

# THE NEW TIMES

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 6

AUGUST 2009

## ALL-CHURCH BOOK READ

### *The Screwtape Letters*

By C.S. Lewis

"My dear Wormwood, ..." So begins this product of C. S. Lewis's wickedly funny imagination, a correspondence between two devils, Screwtape and his young nephew, Wormwood. As the senior fiend advises his young apprentice in leading humanity astray, Lewis delves into questions about good and evil, temptation, repentance, and grace, offering knowledge and guidance to all who are trying to live good Christian lives.

Small group discussion of this book will comprise level one of **Growth In God** on Wednesday nights. The Church office will also coordinate other meeting times for those who wish to be a part of a group discussion and are not available on Wednesday evenings.

Books will be available for purchase at the church. Please call the office and reserve your copy today. By ordering the books together, we hope to gain a quantity discount

## ALL-CHURCH BASEBALL GAME TRIP

Help us celebrate being who we are as a church! BPC has a block of seats (Section 135, Rows 7-10) reserved for a Minnesota Twins baseball game against the Detroit Tigers on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:10 p.m. Our mission trip youth will lead our slightly shorten Sunday worship service before we head to the ballgame.

Tickets are \$26.00 each (a \$31.00 value), and we must

have at least 25 people to get this discounted group rate. A sign-up sheet and box are in the Narthex to sign up. Since advance payment is required, the last day to sign up is Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>.

Plan now to join us and to see one last baseball game in the Metrodome.



## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Twin tickets sign-up with payment deadline is Monday, August 24th.*
- *The BPC Women's Fall Retreat is October 9-11 at Clearwater Forest.*
- *One GIG kicks off on September 16th.*
- *September is Meals on Wheels month at BPC.*

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## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends,

The Back-to-School ads are beginning to appear in the newspaper and on TV. That means it's also time to start thinking about Christian Education as well. I know many of you have taken part in the adult Bible study throughout the summer and still others have taken to the Boundary Waters, Canada, the state parks and other outdoor spaces near and far for your summer Christian education - after all, Calvin called the Creation a "theater of God's glory." I hope your summer has been blessed by many moments of beauty, grace, and God presence.

But now, as our daylight hours shorten and as we work our way toward the end of the Christian calendar, followed by another Advent and another Lent, it's time to consider some great opportunities for intentional spiritual growth and commu-

nity building:

**\*Rally Sunday** -  
September 13, 2009

All Church Celebration of Baptism 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Parents and Children Meet Teachers at 9:45 a.m.

Worship at 10:30 a.m.

**\*Confirmation Class** (Auditors Welcome!)

**\*All Church Book Read** - *The Screw-tape Letters* by C. S. Lewis

**\*One GIG** - New!  
Wednesday Evenings  
**Growth In God**

Will you Byte?

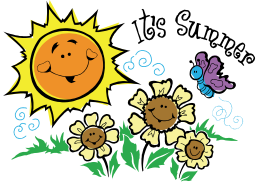
Dinner at 6:15 p.m.,  
Small Group Discussion 6:45-7:30 p.m.

Our life together is gaining in energy and in joy. This issue of ***The New Times*** is filled with opportunity for each of us to indulge in fulfilling the mission/vision statement of BPC. Each and every week, our bulletin states: The purpose of this church is to fully equip us to

become disciples of Jesus Christ, obeying His commandments to love and worship God, love and care for our neighbors, and make new disciples in our community and the world.

As for me, some of these glorious summer days have been spent cleaning out my office. I am beginning to take a few things home, in part, because I have a home and I'm still getting organized, but also in part because my time with you is coming to a close. As the PNC works toward finding a new pastor, we are entering another time of transition. It is your presence, your faith, your energy, intelligence, imagination and love that will continue to make this fellowship a thriving church. Invite your friends and keep it growing!

See you in church,  
Julia



"I hope your summer has been blessed by many moments of beauty, grace, and God presence."

## WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT

Mark your calendars! The Presbyterian Clearwater Forest Women's Retreat is scheduled for the weekend of October 9-11, 2009.

Plan to join the women of our church in fellowship, study and relaxation. Time is also scheduled for hiking, reading, sharing, eating and napping.

Watch the bulletin and upcoming newsletters for more details.

This promises to be a fun and enriching weekend.



## RALLY SUNDAY -- ALL CHURCH BAPTISM

Do you know where your Baptismal Certificate is?

Members and friends of BPC of all ages are invited to the Education Hour and Confirmation Kickoff on

Sunday, September 13th at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Bring your baptismal certificate if you can locate it and come ready to have fun! We'll have the coffee on

early. Worship will follow at 10:30 a.m.

## MEALS ON WHEELS

September is our church's month to deliver Meals on Wheels. This year we are responsible for two

routes. The sign-up sheet will be on the table in the Narthex. Meals are picked up at the back door of the

Lake Ridge Care Center at 11:20 a.m. each day.

Thanks for your support!

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FALL GATHERING

The 2009 Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area Fall Gathering is Saturday, October 10 at the First Presbyterian Church in Hayfield, Minnesota.

"Expanding Your

Christian Horizons" an extensive look at Immigration Issues in the United State and more particularly in Minnesota is the theme of the event.

The registration deadline is Saturday, October 3, 2009.

