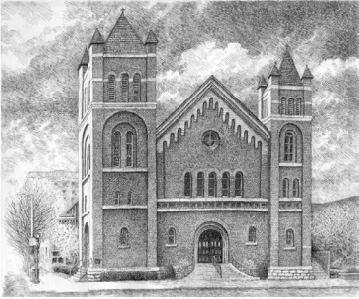


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
321 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET
SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS 62701

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June 15, 2006



FIRST PRES

UPDATE

The monthly newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church

June 2006

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

321 S. 7th Street
Springfield Illinois 62701
(217) 528-4311
www.first-pres-church.org

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Mike Self, Security

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

WORSHIP/CLASSES

Sundays:
9:00 a.m. Adult Education Programs
8:15 a.m. Worship Service/Chapel
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Sanctuary
Wednesdays:
5:30 p.m. Vespers

Please submit all information for inclusion in the newsletter to the church office to Cindy or Mike Orr at the e-mail addresses listed above.

Editorial Coordinator-Mike Orr
Production-Cindy Cass

The Jane Hartman Trio

is a multiple winner of the Illinois Time's "[Best Jazz Combo](#)" category, and has represented the city of Springfield, Illinois on tours of Japan in 1995 and 1997. The Trio toured England in September 2002 with the Fleming Academy. The Trio appeared at MacMurray College in October 2000, in a lecture recital with Harvard University Jazz Historian and Clarinetist Frank Tirro, and again with Sarah and Rachel Caswell in April 2002. The Trio most recently fronted for John Pizzarelli in July 2004 at the "[Summer Fun & All That Jazz](#)" festival held at Lincoln Land Community College. The Trio regularly performs at Springfield's Lime Street Café.

The trio has become a Pentecost Sunday tradition in providing music for worship at First Presbyterian Church. They will be with us on Sunday, June 4, 2006 for the 10:30 a.m. worship service. To learn more about Jane Hartman and her team, go to www.janehartman.com.

Pentecost Brunch

After all the wonderful music by the "Trio" a brunch will be served in Fellowship Hall by members of the Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team. Pentecost Sunday is observed as the birthday of the church. The brunch will be an egg and sausage casserole, fruit and rolls, for \$6.00 per person. The new confirmands will be honored. All are invited to attend.

Honoring New and "Vintage" Members — Join us on June 11!

Who has been the longest-time member at First Church? And who are those nice people who joined in the past year? Get the answers on June 11 when First Presbyterian honors all those who have joined our church family in the past year and those who have been members for 50 or more years. We also want to honor members of our First Church family who have accumulated 50 or more total years of membership in churches throughout their lives.

Join us for a catered lunch, served in the Fellowship Hall following the 10:30 service. A small fee (\$5 for adults and \$2 for kids under 12) will be charged, with the exception of our honored guests.

Mark your calendar now. Reservations are needed to the church office no later than Monday, June 5. We hope to see you there!

“The Parable of Captain Kirk”

Captain Kirk of the Starship Enterprise advised, “Listen to them. Hear them out. Maybe they can change. Maybe they want to change.” When we listen and understand another person . . . another perspective, maybe we too can change; maybe we will change.

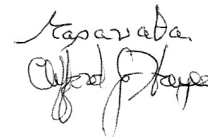
Earlier in my ministry I served as a court appointed community mediator – mediating “petty disputes.” Petty disputes – huh? Contesting neighbors, harassment, monetary misunderstanding – these can and do appear impressively great. Just as there is no such thing as a minor surgery if it is on your body, so there is no such thing as a minor dispute.

I would begin the mediation process with both parties to the dispute sitting down together at a table. The first disputant was asked: “What brought you here today? Describe the events that led to this point. You may talk for as long as you like. The other party may not interrupt you, comment on, or correct what you say in any way.” When the first party had spoken, I would continue by asking, “Is there anything else you would like to say?” The second disputant then had the opportunity to tell his or her story.

