its assembly. This summer it will be in Minneapolis from July 3-10, and so we have an unusual opportunity to visit, and participate in our church's governance. Rev. Susan Zencka will be a commissioner to this summer's assembly, and so will be part of the action. In the past, elder Dave Arey has served as a commissioner one year, and as an "overture advocate" another year.

As a reminder, Presbyterian governance starts with the session which is the decision-making body of the local congregation. Churches gather regionally into Presbyteries, which meet for meetings at which the decisions are made by a group of commissioners, comprised equally of ministers and elders. Our church belongs, with 41 other congregations, to Winnebago Presbytery. The next level of governance is the Synod – ours is the Synod of Living Waters which includes all the presbyteries in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, North and South Dakota. Again, the decisions are made by representatives comprised equally of elders and ministers. One of the major activities of the Synod each year is offering Synod School in the summer – an intergenerational learning, relaxing and worship opportunity (think church camp for all ages, or an intergenerational retreat). And then, every other summer, General Assembly meets, and just as synod and presbytery, the body is comprised equally of elders and ministers.

There will be articles in the *Presbyterian Post* each month from now through August, with more information about General Assembly. This year's GA theme is Rivers of Living Waters.

Because GA is so near, it's possible to serve as a volunteer and get a bird's eye view of the process. Volunteers are needed for dozens of interesting functions and housing (with Presbyterians in Minneapolis) may be arranged for volunteers as needed. All Presbyterians are eligible to volunteer. Positions include everything from ushers and communion servers at Opening Worship and Daily Worship services, airport greeters, accessibility needs hosts, to press relations volunteers and prayer partners. To see all of the interesting volunteer jobs and time shifts available, check out [www.cola2010.org](http://www.cola2010.org) beginning on March 9. Volunteers may register online for the exact position and shift of their choosing. Register with a friend or with others from your church! Call the Rev. Paula Sanders at 612-871-2617 with questions or for assistance with the online system.

## SESSION MEMBERS

Rev. Susan Zencka (Moderator); Dave Arey (Clerk)  
Tom Ster (2010) (Treasurer)

### Class of 2010

Sue Buck  
Liz Kammer  
Ted Kowalski

### Class of 2011

Tim Borchardt  
Marco Dotti  
Amy Higgins  
Carrie Porter

### Class of 2012

Bob DeMuth  
Don Huston  
Debbie Palmer  
Amy Schnitzler

## BOARD OF DEACONS

### Class of 2010

Jim Guckenberger  
Breanna Helminski  
Beverly Ho  
Julia King

### Class of 2011

Susan Arey  
RJ Benirschke  
Sandi McAdam  
Sara Rogers

### Class of 2012

Diane Cable  
Lil Hanson  
Sonja Kung  
Kathy Lueptow

## MISSION STATEMENT

We, the congregation of Frame Memorial Presbyterian Church of Stevens Point, Wisconsin welcome all who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior to join us in worship and celebration—center of our faith community. We deny no one full participation in the life and leadership of the church on the basis of race, ethnic origin, worldly condition, age, gender, gender orientation, or any other particular of his or her humanity. We believe the errors of society which have resulted in oppression and despair are not the ways of God. And we seek not to judge our sisters and brothers in our journey of faith. Instead we seek enlightenment about the ways in which we can offer our support and our love to all children of God.

**Office phone: 715-341-3040**

**Email: [framememorial@sbcglobal.net](mailto:framememorial@sbcglobal.net)**

**Email pastor: [suzencka@gmail.com](mailto:suzencka@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.framepres.org](http://www.framepres.org)**

**Office hours: Monday -Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12:00p.m. and 12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

## MARCH MISSION MEMOS by Liz Kammer

The Mission Committee had a very successful Place of Peace dinner on February 4<sup>th</sup>. Thank you all for providing lasagnas, breads, salads, and desserts. We will be providing dinner at the Salvation Army on March 16<sup>th</sup>. This evening's dinner will be baked potatoes with chili, salad, corn bread, and ice-cream bars. Again we will be soliciting contributions for this meal. Look for the signup sheets near the office.

Twelve sweaters were just sent for the Oxfam project. Keep up the knitting – this is a wonderful way for us to help children in Africa stay warm. Thank you all who have contributed.

You may have noticed that the Mission Committee is coordinating with each church committee in designating the coffee hour donations. In the past the money received went to Interfaith volunteers. For 2010 coffee hour is being sponsored by church committees. Each month the committee will designate where the funds will go. January and February dollars will be given to Presbyterian Disaster for Haiti. March coffee hours will be sponsored by the Membership Committee with the donations going to the Salvation Army. Missions is working very hard to address hunger both in Portage County and worldwide. Your donation during coffee hour will help us to contribute to many local organizations helping the hungry as well as those working with people afar.

