

THE CURRENT WORD



LAKE NOKOMIS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 2008

A BUSY SUMMER MOVES INTO A FALL OF EXCITING CHANGE!

GOINGS....

It has been a clarifying two years as Rev. Wayne Herstad shared ministry with LNPC. Rev. Herstad has walked with us through the ReVision process, supported the work of the PNC, encouraged (enthusiastically!) the social/environmental justice thread within our congregation - been a friend among friends. As he and Rose look forward to retirement and doing what they *really* want to do, we ask God's blessing and give thanks for his service to us and the larger church.

*Celebrate Wayne's ministry Sunday, September 7,
worship at 10:30 followed by a potluck lunch*

AND COMINGS...

Endings always lead to new beginnings, and September will bring us the excitement of new pastoral leadership from Rev. Kara Root! Elected at the congregational meeting August 10, on the heartfelt and joyful recommendation of the PNC, Kara begins her ministry with LNPC on September 10. She was ordained to ministry in Minneapolis - Grace-Trinity Church (merged Presbyterian) - after a number of years serving Presbyterian congregations in non-ordained positions. A joyful presence, dynamic preacher, and curious seeker, we look forward to our future with her.

*Celebrate the beginning of Kara's ministry with us Sunday, September 14
Worship at 10:30 followed by a reception in the Library*

Inside:	Share Save Spend is coming in September Elder Law forum ArtSpace opening reception
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Parsimonia est magnum vectigal

"Thrift is great revenue"

Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church will be offering a four week course in personal financial management. ***Share, Save, Spend*** is an program created by nationally recognized financial advisor Nathan Dungan that helps youth and adults achieve financial sanity by developing and maintaining healthy financial habits.



Come and learn how to plan better!

September 17, September 24, October 1, and October 8 (Wednesdays)

Program from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Snack and program discussion from 8:00 to 8:30

Know the difference between a NEED and a WANT

Learn about ads and "brand imprinting"

Do a spending log

See if your spending matches your values

Cost: \$15 to cover the cost of the workbook

Spread the word - invite adult children, neighbors, friends - flyers and posters are available in the office for distribution.

To register, call the church office by September 10 (to allow time to order books)

Call Diane Hansen - 612.750.3090 - with any questions.

Good Health to Everyone

Many situations present themselves in a health care clinic. One of the more difficult is seeing and treating the patient who has experienced physical assault.

Most patients who have experienced assault seek medical care, but often not right away. Some are victims of people met in internet chatrooms. Often the abuser asks to know everything about their victim, including an address. One patient in particular stands out. After meeting in a chat room and chatting for a month, the abuser wanted to meet the patient. The patient gave the other person their address. Getting into the abuser's car, this patient was assaulted badly, without warning, and did not report it. Often a victim will feel ashamed and blame themselves, delaying or preventing the incident being reported. Anyone using a social internet contact needs to be particularly cautious: never give out an address, meet in neutral, public places, bringing along a trusted friend. Always report anything out of the ordinary or potentially abusive. Think twice - or three of four times. Your sanity, health and soul are very important.

God Be With You

Respectfully Kathryn L. Sathre LPN



Sunday, September 21

11:45 (after worship)

Mary Hagen, attorney
Elder Law, Guardianship,
and Estate Planning

Where Law and Aging Intersect

With specialization as a nurse attorney, Ms. Hagen will be making a presentation on legal aspects of aging - preparation, care-giving, estate planning and health care funding.

Regularly acknowledged as one of Minnesota's "Super Lawyers" by *Minnesota Law & Politics*, we are grateful to be able to learn from her.

A light meal will be served.

All are welcome - members, friends, family.

Feel free to invite others!

HELP WANTED Ain't it always so?...but this will be **FUN!!!**



Are you a doodler, designer, idea person?
Do you like to garden, or walk and sit in a garden?
Do you think LNPC is a pretty nice place...but it would be *really* neat if we had some splashes of color in our landscape, or maybe a couple of benches to sit on, to read or meditate in a garden setting, or a couple of bike racks??
HEY!! what about a fountain!?!

An ad hoc committee/task force/focus group is being formed to develop a site plan for the grounds/use/landscape of LNPC.

The first task is to plan the placement of four wrought iron banner poles, purchased with Memorial Funds designated for Abe Forslin. These poles are designed to be able to display a variety of banner sizes and shapes. The poles are in the shape of an asymmetrical cross and are 13 feet tall. They will be removable, but will be set in sleeves anchored in cement. There are several options for their placement. Come and add your idea.