After both combatants had spoken their piece, something quite wonderful, almost magical, almost always happened. When the parties to the dispute were able to tell their story without interruption, were able to be heard by a third party, and to be heard by the other disputant – a huge weight was lifted from the room. Often, at that point, the parties would begin to face each other, and for the first time talk to each other. Tension eased. Solutions began to arise.

Eight of ten mediations ended in resolution. Sometimes there was even reconciliation.

Well, that’s it . . . the power of narrative! Would it be too much to say that listening is a religious experience? Listen to someone, your enemy for example, and find yourself closer to God. You might even be able to say together with Jacob after becoming reconciled to his brother Esau, “Seeing your face is like seeing the face of God.”



LECTIONARY FOR JUNE 2006

4th: Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;
Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15
11th: Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17
18th: 1 Samuel 15:34—16:13; Psalm 20;
2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (11-13) 14-17; Mark 4:26-34
25th: 1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23) 32-49 and Psalm 9:9-20; or
1 Samuel 17:57—18:5, 10-16 and Psalm 133; 2 Corinthians 6:1-13;
Mark 4:35-41

MUSIC NEWS

Music Staff News

Director of Music Nichol DelGiorno has been awarded the Crystal Organ Fellowship for continued study at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. This fellowship is highly competitive, and its award is based on dedication, motivation and scholarly aptitude. Nichol has completed her first year of coursework toward the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Organ Performance while maintaining a 3.9 grade point average.

Organist Dr. Rudolf Zuiderveld will be presenting a program of Contemporary Dutch Organ Music at the 2006 American Guild of Organists National Convention, held this July in Chicago. He will also be performing at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago on Sunday, June 25. Don't miss the opportunity to hear this program on the Brombaugh, Op. 35 organ at our own First Presbyterian Church of Tuesday, June 20 at 7:30pm.

Notes about Rudy's upcoming programs:

Rudolf Zuiderveld will play a recital that includes contemporary organ music from the Netherlands at 7:30 on Tuesday, June 20 on the Brombaugh organ of First Presbyterian Church in Springfield. The recital will be repeated on Sunday afternoon, June 25, at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago. On July 4 these recitals will culminate in a lecture/recital program for the National Convention of the American Guild of Organists, meeting in Chicago.

The program in Springfield will begin with section of masterworks from the Netherlands' "Golden Age" of the 17th Century, in music by Pietro Cornet, organist of the Brussels Spanish Court, and Anthoni van Noordt, organist in Amsterdam. Then Zuiderveld will play contemporary compositions by Bolt, Sanderman, Matter, and Hagen--all based on Genevan-psalm composition (the basis of Calvinist music), in a great variety of styles, traditional to minimalism and a jazzy "dance fugue." The third section of the program will consist of organ music by Piet Kee, an "Ode to Adriaan Valerius." Valerius was a composer of Dutch national tunes from about 1625. This three part work reflects the struggle for Dutch national independence, in music of great variety, from sadness to celebration (including the simulation of warlike struggle, emerging in victory). Originally composed when Kee left his post as organist of St. Lauren's Church, Alkmaar, where Zuiderveld heard the premiere in 1977, the piece will sound particularly well on the Brombaugh organ which borrows many ideas from the 1643 Alkmaar organ--considered one of the finest pipe organs ever made.

Romantic Cathedral Grandeur describes the last section of the program, showing Dutch musicians writing beautiful and exciting music in the style of Parisian organists of the last century, including a sweet "In dulci jubilo" by Henk Klop, symphonic poem about Resurrection morning by Albert de Klerk, and a Toccata "à la Widor" by Belgian Alphonse Maily.

Rudy teaches at Illinois College, enjoys playing recitals of contemporary American music in Holland, and regularly includes music from his native Netherlands in recitals in the US.

The recital is offered free, although donations to the First Church recital fund to sponsor future concerts are welcome.



Children and

The confirmation class will be confirmed at the 10:30am Pentecost service on June 4. All are invited to attend the service as well as a celebration lunch in Fellowship Hall after worship. See you there! Cost for lunch is \$6.00 per person.

