

The Chimes

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July—September 2017

Saved from the Wrecking Ball

by Paula Stevenson Hoglund

In the Fall of 1966, the MPC congregation was settling in to the brand-new church, leaving the old church behind in anticipation of all that was in store on the corner of College & Meade. With a generous donation from Mr. George Banta of then Banta Printing Co., the 19th century church was purchased by Lawrence University and the decision was made to raze the building.

Several items had already been moved to the new church, including chapel furniture, the pulpit, the organ, and even kitchen cupboards. The pastor at the time, Rev. Cliff Pierson, claimed the "eye of God" round stained glass window that had been located high above the choir loft and the one he would often look up to while at the pulpit. Even so, there wasn't a strong emphasis on preserving many of the church's architectural elements, and quite a bit was destined for the indiscriminate wrecking ball.

Shortly after the demolition process began, an opportunity presented itself for members of the church to get one last chance at grabbing some mementos. With the wrecking ball stilled for a short time, people carefully sifted their way through the wreckage. Pat Boldt recalled that it was a bright, sunny day, with light glinting off of all of the colored glass shards covering the area. The east-facing windows had already been broken beyond recognition.

"The sanctuary space was littered with glass. There were broken shards of glass all over the floor," Pat recalled. "Most of the windows were already gone, but we looked up and on the west side of the building, three windows remained. Someone said, 'we've got to save those windows!'"

A team of carpenters from The Boldt Company was soon on the scene, carefully removing the windows and framing them in wood for transport. They were in pretty bad shape and quite grimy from their location adjacent to the armory, but they were intact, and that was the most important thing. "We were lucky to salvage what we did," Pat commented.



Artist's rendition of the decision to save the east windows of the old church that are now on permanent display in the Fireside Room.

The home for these rescued windows turned out to be the downstairs X-room of the new church, and for almost 20 years the windows languished there, doing nothing more than collecting dust. Over those years there were attempts to find a location for them, but other priorities seemed to be more urgent. Committees were formed, discussions held, and then committees disbanded. Nothing was done.

Fast forward to Fall 1984 . . . throughout the previous year, a Memorials Subcommittee had studied the feasibility of permanently displaying the windows in the Fellowship Hall of the church, but the cost appeared to be prohibitive. Session denied this request at their meeting of December 1984, and proposed instead to offer the windows for purchase by members of the congregation. A notice appeared to that effect in the January 1985 issue of *Chimes*, which promptly got the attention of Dick Calder and other members, who fervently believed that the windows should remain at MPC.

True to Presbyterian form, another committee was formed. Called the "Old Church Window Committee," it was comprised of O.C. and Pat Boldt, John and Lee Parker, John and Lois Haugner, Sherry and Marion Huss, Dick and Chris Calder, Tom Dietrich, Tom Orbison, and Harold Heller. They reviewed all the possible locations within the church, met with the Parlor Committee and Memorial Committee and finally submitted a report to the Session to "proceed with the idea of placing the three windows from the old church in the Parlor on the south wall above the existing windows." Session approved of this and also "to use \$1,000 of undesignated memorial funds for this project and . . . (to) approach the Church Endowment Committee to arrange the additional funding needed. The total cost of the project was estimated at \$4,500. Finally, after all these years, a room location and budget was decided upon! The windows would be located in what was then called the Parlor (now known as the Fireside Room). But where in the room would they be placed, and how could they be meaningfully and beautifully displayed?

Discussions continued over the next few months. Many proposed ideas were soon discounted. Then, on one memorable Saturday morning in September 1985, Pat and O.C. made a spur-of-the-moment decision to drive down to the church. They sat down in two winged-back chairs, facing that south wall and brainstorming how the windows could be displayed. Unbeknownst to them, Dick & Chris Calder and Sherry Huss were on their way over to the church with cardboard shapes, cut to the exact dimensions of the windows, so they could tape them up on the wall to identify where the windows should be placed. When they arrived, all five committee members had a good laugh – they were all thinking the same thing at the same time and all made the decision to act on it on that very day!

