

NewsBrief

♥For the members and friends of the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford ♥

June 2008

From the Pastor's Pen-Cell

June is bustin' out all over! The song composed by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein for the musical, *Carousel* brims with confidence. Of course it is rooted in romance; a subject that oozes from the majority of Broadway's hit shows. And it is busting out here in Pittsford, too.

The month starts early for me. You have helped provide an amazing birthday gift for Martha. \$10,270 has been raised for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and their effort to find cures and treatments for this ravaging disease. I had hoped to find a way to reach \$6,000, \$100 for each year of her life that is celebrated at the end of May, but you and many friends have helped us exceed this goal. It is humbling and I am grateful.

On June 1 I will be at the Leukemia and Lymphoma site at Lake Tahoe where we intend to complete our promised 100-mile ride. Our small Rochester team will join about 2,000 riders, each honoring someone who has fought this disease. And in a way, many of you will be there, too, especially with your prayers. Words of gratitude feel limited by those two simple ones, but they are the ones that need expression and they are, "Thank you." As I write, the bike is being prepared for shipping and there are several more training rides to complete, but the groundwork is there. I hope that the only thing that busts out during the ride is June.

From our site out West, I will join you for communion on June 1 and will be eager to worship with you on June 8 when our children will provide worship leadership. On June 15 we honor graduating seniors and then on June 22, when we return to a summer schedule of one service at 9:30am, we will dedicate the new organ that will have been voiced. On that June day we will bust out "all the stops."

Commonly congregations who commission an instrument like this to be created try to provide an organ that 1) is an excellent solo instrument, 2) can accompany other instruments, 3) provides support for a varied choral

repertoire, and 4) assists the congregation with hymn singing and praise to God. Uncharacteristically the charge given to Taylor and Boody by 1st Presbyterian Church of Pittsford has actually been to reverse this order. Although we anticipate that the instrument will be able to handle concert compositions for the organ wonderfully, it is an instrument to help us in our praise of Almighty God.

Accordingly, the dedication on June 22 will not be one that features an imported renowned musician with exceptional skill, but it will be a dedication where we all participate in praise to God. Yes, we will sing and the organ will be played by our musicians and members. We believe that they have superb gifts and that God has blessed us with their presence during this creation and installation process.

Our Deacons will be helping us to celebrate in June with a strawberry festival after worship. So many wonderful things as we slide into summer.

But as June busts out, so does Memorial Day and that sits ahead of us as I jot these lines. Many towns lay claim to the origin of Memorial Day or Decoration Day. The most common tradition is that on a spring morning in 1866, just after the Civil War a group of Southerners did the extraordinary. They marched the streets of what was left of their town to a cemetery. There they decorated the graves of the soldiers, all the soldiers, Union and Confederate. The mothers and daughters and widows had buried their dead. More importantly that day they buried their hatred. The time for healing had come. It was the first Memorial Day.

Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966. But it is difficult to prove conclusively. In 1873 the state of New York was the first state to officially recognize the day. The South tended to use other days, but after World War I the focus moved from the Civil War to all those who had died in the Nation's Service. Surely it is not important who was the very first. What is important is that Memorial Day was established. Memorial Day is not about division. It is about reconciliation; it is about coming together to honor those who gave their all. It is held the last Monday in May.

I have wondered why Memorial Day is marked in May. To the best of my knowledge its date doesn't recall an historic battle, or the start of a war, or the signing of an armistice. To the best of my knowledge, it was begun because of a practical reason. It was a time for the busting bloom of flowers, flowers with which to decorate graves. And as a people of hope we followers of Jesus decorate graves with the confidence that there was once one who busted out of his grave and by resurrection gave the world its best victory to celebrate.

Bruce

Hello everyone! Welcome to another great month in the life of our youth at First Presbyterian Pittsford! It's been a busy time, so let me update you on the great things that have been happening!