Triple S Begins June 14

As we look toward summer many of us start accumulating that stack of good books we hope to read while the weather's warm. As you are building your stack add another to the pile and come enjoy Triple S. Triple S stands for ***Summer Sermon Study***. We will be gathering on Wednesday evenings at 7pm to delve into some of the best sermons ever written by some of the best preachers who have ever lived. Since we are studying sermons the readings are short but powerful and they all come from the same book, *A Chorus of Witnesses*. 20 copies of this book have been ordered and will be at the church beginning in May. They will be available for \$15 each. The class will meet each Wednesday throughout the summer but is designed so that you may drop in and out as your schedule permits. If you are interested or have any questions please email me at tasha@first-pres-church.org or call me at the church.

We Need You for a Work Day on June 21

The children's area is adding a computer lab! The computers have been purchased but we need lots of hands to help clean, organize, paint and set up the room. There are also several other items on our "to-do" list as we straighten and spruce up the children's areas in preparation for summer activities, including hosting VBS in August. If you can clean or paint or help in any way please join us on Wednesday, June 21 from 9am-1pm. All you need is work clothes and elbow grease. If you would like to sign up to come you can call Tasha at 528-4311 or email tasha@first-pres-church.org. There will also be sign up sheets in Fellowship Hall the first three Sundays of June.

Summer Sunday Events

While children's weekly Sunday School ends on June 4 the Christian Nurture Committee of First Presbyterian will be hosting three monthly events for children and their families during the third Sunday of each summer month (June 18, July 16, August 20). These are events that are for children *and* their families. Parents and younger siblings are not only invited to these events; these events are specifically designed for them! Each time we meet we will together think about and experience one question. In June we will focus on "What is family?" These events will take place on Sunday mornings during the regular Sunday School time, 9:00-10:15. You and your entire family (grandparents can come too!) won't want to miss these monthly opportunities.

♪ Music Matters ♪

What: A new music class, for children and youth age 6 and older, covering the fundamentals of music - exploring different styles of music from all over the world, learning to read music, and discovering fun facts from our musical heritage

Where: Music and Drama room

When: 7:00pm on Wednesday nights in the Summer, June 21-Aug 30

Contact Nichol DeGiorno to sign up

ACE Programs in June

ACEs meet in the Library every Sunday at 9:00.

All are welcome.

ACEs closes out this season with many interesting topics. The first two weeks of May brought forth wonderful stories of former times: John Akers and what it was like being a bomber pilot over Europe, and Carroll Pickering telling of the poverty and hard times growing up during the Depression. Then Clark Olson spoke on Intelligent Design and the associated debates and Roy Wehrle led the last May session on The Buddha and the Christ.

Stimulating subjects and stimulating discussions coming up in June:

June 4 – Pastor Clifford J. Hayes on “Homelessness in Springfield and in America: A Christian Viewpoint, with Barbara Turner, Salvation Army coordinator of their homeless/transition shelter. Part One

June 11 – Pastor Clifford J. Hayes and Barbara Turner continue their report and discussion of Homelessness in Springfield and in America. Part Two

June 18 - Proshanta Nandi, Professor Emeritus UIS: “Fundamentalism: A Quest for the Ultimate Truth or an Exercise in Bigotry?”

June 25 – Reverend Tasha Blackburn: “Fundamentalism in the Christian Church Today and Its Meaning in our World”

The Church’s Pledge Form

Mission Funding provides food for the hungry, shelter for the homeless, a voice for the unheard, a place of worship for the un-churched. Sharing the Word and Works of God with the world is the all encompassing mission of our church. Mission Funding and Development is the department that interprets the financial aspect of PC (USA) mission to the whole church and assists congregations, governing bodies and related program areas to develop financial resources they need to carry out their mission.

Our gifts to shared Basic Mission Support strengthen and promote the mission of the entire church. From Albuquerque to Abu Dhabi your generosity will share God's Work and Words around the world through mission personnel, Christian education, evangelism and new church development and ministries with all God's children. For more information, call (888) 728-7228, x5141 or visit the [Giving Opportunities](#) page to learn more about our choices for financial support of the work of the Presbyterian Church.