In order for the windows to be properly displayed, with just the right lighting, the paneled wall was moved out, wooden frames were made for the windows, and lighting was installed evenly around the windows. The end result is what you see today in the Fireside Room:



As Dick Calder described them in a committee report from that time period:

"The larger window (Dove) is centered and slightly higher on the wall with the two smaller units (Wheat and Grapes) which have the same color tones complementing the larger window on either side. The décor of the wood paneling was removed, the area backlit, and the windows inserted and the wood paneling put back in place. Thus, the same motif was kept in the parlor.

The Committee feels that this installation combining the old windows with the new church will be a constant reminder to our present congregation of those old members, mostly forgotten by name, who made the first Presbyterian Church in Appleton possible. It will be a visual memorial of the past to be enjoyed by present and future members."

We hope that you will, indeed, look at these three old windows with renewed eyes, knowing that they were almost lost to the wrecking ball but saved by a dedicated group of church members so that they can be enjoyed by generations to come.

~ I wish to express my deep appreciation to Pat Boldt and Dick Calder for sharing their recollections, stories, written material, and professional photographs taken by Jack Worthen of this important time in the life of the church. ~ P. Hoglund

Congratulations, Graduates & Scholarship Recipients!

High School Graduates

Mason Buss, Kimberly High School (will attend University of Wisconsin Madison)

Calum Fraser, Appleton North High School (will attend University of Wisconsin Madison)

Mason Shaffer, Appleton East High School (will attend Fox Valley Technical College)

Alexander Switzer, Grandson of Shirley Collins, Neenah High School (will attend University of Wisconsin Oshkosh)

College Graduates

Abbie Athanas, Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Studies with Business Minor,
University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

Elizabeth Braatz, Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Science and Policy,
University of Minnesota Twin Cities

Rob Fraser, Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology, University of Wisconsin
Oshkosh

Scholarship Recipients

Huss Family Memorial Scholarship:

Mason Buss

Calum Fraser

Presbyterian College Scholarship:

Anna Shaffer



Solution to puzzle on page 7

Mission Grant Program

by Tim Shoaf, Mission Team Member

The Mission Funding Team is in the process of kicking off MPC's 2017 Mission grant application season and would like to take this opportunity to reacquaint you with our mission grant program and invite you to participate in the application and awards process.

Our Mission grant program is funded by earnings on our Mission Endowments, a collection of funds created out of gifts to MPC designated specifically for mission and now totaling in excess of \$300,000. This year we expect to award approximately \$17,000 in grants.

Historically, these grants have been awarded to local non-profit organizations; however, they could also be used to support special mission projects initiated by our church or individual members of the congregation. We would prefer that these grants go to recipients that our members support or intend to support through their personal volunteer efforts. Since we know that many of you "Connect. Inspire. Serve." through activities outside of MPC-sponsored mission projects, we are happy to consider grants that support these personal mission passions.

MPC's grants are awarded through a formal application process. The application form is available on the church website. To download the form, go to MPC's home page, www.mpcappleton.org. Click on "Mission" in the main menu. You'll find a link to the application in the section headed "Mission Grants Available." You can also contact the church office or anyone on the Mission Funding Team which includes Greg Braatz, Josh Carson, Tom Neal, Tim Shoaf and Fred Umland. This is the team that also reviews the applications and makes recommendations to Session regarding awards.

The deadline for applications is September 1. If you would like guidance on the types of things that are eligible for grants, consider this quote from the application form:

"Through our Mission grant program Memorial Presbyterian Church (MPC) provides assistance to a variety of benevolent causes in keeping with our commitment to "Connect. Inspire. Serve." Generally speaking, grants can be awarded to support any effort consistent with our faith and the belief that we are obligated to reach beyond the walls of our church to spread Christ's love to the world at large. This includes efforts that address the needs of the poor and disadvantaged; the needs of the sick, the hungry and the homeless; the needs of the victimized and the friendless; efforts that promote education and efforts that work for peace and justice in the world."

