

The Soo Chimes First United Presbyterian Church



January 2016

Volume 47 Issue 1

Take the FUPC challenge

Things have changed in our society; there is no getting around it. There was a time when society practically delivered people to the doors of churches across our country. Businesses were closed and activities were not scheduled because Sunday was "The Lord's Day". Even when businesses started staying open on Sunday, activities were still absent on Sunday. Church was still the place people were expected to be on Sunday.

It is amazing how radical change in our society can occur in just a few decades. Today our society views Sunday as a great day to schedule events and activities. Work, activities, entertainment, etc. act as forces that pull people from church on Sunday. Worse still our society which recognizes the need to devote ourselves in other areas of life, has begun to preach a message that spirituality is something that will just "happen" and we don't need to devote time or energy in this area. The Bible is pretty clear that this is not the case," (Heb 11:6 NIV) And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

The Bible does not ask that we be

perfect and that is good news indeed. We are commanded that we need to earnestly seek God in our lives. We are commanded to earnestly seek a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We are commanded to earnestly seek the leading of the Holy Spirit. Ask a simple question, "Is the time an effort I am putting into seeking God, would it be considered an earnest attempt in any other area of my life?" Would our earnest effort in the last year to seek God, would that have been considered an earnest effort in our work? Our relationships? Our activities? Our hobbies?

Don't despair, this was not written to make people feel bad but to make a plan for 2016. How do we make an "earnest" effort to know God? Modern society is busy but it also affords some advantages. Unless we experience a technical difficulty we have our Sunday worship services posted on line usually by 12:30. Our worship services provide a very tangible way of showing an earnest effort to know God. First, we follow the common lectionary. Why is this important? The Sunday scriptures over a three year cycle will cover most of the Gospels and New Testament and a sizeable portion of the Old Testament. Have you ever

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The Purpose of the First United Presbyterian Church is to:

Invite people to know and glorify God Grow together as followers of Christ Serve others through the power of the Holy Spirit

Receive your newsletter by email and in color, too. Call the office to find out how!

tried to read through the Bible and got lost somewhere? Just going to our website and reading the scriptures in the bulletin, this is up before the service on Friday, when you can't attend will ensure you read through most of the Bible over time.

On those Sunday's you can't attend, the services on our website provide more opportunities to "earnestly" seek God. We usually have both children's and an adult sermon. These are offered to help understand the scriptures for that particular Sunday. I know people are busy. I also know even if we can't attend on Sunday, we can find 15 minutes during the week to look up the scriptures and listen to the children's sermon, the adult sermon or both. I know our kids are busy, but I also know they can stop playing video games, watching something on Netflix or watching funny cat videos for 15 minutes a week to listen to the scriptures and the children's sermon, adult sermon or both. How about making it a family challenge?

Peace in Christ, Mark



Our Sunday Worship Service starts at 10:00 a.m.

We hope to see you on Sunday!



Food Pantry

Cathy Akre and Ginger Stratton

Deacon



If you or someone you know are in the hospital and would like a visit from the Deacon's please contact the church office or one of the Deacons



The next Deacon's Meeting will be held on January 17th.

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Freighter View Assisted Living 605 West Portage Avenue

Virginia Blair Audrey Bush Emily Hamilton

Jane Kellan

Margaret Olson

Carmelita Schrumpf

Delores Swick

Hearthside Assisted Living
1501 W 6th Avenue

David Shaw

At Home

Bea Woodgate 1008 Johnston Street Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Tendercare— Sault Ste Marie 1011 Meridian

Jim Schmidt Jean Smith

McKinley Manor 2023 West 4th Avenue

Vera Steffens Jeanne Gantz

WMH Long Term Care 500 Osborn Boulevard

Lois Myers

Out of Town

Della Porter 2920 Crystal Lane Room 426 Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Dorthea Allen Michigan Masonic Home 1200 Wright, Room 167 Alma, MI 48801

June MacInnis 900 Glen Haven Circle, Apt 2 Petoskey, MI 49770

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Michael Peller (Grandson of Marsha Cross), Kevin Tastor, Jean Smith, Carl Smart, Kady Love, Carolyn Vollick, Jim Schmidt, Gina Gough, Shane Miller, Delphine Porter, Ruth Thesing,

Ellen Meister, Wendy (Menard) James, Dorothy Smart, Jane Kellan,
Margaret Olson, Robert Jewell, Judy Knutsen, Ellen Woodgate,
William Kellan, Colleen Sibbald, Bea Woodgate, Margaret Vonderwerth
& her family, and all members of missionaries and
the U.S. Armed Forces.