Each session adopts a basic mission support commitment for the mission and ministry of their congregation, presbytery, synod and the General Assembly each year. These commitments support the adopted budgets of these governing bodies.

Why is it important to support basic mission?

The total is greater than the sum of its parts, and as one body PC (USA) has a greater effect in spreading the Good

Word of the Gospel around the world. Encourage your Mission Committee and Session members to prayerfully consider our commitment to the larger church.

“...to do good, to be rich in good works, generous and ready to share.” (1 Timothy 6:18)

~ Mike Orr, Synod Commissioner

Cuba – How Different?

So that we don’t forget, it seems as though First Presbyterians of Springfield are quite like Cuban Presbyterians in Sancti Spiritus. How? The Church service follows the same outline, their organizational subcommittees are like ours, they respect the Book or Order, they attempt to take care of the homeless, and they have music and youth programs.

Other similarities you say: try the large number of baseball caps with logos from American teams, the frequent number of Lincoln statues in museums and in parks, statues of John Lennon rather than Nikolai Lenin, large numbers of Western tourists (tourism is now one of Cuba’s leading industries), Western music of rock/rap/classical, stage plays of “Cats” and “Hello Dolly”, the number of HP printers and electronic hardware and software.

We all breathe the same air, we all drink the same water, we all worship the same God.

~ Mick Bernasek

Health and Healing Ministry Team Update

While rain may have dampened the streets on Wednesday, May 10th, it certainly did not dampen the creative spirit of the twenty people who met in Cook Lounge to discuss the Health and Healing Ministry Team. A wide range of ideas were discussed including: offering a parents-night-out, offering respite for caregivers in our congregation, setting up a health fair and connecting with individuals who have no family members. There was a strong consensus that we need to be mindful of all ages and not just focus on the “seniors” in our congregation.

Two thoughts in particular that were expressed will hopefully personify the goals of this ministry: 1) Have each group within the church “think” service and 2) Help raise the awareness of caring for one another in our congregation. The belief holds that currently we all work toward these goals, but rededicating our congregation to the concept of caring for one another is always a positive idea. Rainy weather will come and go but caring for others will always help First Pres shine.

Anyone who would like to make a suggestion or a request to the Health and Healing Ministry Team can fill out a request sheet (found next to the boxes) and put it in the box in the Narthex or Fellowship Hall.

~ Susan Enlow



Happenings

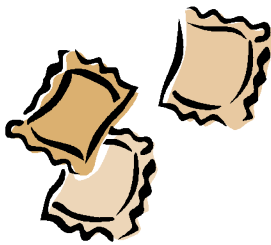
Book Club News

The Book Club will convene its final meeting for the 2005-2006 year on June 22nd at the new home of Joan Rothfuss. Joan's new address is: 2172 Huntleigh Road in Springfield. For directions call Joan at 529-6293. The meeting was deferred from May to allow Joan to settle in to her new home and to give members more time between meetings. The book for this month is *Sailing the Wine Dark Sea: Why the Greeks Matter* by Thomas Cahill, and our reviewer is Claire Eberle. As always an important part of our last meeting is to come up with the books and the schedule for the 2006-2007 year. Our usual practice is to discuss the next year's program before we do our review as we enjoy our annual salad supper, which commences at 6:30. So come armed with ideas and calendars. See you there.

If you'd like to know more about the Book Club, the meeting schedule or the selection process, please call Jennie Clafin at 789-7424. Have a good summer, and KEEP READING!

Food Pantry

The Deacons need pasta in June, Remembering Chef Boyardi's tune. Whether shaped like small o's, spirals, letters or bows— Whatever you bring is a boon!



Second Saturday Supper Club

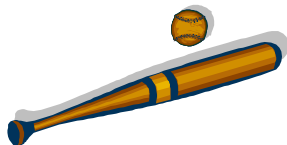
The Second Saturday Supper Club will dine on June 10, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Springfield Family Restaurant located at 1710 S. MacArthur Blvd. It was once the Nantucket Grill, but only the décor remains! Now it is owned by a Greek family who pride themselves on the fresh flavor of their entrees. The variety and portions are sure to please you. As well as, of course, the wonderful dining companions and conversations of 1st Church! Your presence on the 2nd Saturday of June will enhance our casual evening of conversation and dining pleasure. Please join us.