Since our last issue, we had a few of our youth attend the Presbytery's Mission Madness event. It was a fabulous time where we were able to meet other youth in our presbytery and serve God together in Rochester. Some of our kids served at places like FoodLink, other churches, and People's Ministry in Christ. (←Jenn Longwell & Amanda House planting flowers @ People's Ministry)

A group of 20 youth and adults went white water rafting on May 10th at Letchworth State Park. The ride was mostly serene, with a few rapid parts of the river. The water was freezing, but it was great fun! We finished the day with a great lunch and many took naps on the ride home. Many thanks to Maura Rouse, Matt Wahl, Michael Goldrick, and Kelby Ash for chaperoning our youth!

As the school year is coming to a close, we do still have a couple of events left for our youth. We are finishing our fundraising for this summer's mission trips and working on some great ideas for the '08-'09 school year. Many thanks to all who have helped us fundraise for our youth this year! To give you a quick update, we are planning on doing JASY (our senior high mission trip to Jamaica) for the summer of 2009. Details are being worked out over the next 2 months. The trip will be filled on a first come, first serve basis, so start thinking now if you wish to join us next year! But as for the rest of this year, here's what's coming...

Junior High

June 7th- Jr. High End of Year Bash!
4:30-8:00pm at the Ruffer-Kim's Home @ 36 Sandpiper Lane Pittsford. Bring your bathing suit & towel for water games, any fun game ideas, and yourself! This event is open for this school year's 6th-8th graders.

*Reminder...those going on the mission trip, our last meeting is on June 8th @ 11:30am in the Youth Room.

Senior High

June 8th- Sr. High End of Year Bash!
4:30-8:30pm at the Wahl's Home @ 19 Golf Ave Pittsford. Bring your bathing suit & towel for, any fun game ideas, and yourself! This event is open for this school year's 9th-12th graders.

*Reminder...those going on the mission trip, our last meeting is on June 1st @ 11:30am in the Youth Room.

*FYI...Kingdom Bound is August 3rd-6th this year. Cost is \$180 for everything. We have 14 open spots. Reserve ASAP!

Christian Education News:

by Nathan Zampella

Sunday School – The children learned about Pentecost through subjects such as science, computers, and food. Thank you to the parents who taught this last unit of our school year.

The next event on the Education Calendar is Children's Sunday. Preschool through 8th Grade will be preparing to lead worship on June 8th. Here is the schedule:

- June 1st – prepare during Sunday School

Thank you! Thank you! – So many people unite to make our education programs so impactful. If you have helped to teach or shepherd our children and youth, or if you've helped in other ways to make our educational programs successful, then please know you are appreciated. Here is a list of those that have served just since January:

Adams, Diana	Broughton, Willa
Adams, Patty	Bruins, Barb
Adams, Sarah	Burnham, Dwight
Amborski, Caitlin	Cooper, Larry
Amborski, Wendy	Crowley, Suzanne
Appelo, Renate	Drake, Lynne
Ash, Carin	Dublin, Trudy
Ash, Kelby	Falter, Eric
Ashworth, Linda	Falter, Mary
Ashworth, Maddie	Finkbeiner, Kim
Babcock, Lillian	Fix, Sylvia
Brodeur, Niki	Fox, Lee
Gartland, Cathie	Pollock, Ron
Gartland, Rachel	Rouse, Lucien
Gavett, Bill	Scahill, Marge
Hamilton-Frank, Laura	Skuse, Roxanne
Harrison, Dan	Sprenkle, Dick

- June 1st – rehearse immediately following Sunday School (about 45min.)
- June 8th – lead the congregation in worship on Children's Sunday.

Please have your child in attendance on those dates to bless our church through worship.

I'll admit that I am not quite prepared for it to be summer. However, there will be a summer program for Sunday School. If you're around, then please come worship with your church family. The children will be having fun and learning throughout the summer months.

