

**April
2008**

United Protestant (Presbyterian) Church

Church of a Thousand Trees



Sunday School Superintendent

Do you want to become more involved at UPC? Our Sunday School Guild is currently without a Superintendent. If you are interested in this delightful Guild of incredible Sunday School Teachers, please see or call Penny Mosher at 745-6806.

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Women's Breakfast

Please join us on Saturday, April 19th, for a Potluck Breakfast from 9 to 10 am, in the Narthex. We will have our very own Barbara Brown speak about her role in Presbyterian Women. We will also be looking for other ways to be better organized within our own church. Not to mention the wonderful fellowship among our Sisters. Nursery will be provided. For more information, please see Penny Mosher.

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Vacation Bible School

We are starting the process of planning Vacation Bible School for this summer. We are needing input of what people would like. The Lutheran Church has VBS planned to do a week of evening VBS in the middle of June. We would like to continue offering a VBS during the daytime. The Catholic Church hasn't planned yet. Perhaps we will do it with them or on our own again this year. Tentative dates are June 23rd through the 27th. We also have a couple of curriculum to choose from AND we are looking for a Vacation Bible School Director. If you are interested in helping in any capacity i.e., snacks, teaching, helping out with the children in Preschool through 5th Grade, nursery, etc., please see or call Penny Mosher at 745-6806.

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Magnificent Weaving

In the narthex of the church, there is a beautiful weaving made by Brigitte Cooper. She is a weaver and artist who use to live in Alaska and teach at the Mat-Su College. She now resides in Hilo, Hawaii. It was donated to the church from Kay Love who had it commissioned for her home. It was her "third window." Now it has become a "third window" for the church. We have windows on either side of the narthex, and now we have a "third window" hanging high above the plants. We are grateful for this new addition to our church.

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Women's Bible Studies

It's spring and time to begin our Women's Bible Studies. We have one group that meets Wednesday morning at 10 am. A second group meets in the evenings at 7 pm. Please come as often as you are able. We'd love to have you join us.

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Ladies Book Club

This month's selection is The Street of Thousand Blossoms by Gail Tsukiyama. We'll be meeting at 11 ma on April 17th at Gail Rowland's home.

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Family Promise Week

Our Family Promise week is coming up on March 13th. Family Promise is a ministry to homeless families in the Mat-Su Valley. A group of churches in the valley participate in this ministry. Each church hosts families within their church for one week. Each participating church in the Family Promise network has a head coordinator, sometimes two, who organizes the efforts of their church volunteers and other congregational details. At our church, Dee Brown is the Coordinator and Debbie Melton is the Assistant Coordinator.

Every time our church plays host to Family Promise families, there are a host of service opportunities. Volunteers are setting up rooms for the families, cooking or dropping off meals, spending the night, washing laundry and finally taking down the rooms. If you're not familiar with this ministry, give Dee or Debbie a call.

We are so grateful for the many volunteers that give of their time to support Family Promise. The love and compassion from this congregation has provided invaluable support to so many homeless families in the Mat-Su Valley!! It's challenging work, and it makes such a difference!!

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We All Scream for Ice Cream!

On April 21st, the Dairy Queen in Palmer will be hosting a fundraiser for Family Promise between 6-8PM. Ten percent of all the restaurant proceeds during the scheduled time period will be donated to the organization. This is a good choice for a night out!!

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Gift of Sight

We wish to express heartfelt thanks to everyone that donated glasses to the Gift of Sight Foundation. The second and third grade Sunday school class received over 30 pairs of glasses!! Thanks again!!

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Deacon of the Month

Noël Guinotte is our Deacon of the month.

Items that need to be in Calendar:

Ladies book club

Men's Breakfast

Deacon's

Session

S.S. Teacher's Meeting

Choir

Hand Bells

Middle School Youth Group

Senior High Youth Group

Women's Bible Studies

Family Promise (every 8 weeks)

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It is used for the calendar

Birthdays

Alyssa Horvath	4/11	Grace Ivey	4/19
Julia Colver	4/12	Jan Melton	4/21
Bob Taylor	4/12	Emily Eshbaugh	4/23
Lauren Guinotte	4/13	Molly Sullivan	4/25
Frank Lombardo	4/15	Kiana Till	4/26
Joe Lawton	4/17	Brent Taylor	4/29
Norma Stichick	4/17		

Anniversaries

Gary and Rosemary LaRose	4/04
Jack and Gena Straayer	4/06
Bruce and Penny Mosher	4/22
Dick and Alice Branton	4/29

We wish you happiness on your special day. Please contact the Church Office if we've missed putting your name on our list.

