
DREAM ACRES



Official Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church Omro

September 2010

From The Desk of Pastor Ed:

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Perhaps you watched the 92nd PGA Golf Championship played at Whistling Straights Golf Course in Kohler, Wisconsin in August. On the final day of the four-day tournament it looked like it was going to be a three-way sudden death play off for three players tied at 11 under par. But then Dustin Johnson hit an errant drive on the 18th hole that landed in the crowd of spectators. When the ball was located it sat on a little patch of sandy earth that had been trampled by the crowds. The sea of people parted like the Red Sea for Moses so Johnson could take his shot.

Unfortunately, he touched the ground with his club before addressing the ball which resulted in a two shot penalty for "grounding his club" in a sand trap! He did not know, suspect or imagine he was in a sand trap. He didn't realize that the whole golf course there is pretty much a sand trap with dunes and some fairway grass. In the end he said, "*Maybe I should have looked to the*

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Rev. Edward Slusser, Pastor

Worship/Sunday School: 9:00 am

Contact us at: 1stpresomro@sbcglobal.net

Contact Pastor Slusser at:
pastorslusser@sbcglobal.net

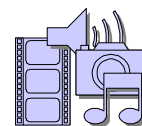
In case of emergency: call the office at 920-685-2610

Check our website at: omropres.com

Or the Presbytery at:
winnebagopresbytery.org

SEPTEMBER 25 CONCERT

Concert tickets on Sale at First Presbyterian, 200 S. Ashland Avenue, Green Bay, who will be hosting musician and recording artist, Ken Medema. Ken will present a concert on the theme of World Hunger, Saturday evening, September 25, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and are available by calling the church office at 920-437-8121 Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Concert goers are encouraged to bring a food item for the Presbyterian Food Pantry.



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rules sheet a little harder." (Oshkosh Northwestern B2, Monday August 16, 2010)

The trophy awarded to the winner is the Wanamaker Trophy. John Wanamaker was one of this country's greatest merchants. He once said, "*I have, of course, made large purchases of property in my lifetime...the buildings and grounds in which we are now meeting represents a value of approximately twenty billion dollars.*"

But it was as a boy in the country, at eleven years of age, that I made my biggest purchase. In a little mission Sunday school, I bought from my teacher a small red leather Bible. The Bible cost me \$2.75—which I paid in small installments as I saved. That was my greatest purchase, for that Bible made me what I am today."

After that statement, the New York Herald Tribune captioned its write up with this: "LATER DEALS IN MILLIONS CALLED SMALL COMPARED WITH BUYING HOLY WRIT AT ELEVEN." (7700EI, 409)

September 12th is Rally Day in our church. Once again we will teach, read, hear and learn the Good News of God's Word in a range of classes. The most wonderful deal any of us can make for ourselves and our families is to learn God's Word in Sunday school and worship. That's where we learn all of God's right rules for living and see where all the sand traps of life are located so we can avoid falling into them and being disqualified from the race of faith which is set before us. Come join us as we learn God's Word together. The greatest blessings of life are found in worship and Sunday school. Come and learn God's right way for living here in church for free.

Fall Blessings,
Pastor Ed

PRAYER CHAIN

Let us keep the following members and friends in prayer:
FOR HEALING: Ginger Selle, Dan Pistohl, Tricia Wright
FOR STRENGTH: Members of the military and their families.
HOMEBOUND: Addy Zweiger, Bettie Nipko, Joan Moon, Marge Hellwig

Please call prayer requests for the Sunday bulletin into the office by Wednesday noon. Prayer requests will be placed in the bulletin for two weeks. If you want a name included longer, please indicate how long or call it in again. Access God's help through the power of prayer each week.

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PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S GROUP MEETS:

Presbyterian Men meet Saturday, September 11th at 8:00 a.m. at church for breakfast and fellowship. Darwin Lovell will provide the program. All men of the church are invited to attend. Come be part of the fellowship!

PRESBYTERY NEWS

Next Presbytery Meeting is Tuesday September 14th at 9:30 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Fond du Lac. Pastor Ed and Elder Commissioner Cindy Doughty will attend.