Henderson, Janette	Stiles, Gayle
Herge, Erika	Stiles, Joanne
Herge, Madge	Swetman, Colleen
Holmes, Dede	Swetman, Kelsey
Hugenbruch, Ruth	Temp, Christine
Kearns, Janet	Thompson, Louise
Kurnath, Joe	Thompson, Paige
Kim, Tom	Tinder, Kim
Knoerzer, Linnea	Travis, Kelly
Larson, Cindy	Tyler, Jamie
Larson, Mark	Tyler, Pem
Leyland, Stacy	Wahl, Matt
McGuire, Jayne	Wahl, Susie
McGuire, Patrick	Ward, Margot
Messenger, John	Werner, Allison
Messenger, Judy	Willert, Betty
Nugent, Kate	Williams, Claudia
Pederson, Jane	Wilson, Betsy
Peet, Sharon	Zimmer, Chris
Polizzi, Kelly	

I sincerely apologize if I missed someone!

Adult Education – Until June 15th, the topic for the 8:30 class is “What Do Our Neighbors Believe? Questions and Answers on Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.” There are many misperceptions that people have of each other and their beliefs. Dick Sprenkle will lead this class to help participants better understand the religious world around them. Ultimately this will help to break down barriers between people and facilitate the spreading of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Save the Date for the next Adult Education Seminar. We will walk through the New Testament on September 27th. The participants from last year’s walk through the Old Testament had energetic and animated stories to tell. You won’t want to miss it this year!

News from the Nursery School (PCNS)

On May 28, 2008 the Pittsford Cooperative Nursery School, located in the lower level of the church, will end its 55th school year. It has once again been a memorable year. Life-long friendships were made. Parent and child experiences were enjoyed. Smiles and tears were seen daily. Our three and four-year olds will be very busy in this last month of school. They will visit the Pittsford Firehouse, ride a school bus and have ice cream along the canal. They will watch caterpillars become butterflies in their classrooms. They will be visited by a miniature horse. All of this in a nurturing and familiar surrounding. We will be gone for the summer, but back in September. Come visit anytime!

Teresa Zatyko, Coordinator

Depression. A sadness so soft settles on us. It is seemingly without cause. Yet, it lingers like the winter fogs. A caring Stephen Minister is ready and trained to help you find yourself through the mist along with your professional caregiver. All is held in confidence. To find out more about Stephen Ministry for you or



someone you know, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: *Jane Hunter, Alice O’Dwyer, Kay Saxum, Barbara Smith, Dick Sprenkle or Carol Tiemann (223-1466).* **Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!**

WEB CLUB

Next Meeting Wednesday June 11th 7:30 PM
"Loving Frank" by Nancy Horan

The "Frank" of Horan's title is the architect [Frank Lloyd Wright](#); the "Loving" came from a woman who has been all but erased from history's rolls: Mamah Borthwick Cheney, a learned, lovely woman who scandalized Chicago when she left her husband and two young children to flee to Europe with Wright — who left behind a wife and six children of his own. Mamah Borthwick Cheney wasn't just any woman, but Horan makes her into an enigmatic Every woman — a symbol of both the freedoms women yearn to have and of the consequences that may await when they try to take them. *excerpts from New York Times Book Review*

Available in Paperback

A Big Thank You To

All the people that contributed towards the purse for my retirement. That was so sweet! And I appreciated the nice cards and notes. A thank you also to Women's Association for the generous gift from them. My husband and I are going to Bermuda for a week in July, so the money will come in very handy.

Another thank you to Session for the gold watch. It is beautiful! Now I won't have to ask my husband what time it is whenever we go somewhere. I was so touched by your generosity. It has been a pleasure working for you these past 20 years. I wish you all the best.

Janet Travis

It's Picnic Time!

The Optimists will meet at 6:15 pm on June 6 in Eyer Park, East Rochester, for this rite of spring. Please bring your own table service and be prepared for true picnic fare. The \$5.00 tickets will be available in Fellowship Hall after both services on May 25 and June 1.



