

First Presbyterian Church

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 2010

8:30 and 10 a.m.

The Prelude [A time to be silent in preparation for worship. Please turn off your cell phone.]
“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” by Sobaje

Welcome and Announcements
Ring our Historic Church Bells
Minute for Mission Fellowship Ministry Team
Sunday School

***Opening Hymn # 207** “We Have Come to Join in Worship”

The Call to Worship (*responsive*)

P: Praise the LORD, all you nations!

L: Extol him, all you peoples!

P: For great is his steadfast love toward us,

L: And the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

P: Come let us praise the LORD!

– Adapted from Psalm 117

The Anthem: “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” by Hayes

Prayer of Confession (*unison*) **Great Omnipotent God, we are a people of excuses! We are too tired or too busy or too poor or too lazy to take your Word seriously in our life. Like Moses, Gideon, and Jonah we have our excuses as to why we cannot follow your will in our lives or just spend some time with you in prayer. Forgive us God. Help us to understand that all our excuses just keep us from your love and the greatest adventure of our life – following you. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

**Gloria Patri* #812

The Pastoral Prayer/Lord’s Prayer

Children’s Sermon [No Children’s Church]

Offertory As a tangible expression of our gratitude to God, we joyfully offer our monetary gifts to financially support God’s work at First Presbyterian Church

Offertory Music “Joshua Fit De Battle Ob Jericho” by Howorth
Duet: Travis Hall & Olivia Lein

***Responsive Hymn #158** “Think About His Love”

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayer of Illumination

First Readings of Scripture Luke 13:10-17 (p. 76 N.T.)

8:30 a.m. Jim Lund

10 a.m. Pastor Sandy

***Hymn of Preparation [see insert]** “How Can I Keep from Singing”

Second Reading Jeremiah 1:4-10 (p. 698 O.T.)

Sermon “No Excuses” Rev. Shafer

***Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles’ Creed [U n i s o n]

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting Amen [Book of Confessions - 2.1-2.3]

***The Closing Hymn #235** “Take the Name of Jesus with You”

***Greeting Each Other In Christian Love**

***The Pastoral Benediction**

The Postlude “Postlude on Duke Street” by Broughton

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

TODAY, August 22

- 8:00 a.m. Prayer Time
- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. 90th Birthday Celebration
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 2:00 p.m. Bus tour of village
- 6:30 p.m. Walking tour of village
- 7:00 p.m. HS Youth @ Dam Beach

MONDAY, August 23

- 3:00 p.m. Spiritual Outreach
- 6:30 p.m. PNC

TUESDAY, August 24

- 4:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry
- 5:00 p.m. Freshman Transition Night @ LH

WEDNESDAY, August 25

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 5:00 p.m. 6th Grade Transition Night @ LH
- 7:00 p.m. Session

THURSDAY, August 26

- 9:00 a.m. Bulletin Items Due
- 4:00 p.m. Information Session @ LH for new after school youth program
- 7:00 p.m. Information Session @ LH for new after school youth program

FRIDAY, August 27

- 9:00 a.m. Bulletin Print

SATURDAY, Aug. 28

- 4:30 p.m. Pig Roast @LH
- 6:00 p.m. Sat. Night Praise Service

NEXT WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

SUN., Aug. 29

- 8:00 a.m. Prayer Time
- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 7:00 p.m. MS Youth @ Dam Beach

MON., Aug. 30

- 6:30 p.m. PNC
- 7:00 p.m. Leader Training @LH

TUE., Aug. 31

- 10:00 a.m. Garden Club

WED., Sept. 1

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 2:30 p.m. Finance Meeting
- 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

THU., Sept. 2

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 9:00 a.m. Bulletin Items Due

FRI., Sept. 3

- 9:00 a.m. Bulletin Print
- 9:00 a.m. Community Cupboard Del
- 5:00 p.m. Vergate/Ford [R]

SAT., Sept. 4

- 3:30 p.m. Vergate/Ford [W] (FPC)

SWING SET

We have approximately a 20ft. heavy duty schoolyard style swing set with two rubber seat swings and a tire swing, more swings can be added. Free to a good home. Call Ken Cook (421-5317) or Don Shurte (264-9330) for more information and delivery arrangements.

GREETERS 8:30
GREETERS 10:00
USHERS 8:30

USHERS 10:00

Mel & Judy Matchett
Marcia Drake & Thelma Orzechowski
Ron & Micky Kuite
Steve & Marcia Major
Lloyd Butler & Hilda Vasseliou
Dick & Connie Claar

CHANCEL FLOWERS are placed by the children of Jack and Barb White in celebration of their birthdays. (Jack's was August 20 and Barb's is August 24.)

PRAYER REQUESTS: Don Erhart, Shirley Goddard, Duane Kundinger and Ken Cook

CHILD CARE facilities are available to keep our services in the spirit of worship. Infants and children through three years of age are invited. Abbie and Autumn Mandeville are assisting our Childcare Coordinator, Melissa West, today. Erin Graham is scheduled to assist next week.