SESSION NEWS

- Volunteers from the Food Pantry and the Thrift Store will be invited to worship with us on August 29 so we can thank them for their service to the community.
- Received a \$500 donation from the Omro Thrift Store. Session voted to give \$250 to support the Gideons ministry and \$250 to the Back-to-School Fair.
- Kenden Brian Wilson, son of Audrey Wilson; and Will Michael Nigl, son of Mike and Kari Nigl, will be baptized in worship, Sunday, August 29th.
- Authorized the purchase of a new computer for the church office.
- Purchased a \$50 ad in the Omro Booster Club's annual sports calendar.
- THANK YOU to Gordon Stiller for making improvements to the outdoor sign.
- Revised the policy for lending church equipment. (*see separate article*)
- Authorized the purchase and installation of a "hearing loop" system to improve the worship experience for those with hearing impairments. (*see separate article*)
- The "tool shed" near the Casa Esther garden will be removed permanently at the end of the growing season.

ON A SAD NOTE.....

Elder **Janet Stanton**, Memorial Presbyterian Church, Appleton, succumbed to

ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) on Friday, August 13, at the age of 70.

Jan served as Winnebago Presbytery moderator in 1989. From 1995-1998, she served on Presbytery staff as part-time Program Associate and Coordinator of the Gathering. In addition, Jan served as Acting Executive Presbyter from 1996-1997. Memorials for Jan should be directed to Memorial Presbyterian Church. Notes and cards may be sent to her long-time partner, William Powell, and the family at 926 W. Windtree Drive, Appleton, WI 54914.

NEW HEARING LOOP SYSTEM PLANNED

Session has approved the purchase and installation of a "hearing loop" system to assist those who have hearing impairments. Hearing loops have improved the worship experience for many in several other churches in our area. "Loops" installed in the room will pick up a feed from the sound system and transmit a magnetic signal to a "telecoil" receiver found in most of today's hearing aids. The wearer flips a switch on his/her hearing aid and background noise is filtered out, making it possible to clearly hear the spoken word and music. If you would like to make a donation to help fund this purchase, you are invited to do so. Just mark your check or envelope accordingly. Watch future newsletters and bulletins for updates and additional information.

POLICY FOR USE OF LENDING CHURCH EQUIPMENT

Members may request the use of equipment by completing a request form available from the office. A usage fee of \$10 and a security deposit of \$25 will be collected. We suggest that two separate checks be issued. The usage fee will be deposited in the church's general fund, and the check for the security deposit will be returned if the items are returned in satisfactory condition. The request form and the payments are to be

submitted to the office before removing the equipment from the premises. The member requesting use of the equipment agrees to:

- ✓ Use the equipment solely for the purpose for which it is intended (i.e., no sitting on tables)
- ✓ Make arrangements with the office or a member of the Building and Grounds Committee to return the equipment at a time when someone is at the church to receive it.
- ✓ Return the equipment to the church in the same or better condition in which it was received.

OMRO AREA CLERGY ASSOCIATION (OACA)

Member churches of Omro Area Clergy Association (OACA) are St. Mary's, Eureka Methodist, Grace Lutheran, and First Presbyterian Omro. Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 9th at 8:45 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Omro. Watch the Omro Area Clergy Association's TV program "*What's Up in Faith*" on our local cable. The program can be seen on analog channel 97 or digital channels 994 or 994.1.

BROWN BAG BIBLE EXPLORATION ("BBBE")

Session also approved a proposal from Pastor Tom Willadsen from 1st Presbyterian in Oshkosh to offer our congregation the opportunity to take part in a "Brown Bag Bible Exploration". The program is part of his research for his Doctor of Ministry through Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Pastor Tom will preach and lead worship here on three Sundays this fall when Pastor Ed is on vacation – September 26, October 31, and November 28. Prior to each sermon, he will hold a 90-minute meeting with members of our church to read scripture passages which will be the basis of his sermon.

He emphasizes "*this is not a Bible study! My hope is to eavesdrop on the conversation of faithful Christians. I want to hear what they hear in the passages, what their questions are, their reservations. I want to understand where they see the challenge and grace in the passages. For this reason we use the word "exploration" rather than "study."* Pastor Tom has used this program in the Oshkosh church for almost two years, and "*it has increased the engagement of worshippers and made sermons more parts of on-going dialogue, rather than 'finished products.'* I am curious to see whether this model will work in other congregations."

The BBBE sessions will be held at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 22nd , October 20th , and November 17th . We encourage your participation. If you would like to attend but prefer not to drive in the evening, please contact the office and we will gladly arrange for someone to pick you up.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS

It is time to check the refrigerator and freezer in the kitchen to see if you have left anything. The refrigerator is going to be cleaned and the freezer will be defrosted as we need the space for Apple Fest....Any questions give Marsha a call....

