

THE GOOD NEWS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA
641-753-5929

VOLUME 75, No. 1
JANUARY 29, 2010

The Purpose Statement for the First Presbyterian Church of Marshalltown

G Growing in Christ through *worship*.
R Reaching out in *fellowship*.
A Affirming faith through *discipleship*.
C Caring for the lost through *evangelism*.
E Embracing others in mission and *ministry*.

Souper Bowl Sunday



The Emergency Food Box invites our congregation to designate Super Bowl Sunday, February 7, 2010, as "SOUPER BOWL" Sunday.

"Souper Bowl" Sunday glorifies God by providing help to persons needing food. Folks are each encouraged to give a can of soup or donate the cost of a can of soup as they leave worship on Super Bowl Sunday--collected by youth in kettles from the church kitchen!

A Youth Fellowship Group in Columbia, S.C., started this nationwide program in 1990. Monies raised are to be used locally. Funds raised in Marshall County could be designated for the Emergency Food Box (P.O. Box 391, Marshalltown, Iowa 50158). If you would like more information, please call Ada Brown at 641-485-0002 or Jackie Patterson at 641-482-3460.

Youth are encouraged to support the Souper Bowl by bringing a can of soup to their February youth event.

Thank you for considering this way to help the Emergency Food Box help those in need of food.

---**Jackie Patterson & Ada Brown**
Co-Chairs, Emergency Food Box Board

Church Women United

Church Women United will not meet in February.

Lenten Breakfasts

In just a few short weeks, we will again be observing another season of Lent (February 17, is Ash Wednesday). This is a great opportunity for us, as Christians, to give a united message about the salvation that has been given to all through the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Too often, we are seen and viewed by the format of our worship service rather than the message we have to share.

As we have done in the past few years, there will be a fellowship and worship service every Wednesday morning.

Breakfast will start at 6:30 a.m. followed by a Lenten message. Hosting congregations are asked to conclude by 7:15 a.m. The suggested theme for this season will be, "**The Manger, the Cross, and the Empty Tomb.**" This theme should provide all of us, as Christians, the opportunity to share our "Good News" throughout our community.

Both the breakfast and message are sponsored and conducted by lay members of the host congregations.

The following congregations have volunteered to host the Lenten Breakfasts and services for 2010:

- Feb. 17 **First United Church of Christ**
204 S. 4th Avenue
- Feb. 24 **Trinity Lutheran Church**
1011 S. 3rd Avenue
- March 3 **St. Henry's Catholic Church**
211 W. Olive Street
- March 10 **First Friends Church**
2409 S. 6th Street
- March 17 **New Hope Christian Church**
3901 S. Center Street
- March 24 **Elim Lutheran Church**
302 W. Church Street
- March 31 **First Congregational Church**
312 W. Main Street

Enrich your Lenten season by making plans to attend each of these breakfast meetings. All are welcome.



The new **pictorial directories** have arrived and can be picked up in the Fellowship Hall. The directories (one per

family) will be labeled in alphabetical order and placed on the table for your convenience. If you had your picture taken by Olan Mills, or if you submitted a picture, a directory has been reserved for you with your name on it.

If your picture is not in the directory, you may purchase one for \$5. For anyone wanting the directory mailed to them, please add an additional \$1.25 to cover postage. If you have any questions about the directory, please contact Susan Hibbs at 753-6277.



The **Annual Sweetheart Banquet** is scheduled for Sunday, February 28, at 6:00 pm. The theme this year will be "Island Get-Away." After the winter we have had this year, we would like to take you

somewhere warm and tropical for a night (even if we have to attend). Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this fabulous wonderful event!

ABC Quilt Project



Presbyterian Women of the Church invite members and friends to help make quilts as a mission project.

We plan to meet in the Lower Lounge from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, February 3; March 3, 10, 17, and 24. Plan to bring a can of soup to share for lunch.