There's more! Just as it is difficult to imagine traveling to the moon, can you possibly imagine an AUTO trip from New York to Paris in 1908??? In this year of the 100th anniversary of that event, Doug Drake will take us on that journey. If you have more questions, please call Pat Campbell, 385-8594.

NOTES FROM JAMES

As I write this, we have just completed the Sacred Favorites II Concert with Harold McAulliffe and the Chancel Choir. The event was a great success. Many thanks to those in the Chancel Choir who worked so diligently and faithfully to prepare the concert. I would also like to thank Emmy Valet, soprano, and Melissa Monahan, alto, who sang with us in the choir. They were inadvertently missing from the printed program, but their contribution to our work was not missing and we are delighted to have them singing with us!

If you've looked up in the balcony, you can't miss the fact that the new organ is here! While I am delighted to see the instrument, I'm looking forward with even more anticipation to hear it, and with still even more anticipation looking forward to playing it! This is an exciting time. Thanks to the Organ Committee(s) for all of their work. Also, thanks to those of you who are housing the builders. This is definitely a project that takes a huge number of members

to make it happen. On the four-year anniversary of our fire, I am delighted that the congregation has not only responded to our need for an instrument to lead our worship service, but provided an instrument that is unique and a significant contribution to the organ collection in the Rochester area. You'll likely be reading about our organ in some of the newspapers, seeing some interviews on various news channels, and I fully expect that in the not too distant future, you'll hear performances of the organ on the nationally syndicated program "Pipe Dreams". We will have a service of dedication for our organ on Sunday, June 22. Expect lots of exciting music!

On May 25th, we have a real treat for our Sunday morning services. During both services, our music will be led by the Music Ministry of the First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant in Erie, Pennsylvania. We will have a large group of middle school and high school students on tour, both singing and ringing for our service. We will host their chime choir, a 2-octave bell choir, a 5-octave bell choir and a singing choir of 30 youth! This will be an exciting service that you will not want to miss!

Finally, as we move toward our summer schedule, I'm delighted to announce that Pat Miller will be reprising her role of music leader for our church and will assist in planning musical contributions for our summer services. If you would like to play or sing on a Sunday in July or August, please check with Pat and let her know. She will also form various choirs that will rehearse a few minutes before the service. This could be a great opportunity to try out singing in the choir and the marvelous view from the Choir Loft!

Membership & Evangelism

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

from Carrie Brockler, M & E Committee

Timm and Linnea Knoerzer

Coming to us from a church in Colorado Springs are Timm and Linnea Knoerzer. Timm works at Nazareth College and enjoys playing the trumpet, basketball, baseball and fishing. Linnea is a student, and her interests are running and spending time with friends and family. They reside at 52 Rand Place with their children Mackinnly, 9, and Kellsie, 8. They may be reached at 662-5246 or hmks06@yahoo.com.

Scott and Kelly Maas

New members Scott and Kelly Maas are expecting their first child, a girl, in June! Scott works for Navitar, and Kelly is employed at the University of Rochester. They enjoy movies, hockey, basketball, and touring the Finger Lakes wineries. Scott and Kelly reside at 52 Knollbrook Road, Apt. 16, Rochester. They may be reached at 698-9505 or millerk99@hotmail.com

Ronald J. Mathieu Sr.

Ron is joining us, and his wife June has been a member for years. He is retired and has two grown children, Ronald Jr. and Tracy. Ron enjoys racquetball, golf, health, exercise, and activities with his wife. They reside at 1060 Hillsboro Cove Circle, Webster. He may be reached at 670-9492 or rjmathieu@frontiernet.net.

Margaret Morgans

Margaret lives at 81 Reitz Parkway, Pittsford, with her husband Mark, and children Ed, 17, Betsy, 15 and Maggie, 13. She is a small business owner operating Parkway Window works. Her company offers custom sewing services to the interior design trade. Peggy's interest are walking and fitness. She may be reached at 385-5693 or mark_morgans_x@hotmail.com.