APPLE FEST - SEPTEMBER 18, 2010 - 9:00am - 3:00pm

Apple Fest was covered pretty thoroughly in the July/August newsletter...Any questions not answered in this article please refer to that newsletter.

- Have you bought your raffle ticket(s)? They are 6 for \$5.00. Remember to help support the raffle. Thanks to Mary Allen, Tom & Nancy Jackson, Doris Strehlow and Gordon Stiller for their generous

donations. To buy tickets, contact Jill Stiller, Tom Faust, the church office or Marsha Stiller as they have them to sell. We made over \$800.00 on the last raffle!

- Brian Butkiewicz is getting his judges all lined up for the apple pie making contest along with sending letters to past contestants. Gordon made a prize keepsake for the winner.
- Check with Cindy to see if she is in need of any apple desserts for the kitchen.
- Have you let Jill know if you will be able to help on Sept 16th for the "pie making bee"? We are specifying "*Food Club*" brand pie fillings (cherry, blueberry and peach) because there is more fruit in a can of "*Food Club*" brand than the other brands. If you are unable to get out to purchase pie filling, we would gladly accept any money donations, as the monies collected will be used to buy fillings or sugar. Please have pie filling up to church on Sunday, Sept 12th so we can take an inventory of what we have to buy yet. Check with Jill on the time for the day of the pie making. Also please inform Jill if you will be providing bake goods for the sale. Please put into individual packages of 2-4-6 pieces and write a suggested price and the name of the item on the package. Also indicate on the package if the item contains any "PEANUTS OR ANY OTHER TYPE OF NUTS" as some people have food allergies. Bake dale items should be brought to church on Friday Sept 15th between 9:30 am and 8:00pm. Any questions contact Jill. This part is the biggest money maker for Apple Fest.
- Anyone doing crafts please have your items to Marsha or Ethel by September 7th. Any item that you supply and is not sold will be returned to you. We would like you to put a suggested price on the item(s). Each person will receive a number from Marsha or if you have any questions, please contact her.
- There will be the popular balloon pop along with guessing games for the kids. Outside will be the vendors along with the cookout. There will be demonstrations in the making of apple cider and hooking rugs.
- Have you signed up to help the day of the event? There are still some openings. All of us have one goal in mind and that is to have a sanctuary built and if we all work together this will be a mission completed. Come and spend the day with us. We do have time to visit with one another while we are trying to fulfill our goal.

Marsha Stiller
Chairperson of Apple Fest

September 18, 2010
APPLE FEST

TWO CRUSTED APPLE PIE BAKING CONTEST

ENTRY FORM

Sponsored by - **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – OMRO**

RULES OF CONTEST

WHO MAY ENTER: Anyone

HOW TO ENTER: Fill out the form and return by September 16, 2010.
Bring your pies to 955 North Webster Ave between
8:30 and 9:00 AM, on September 18, 2010 for judging.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Appearance, 40%
Taste, 40%
Crust, 10%
Overall Appeal, 10%

RULES:

1. Two (2) baked 9” two crusted apple pies, of the same recipe, in non-returnable pie tins will constitute one entry.
2. One pie will be used for judging and the other will be sold after judging.
3. No more than two entries (4 pies) per person will be allowed.
4. For each entry submit a printed 3” X 5” card with the recipe, your name, and address.
5. Pre-made crusts will be allowed if stated on the recipe card, however, commercial pre-made pies will not be allowed in the contest.
6. Main ingredient must be apples; however, pies may include other fruits or ingredients.
7. Pies become the property of First Presbyterian Church – Omro.
8. For safety reasons, please refrigerate your pies prior to entry
9. Any proceeds will go to the Church Building Fund.
10. Winners will be announced at 11:30 AM or at the conclusion of judging.
11. Limited to 25 entries.

ALL DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES WILL BE FINAL.

**PRIZES: 1st Prize - \$ 50.00 & Commemorative Plaque;
2nd Prize - \$ 25.00; 3rd Prize - \$ 15.00;
4th Prize - \$ 10.00; 5th Prize - \$ 5.00**

Detach here and send or bring entry to: 1st Presbyterian Church 955 North Webster Ave Omro, WI 54963

Number of Entries _____

Note: Two pies per entry

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

THANK YOUS...

Thank you for a wonderful VBS for my daughter Elaynah. She absolutely loved it! It was just what we needed to introduce her to God. Thank you! Sarah Jaschob.