Presbytery Night at the Ballpark!

This summer, on July 28th, Presbyterians from Central Illinois will meet at O'Brien Field in Peoria to cheer on the Peoria Chiefs! Or you can root for the rival Dayton Dragons if you prefer. Since we're Presbyterians, we don't have to agree. Tickets cost \$7.50 and can be purchased through Mike Orr at the Church Office at 528-4311.

Just for fun – from the Baseball Almanac: The song "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" was written in 1908 by Jack Norworth on a scrap of paper as he was riding a train in Manhattan. Music was then composed by Albert Von Tilzer and a hit was born that year!

Quote from pitcher Larry Anderson..... "In the seventh inning fans all get up and sing 'Take Me Out to the Ball Game,' and they're already there.The first person to do it must have been a moron."



June 2006 Birthdays

- Jonathan Orr, Carolyn Oxtoby
Eric Sanders
- Michel Morse
- Margery Doyle, Susie Risku
- Dana Furry, Charles Northrup
Jennifer Schwermin
- Richard Sorensen, Alexis Standridge, James Turner
Kaylyn Yakel
- Cheryl Linderman
- Ellen Linderman
- Byron Luers, Jr., Chris Patton
- Shirley Ecklund, Maxwell Hart-Wottowa
- Jan Neal
- Scott Reynolds
- Phyllis Beverly
- Stephen Beverly, Max Heflin, Jean Risku
- Lois Korda, Judy Ruff
- Steven Korda, Julie Reynolds, Margaret Younkin
- Cassie Riech
- Mary Beth Stephens
- Kathi Eads
- Shirley Fenstermaker
- Susan Enlow



This -n- That

Wanted/Needed:

First Presbyterian Church has a friend in need of a bicycle in good working condition. If you have a bike you can donate, as means are very limited right now, it would be greatly appreciated. Just call the church at 528-4311 or contact LuAnn Atkins.



Host a foreign exchange student and become a part of the global understanding!

Educational and Cultural Interactions (ECI) has been conducting programs for international students for ten (10) years. The largest program is the high school exchange program where students from all over the world participate for one school year program, staying with American host families and attending American high schools. ECI is located in Oklahoma City and has Area Coordinators all over the United States.

Interested families can contact Mike Orr at the church for details on the two students from China we are being asked to host. You can also learn more at this web site:

www.eciprograms.com

~ Mike Orr

International Summer Opportunity Awaits You!

Bring the world to your home this summer for a month full of fun and lasting memories. Twenty International Exchange Students from Asia and France will be in Springfield for a month long Language and Cultural Enrichment Program from July 20 through August 18. Their classes will be held at Koke Mill Christian Church on weekdays.

Families are welcome to host a student and you may pick your own student through complete profiles.

Please call Carrie Tucker by July 10 at 217-529-7688 or e-mail : springfieldexchange@yaho.com

They're Back!

Sewer work, not unlike that done last year under Capitol Avenue between 6th and 7th, will soon begin between 5th and 6th. That requires that the buses temporarily return to our 7th and Capitol corner. We do know that there will be no bus service on Sunday, so our parking for Sunday services should not be affected. We do not, however, know how long the project will take. The project is expected to take approximately 4 months. We will keep the congregation informed as more details come to us.

Quilting Group

The quilting group was organized in December 1992 by Joanna Orr and JoAnn Wehrle. Since that time a number of us have shared in the fun of quilting: Joanna Orr, June Greer, Jennie Claflin, Georgia Northrup, Bonnie DeLay, Dorothy Lanham, Rachael Kniffin, Barbara McDonnell, Joan Kroll, LuAnn Atkins, JoAnn Wehrle and others who contributed occasionally.

Joanna Orr, June Greer, Bonnie DeLay and Nancy Ashbaugh were kind enough to do the finishing binding for us.