RULING ELDERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS: Your September Session packets and Ministry Team reports have been placed in your mailbox located across from the office.

LOOSE CHANGE SUNDAY: During the month of August, all money placed in the Loose Change container will benefit the Rapid City & Good Samaritan food pantries. Thank you for your support.

PLEASE HELP US CELEBRATE the 90th birthdays of Mary Foster and June Whittaker today, in Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. The Nurture Ministry Team invites you to honor all our 90 plus members. Birthday bags will be provided for you to drop a card into for Mary and June.

NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM IS PROPOSED - Please help us shape the future for middle school students in Elk Rapids. The Youth Ministry Team and Session have approved further investigation of a new youth program to provide a safe, supportive and enriching after school program for students in 6th, 7th and 8th grades. There will be an information session at the Lighthouse on Thursday, August 26th at 4 p.m. and again at 7 p.m. where adults and youth are encouraged to provide your input as we further shape the details of this program.

If you have a middle school youth who might be interested in attending and/or you have an interest in volunteering with the program, please complete the short survey in this week's bulletin [see insert]. Please feel free to contact Karen Ruedinger at 264-8102 or kruedinger67@gmail.com or Sue Johnson at 264-6994 or johnsons@torchlake.com with questions or input.

The Mission Statement of First Presbyterian Church

*Introduce Jesus Christ to those who do not know Him;
Deepen the faith and commitment of those who already know Him;
Demonstrate Christ's way of love in service to the world.*

NURSERY LOCATION

(birth – 36 months)

Lower Level

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE (PNC) UPDATE: Your PNC is reading through and evaluating the nearly fifty Personal Information Forms or PIFs (candidate resumes) we have received from more than twenty different states. We have requested video sermons from possible matches and are watching these to further differentiate among candidates. The next step is to begin interviewing candidates using Skype so the PNC can interact both audibly and visually with the candidates. We will begin that process when we have finished reviewing the available PIFs that have been sent to us. Once again we ask for your prayers for the PNC as we meet weekly to search for and discern God's will in selecting our new Senior Pastor. We also ask for prayers for our church in this time of transition and waiting. May we all listen to God's leadings in this process.

A WALK AROUND HISTORIC ELK RAPIDS – TODAY AND AUGUST 29 AT 6:30 PM - OLD TOWN HALL (or for those who prefer to ride, meet at the church at 2 p.m. and go by bus). Back by popular demand – saunter the historic haunts of our village with guides Adam Schuler and Terry Miller (both of whom grew up here) – a great way to burn off some of those calories from dinner! Last year, more than 100 people joined our walks. Adam will guide one walk, discuss historic homes around town, and share memories of growing up here. Terry will lead the other walk through the downtown and harbor areas, talking about historic buildings and other places of interest along the way. Please invite your friends and neighbors to come along. Choose either tour, and you're welcome to come back the next week for the other one. We'll meet at the Old Town Hall at 6:30 p.m., and leave from there. For those who prefer to ride, we've reserved the church bus on both days (holds 12 people) for a tour starting from the church at 2 p.m.
Fellowship Ministry Team

PROGRESSIVE DINNER – SEPTEMBER 11 – GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY! We FPC "progressive" Presbyterians look forward to making new friends, savoring long-time friendships, and enjoying each other's company as we share a fellowship dinner together! Save the date of Saturday, September 11 for our almost world-famous second annual FPC progressive dinner. This year's delicious dining includes hors d'oeuvres, chicken divan, salad, rolls & butter, and angel lush dessert as you enjoy charming hospitality at members' host homes. We'll start at the church at 5:30 p.m. and then progress to a host's home for dinner and another host's home for dessert (same dinner and dessert menus at each home). The evening promises to be filled with food, fun and great FPC fellowship. Tickets priced at \$10 each will be available in the Narthex between services through Sunday, September 5. See you there!

Fellowship Ministry Team

The following was written by a Stephen Leader in California. Each Sunday for the next few weeks, our Bulletin will present two of the top ten reasons to become a Stephen Minister.

TOP TEN REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD BECOME A STEPHEN MINISTER:

Reason #6: Stephen Ministers are assertive caregivers. Stephen Ministers are trained to "speak the truth in love." Christian assertiveness is a positive and constructive way of relating that respects others and ourselves. Stephen Ministers learn to recognize and avoid aggressive behaviors such as belittling and manipulation, and to avoid passive behaviors such as withdrawing and relinquishing rights. By learning to behave assertively, Stephen Ministers become more aware of God's will for their lives and more aware of the needs of others.

Reason #5: Stephen Ministers are caregivers, not curegivers. Stephen Ministers are **not** therapists or problem solvers; they are **caregivers**. Only God can bring about healing, forgiveness, and hope. Stephen Ministers are trained to listen and pray, to be reliable and non-judgmental, and to help care receivers express their feelings. Focusing on caring and not on curing means Stephen Ministers never pressure a care receiver to "get better." Stephen Ministers are there for as long as the process takes, and trust that God works in His own time to provide wholeness.