The One Great Hour of Sharing special offering will be beginning in March. This offering helps to provide food for the hungry, clean water to the thirsty, clothing to the naked, and health care to the sick. Look for information about One Great Hour of Sharing on our Missions bulletin board. It is collected on Palm Sunday, but you may give at any time.

### The One Great Hour of Sharing is divided among:

- **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance,**
- **the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the**
- **Presbyterian Self-Development of People Committee.**

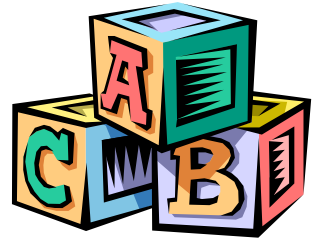
**This offering works for lasting change in communities, providing funding to projects that can lead to sustainable economic conditions both in the U.S. and abroad.**

***It's Remarkable What Your Gift Will Do.***



**ICE-CREAM SOCIAL** All Sunday School families are invited to an informal ice-cream social on Sunday, April 11 from 4:00-5:00pm. Bring a topping to share and Frame will provide the rest! Junior and Senior High youth will be around to play with the kids while grown-ups chat with one another. Join us! It's free, tons of fun, and a great break for all of you moms and dads out there! RSVP encouraged, but not necessary. Contact Susan Barrett for details.

**NURSERY FAMILY PLAYTIME** Do you have a child in the nursery? Meet the other nursery families in our church while letting the kids play in a safe, fun environment from 3:30-5:00pm on Sunday, April 18. Junior and Senior High youth will be available to care for and play with the children and babies. RSVP encouraged, but not necessary. Contact Susan Barrett for details.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** Save the date! Frame church will host VBS in the evenings the week of August 22-26, 2010. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn all about God's love for us and our world through games, crafts, drama, and more! All children ages 4-grade 4 are welcome to attend. ☺ See Susan Barrett for details.



**YOUTH MISSION RETREAT** We are sending twelve teens from Frame's youth group to Minneapolis the weekend of March 5-7. Our youth will experience God first-hand by putting their faith in action through an Urban Immersion Service program sponsored by the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches. You can support our youth by praying for safe travel and that they grow closer to God this weekend.

**THANK YOU** Frame continues to show its commitment to youth through your generous support of the student's fundraising efforts. **Thank you** for helping to make mission trips possible for our youth group! Funds collected during the February stock sale and Valentine's basket sale will go directly towards the youth mission trips to Minnesota this March and West Virginia this June.





**KIDS' CLUB TRIP TO NEENAH** On Sunday, March 21, youth in grades 5-6 are encouraged to go on a field trip to First Presbyterian Church in Neenah. Kids will discover more about spirituality by walking their labyrinth. Afterwards, we will join Neenah's junior high youth group for games, fun, a meal, and fellowship. The trip begins at 2:00pm and we expect to return at approximately 8:00pm. There is no cost to go but an RSVP is required to make sure we have enough vehicle space. Please see

Susan Barrett or Julia King for details.

**REMINDER!** There is no Sunday School or Children's Church on Sunday, March 28 and April 4 due to Spring Break and Easter. Nursery care will be available both Sundays.

### EASTER PLANTS

A variety of Easter plants will decorate our chancel during the Easter worship service. If you would like to purchase a plant, please fill out the form below.

**The cost of a plant is \$20.**

We will not place orders for specific plants. A variety of tulips, daffodils, azaleas, mums, and cyclamen will be ordered. Following the Easter service, you may select a plant to take home.

Your Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

I/We would like the plant in memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

I/We would like the plant in honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate on the memo line on your check: Easter flower(s).**

Place this slip in the offering plate or leave it in the church office.



**The final date to order will be March 24, 2010.**



### FROM THE LIBRARY

Looking for something meaningful to read, or simply review during the Lenten Season, or possibly for use at the Wednesday services during Lent? Here are a few suggestions – in no particular order.

*Prayer* by Karl Barth, call number 264.1 Ba. Barth examines the topic of prayer in depth.

*Your Prayers and Mine*, 264.1 Ya, is a compilation by Elizabeth Yates with illustrations by Nora S. Unwin. The book covers prayers by diverse people throughout time; and to use Yates' words, "a prayer is like a key that opens a door, so this small book may be the key that gives readers a greater understanding of others and a deeper peace for themselves.

William Barclay's *A Book of Everyday Prayers* 248.3 Ba, provides prayers for morning, evening, and for special days and occasions.