Please contact Margie Petersen (507-843-4649) or Rosey Peterson (507-477-3140) for registration forms and with any questions.

### One GIG --

#### Growth In God

Will you Byte?

Wednesday Nights  
at BPC

Kickoff—

September 16th

Dinner at 6:15  
p.m.

Small Group

Discussion

at 6:45-7:30 p.m.

## Searching for a New Pastor



## PNC UPDATE

The PNC took a bit of a break from regular meetings in July. However, behind the scenes the work continued through phone calls and emails. We have now resumed

meeting regularly and are considering a number of qualified candidates. We are all still committed to listening for the new pastor God has chosen for BPC.

Please continue to pray for our committee and our church.

## YOUTH UPDATE

Our BPC youth have had an exciting summer with trips to the Mall of America and Presbyterian Clearwater Forest, swimming at the Gatzke's house. We look forward to a trip to the State Fair later this month.

Seven of our youth had a wonderful and fulfilling experience on the mission trip to Louisville, Kentucky, in mid-July. The trip was a good mix of work, fun, learning and personal growth. The group arrived safely at all of their

destinations and was overwhelmed at the greetings, generosity and genuine hospitality of their many hosts. The youth look forward to sharing their experiences along with a few photos at the Youth Celebration Service during worship on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. The Service will end with the all-church trip to the Minnesota Twins game.

Scott and Holly have also started planning for Fall. Their difficulty is finding time to

fit it all in! Middle School youth group begins on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> with the first Sunday School meeting on Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. High Schoolers will begin their combined Sunday School/youth group on Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Other youth events are on our Google Calendar. Watch the September newsletter for more upcoming events and dates.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Our church family as we enjoy the last of summer. We pray for safe, relaxing and fun vacations and to remember to take the

time to thank God for our many blessings. We pray for our congregation during this time as we begin to return to regular

schedules and make plans for the fall. We also pray for Julia and our church staff as they too gear up for fall.



## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

### August church family celebrations

#### August Birthdays

August 2<sup>nd</sup> Delores Sikkila  
 August 7<sup>th</sup> Ron Johansen  
 August 13<sup>th</sup> Larry Pattee  
 August 14<sup>th</sup> Mitch Grittman  
 Stan Johnson  
 August 19<sup>th</sup> Marjory Aldrich  
 Katie Gatzke  
 August 28<sup>th</sup> Marquietta Shupe

#### August Anniversaries

August 3<sup>rd</sup> Tim & Diane Heisel  
 Dave & Jean Johnson  
 August 22<sup>nd</sup> Ron & Nancy Grittman  
 August 27<sup>th</sup> Kay & Walt Spike

**Happy Birthday  
 and  
 Happy Anniversary  
 to one and all!**

#### Fellowship Servers—

Please be on the lookout for your name posted in the Fellowship Hall, so you will know when it's your turn to serve during our Coffee Hour.

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY Lily Ann Steiskal, daughter of Kris and Joe Steiskal and granddaughter of Dave and Jean Johnson. Lily was born on July 23, 2009.



## HOW TO PRAY

Pray where you are. God is present everywhere and ready to listen.

Pray, when possible, in a quiet place where you can be alone. It is good to fix your mind on God, apart from confusing distractions.

Pray to God simply and naturally, as to a friend. Tell him what is on your mind. Get help from the prayers of others.

Pray remembering the good things God has done for you. Give thanks for all your blessings.

Pray for God's forgiveness for the unworthy things you may have done. He is near to a humble and

contrite heart.

Pray especially for those things that will make your life more Christ-like.

Pray for others, remembering the help they need for situations they confront.

Pray for the world in its need, and for God to guide you in ways you can help.

Pray that God's will be done in you. His purposes are wiser and deeper than our own.

Pray, and then allow God to answer your prayer.





# BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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THE NEW TIMES IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

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**B**UFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS A CONGREGATION IN WHICH THE WORD, THE SPIRIT, AND THE LOVE OF GOD ENRICH AND STRENGTHEN US AS INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN CHRIST.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS CHURCH IS TO FULLY EQUIP US TO BECOME DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST, OBEYING HIS COMMANDMENTS TO LOVE AND WORSHIP GOD, LOVE AND CARE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS, AND MAKE NEW DISCIPLES IN OUR COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD.

## THE NEW TIMES

### AUGUST 2009

Newsletter submissions are due by Friday, August 14th for the September issue.

**Julia Carlson,**  
Interim Pastor

**Scott Dobovsky,**  
Youth Director

**Marcy Bodin,**  
Office Manager

**Holly Minke,**  
Newsletter Editor, Youth Administrator

## AUGUST ROTATIONS

### Lay Leader

August 2nd Steve Grittman  
August 9th Lavina Pattee  
August 16th Stanley Johnson  
August 23rd Dolores Pensky  
August 30th Mike Quady

### Greeters

August 2nd Doug and Jill Mills  
August 9th Tom and Holly Minke  
August 16th Jim & Kristie Minkoff  
August 23rd Gloria Nielsen  
August 30th Don & Pat Olsen

### Resident Pick-up

August 2nd Dick Jenson  
August 9th Marlene Aldrich  
August 16th Dick Jenson  
August 23rd Marlene Aldrich  
August 30th Dick Jenson