To date we have finished 22 quilts. The proceeds from quilting have gone to Health First Medical Clinic, Deacons' Committee, Parent Place, Mini O'Bierne Crisis Nursery, Building Skills, Deacon's Come Share, Kumler Neighborhood Ministry, Planned Parenthood, Presbyterian Home, Computer Bank, and Church docents. We would love to have some new quilters. You do not need any experience. We meet every Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested can call JoAnn Wehrle at 546-0799.

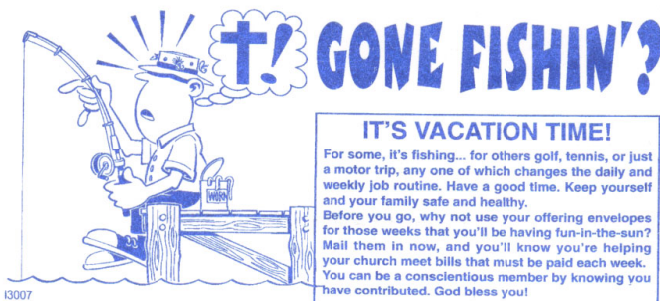
The Red Doors

The Red Doors of First Presbyterian Church will open to Springfield visitors on Thursday, June 1, marking almost twenty years of sharing our historic sanctuary and Tiffany windows with the thousands who visit the city annually! The Springfield Chamber of Commerce anticipates a banner summer season, due to the attraction of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum and the high cost of fuel which may limit longer 2006 family vacations. The location of First Church in the central historic district provides an unmatched opportunity to display our hospitality.

Working shifts for docents are from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM and 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, June through September. An orientation session can be scheduled for anyone who wishes to serve in this important outreach program. Those who have an interest may call the church at 528-4311 and speak with Mike Orr.

Docents returning this year are Tom Delay, Susan Harris, Kathleen Hoffmann, Dorothy Lanham, Mary Jane MacDonald, Robert Orndorff, Pat Slater, Emilie Kuner, Caroline Cunningham, Mary Patton, Charles Hammond and Georgia Northrup.

Please consider sharing your time and talents, and our history and hospitality, by greeting and welcoming visitors to First Church. Mary Todd Lincoln would be proud, and you will meet the most interesting people! ~ Georgia Northrup



Presbyterian Women News

Presbyterian Women to Retire

Members of the coordinating team for Presbyterian Women voted 6 to 1 to retire and become inactive as a Presbyterian Women's organization at their last meeting. This will become effective June 5 with a vote of approval of the two circles.

A nominating committee with Kay McKee as chairperson and members Joanne Wehrle and Claire Eberle have called many women of the congregation to ask them to serve as an officer for the Presbyterian Women. Several offices were filled but still needed was a person to serve as moderator and another to serve as treasurer. Without these two offices filled, the PW cannot continue. Most of the present officers have served for a number of years in the various positions.

The present officers will prepare and serve brunch Sunday, June 4 following services. Each of the two circles will continue to meet. At their May meeting the circles voted on the inactive status of the PW.

Circles

Faith Circle meets in Fellowship Hall at the church at 7 PM on the third Monday of each month except for January, February and March. Karen Standridge is chairperson for this circle.

Fairhills Circle meets on the third Friday of the month September through May at the Presbyterian Home at 9:30 AM. Nancy Haaker is spokesperson for this circle.

All women are invited to attend these circles. Each circle also votes on the retiring of the Presbyterian Women at their May meetings.

Pentecost Brunch

On June 4 Pentecost Sunday is observed as the birthday of the church. Following the 10:30 service a brunch will be served by members of the Presbyterian Women's Coordinating team. The brunch will be an egg and sausage casserole, fruit and rolls for \$6.00 per person. The new confirmands will be honored. All are invited to attend.

Letter of Thanks – Salvation Army

In response to the gracious generosity of the membership of First Presbyterian Church, we received the following.....

May 25, 2006

The First Presbyterian Church
321 South Seventh
Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent donation of \$10,000.00. From survivors of natural disasters to those affected by substance abuse, The Salvation Army helps people in more ways than any other national charity.