Please keep us up to date on your prayer requests.



Deacon's Cookie Walk

A huge Success!!!

A variety of baked goods and a generous church Family, a total for \$785 was raised by this event

All the proceeds raised will benefit the Deacon Food Pantry.



Connie Lawrence and a delicious display of baked goods.



SUNDAY
JANUARY 17TH
2:00 PM

Ginger Stratton



DEACONS'
WINTER
CLOTHING
DRIVE

Coat Drive
Help someone in need

The Deacons have been

collecting winter clothing throughout last the months and would like to thank everyone who donated to this worthy cause. The items have been made available to all the participates of the Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry.



The Deacon's would like to extend their gratitude for all the. hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens that were donated on the Mitten Tree. The items collected will be distributed to the elementary schools in town. They are much appreciated by both the teachers and students. Thank you for helping keep the children warm, during the long winter months.



Michelle Markstrom



New Year's Day Friday, January 1st



Scrip cards helps to make your gift giving easy! We have over 600 places we can order from. Scrip purchasing is easy and does not cost you any extra money. The more we start to utilize this

program, the more we can help out our church organizations such as the food pantry, youth activities, and so much more! We do have many cards available for immediate purchase in the office and orders are always going in! If you have questions, please see Brenda.

Brenda Ransom, elder <u>tallulah@lighthouse.net</u>



Thomas and Cheryl Thoresen Charles and Audrey Zane

Remind me never to ask the Youth Group to help fold the church bulleting again."

01/07 01/13



Doris Boogerd & Cathy Akre collaborating on a projects at the Textile Social





The next TEXTILE SOCIAL will be on Thursday, 01/14/16 from 10 am to 2 pm in the Social Hall. Because of the enjoyment of this activity, the TEXTILE SOCIAL will meet every Thursday!

Tables are set up for sewing machines, cut tables, scrapbooking, knitting, crocheting and crafting. Bring your projects and your sack lunch. Refreshments and dessert is provided.

Stop in for an hour or more every Thursday. We share ideas, give assistance and even do a little teaching if desired. We really glean off one another's talents. We were taught how to make pillow cases, aprons, and bowl/plate hat "cozies". We are looking to work on a common mission project, as well in the new year. We are excited about that Stop in and share your ideas and talents on January 14, 2016.

You can call me 632-3207 or Ruth 632-9355 if you have any questions.

Anita Weinrick



		Aubrey Agar	01/05	Fred Amarose, Jr.	01/19
		Marjorie Ackerman	01/08	Carol Brawley	01/20
IANUARY		Barbara MacLaren	01/12	Jase Averill	01/21
BIRTHDAYS		Ronald Kerzner	01/14	Jacklyn Johnson	01/21
Connie Wanze	er 01/02	Danna Sanderson	01/14	Benjamin Reattoir	01/21
Lee Myers	01/03	Carla Nicholls	01/16	Treyce Sanderson	01/25
Paul Sabourin	01/03	Sarah McLarahmore, IV	01/17	Kristen Martinchek	01/26
Julie Walsh	01/03	Cheryl Thoresen	01/17	Mary Lee Schmidt	01/27
James Larke	01/04	Danika Martinchek	01/18	Carl Smart	01/27

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no exception. promise, promises are However.

doesn't mean we should give up or quit trying to much in our lifetimes. We are full of successes as fulfill our dreams for a fresh start in any given well as failures and we remember them well. year.

The most common goals or promises deal with in our way. I don't know of anything that is more personal determinations like to quit smoking, or go devastating than having too large of an ego or uson special diets, have stronger faith, establish ing pride as a prop. values, gain better personal moral relationships, and being able to forget about what We might even start the New Year off by just has happened in the past.

and not be dependent on others such as in a care ties, mistakes, and how corrections were made in facility. We all like to be independent and free as their lives. All of us have so many experiences, we we have always been, but there may come a time can share our thoughts. when our choices become limited.

the Lord said, "Forget about what has happened before. Do not think about the past. Instead, look at the new things I am going to do."

our past, and we should follow His example. We Year! should always strive to eliminate excuses from our vocabularies, and work to solve what exists before

Promises are a way us. Those of us who can admit when we are wrong to start any new or make a mistake will certainly prosper in the year, and 2016 is long run. Proverbs 28:13 states clearly, "A man No who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be we successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, most he gets another chance.

broken before we When we look back we can recognize our errors even get started, and strive to do better. Forget about what has that happened before because we have experienced so

Let's make sure that our pride and egos don't get

accepting our own responsibilities, and being a better listener is one way that will help us to know Many wish to be able to live longer in their homes what others feel about some of their responsibili-

Since we believe in God and believe in the In the book of Isaiah (43:18) it states clearly, when Christian faith, we realize that faith will guide us along His path, and he can take us by the hand and say, "Come follow me." Our lives will never be the same.