**Worship Stewardship
April 2008**

4/6	Greeter:	Carol & Stan Reed & Family
	Refreshments:	Ivey Family
	Nursery:	Middle School Youth Group
	Communion Wash-up:	Sue Shaw
4/13	Greeter:	Jessie DeVries
		Grace Crist
	Refreshments:	Ann & Roy Goodman
	Nursery:	
4/20	Greeter:	Helen Woodings
	Refreshments:	
	Nursery:	Tiffany Horvath
4/27	Greeter:	DL & Martha Pollock
	Refreshments:	

Financial Stewardship

Expenses To Date	\$59,635
Income Received To Date	<u>\$54,794</u>
Contributions Shortfall	\$ 4,841

**Capital Campaign Summary
\$160,000.00**

March Giving	
Loan	\$ 2,260
Building	<u>\$ 515</u>
Total	\$ 2,775
 Giving to Date	 \$43,340
 Amount to Go	 \$116,660

Worship Stewardship is a gift that you can give. Please check your calendar and call the church office to sign up.

An Evening with the Guilds

Sounds like another dinner theater! Actually it is a dinner potluck and an all-church committee night. The Session members have their assigned committees and now they need your help. We need to develop committees on all the ministry areas of the church. This is where you come in: Everyone needs to volunteer on some committee (or subcommittee which we are calling GUILDS) so that the Elders can be supported with their work. The night is Friday, April 18th, beginning at 6:00pm.

What is your interest? The Committees are:

Christian Education – Elder Penny Mosher

This committee is responsible for Sunday School; Vacation Bible School; short Bible study series for adults throughout the year; New Members' class; and anything else having to do with Christian Education. GUILDS: Sunday School Teachers Guild.

Stewardship & Finance – Elder Deb Till

This committee is involved in all the finances of the church. If you are a numbers person, this committee is for you. It will deal not only with the church loan, but the general operating budget of the church. It also will be overseeing special offerings during the year. GUILDS: Finance Guild.

Youth – Elders Chris Hughes & Laura Brekke

This committee is involved with activities having to do with those 12 years old through 25 years old. It organizes fellowship events, retreats, youth groups, special activities such as mission trips and calls on this age for babysitting other events in the church, thus the nursery care is charged to this committee. GUILDS: Nursery Guild.

Worship – Joe Lawton

This committee is involved with all parts of worship including the care of the sanctuary, music, ushers, greeters, bulletins, supplies for worship, the Sacraments, and lay leaders. GUILDS: Sanctuary Guild; Music Guild; Liturgist Guild.

Fellowship – Debbie Melton

This committee is involved in all the fellowship events of our congregation. They oversee the fellowship hour after worship; the setting up and cleaning up after every church dinner and potluck; and the planning of other fellowship events to build community in our congregation. GUILDS: Shopping Guild.

“ONE” – Outreach, Nurture & Evangelism – Bruce Berget

This committee is in charge of developing small groups in our congregation such as the Presbyterian Men and Women's groups; and support groups as needed. They are involved with publicity for the church; webpage and directories; member assimilation; and nurture of members working close with the Board of Deacons. GUILDS: Technology Guild.

Property – David Leonard

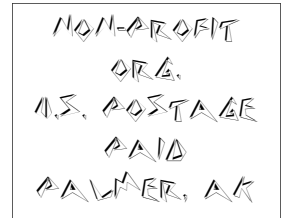
This committee is the building and grounds committee. It will oversee the care of the church building; maintenance; upkeep; and coordinate keeping the grounds around the building looking nice. GUILDS: Emergency Response Guild.

Mission – Bonnie Allen

This committee is involved with developing a mission strategy for our congregation in regards to trips abroad as well as trips nearby for adults. It will also develop and support our sister church and partner church relationships. They will coordinate with the youth committee on mission trips with the youth.

SO, which committee looks interesting to you and a place where you can use your gifts! We are the Church! All of us! Let us serve Jesus as we serve His Church. There will be sign up sheets in the Narthex for Committees & Guilds.

**United Protestant
(Presbyterian) Church**



713 S. Denali St.
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Phone: 907-745-3822
Fax: 907-745-3852
E-mail: upchurch@mtaonline.net
TimUPC@gmail.com
lrcarrick@mtaonline.net

Co-Pastor Leisa Carrick 715-4944
Co-Pastor Tim Carrick 715-4945

*****Mailing Address*****

Return Service Requested



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One Great Hour of Sharing

Thank you to all who participated in the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. The Sunday School fish banks brought in \$305.00. So far, the congregation has given \$1,848.00.

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Scholarships for Summer Camp

There are monies that have been given to the church to send kids to camp. There are two camps, Victory Bible Camp and Bingle Camp. We'll soon have the schedules posted on the bulletin board. Contact Pastor Leisa for more information.

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Presbyterian Women's Gathering

May 22nd—May 24th are the dates for the Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering. We will be hosting the Synod of Alaska Northwest. Registration forms are available in the office. Deadline for registration is April 30th.