Of course at the moment, we are focusing much of our attention on aiding the survivors of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. At the same time we are working to ensure that we take care of our own community.

By the end of September, more than 600,000 survivors had been assisted and over 5.5 million meals served. While The Salvation Army will maintain its emergency response facilities, (canteens and mobile kitchens) to address the day-to-day needs of survivors throughout the coming months; we are working closely with the government and other agencies to address the long-term needs of the people and communities affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

There are significant needs in the areas hardest hit by the hurricanes this year, however there are also great needs here in our own community. We don't want to have to turn away our immediate neighbors, and so we are extremely grateful for your gift. On a daily basis lives are still being changed by providing a hand up, not a hand out.

THANK YOU for helping us make a difference. We promise to continue to 'DO THE MOST GOOD' with the resources that you entrust to us.

Yours sincerely,
Captains Deon and Michelle Oliver
Corps Officers

You're Going Where?

The Reverend Sue Krummel is co-executive presbyter and co-stated clerk of the Presbytery of Great Rivers.

Friends—

I have included below a little description from my daughter of the work she will be doing in the next year after she graduates this Saturday from the University of Iowa. She decided several months ago to apply to be a Young Adult Volunteer through the PCUSA and has just been placed for the year from August through July in training and then in Kenya with the PCUSA mission co-workers who are already working there. Here is her description of what she will be doing.

I will be living with a family in Kenya for 1 month, then I will be living most likely on my own in an apartment provided by the program I am arranged with. Once every month I will need to get back to Nairobi (if I am placed outside the city) for a get together with other Americans I am traveling with. There are 5 Presbyterians and 4 Lutherans. I need to raise \$10,000 to cover everything while I am over there. I will most likely be working with children. I will also be associated with the Presbyterian Church of East Africa, which is a very conservative Presbyterian church. Other than the organization I am placed with, there will also be many other opportunities to volunteer. If I am placed near the capitol I will be volunteering at an orphanage for HIV children called New Life Center. The children either have HIV or are orphans from parents who have passed away from AIDS. I will have my exact placement in the middle of June when my site coordinator gets back to Africa to arrange with all the different organizations.

I am reminded of a book my husband read several years ago by Andrew Young, former ambassador to the United Nations, former mayor of Atlanta, and long-time advocate of human rights. He talked about raising his own daughter in the church and exposing her to all kinds of discussion about how we are to serve the poor and disenfranchised and then watching her take her own trip to Africa to work with the poor. As our Christmas card said this past year, my husband is very happy she is doing mission work, but wishing she were a missionary to the Canadian Provinces!

What makes a 20-year-old make a decision like this? There is, of course, something in her that wants to save the world. And who, knows, perhaps her impact on someone's life will seem just like that to them. There is also, I think, something in her that knows that what she is really doing is what Jesus has called us all to do—alleviate suffering in his name wherever we can to help in telling the good news. There are also the very practical ways she has been influenced to do this. She has a degree in psychology and has spent most of her college work life doing social work. There are no jobs of the kind she would like to do in this area that are available to twenty year olds—you have to be 21 and she will not be 21 until September. She also has a roommate this year whose sister has been a volunteer this year at Borderlinks, where the moderator of the PCUSA General Assembly has spent his working life. She has seen how rewarding this can be. She is also a person who is always looking for adventures, and this promises to be one.

The most amazing thing to me as a lifelong Presbyterian has been the fact that she has to raise money to be able to give away a year of her life. There have always been organizations in which young people have done this that have asked for this kind of "tuition." But there was a time when the mission giving in the Presbyterian Church was structured in such a way that by our generous gifts to our own congregation and by our session's generous allotment of those gifts to mission work through Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, this funding would have happened through the denomination and not be placed on the shoulders of the individual who has been called. You may have noticed a similar phenomenon in your own congregation. Perhaps at one time the budget was met by the pledged, or at least planned, giving of the members throughout the year. In many congregations there are now many appeals for particular needs outside of the budget. I am not sure why this has happened, but it has come home to us in a new way in the last few days.