Donations of washed cotton fabric, batting and embroidery floss to tie the quilts would be appreciated.

Questions about the project may be directed to Shala Ludley at 752-6894 or Linda Moore at 751-1871.

Financial Report for December

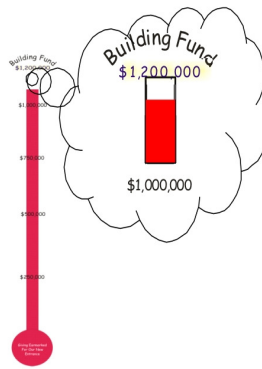
DECEMBER-09	Actual	Budget	+/-
Regular Offerings	36,536.45	36,217	319.45
Other Receipts	1,434.49	1,100	334.49
Total Receipts	37,970.94	37,317	653.94
Year to Date:			
Regular Offerings	363,973.84	431,761	(67,787.16)
Other Receipts	13,915.84	7,400	6,515.84
Total Receipts	377,889.68	439,161	(61,271.32)
Total Expenditures	(352,955.56)	(430,497)	77,541.44
Net Receipts-Expenditures	24,934.12	8,644	16,270.12
Beginning Cash Balance	(8,664.30)	(8,664)	(0.30)
Ending Cash Balance	16,269.82	0	16,269.82

New Entrance Building Fund

Giving designated for the Building Fund in the closing days of December (after the last newsletter was published) and the first part of January has been extraordinary.

Gifts earmarked for the building have reduced our debt from \$137,773 to \$114,500.

It continues to be a thrill to see God's people exercising the gift of



giving.

When we reach the top of the thermometer on the wall in the new entrance, we plan to have a "Burning the Mortgage" celebration where we praise God for His gracious provision and dedicate this structure to His service.

Newsletter Articles Deadline

As a convenience to staff, church committee chairpersons and church members, **the new deadline for getting articles into the church newsletter will be on the 20th of each month.** If the 20th falls on a Saturday, please have the articles to the church office by the 21st. Having one specific deadline date may be easier for people to remember. I will accept articles after the 20th, if for some reason you can't get information to me by the deadline. Articles can be left on my desk or emailed to presmtwn@mchsi.com. **The newsletter will still be printed the last full week of each month** so you will, hopefully, have your newsletter by the last day of the month or very close to that time. For out-of-town and out-of-state

folks, the date you receive your newsletters may vary according to the schedules of the Post Office.

The goal is to eliminate receiving news articles just before I'm ready to print the newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact the church office any weekday at 753-5929 or via email.

---Nancy Diggins, Office Manager

PWC News

Elizabeth Circle will meet Thursday, February 11, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. in the Lower Lounge. Shirley Egli will present the program.



Sarah Circle will meet Tuesday, February 16, at 9:15 a.m. in the Lower Lounge. Hostesses are Leona King and Pat Smith. Marge Wolfe will give the devotions and Dave Beckmann will present the program.

PWC will meet at 1 p.m. for a dessert meeting and birthday observance on Thursday, February 4, in the Fellowship Hall. Roger Hatch will present the program on "Jonathan's Orphanage." The serving committee consists of Zaida Haight, Betty Jacobs, Leona King, Valerie King and Verdel Vajgrt. All women of the church are invited to attend.

PWC-CT will meet Tuesday, February 23, in the Lower Lounge.

Luke's Ministry Message High Blood Pressure Overview

Blood pressure is the force of blood in the arteries. When the heart beats, blood propels in the arteries with force. This is called **systolic blood pressure**. When the heart relaxes after each beat, the force of the blood flow drops and is called the **diastolic blood pressure**. Hypertension, or high blood pressure, is the chronic state of elevated pressure in the arteries. A person with systolic and/or diastolic blood pressures consistently above the normal range (120/80) is said to have hypertension.

High blood pressure is a major risk factor for heart disease, congestive heart failure, stroke, impaired vision, and kidney disease. Generally, the higher the blood pressure the greater the risk. Untreated hypertension affects all organ systems and can shorten one's life expectancy by 10 to 20 years.