My church family –

Kenden and I would like to thank everyone for the thoughts and prayers. Also thank you for the plant and the bag of goodies. I want to thank everyone for all the continued support. Thank you and love always, Audrey and Kenden Wilson

Dear Church Family/Women's Association.

Thank you for thinking of us with the gifts for Will. It was a nice care package, with even a treat for "mom!" Will is such a good baby and is such a blessing in our lives. Sincerely, Mike & Kari Nigl

UPDATE FROM SYNOD SCHOOL 2010

As many of you know, I attended Synod School with Cheryl Lepak and Brandon Beck at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa, the last week of July.

I had no idea what to expect, but had heard from several people at the last Presbytery meeting that they "wouldn't miss it!" Plus, the class offerings sounded interesting. I'd like to tell you a little about my experience ... and encourage you to consider attending next year.

It was about an 8 1/2-hour drive and we arrived about 10:30 Sunday night (*Cheryl had to preach Sunday morning, so we got a late start.*) I don't think Cheryl got much more sleep than I did that night, but we met for breakfast and the start of our first day at 7:00 Monday morning.

Everything took place on campus. Housing was provided in the dorms, and a limited number of "suites" with private bathrooms were available. Meals were provided in the cafeteria, worship and convocation were held in the campus chapel; and classes met in various meeting rooms and buildings. Games and activities for children and adults were planned for free time during the day and in the evening. There was always something going on; but if you wanted to go back to your room for a nap during free time, or just sit and relax, you could.

Synod School is an intergenerational event. There was a record attendance of 627 this year, and I would guess that at least 150 were children. Three-generation attendees were not uncommon; and I saw several babies, some as young as a few weeks.

Some of the comments I heard during the week were:

"I enjoy being here with my children, without the distractions we have at home."

"Next to Christmas, this is the week I look forward to most each year."

"I brought my daughter to Synod School when she was young, and we've been coming together now for 15 years."

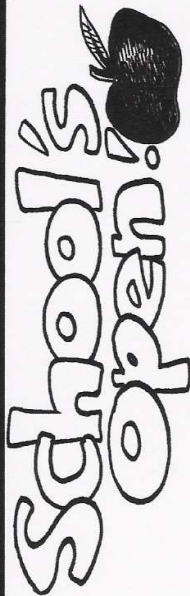
There were 67 class offerings. I chose to attend two one-hour sessions in the morning and two more in the afternoon. The topics were "Technology for Worship", "Bible's Best Jokes, Pranks, and Gags" (*not LOL funny, but interesting*), "The Art of the Parables", and "Prayer Shawl Ministry." (*more about that next month*)

All in all, it was a very relaxing week and a relatively inexpensive vacation. Everything was included – housing, food, and entertainment. We are planning to attend again next year – July 24-29, 2011. Susan Phillips (*pastor of 1st Presbyterian, Shawano*) and Pastor Mara (*from Winneconne*) will be worship leaders for the week.

Watch for more information in the spring!

-Cindy Doughty-

First Presbyterian Church - September 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						
5 Worship/Comm-9	6 Labor Day	7 Deacons-9 Apple Fest-6 *Tara Groth	8 Mission-6 *Jon Groth	9 OACA-8:45 Bells-6 Choir-7	10 *Eileen Wilson *Ron Albrecht	11 Presbyterian Men-8 *Darwin Lovell *Tanner Piper
12 Rally Day Wor/SS-9	13 Home Comm@WM & OCC-9 Celebration-6 Apple Fest-6	14 Presbytery Meeting in FDL-9:30	15 Pax Christi here-9	16 Bells-6 Choir-7	17 *Brian Wilson	18 Apple Fest 9-3 *Linda Kutchenriter
19 Wor/SS-9 Nurture-10:15 *Sue Walther *Tom & Nancy Jackson-41 yrs	20 Home Comm-9 Session-6 *Jan Slusser *Loyd Kutchenriter	21 Pastor Ed on vacation thru 27th *Brad Albright	22 BBBE-6:30	23 Bells-6 Choir-7 *Lonny Potratz	24	25 *Bernie & Grace Gosseck-62 yrs
26 Wor/SS-9 w/Pastor Tom W. *Steve Allen *Bernie Gosseck	27	28	29 *Angela Albright *Paul Werzinske *Rozanne Werzinske	30 Bells-6 Choir-7 *Erin Baltes *Leah Longworth		