Our daughter (Anni) will be working at her three jobs in Iowa City on the day of the next presbytery meeting, but her dad (Frosty) and I will hope to have some information about where she is going if you are interested in learning more about this.

I hope you have a good week and that if your children come home and tell you that they need \$10,000 in a very short time that there will be a really good reason behind it!

Sue

All activities take place in the church unless otherwise noted

June 2006

1*THURSDAY

12:00 p.m. - Personnel Committee
6:30 p.m. - World Affairs Council
7:00 p.m. - Deacons
 - Parents Without Partners
 - Society for Creative Anachronism
7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

2*FRIDAY

12:00 p.m. - Christian Nurture Committee
5:30 p.m. - Brewers/Cline Wedding Rehearsal

3*SATURDAY

2:00 p.m. - Brewers/Cline Wedding

4*SUNDAY

8:15 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service
8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens
9:00 a.m. - Adult Programs
10:00 a.m. - Fellowship Interval
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service with the Jane Hartman Trio
11:30 a.m. - Pentecost Luncheon

5*MONDAY

6:00 p.m. - Sertoma Club

6*TUESDAY

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study Section II
10:00 a.m. - Elder Hostel
5:30 p.m. - Interfaith Service

7*WEDNESDAY

5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service
6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gathering
6:30 p.m. - First Pres Knitting Group
 - Film Club
7:00 p.m. - Friends of the Sangamon Valley

8*THURSDAY

4:45 p.m. - Worship & Music Committee
5:30 p.m. - Yoga Class
6:30 p.m. - World Affairs Council
6:30 p.m. - Parents Without Partners
7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

9*FRIDAY

7:00 p.m. - Ecklund Student Recital

10*SATURDAY

2:00 p.m. - Ecklund Student Recital
6:00 p.m. - Second Saturday Supper Club @ Springfield Family Restaurant

11*SUNDAY

8:15 a.m. - Chapel Worship Service
8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens
9:00 a.m. - Adult Programming
10:00 a.m. - Fellowship Interval
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service
11:30 a.m. - 50 Year/New Member Luncheon

13*TUESDAY

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study Section II

14*WEDNESDAY

5:00 p.m. - Yokem/Shuster Wedding Rehearsal
5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service
6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gathering
6:30 p.m. - First Pres Knitting Group
 - Film Club
7:00 p.m. - Summer Sermon Series
 - Performance Committee

15*THURSDAY

4:00 p.m. - Yokem/Shuster Wedding
5:30 p.m. - Yoga Class
7:00 p.m. - Session
 - Society for Creative Anachronism
7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

18*SUNDAY

8:15 a.m. - Chapel Worship Service
8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens
9:00 a.m. - Adult Programming
10:00 a.m. - Fellowship Interval
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service
11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hour

19*MONDAY

6:00 p.m. - Faith Circle Potluck

20*TUESDAY

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study Section II
7:30 p.m. - Zuiderveld Organ Recital

21*WEDNESDAY

5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service
6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gathering
6:30 p.m. - First Pres Knitting Group
 - Film Club
7:00 p.m. - Summer Sermon Series
 - Music Matters

22*THURSDAY

5:15 p.m. - Central Illinois Organizing Project
7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

23*FRIDAY

6:00 p.m. - Dillon/Hobrok Wedding Rehearsal

24*SATURDAY

4:30 p.m. - Dillon/Hobrok Wedding

25*SUNDAY

8:15 a.m. - Chapel Worship Service
8:45 a.m. - Nursery Opens
9:00 a.m. - Adult Programming
10:00 a.m. - Fellowship Interval
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service
11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hour

27*TUESDAY

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study Section II

28*WEDNESDAY

5:30 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service
6:00 p.m. - Midweek Gathering
6:30 p.m. - First Pres Knitting Group
 - Film Club
7:00 p.m. - Summer Sermon Series
 - Music Matters

29*THURSDAY

7:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

30*FRIDAY

5:00 p.m. - Humphreys/Hunt Wedding Rehearsal