Hypertension Causes

Most people have **essential hypertension**, which has no identifiable cause. Some think it may be due in part to a genetic predisposition. The probability of developing this condition increases with age. In the

last few decades, the risk for high blood pressure has increased because of a decline in healthy life styles. In fact, nine out of 10 persons are at risk for developing hypertension after age 50. In approximately 5-10% of patients, a secondary cause exists, such as certain types of kidney disease, abnormal functioning of certain glands, chronic intake of certain substances and medications (alcohol, steroids), and the presence of a rare tumor which secretes adrenaline-like substances. Recent studies have shown that a high intake of sodium with a low intake of potassium may increase the risk for high blood pressure.

Treatment for Hypertension

Several studies have demonstrated that treating patients to lower their blood pressure significantly decreases their risk for developing disabling and potentially deadly complications like heart attack, sudden death, heart failure, stroke and kidney failure. The goal of treatment for most patients is to lower the systolic blood pressure below 120 and the diastolic blood pressure below 80. Treatment for high blood pressure involves lifestyle modification and drug therapy.

Lifestyle modification

In some patients, particularly those whose blood pressure is moderately elevated, life style modifications alone may achieve treatment goals. Patients who require pharmacological therapy may reduce the number and doses of medications through lifestyle modification. The following modifications in diet and physical activity should be discussed with a doctor or health care provider.

***Weight Loss.** Overweight patients can reduce blood pressure by losing weight. Gradual weight loss through modified calorie intake and increased physical activity is a good approach. A goal of losing 10-15 pounds is reasonable for many patients.

***Physical Activity.** Regular, moderate aerobic exercise can modestly decrease blood pressure and has many other beneficial effects. A program of gradually increased activity is most prudent, such as taking a brisk 20-30 minute walk, 3-5 times per week. All persons with chest pain (angina) and known or suspected heart disease should talk to their doctor before beginning an exercise program.

***Salt (sodium chloride) restriction.** Excessive salt intake can contribute to hypertension in some people. Even modest restriction of salt may decrease blood pressure. Many doctors advise those with high blood pressure to avoid salty food and to limit daily sodium intake to no more than approximately 2.4 grams.

***Limited alcohol consumption.** Moderate alcohol intake (one or two glasses of an alcoholic beverage a day) does not appear to cause hypertension; however, chronic heavier alcohol use elevates blood pressure. This is the most common reversible cause of high blood pressure.

High Blood Pressure Medication

Medications to Lower Blood Pressure

There are a variety of medications, called agents, used to treat high blood pressure. Which agent a patient is started on depends on numerous factors, including ease of use, side effects, and coexisting medical conditions that might dictate preferential use of one agent over another.

When treatment with relatively high doses of an **antihypertensive medication** fails to lower blood pressure to target levels, two options are possible: (1) that particular medication may be discontinued and a different class of antihypertensive medication begun, or (2) a second class of medication may be added to the first agent. The second approach is often used because different classes of antihypertensive agents work in different ways to lower blood pressure, and the actions of one agent may complement the actions of the second agent. In some patients, it may be necessary to add a third agent.

Most of the newer blood pressure medications are taken once or twice a day. They all have side effects, but most are well tolerated by patients.

Diuretics (“water pills”) increase the kidneys’ excretion of salt (sodium) and water, decreasing the volume of fluid in the bloodstream and the pressure in the arteries. Diuretics are the oldest and most studied antihypertensive agents.

One of the most commonly used diuretic agents is HydroDiuril, Microzide. Other diuretics used to treat hypertension include the following:

- Acetazolamide (Diamox)
- Furosemide (Lasix)
- Indapamide (Lozol)
- Metolazone (Zaroxolyn)
- Spironolactone (Aldactone)
- Torsemide (Demadex)
- Triamterene (Dyrenium)

Combination medications that contain both a diuretic and a different class of antihypertensive agent are being produced.