The final site plan will most certainly be composed of several "phases". We have the offer of help from a professional landscape designer who will help us make the plan fit our hopes, ideas, needs and insights. Did you know creating several rain gardens could save us significantly on our Minneapolis water bill for rain water run off??!

Join in creating the LNPC site plan!

Get out your drawing pencil ('stickman figure-only' ability is completely acceptable), and put on your visioning cap.

There are several people from the Worship Team and Session members who will spearhead this task force, but we need **your input**. Contact Aleta Isaacson (yes, she still lives in MPLS, 612-724-3626). We will look at anything that comes, but don't just sneak a drawing in Aleta's mailbox

thank you!

- To Tim Niznick for fixing (in the proper manner) the copper fascia and the flashing on the roof at the southwest corner of the chapel. Yeah, Tim, and Gary Johnson, for braving the climb to the roof.

- To Andrew Crow, Butch Goodspeed, Dick Gross, Gary Johnson, Alan Forslin, and Aleta Isaacson for the

demolition of not just one but two long un-used, un-needed pianos. It was sad (though most of the tears were really sweat) but "they lived long lives" and the problems (read *Work*) and liability of removing them from the second floor were too great. It was a hard chore, but a little bit of fun when the sledgehammer was in use!

- To Bobbe Larson and family for planting flowers in the front garden.

- To LNPC - from Amigos de las Americas - for "allowing us to use your space for our training events. Having a central location with sufficient meeting space for our group has been integral to our training program... Your kindness and generosity have been greatly appreciated."

FALL RETURNS EDUCATION TO THE SUNDAY SCHEDULE-

Wonderful series will be offered beginning in September, from 9 - 10 a.m. in the Library:

September 7 - Get back together! Review the fall schedule and hear summaries of upcoming classes

Sept. 14 and 21 – *Peacemaking to Strengthen Christ’s Body* (in conjunction with Peacemaking Sunday, Sept. 21)

Sept. 28-Nov. 2 - *Responsibility of Christians in a Democratic Society* - it is the election season. What does our faith have to do with that?

Nov. 9 –Dec. 7 - *Polity– Exploring the structure of the Presbyterian Church*

December 14 and 21 – *The Face of Christ in Art* - in conjunction with the Susan Hensel Gallery exhibit "Leap of Faith" (ArtSpace will again be an ancillary gallery).

Sunday School for Children will again use the *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum. Terry Gilberstadt and Alisa Lucas will be teaching in September. A devoted group of teachers will share the rest of the year: Diane Hansen, Lisa Johnson, Becca Johnson, Linda Duncan and Sue Goodspeed.



Wayne Herstad - Interim Pastor
and Moderator of Session (through 9/9)
Kara Root - Pastor and Moderator of Session (effective 9/10)

2008 Session

Class of 2008: Terry Gilberstadt
Gary Johnson
Lisa Phillips Johnson

Class of 2009: Sue Hensel
Diane Hansen
Dick Gross

Class of 2010: Aleta Isaacson
Jane Kutz
Norm Petrik

Presbytery Commissioners -
Bill Fischer, Barb Day
Alternate: Sue Goodspeed

Dennis Johnson – Clerk
Butch Goodspeed - Treasurer

Staff:

Jan Johnson – *secretary*
Andrew Crow – *choir coach**
Andrew Tessman – *organist*
Rodney Seek (Best Way) – *custodian**
*(contract position)
Editor - Sue Goodspeed

Committees of Session: Administration (Gary, Dick, Aleta), Worship (Sue), Membership (Diane, Lisa, Jane), Education (Terry, Sue, Norm), Personnel (Terry, Dick, Norm).

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, interests or *anything* you'd just like to share, please talk with a Session member!

Board of Deacons: The Deacons function as a unit, sharing responsibility for visitation and ministries of presence with those in transition. Members are: Marge Bantle, John Bixby, Sue Goodspeed, JoAnne Hansen, Betty Johnson, Bobbe Larson, Georgia Mrosla, Pat Niznick, and Eva Webb, and Kathryn Sathre, Parish Nurse Associate.

MISSION STATEMENT - LNPC

(as approved with the Revision Statement of October, 2007)

The Mission of LNPC is

- to become a beacon of hope and a place of sanctuary

- to reach out to the needs of neighbors, sharing our selves and our resources.

Prayer Network

We have been called to communicate with God through prayer. God encourages us to pray for one another and has promised to answer. To enable us to pray effectively for one another and for our church, the LNPC Prayer Network has been organized. Call Pat Erickson, coordinator (612-925-4418) with prayer requests.

The Arts at LNPC ~

ArtSpace moves into Fall with a new exhibit.

Steve Edmundson, painter, will bring a collection of his work to ArtSpace for September and October.