In *Meditations for the Later Years* by Josephine Robertson, 248.3 Ro, the book is geared to those near, or in retirement. Readers are asked to examine their lives. The meditations given help people to face their problems and concerns with courage and understanding; and direct people to make their retirement years the most rewarding time period of their lives.

Finally, *God in the Midst of Everyday: Reflections of Life's Simple Gifts* by Ruth Hackman, 242 Ha, demonstrates that God can be found in the ordinary, the everyday, and that we can all be enriched by appreciating these simple gifts. These are very soul satisfying reflections.

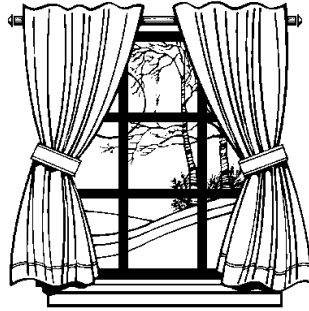
These and many more engaging titles, can be found in the Frame Library, and are available for check-out.

Yours in peace and reading,  
Vicky Billings

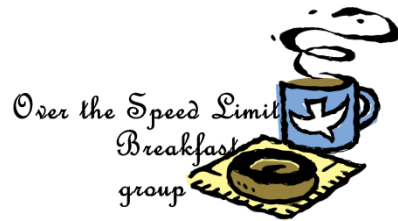
## WINDOW TO SESSION by Amy Higgins

The session met at its stated meeting on February 23, 2010. Session:

- Approved the Mission Committee's request to plan a trip in 2010 to east Iowa to assist with flood damage
- Approved the Christian Education Committee's request to hold a fundraising car wash in April or May to support the Youth Mission Trip
- Approved the Group O Guys request to sell cinnamon rolls on Sunday April 11th after worship. 90% of funds going to operating budget and 10% to Haitian relief via Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.
- Referred discussion of development and monitoring of the Music Memorial Fund to the Worship Committee



Elders Present: Tim Borchardt, Amy Higgins, Don Huston, Ted Kowalski, Debbie Palmer, Carrie Porter and Amy Schnitzler. Susan Zencka (Moderator) and David Arey (Clerk)



**OVER THE SPEED LIMIT** seniors will meet on Thursday, March 25th for breakfast at 9:00 a.m. at The Blue Top Restaurant. Please join us if you are available at this time for fun conversation and fellowship. There will be a sign up sheet outside of the office at the beginning of the month. Please let us know if you are planning to come so that we know how many people to plan for. Thanks!

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** will be meeting on Thursday, March 4th at 9:30 a.m. for Bible Study. We will be discussing Chapters 6 & 7 from our study book. After our business meeting we will have a Sandwich Exchange at noon. Everyone is asked to bring a sandwich to share. Dessert will be provided.



**Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on March 14, 2010**

## UPDATE FROM THE FRAME THE FUTURE TASK FORCE by Sue Buck

The Frame the Future Task Force (FTFTF) is continuing to collect data and information from a variety of committees and groups in Frame Church. The task force is meeting with the Session, all church committees, Deacons, Staff, Choir, Presbyterian Women, Men's and Women's Book Groups, Youth Group, Sunday School kids, Kids Club, Confirmation Class, Over the Speed Limit Group, and Nursery Parents. The discussion with all of these groups is based on the response to the "what is essential" and what does Frame look like in five years" questions asked during Worship on November 8.

The themes that emerged for the "What is essential?" are:

- Continuing to be a welcoming and inclusive congregation
- Remaining a theologically liberal and open congregation
- Continuing mission and community involvement
- Having meaningful worship (sermons and music)

The themes for the second question, "As Frame Church thrives, what does it look like in five years?" are:

- Maintenance of the building and financial solvency
- More member participation and development
- The valuing of all segments of the church community
- Worship continues to enrich the lives of members
- Outreach to the University and to the community

When FTFTF members visit the various groups, they will be asking the group members if these themes seem consistent with their sense of Frame as it is, and with their hopes for Frame. They will also be asked what implications these themes have for their group's or committee's activities/plans/goals for the next five years. The task force members will ask if there is anything else the task force needs to know as the information gathering phase of the strategic planning process comes to a close. Once the task force members meet with all of these groups, the task force will meet in April to develop a draft report to share with the congregation for feedback.

If anyone has a question about the process and/or content of this strategic planning process, please contact any member of the FTFTF: Ted Kowalski, Tony Timerman, Chaz Steltenpohl, Jeremy Higgins, Jon Reynolds, Nancy Page, Sue Buck or Susan Zencka. The task force thanks everyone for their thoughtful contributions to this planning process for the future of Frame.