The main **side effect** of these agents is increased frequency of urination. Another side effect is increased urinary excretion of potassium. Because of this, doctors monitor blood potassium levels when initiating therapy and periodically thereafter. Patients who have low potassium levels are encouraged to eat foods rich in potassium, such as bananas, or may be prescribed a potassium supplement.

Commonly used **beta blockers** include the following:

- Atenolol (Tenormin)
- Bisoprolol (Zebeta)
- Carvedilol (Coreg)
- Metoprolol (Lopressor, Toprol SL)
- Timolol (Blockadren)
- Labetolol (Normodyne, Trandate)

Potential **side effects** of the beta blockers are slowing the heart rate excessively, worsening heart failure (careful long-term use has been shown to frequently provide beneficial effects in patients with CHF) and rarely contributing to confusion, depression, and impotence (erectile dysfunction).

Information about other high blood pressure medications including Calcium Channel Blockers, Ace Inhibitors, Diuretics, Angiotensin-receptor Blockers (ARB’s) and others will follow in a later newsletter.

Operation Shoe Box

Before Christmas our family, along with many others at First Presbyterian Church, sent shoe boxes to Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan’s Purse. Since we paid for our shipping online, we were able to track our packages. It seems likely that the other shoe boxes from First Presbyterian Church were sent to the same place, so here is what we learned.



Our packages were sent to the West African nation of Niger. Niger is landlocked with only 11% arable land. Most of the country, which is roughly twice the size of Texas, is in the Sahara Desert. Ranked at the bottom of the United Nation Development Fund Index for human development, Niger’s 15 million people earn a per capita GDP of \$700. The country lacks the infrastructure and developed financial sector to exploit the natural resources, including uranium, coal, and oil, that are present.

Half of Niger’s population is aged 14 or younger, and the country has the world’s second highest population growth rate at 3.7%. The average woman will have 7.75 children during her childbearing years, the world’s highest rate. Life expectancy is 52 years, due largely to Niger having the world’s 5th highest infant mortality rate.

Education is also a problem in Niger. The average “school life expectancy,” or length of time a child can expect to receive regular schooling, is only 4 years, or 5 years for males and 3 years for female children. This translates to a 29% adult literacy rate (42% for males and 15% for females). (US figures for

comparison: school life expectancy 16 years; literacy rate = 99%).

Politically, the country has struggled since it gained independence from France in 1960. While citizens enjoy universal suffrage, the country has suffered through five republics in 50 years. Elections were scheduled to be held in 2009, but they were cancelled when the president, who was twice elected, was ruled ineligible to run again by the Nigerien Constitutional Court. President Obama revoked a favorable economic arrangement with Niger in December in an effort to coax President Tandja to hold elections.

Eighty percent of Nigeriens are Muslim. The remaining 20% are mixed between indigenous beliefs and Christians. The CIA World Fact Book, the source of the information in this article, lists Christians after the indigenous beliefs, so it may be that only a very small number of the people in Niger identify themselves as Christian.

Samaritan's Purse encourages us to pray for the children who received our packages. We found that it was much easier to do so once we learned where those children lived. We have so much to pray for in their lives that the mundane concerns of ours seem smaller.

---Michelle Wilkinson

Emergency Food Box



The Emergency Food Box needs your help now more than ever. There is still an increasing number of families in Marshall County to whom we provide emergency assistance.

Your offerings of food (please note the dates on the canned items) and/or **cash donations** are very much appreciated.

Currently, the items that we need the most are **peas, corn, green beans, carrots, tomatoes, pork and beans and macaroni and cheese.** These items are not currently available from the Food Bank in Des Moines in the quantities that we need. Donations of these items would be very helpful at this time.