God is much more interested in our future, than Let's look forward to a new beginning in this New

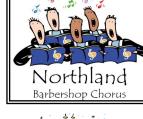
Don Myers, CRE





Adult Choir

January 24th Northland Barbershop Chorus





Come enjoy, during our January 24th Worship Service as the Northland **Barbershop Chorus joins us to present** energetic and entertaining music.

Let us welcome the Northland Barbershop Chorus as they share their talent during the Worship Service.

We Sing, That They Shall Speak.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM December 13, 2015 A huge thank you to everyone who helped make our Christmas program 2















ELF BREAKFAST



A big ELF thank you to everyone who helped make our first Elf Breakfast such a huge success. It was such a blessing to see so many of our families and friends attend the event. We especially want to thank all of you who helped to make it a possibility. There were many hands and hearts that assisted in so many ways to see this vision come to life...You just have to **BELIEVE!**



Music filled the FUPC Sanctuary as the Sault Area High School performed in their Annual Christmas Concert.





Christmas Cantata







Thanks to the Choir for a wonderful, song filled Christmas Cantata to proclaim the real reason behind this season. Not only did we have a beautiful Service, but then we partook of a delicious meal prepared by the Endowment Committee. Thanks to all who prepared this meal fit for kings & queens and thanks to all those who helped in decorating, serving, and cleaning to complete this wonderful morning.

Endowment Dinner



As we approach the new year, it is time to look at the budget of our church. Thanks to the nice weather, we have been able to save money on our heating bill

and our snow plowing bill. Yet we still must remember that the daily operations of the church still take place. If you would please keep your church giving in prayer. In order for us to continue God's work, we must be good stewards and make sure our financial responsibilities are taken care. Thanks to our faithful givers, we are able support our church finances. But we must make sure that our giving in continuous in order for this to continue. We thank you for your membership and faithfulness to First United Presbyterian Church of Sault Ste. Marie

May God bless you in 2016 with health and happiness.

Stewardship Committee

ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS'



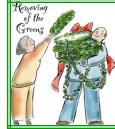
Please mark your calendars for January 31, 2016 for our annual church meeting immediately following the

worship service. This is a very important time in our church and ALL members are encouraged to attend this meeting. Reports will be available on January 24th. All committee members are asked to have their reports to Audrey no later than January 8th.



Sunday January 31, 2016





Unfortunately, the Christmas season is drawing to a close and that means the sanctuary decorations will need to come down soon and we will be removing them after the January 3rd service. If you can help with this, please plan to stay after service. Thanks.

Dear friends and participants of Three Lakes Lay Academy,

As most of you know we have taken a semester off, but with great excitement and anticipation we will begin another round of classes starting in January 2016. Below you will find the classes that will be taught in the winter term. We are still looking for one person to complete the roster of teachers for the winter term. There are some things you can do for us for this term.

Spread the word

Register yourself

3LLA academy exists to be a ministry of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Presbytery of Mackinac. People are invited to participate for whatever reason works for them.

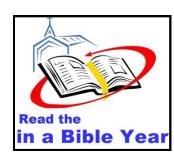
We have two classes each Thursday. They are held at Zion Lutheran Church, St. Ignace and begin at 4 pm. We take a break at 5:30 for a shared meal and worship. This winter, Leslie Henderson has volunteered to prepare meals for the last 5 weeks, but we need volunteers to fill in the first 5 weeks. So if you can provide a meal for one of the weeks we will appreciate that. Please get hold of Dave Van Dam if you would like to volunteer.