Steven Edmundson - Contested Space

Opening Reception
Friday, September 5
7-9 p.m.



Music:

Choir begins a new season as it returns to rehearsal September 3rd, and sharing in worship beginning September 7th.

Choir Coach Andrew Crow, fresh off a research fellowship in Austria, moves toward his doctoral performance and thesis. He will be leading the U of M mixed chorus and wind ensemble in **Anton Bruckner's E-Minor Mass**. The performance will be Sunday, November 16th.

Watch this space for more specific information as the date approaches.
Mark you calendars now!

Session approved the continuation of the **Choral Scholar** program which, last year, brought Leah Boettcher and Aaron Marks from the U of M choral program to our choir. While funding is sketchy, we trust that the positions will be filled.

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION

The beginning of new pastoral relationships brings the presbytery together to celebrate with the congregation and pastor. **Rev. Kara Root will be installed as Pastor of LNPC Sunday, September 28, at 3:00 p.m.**

News of the wider church:

Covenant Network of Presbyterians, seeking to work through the processes of the PC(USA) to enable the ordination of *all* people called by God to serve, holds its annual conference in Minneapolis November 6-8.

Westminster Presbyterian, 12th and Nicollet, is the host of the 2008 conference: "*Covenant: God Is Faithful Still.*" Registration will provide participants the opportunity to worship with nationally recognized preachers such as Eily Marlow (from Macalester College) and John Wilkinson, and hear speakers such as Walter Brueggeman (Columbia Seminary) and William Stacy Johnson (Princeton Seminary).

Information available at www.covenantnetwork.org

On a related note, **the reinstatement of Rev. Dr. Paul Capetz**, challenged to the Synod judiciary, was upheld when the case brought against the Presbytery for the reinstatement decision was dismissed. Paul had sought reinstatement to ministry, which he had previously set aside voluntarily, stating that adherence to the "fidelity

and chastity" requirement of the PC(USA) ordination standards were not *foundational* and could be excepted. The opportunity to make this claim was given by action of the General Assembly in 2006 with the Peace, Unity, and Purity report.

Trafficking doesn't just happen in Asia - the **Division of Indian Work** of the Minneapolis Council of Churches is working with American Indian girls who have been coerced into sexual slavery. The project will ultimately work with the police to create intervention techniques to help girls rebuild their lives.

It's late summer - getting toward the "pennant fever" time of year, and the membership team wants to hear a **"GO TWINS!"**

Call the office or Diane Hansen if you want to go to the game **Tuesday,**

September 23rd at 8:10 - we're playing the White Sox - it doesn't get much better than that!



If we have 25 people, we can get a special group rate (and be mentioned on the scoreboard - ooo!)



The General Assembly of the PC(USA) met in San Jose, California. A 'top ten' list was floated last month, speculating about the key issues. Let's see how we did...

- Surprisingly quick votes brought two new faces to leadership of the denomination. Rev. Gradye Parsons succeeds Rev. Clifton Kirkpatrick as Stated Clerk - the voice of the denomination to the ecumenical and political community and chief parliamentarian, and Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow was elected Moderator of the General Assembly, a two-year commitment to visit, encourage, advocate and support congregations of the PC(USA) and represent us in many ecumenical circles. They will both bring great gifts and energy to our denomination.

- The discussion of ordination standards brought approval of an overture to delete "fidelity in marriage or chastity in singleness" from the standards, instead asking candidates for ordained office to "declare their fidelity to the standards of the Church," with local presbyteries taking responsibility for the character of candidates they ordain.
- Ecumenical relationships were strengthened with Jews, Muslims, and various Christian fellowships.
- A call was made for a responsible ending of the Iraq war, against unilateral action against Iran, for justice in Palestine, against military support of the Colombian government, and for advocacy in support of victims of violence and political suppression in many nations.
- The potentially controversial Form of Government Revision was essentially 'tabled' - with the recommendation that it be studied by presbyteries for the next two years.

Many of the votes involved changes to our constitution, the Book of Order. None of those will go into effect until they are approved by a majority of the presbyteries. Most votes will be held in January or February of this year.

Being a part of a gathering of over 2,000 representatives and advocates, all committed to progressing their understanding of God's desire for us, was moving, energizing, frustrating, confusing, and ultimately hopeful and joyful. Many "GA Junkies" described the atmosphere as the most respectful and thoughtful of any Assemblies they had attended. Our prayer is that we discerned honestly and that our going forward is guided by the Spirit.

... I also ran into two friends of my mom's, a high school friend now in seminary, fellow Twin Citians who were observing or advocating for various things, and got to know a new city. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to participate.

TWIN CITIES IN 2010!