If you would prefer to give money, you may send a check or cash at any time. Make checks payable to: **Emergency Food Box.** Money may also be placed in your offering plate or mail to: **EFB, P.O. Box 391, Marshalltown, Iowa 50158.** These funds are used to buy needed items locally and to pay handling charges for items we are able to get from the Food Bank of Iowa.

Again, thank you for your past contributions and please do continue to take into consideration the increasing need for food and/or contributions in our area.



Thank you to the Deacons for the gift of delicious fruits. I enjoyed the carolers and the card and candy from the youth. Thanks!

I appreciate the cards, phone calls, visits and prayers from everyone. May God bless our church family

---Hazel Nason

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ at First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you all so much for your prayers, cards and kind expressions of love during the time of my brother's passing. Thank you also, Deacons, for the beautiful plant. My church family means so much to me. In Christian love.

---Carolyn Wilkinson

Thank you to all who sent me cards to celebrate the Holy day of Christ's birth. It was so nice to be remembered. First Presbyterian Church and its members are so special to me.

---Aleta Larimer

Thank you for your recent donation of \$345 to the Emergency Food Box (EFB). Your kindness makes it possible for us to help meet the emergency food needs of people in Marshall County who are referred to us.

The Emergency Food Box program is supported entirely by donations from individuals, organizations and churches. We are grateful that you have chosen to be part of this program.

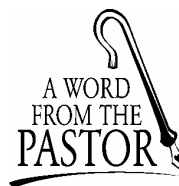
On behalf of those who will benefit from your generosity, we again say "thank you for your help!" Your support is greatly appreciated.

---LeRoy L. Jero, Treasurer EFB



---our faithful workers at the House of Compassion during the month of January: **Marylou Beckmann, Shirley Egli, Jean Evans, Joe Holubar, Ed Jackson, Betty Jacobs, Pat Leytham, Estelle Perkins, Edith Rankin, Pat Smith, Bert Tice, Lynette Tovar, Agnes Ward and Carolyn Wilkinson.**

---Dave & Marylou Beckmann and Ken & Fran Smith, the HOC shelter monitors in January.



One of the hallmarks of a vital church is that it listens and follows the Holy Spirit. A vital church is not just repeating the programs it did the year before, but is listening for the new directions in which God's Spirit might lead.

Each of the gospels describes Jesus as being led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted. Jesus would not have gone if He had not been led by the

Spirit. Forty days of fasting and temptation is not what most humans consider an enjoyable experience. Jesus needed to face these things and know that He had the faith and power to resist the Devil. So the Spirit lead Him into the desert to learn these things. Jesus obeyed the Spirit and followed. He relied on that same Spirit and overcame the difficulties that appeared before Him. This was Jesus' way of life and it is the way of life that He calls each of us and His church to imitate.

When Peter confessed that Jesus was the Christ, in Matthew's gospel, Jesus replied that "Upon this rock I will build My Church." Note that Peter was called a rock even though he was impetuous, unstable and soon to deny Christ. It is upon frail and imperfect disciples that Jesus has chosen to build His church. Secondly, note that it is Jesus who does the building not Peter or the pastor or you. It is God's work through the Spirit to build the church. That is why it can be built upon frail human followers. It is God's work. We do not need to be the architect, contractor or even the supervisor. We are the laborers and the Spirit directs us.

It is not up to us to come up with what to do. God already has the plan! We need to listen for the Spirit's directions. We need to stop trying to control the church, its work or its mission and join with God in what God is already doing! We need to be Spirit driven!

Rich

The Ultimate Playbook



The Flap Jacks are studying a book ([Game Plan for Life](#)) written by Joe Gibbs – former coach for the Washington Redskins and

also owner and president of Joe Gibbs NASCAR Racing. In Chapter 3, Joe records an early incident that shaped his faith.

On November 27, during the peak of the 2007 season, Joe was awakened at 6 a.m. by the phone beside his bed. On the other end was Dan Snyder, owner of the Redskins. Dan informed Joe that their star safety, Sean Taylor, had been shot.