CANTICUM NOVUM – a recently organized choir is coming to Elk Rapids. They will be performing at the Peterman Auditorium on Sunday, August 29, 2010, at 4 p.m. Jeff Cobb, Music Director, has chosen a variety of choral music sure to please a variety of ages and personal tastes. Contemporary selections, musical theatre and the classics will be featured. Jeff Cobb has been well known as a choral director, jazz musician, and composer. One of his compositions will also be performed in this local concert. A freewill offering will be taken to benefit a local charity.

CONFIRMATION CLASS 2011 - Time sure flies; it's that time of year again...the planning of Confirmation 2011. We wanted to find out who may be interested in Confirmation this year. Confirmation will take place during the school year; a day has not been decided yet. This is an exciting period in our church's history and we are looking for kids who want to commit themselves to this program. Confirmation will help you in your walk and journey of faith, to see how God will use you. Confirmation will also help you understand the history of the church universal and the history of First Presbyterian Church. Parents and kids, who are interested, please contact the church office (264-8167), or feel free to speak with Pastor Hal, Pastor Sandy or Gary Bekkering.

Are You Hungry?

"New" and "exciting"
youth fundraiser

Our youth are already planning a head
for next year's mission trips.
come and join us for a

"PIG Roast"

Saturday, August 28

4:30 — 5:30 p.m.

At the Lighthouse

Cost: \$10/per person; under 10-\$5 or
\$35/per family

menu will be pork, baked beans,
applesauce,
a bun, cookie and lemonade.

join us after the meal

Saturday Night

Praise Service

6 — 7 p.m.

At the lighthouse

- *songs of praise and worship,
- *our own praise band
- * short inspirational message
- *a time of fellowship

Christian Education Team Players needed.
Do you have a gift that you can share with us?

Sunday School Teacher: Find a friend and join a wonderful team of individuals who really make a difference on Sunday morning. The "Buzz" curriculum is easy to use, with minimal preparation time. We are still looking for a "team" of teachers for the first-third grade class.

Music/Opening Assistant: Betty Tezak has graciously offered to lead our Sunday School Music/Opening program. She will lead the younger children in 15 minutes of praising God with song (10-10:15 a.m.) each Sunday morning. If you would be interested in assisting Betty in this wonderful ministry or filling in for her if she needs a sub, please contact Pam or Betty.

Sunday School Helper: If you are not sure about teaching a class, but would like to be involved in our Sunday School programming, please consider helping in a classroom or helping with one of the Youth programs. We would love to have a rotational schedule set for each of the classes, so choose your grade level and join in the fun!

Nursery Helper: Please remember to check the schedule in the nursery and fill in your name where you can help!

Adult Classes: Do you have a topic you would like to teach? Is there an interest you would like to share with others? CE has wonderful resources and we would love to hear your great ideas for a class. Please contact Pam or Pastor Sandy. Class commitments are flexible.

These are just a few of the wonderful ways you can share your gifts and talents with the CE Ministry Team and your Church Family. Please contact Pam Bekkering if you can help with any one of these special needs. She would love to talk with you.



Church 264-8167 or e-mail
pbekkering@hotmail.com

INTERESTING TOPICS TO TEACH

We are looking for individuals or teams interested in teaching Adult Sunday School Classes this Fall.

If you....

- ✓ have a topic of interest Christian Education would be happy to help you gather materials.
- ✓ have a direction you would like to go, but are uncertain of what is out there, we would be happy to you help research and find topical materials.
- ✓ are interested in teaching or co-teaching a class, we have several new materials with a wide range of subject matter.
- ✓ see something interesting we would be happy to loan out the material, so you can further investigate the idea.
- ✓ enjoy learning something new and sharing with friends, teaching an Adult Sunday School Class might be just the thing for you!
- ✓ are not sure, but just might be a little interested in the whole thing, please give Pam a call, 264-5702. She would be happy to work through the details and support you in your ideas.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES are held on Sunday mornings, 10-11 a.m. They are an important part of our Sunday morning.

IDEAS

Boundaries - DVD and Book

Topic: What are boundaries? Why do I need them? How do I get others and myself to recognize and respect my boundaries?

Remembering the Forgotten God - DVD, Workbook, and Book

Topic: The Holy Spirit

Fire on the Mountain - DVD and Book –

Topic: Teacher and Historian Ray Vander Laan guide's you through the land of the Bible. In each lesson Vander Laan illuminates the historical, geographical, and cultural context of the sacred Scriptures. These lessons are meant to deepen your learning experience, and make a connection between the past and the applications that impact how you live your faith today.

If you do...you will make a difference in someone's heart. **If you** try God will help you. **If you** don't, maybe someone else will, but maybe not...