Peter and Eve Sciandra

Peter and Eve and their children Jacob, 8 and Claire, 4 reside at 27 Summit Oaks, Pittsford. Peter is employed at Kodak and is a soccer coach, and is interested in drama. They may be reached at 249-0816 or Sciandra@rochester.rr.com.

Henry Thiede

Henry, a former member is reactivating his membership after moving back from the South. He is retired and has two grown children, Patricia Thiede and Nancy Parcher. Henry and his wife, Ellen Horey-Thiede live at 100 Creek Ridge, Pittsford. He may be reached at 381-8452 or thiede@rochester.rr.com.

Derrick and Kimberly Wilborn

Derrick and Kim reside at 32 Locke Drive, Pittsford. Derrick is employed at Lexis-Nexis Legal Publishing as a senior legal analyst, and Kimberly works at Solution Partners as a financial consultant. They have two children – Daniel, 11 and Emily, 8. Their phone number is 381-5639.

Richard and Sandra Young

Richard and Sandra reside at 6 Old Farm Circle, Pittsford. Together, their adult children are Geoffrey, Elizabeth, Michael and Steven. Sandy works at the Living Center at the Highlands of Pittsford, and her interests are gardening, gourmet cooking, and writing. Rick plays golf, and together they enjoy art and antiques. They may be reached at 218-0928 or ProbateMan@aol.com.

Prayerfully Pondering Summer Missions...

Consider for a moment what would happen if suddenly the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford no longer existed. Given the lightning strike of May 20, 2004, I know it would take something even more substantial for that to be the case. Even so, contemplating the absence of our church helps us realize just how very much happens in the life of this mission-minded family of faith.

This church is not simply a place where people come and worship, although that is the centerpiece that holds us all together. I consider a church to be more like a busy intersection, a place through which we pass briefly in order to be sent into the world. It is in this place we worship, receive instruction, form relationships and form all of God's children – including ourselves in the process. Under and through this busy intersection resides the Spirit of the living God directing our lives like a traffic policeman, giving spiritual gifts and impulses that move us here and there, strengthening, consoling, and awakening.

As of this writing, we are about to send another group of JASY missionaries (Jamaican Advantage Thru Sport for Youth see <http://jasy.info>) to Jamaica in partnership with McQuaid High School and we just finished commissioning the 10 members of the 2008 confirmation class in a Spirit-

filled Pentecost worship service. Our junior and senior high youth will be serving God by serving others in York, PA (July 20-27) and Kingstown, RI (June 29-July 5). The first annual Ted Pollock Memorial Mozambique trip will take place in July and many are eager to participate in all of these transformational events. I invite our new confirmation class, the class of New Members we received on May 4th, and anyone interested in learning about what really happens at this spiritual intersection called the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford to participate in one of these ministries. As Ted Pollock constantly quipped, he was in the ministry of changing lives, not building buildings. Together we have the opportunity to recognize the infinite loop of worship leading to service, service leading to an experience of God in the world, and experience leading us to thankfulness which is at the heart of our worship.

Go With God,

Carrie

Week of June 1 – Gen. 6:9-22, 7:24, 8:14-19; *Ps. 46*
Rom. 1:16-17, 3:22b-28 (29-31)
Matt. 7:21-29

Week of June 8 – Gen. 12:1-9; *Ps. 33:1-12*
Rom. 4:13-25; Matt. 9:9-13, 18-26

Week of June 15 – Gen. 18:1-15 (21:1-7);
Ps. 116:1-2, 12-19; Rom. 5:1-8
Matt. 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

Week of June 22 – Gen. 21:8-21; *Ps. 86:1-10, 16-17*;
Rom. 6:1b-11; Matt. 10:24-39

Week of June 29 – Gen. 22:1-14; *Ps. 13*
Rom. 6:12-23; Matt. 10:40-42