"How bad is it?" Joe asked

"He got shot in the leg, so I'm not sure," replied Snyder.

How bad can it be, wondered Gibbs, certainly not life threatening.

The next day, Sean Taylor died from complications.

Sean had been the spark who ignited the team.

Other players on the team had nicknamed him "Meast" because he was "part man and part beast." *Sports Illustrated* had named him "The hardest hitting player in the NFL."

Sean died on a Tuesday. The following Sunday, the Redskins had to play the Buffalo Bills. The Washington team which was shaken to the core by the death of Sean decided to dedicate the game to his memory. It became a "Must Win" for each and every player on the team and every fan in the stands.

The game was one where the lead was handed back and forth multiple times during the four quarters. In the final seconds of the game, the Redskins were up 16 to 14. Buffalo was out of downs and was setting up for a 51 yard field goal try in the rain. The odds of making such a kick were small.

Joe, in an attempt to ice the kicker, called for a time out just before the ball was kicked. As the time out came to an end and the teams again lined up, Joe called for a second time out. The ref looked at Joe incredulously and asked, "do you really want a second time out?" Joe answered in the affirmative, and immediately a flag was thrown since it is illegal to call two consecutive time outs. The resulting 15 yard penalty reduced the field goal attempt to 36 yards which Buffalo's kicker, Lindell, was able to make.

Joe said that he had never felt more ashamed. Before 86,000 fans, he had made a blunder that had no doubt cost Washington the game. He knew the rules. What had caused him to make such a stupid mistake? Monday morning's papers unanimously called for his head. He was branded, "The dumbest coach in the NFL."

To regain his composure, Joe turned to the only source of help he could find – God's Word. He happened to be reading in the Old Testament book of 2 Kings Chapter 3. Here he read the story of King Jehoshaphat who had led his army on a march to a battle. As they were going through the desert, there was no water for the soldiers or animals. After seven days they were out of water.

Jehoshaphat goes to the prophet Elisha and says, "What does God say about this?" Elisha says, "This is what the LORD says: Make this valley full of ditches. For this is what the LORD says: You will see neither wind nor rain, yet this valley will be filled with water, and you, your cattle, and your other animals will drink. This is an easy thing in the eyes of the LORD."

The last sentence was the key to getting Joe out of his depression. What seemed like a mountain to Joe Gibbs was an "easy thing in the eyes of the LORD." Yes, he had made a huge mistake and let the team and fans down. He had damaged his reputation, but getting through was going to be an easy thing in the eyes of the LORD.

Maybe you have done something monumentally stupid. Maybe you don't think you will ever be able to show your face again. If this describes you, perhaps you can join Joe Gibbs and thousands of others who have fallen flat on their faces only to be

picked up by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ who says, "This thing may look like a mountain to you, but to me it's easy."

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths.
Proverbs 3:5

Dave

JANUARY SESSION ACTIONS

The Stated Meeting of Session of First Presbyterian Church, Marshalltown, met in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 19, 2010.

Moderator Rich King opened the meeting and Lyn Rakowicz led the devotions and prayer.

Motion prevailed to approve the amended December 15, Stated Session meeting minutes noting that Pastor Rich King's housing allowance for 2010 is set at \$18,000 and Pastor Dave Beckmann's housing allowance is set at \$23,500; in the Finance report, the motion to pay the Local Option Benevolence money should read \$1,375; and in the motion to repay loans for the building fund should read to pay 10% of the total amount of the seven notes this year.

Katherine Vancil was removed from the records due to her death 12-19-2009.

Matt Broshar discussed the financial reports and explained to the new Elders and noted the bar-chart is a four-year visual to show how the money is coming in. He noted that December was a solid giving month and above the giving of the last three years. The year ended with a positive balance. The Agency Funds and the Investments were explained. There was little activity in the Agency Funds. Two CD's will soon need to be reinvested. **Motion prevailed** to use \$15,000 to be repaid to one specific loan for the Building Fund.

