

February 2010 Newsletter

Around this time of year we often have new elders who have just been elected and ordained and are joining the session. We have to do some adjusting as elders who have served one or two terms, three or six years, step down and new people take their place. Sometimes that means the committee responsibilities change. Who is willing to work on education or buildings and grounds, or mission? What are each person's gifts and interests? We don't always talk about feeling a "call" by God to serve on a particular committee or take on a volunteer position. But I do hope that all of us as members of the Body of Christ keep our hearts open to God's guidance.

The Apostle Paul explains that we are each given gifts by the Spirit and that the gifts are given for the good of the whole. Paul writes, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." (1 Cor. 12:4-7) Our interests and talents may be very different, but we each have something to offer to the world and the church. And all the gifts are given by the one Holy Spirit.

So, we shouldn't look down on a person because his or her gift is different from our own. We also shouldn't dismiss our own natural abilities. The Spirit works in each one of us! I shared the following prayer/poem with the sessions of Calumet and Lawron churches. I hope that it will remind you to let your light shine!

"Our deepest fear
is not that we are inadequate
Our deepest fear
is that we are powerful beyond measure.
It is our light,
not our darkness,
that most frightens us.
We ask ourselves,
who am I to be brilliant,
gorgeous, talented, fabulous?

Actually, who are you not to be?
You are a child of God.
Your playing small doesn't serve the world.
There's nothing enlightened about shrinking
so that other people
won't feel insecure around you.

We were born to make manifest
the glory of God that is within us.
It's not just in some of us;
it's in everyone.
And as we let our own light shine,
we unconsciously give other people
permission to do the same.

As we are liberated from our own fear,
our presence automatically liberates others.”
--Marianne Williamson

PS. Thank you to our new elders at Lawron, Jack Berg and Rick Lorenz. Thank you to all of the elders serving on the sessions at both churches. Your time and talents are appreciated!

Pastor Dorothy

February 2010

Feb. 3 - potluck and game night at Lawron, 6 PM

Feb. 4 - Lawron PW meeting, 9:30 AM

Feb. 7 – Communion at worship for both churches, “Souper” Bowl Sunday – bring donations for food shelf

(Lawron and Calumet Sessions will take the month off)

Feb. 16 – Pastor Dorothy will be on vacation

Feb. 17 - Ash Wednesday Worship and Soup Supper at Mary Immaculate Catholic Church, 6 PM Soup, 7 PM Worship

Feb. 20 - Presbytery meeting at Lakeside Presbyterian Church in Duluth

Feb. 24 – Lent Supper and Worship at First United Church in Coleraine, 6 PM Soup, 7 PM Worship

Feb. 27 - Confirmation Retreat at First United Church, 9 AM – noon

Tentative plans for Cris Brown's students to hold a piano concert at Lawron at 2:30 PM to raise funds for relief work in Haiti, watch your bulletins for more information

2010 Lent Schedule - Soup Supper at 6 PM and Worship at 7 PM

Feb. 17 – Ash Wednesday at Mary Immaculate Catholic Church in Coleraine

Feb. 24 – First United Church in Coleraine

March 3 - St. Joe's Catholic Church, Taconite

March 10 - Bethel Trinity Lutheran Church

March 17 – Calumet Church/St. Mary's Catholic Church, at Calumet Snowmobile club

March 24 – Lawron Presbyterian Church

April 2 – Good Friday, TBA

Announcements

Calumet only

We have a small food shelf at the church for use in emergencies. Our goal is to focus on the needs of people in the Calumet and immediate surrounding area, recognizing that paying for the gas to get to Hibbing or Grand Rapids can make it difficult for some people to access the food shelves. Please contact Pastor Dorothy if you or someone you know needs emergency assistance with food. You can reach her at the church at 247-7829 or at home at 245-2781.

The Grand Rapids Low Vision No Vision Support Group meets at Manor House, 722 N. Pokegama Ave., on the third Monday of every month from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM. The

facilitator is Nancy Northard. If you need more information, please call Nancy at (218) 624-4828 or (218) 301-9759.

Give Kids a Smile Day is Friday, Feb. 5. This is a program that offers a free dental exam for children up to 18 years of age who do not have dental insurance or the ability to afford dental care. Please call one of the following dentists for an appointment: GR Dental Center (Dr. Johnson) 326-0339, 8:30 AM to 5 PM, Dr. Less Jess 326-3213, 8 AM to noon, Miskovich Dental 326-3437, 8 AM to 1 PM, GR Dental Care 326-3438, 8 AM to noon.

First Call/2-1-1 offers free, confidential and nonjudgmental information and referral, active listening and crisis intervention to all residents of North Central Minnesota. They are seeking volunteers to assist in delivering these services. Please call them at 326-8565 or 1-800-442-8565, or simply dial 2-1-1 from a landline phone and they will send you the agency information and volunteer application.

Per Capita for 2010 is \$25.30 per active church member. You are not required to pay Per Capita to remain a member of this church, but if you would like to make a special donation to cover this expense, it would be appreciated! Per Capita money is used to support the work of our local and national Presbyterian governing bodies.

Snow Announcements

We have occasionally needed to cancel Sunday worship due to snow storms. We will try our best to notify everyone when this happens. We will also contact KAXE 91.7 to make the announcement on the radio. Their phone number is 326-1234. Finally, if you are wondering if we will have worship you can give Pastor Dorothy a call at home at 245-2781.

Why is the Census Important to Minnesota?

On April 1, 2010, the U.S. Census Bureau will count every resident in the United States. Why?

Numbers mean power. The Census count is the basis for determining the number of each state's Congressional representatives. Minnesota currently has eight representatives in the U.S. Congress; however, the state could lose one seat after 2010 because of population changes.

Completing and returning the Census questionnaire will help ensure Minnesotans' interests are fully represented in Congress.

Numbers mean money. For every 100 Minnesotans who fail to answer the Census, the state will lose **\$1 million** in federal funds over the next 10 years. The federal government gives out approximately **\$300 billion** each year based on the Census count, while the state distributes many of its program funds based on population counts. Counties, cities and townships where residents fail to answer the Census will lose additional state dollars.

Numbers mean information. Businesses, governments, schools and non-profit agencies use Census data for planning programs, land use, businesses and services. Census data tell us who our customers are, where our students will live and what our greatest needs will be.