You can register anytime. Call or send a message to either pastor Dave Tielbar ($\underline{david.tielbar6@gmail.com}$ 906-643-7870), or pastor Dave Van Dam ($\underline{davidvandam68@gmail.com}$ 231-439-5069)

Winter – January 14 – March 17, 2016

- 1. **Genesis Nehemiah -** 10 weeks from 6:30 8
- 2. Creedal Formulations 5 weeks 4 5:30 pm, Jan. 14 Feb. 11
- 3. Ministry at the End of Life -5 weeks 4-5:30 pm, Feb. 18-Mar. 17





1	Luke 5:27-39	Genesis 1-2	Psalm 1
2	Luke 6:1-26	Genesis 3-5	Psalm 2
3	Luke 6:27-49	Genesis 6-7	Psalm 3
4	Luke 7:1-17	Genesis 8-10	Psalm 4
5	Luke 7:18-50	Genesis 11	Psalm 5
6	Luke 8:1-25	Genesis 12	Psalm 6
7	Luke 8:26-56	Genesis 13-14	Psalm 7
8	Luke 9:1-27	Genesis 15	Psalm 8
9	Luke 9:28-62	Genesis 16	Psalm 9
10	Luke 10:1-20	Genesis 17	Psalm 10
11	Luke 10:21-42	Genesis 18	Psalm 11
12	Luke 11:1-28	Genesis 19	Psalm 12
13	Luke 11:29-54	Genesis 20	Psalm 13
14	Luke 12:1-31	Genesis 21	Psalm 14
15	Luke 12:32-59	Genesis 22	Psalm 15
16	Luke 13:1-17	Genesis 23	Psalm 16
17	Luke 13:18-35	Genesis 24	Psalm 17
18	Luke 14:1-24	Genesis 25	Psalm 18
19	Luke 14:25-35	Genesis 26	Psalm 19
20	Luke 15	Genesis 27:1-45	Psalm 20
21	Luke 16	Genesis 27:46-28:22	Psalm 21
22	Luke 17	Genesis 29:1-30	Psalm 22
23	Luke 18:1-17	Genesis 29:31-30:43	Psalm 23
24	Luke 18:18-43	Genesis 31	Psalm 24
25	Luke 19:1-27	Genesis 32-33	Psalm 25
26	Luke 19:28-48	Genesis 34	Psalm 26
27	Luke 20:1-26	Genesis 35-36	Psalm 27
28	Luke 20:27-47	Genesis 37	Psalm 28
29	Luke 21	Genesis 38	Psalm 29
30	Luke 22:1-38	Genesis 39	Psalm 30
31	Luke 22:39-71	Genesis 40	Psalm 31
	-	-	



Sara Jones and Mary Moran



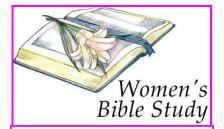
Men's Bible Study every Friday morning at 9:00 am.

Studies begin again on January 8th

All men are welcome to join us!

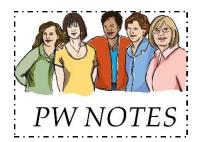


9:00 am



Woman's Bible Study every Wednesday morning at 9:30 am

All women of the church are invited to join us.



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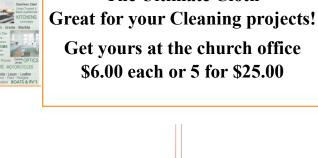
Tuesday at 9:30 am January 19th (the 3rd Tuesday),

All ladies are welcome to join us for an informal gathering.

PW Bazaar Wrap-Up

If we're to have a tea & bazaar in November 2016, we need to have a Chairperson and a Decorating Person in place as soon as possible.

Please consider volunteering for this annual event.









Thanks to everyone who brought in copy copier and janitorial supplies throughout the year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and helps keep down our expenses.

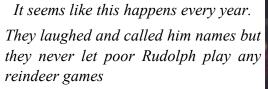


I would like to thank all the members of the Fist United Presbyterian Church for all that you do. It is a pleasure and honor to serve you as your secretary.

May God bless and shower
His favor upon each and everyone in
the New Year.

Circle 3











Snowwomen?????????

How can this be, There is no snow in Sault Ste Marie.



Donna Blair, Ardith Bawks, Sharon Sheppard, & Lois Hillock relaxing in comfort.

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GUIDING LIGHT

Make this flashlight to remember that God, our light, always shows us the way.

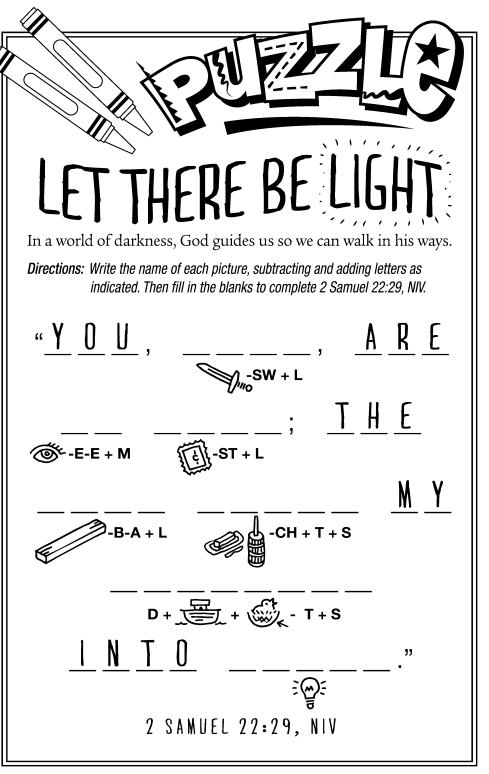


What you need:

- Flashlight with handle strap
- Yarn (6 to 8 inches)
- Colorful pony beads
- Stickers (including foam letters)
- Batteries

What you do:

- 1. Tie the yarn through the flashlight's handle strap so two equal lengths hang down.
- 2. String the pony beads onto the two yarn lengths, and secure the ends with knots.
- 3. Decorate the flashlight with stickers. Use letters to spell "God is light."
- 4. Keep the flashlight by your bedside as a reminder of God's guidance. Use the flashlight to read a Bible verse before bed each night!



Answer: "You, LORD, are my lamp; the LORD turns my darkness into light." 2 Samuel 22:29, NIV



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					<u> </u>	
Saturday	2 9:00a N.A. 7:00p A.A.	9 9:00a N.A. 7:00p A.A.	16 9:00a N.A. 7:00p A.A.	23 9:00a N.A. 7:00p A.A.	30 9:00a N.A. 7:00p A.A.	
Friday	Office Closed Office Closed	8 9:00a Men's Study Grp	15 9:00a Men's Study Grp	22 9:00a Men's Study Grp	29 9:00a Men's Study Grp	
Thursday		7	14 9:30a Circle 3 Meeting 10:00a Textile Social (SH)	21 10:00a Textile Social (SH)	28 10:00a Textile Social (SH) 6:30p Boy Scout Leader Mtg	
Wednesday		6 9:30a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Choir Rehearsal	13 9:30a Women's Bible Study 6:00p Choir Rehearsal	20 9:30a Women's Bible Study 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	27 9:30a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Choir Rehearsal	
Tuesday	uairy	5 9:00a-12:00p Food Pantry	12 9:00a-12:00p Food Pantry	19 9:00a-12:00p Food Pantry 9:30a Ladies Coffee Hour	26 9:00a-12:00p Food Pantry	
Monday	ini	4 7:00p Boy Scout Mtg (SH) 7:00p ACT Study Grp	11 7:00p Boy Scout Mtg (SH) 7:00p ACT Study Grp)	18 Martin Luther King, Jr Day 5:30p Trustee's Meeting 5:30p Session Mtg (WR) 7:00p Boy Scout Mtg (SH) 7:00p ACT Study Grp	25 7:00p Boy Scout Mtg (SH) 7:00p ACT Study Grp)	
Sunday		3 Epiphany of the Lord Removing the Greens 9:00a Early Social Hour 9:00a Adult Sunday School 10:00a Worship Service 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Removing of the Greens 12:00p Soup Kitchen 6:30p Youth Group	9:00a Early Social Hour 9:00a Adult Sunday School 10:00a Worship Service 10:00a Sunday School 11:30a Christian Ed Mtg 12:00p Soup Kitchen	9:00a Early Social Hour 9:00a Adult Sunday School 10:00a Morship Service 10:00a Sunday School 11:15a Deacons Meeting (Lib) 12:00p Soup Kitchen 2:00p Freighter View Worship 6:30p Youth Group	24 Annual Report Distribution Northland Barbershop Chorus 9:00a Early Social Hour 9:00a Adult Sunday School 10:00a Worship Service 10:00a Sunday School 11:30a Soup N' Sandwich 12:00p Soup Kitchen	31 Annual Congregational Meeting 9:00a Early Social Hour 9:00a Adult Sunday School 10:00a Worship Service 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Annual Congregational Mtg 12:00p Soup Kitchen 6:30p High School Youth Group

First United Presbyterian Church

555 Bingham Avenue Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

TERIAN CHURCH

Phone: 906-632-7771 Fax: 906-632-4666

E-mail: office @ soop resbyterian.org

Web site: soopresbyterian.org

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (closed 11:30-12)

Sunday Worship Schedule

Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Sunday School (all grades) 10:00 a.m.

Church Staff

Rev. Mark Gabbard, Minister
Don Myers, CRE
Brenda Ransom, CRE
Kay Boyne, Music Director
Denise Goldade, Financial/Administrative Assistant
Jesse Witte, Sexton

Deadline for February issue: January 20 Non-profit Organization
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