Motion prevailed to place a donation for carpet into a designated fund for carpet. **Motion prevailed** to pay 20% of the face value on the loans given for the Building Fund. A motion was made to move the cushion held in the budget to pay the loans of the Building fund to the actual amount rather than \$25,000. By a show of hands, 4 Elders voted to change to the actual amount owed and 9 Elders voted to leave the amount at \$25,000. The cushion will remain at \$25,000. **Motion prevailed** to return to the general fund a year-old check to Jon Vanderheiden for janitorial work as we are unable to locate him.

Dean Baker reported for the Missions Committee that the committee reluctantly reduced their budget this year, but will give more money to missions if it is available at the end of the year. Three of the agencies we support are in Haiti. The Robin's Nest had significant damage and Sharyn Babe has been transferred to a hospital in Florida with back injuries.

Cindy Butler reported for Worship & Music that 10 Elders have agreed to serve Communion at the 10:30 a.m. service and an Elder is needed to help serve at the 8:00 a.m. service. A training session was held for Communion servers. Groups of Communion preparers have been contacted. **Motion prevailed** to approve the following Communion dates for 2010: the first Sunday of each month, Maundy Thursday, Christmas Eve and the first Sunday of January 2011. **Motion prevailed** to approve the following dates for special offerings in 2010: "One Great Hour of Sharing" during Lent, Maundy Thursday offering for the Deacons, the "Joy" offering the fourth Sunday of Advent; and the Presbyterian Village in Ackley offering on Christmas Eve.

Communion—202 on December 6, 164 on December 24, and 156 on January 3. **Home Communion** was taken to **Mabel Bryant, Earl Fouts, Beth Harrison, Nathalie Lynch, John & Irene Sheeler, Esther Slate and Loren & Sharon Vogt.**

Rollie Freel reported the Evangelism Committee discussed changing the date of their monthly meeting from the third Monday to the second Monday.

Doug Bacon reported for Christian Education that he had met with Dave Beckmann and discussed the responsibilities of the committee. Session members toured the Sunday school rooms at the end of the meeting.

Carol Permar reported for A & P and the members discussed committee assignments for the new Elders and a report was distributed noting those assignments. The committee discussed doing a financial review.

Bonnie Grimmus reported that the M & I Committee is planning a sledding party in February.

Orlyn Langenbau reported for the Property Committee that a new Lennox furnace was installed in the NW furnace room to heat the nursery and preschool room.

Motion prevailed to approve the following persons as check signers for 2010: **Rollie Freel, Bonnie Grimmus, Orlyn Langenbau, Bill Moore and Roger Schoell.**

Motion prevailed to pay the Per Capita to Presbytery in three installments

Meeting was adjourned and closed with group prayer.

Newsletter deadline for March information is SUNDAY, February 21, 2010.

Reminder:

Feb. 7— Boy Scout Sunday

Feb. 14— Transfiguration of the Lord

Feb. 14—Valentine's Day

Feb. 15—Presidents' Day

Feb. 16— SESSION

Feb. 17—Ash Wednesday

Feb. 19-21—Family Retreat @ Camp Okoboji

Feb. 21—First Sunday in Lent

Feb. 28—Second Sunday in Lent

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Richard King
Associate Pastor	Rev. David Beckmann
Youth Director	Jon Rottink
Organist	Wynona Anderson
Chancel Choir Director	Valerie King
Office Manager/Newsletter Editor	Nancy Diggins
Custodian	Yawo Sassouvi
Assistant Custodian	Jan Faber
Nursery Director	Heather Rottink

Members in mission making a difference.

GOOD NEWS from First Presbyterian Church is published monthly. Deadline for the following issue is published in the calendar. Comments and contributions are welcome.

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Web Site www.nivlac.org

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Associate Pastor at dave.beckmann@mchsi.com

Youth Director at jon.rottink@mchsi.com