If you have any questions or would like to discuss potential applicants please feel free to contact anyone on the team. We encourage you to take advantage of this special opportunity.



Christmas in July

Kids don't like new socks and underwear for Christmas, but they love it for back-to-school! Once again, MPC is collecting new socks and underwear for the Community Clothes Closet's annual Back-to-School program. All sizes are needed, from preschool through high school. So start shopping for sales and use those coupons.

Let's see if we can beat last year's collection of an unbelievable 946 items! A box for your donations is located in the east hallway, and will be available through Sunday, August 6.

Invitation to Partnership

by Linda Morgan-Clement, Lawrence University Dean of Spiritual and Religious Life

In the mission statement of Lawrence University's Office of Spiritual and Religious life, we state that we provide "a welcoming and supportive environment for spiritual and religious explorations and expressions of faith. Programs, services, and student groups bring the Lawrence community together for educational opportunities, multi-faith conversations around critical topics, campus ceremonies, and religious services and celebrations." I want to spend a few moments reflecting on some of the ways that I am hoping to engage this new mission in the life of Lawrence University and to invite you as a congregation and individually to consider participating and contributing to our shared mission

I was very grateful for the opportunity to introduce some of you to the new Center for Spiritual and Religious Life as a part of your Lenten series about neighbors. For this article, I will pick up the theme of neighbors to guide my thoughts. Certainly, Memorial Presbyterian has been a very hospitable neighbor for Lawrence and for me as a fellow Presbyterian. Kathy Privatt served as a member of the search committee, and Jeff and Kathy have since become good friends. Pastor Mike has graciously introduced me to resources and colleagues in the community and you graciously allow me to park in your south lot during the week, welcome us to worship on a regular basis, have invited me to preach, and helped to welcome me into the presbytery. Your community also offers Lawrence students opportunities for employment and a worshipping community, and I am certain that individual care occurs at multiple levels.

It is clear to me that there is much that can and should happen to support, nurture, and challenge the spiritual lives of members of the Lawrence University community. As essentially a one-person operation, the key to addressing these needs will be to develop strong partnerships across campus and into the Appleton and Fox Cities community. At present, many of my efforts are directed toward developing and creating a network of resources and partners. My concept of neighborliness (or partnership) is that we find ways to embody the Acts 35 community model, where 'they laid [it] at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.' (NRSV) I take this to mean that we seek to mutually meet one another's need and those of our neighbors. I hope that ongoing conversations with MPC will help us discern overlaps and develop healthy and sustainable ways of combining resources to meet the needs of both the Lawrence community and the MPC family. Below is a short list of possibilities that I see as places for exploration:

- *Encouraging students to engage with some of the Justice-oriented projects at MPC*

Many of our students are very interested in practicing activism. Faith-based activism grounds itself in a vision of justice that is broad and deep. I believe that opportunities that share religious resources and develop social justice stamina across generations create long-term movements. This is also an opportunity to model the connection between the ethical questions of, "whose are we?" and "so what?"

- *Creating programs and community for Progressive Christian Students*

Progressive Christianity struggles to find its voice in the current social climate. Doing the difficult work of articulating our life choices and how they are grounded in our theological framework with students could help us all with the challenges offered on campus, in Appleton, and across the world.

- *Outreach to Presbyterian students*

As a Presbyterian pastor, I really enjoyed the work of connecting with our Presbyterian students at Wooster. Here, without the Presbyterian history, I would still like to be able to access the resources of the denomination to help our Presbyterian students continue to develop their faith lives.

- *Taize worship and an intergenerational trip to Taize, France*

In partnership with Father Jim from All Saints Episcopal Church, we have received a grant from the Episcopal denomination to develop a Taize ministry. The grant allow us to hire students and offer two intergenerational Taize services every month that school is in session. It also provides seed money to take an intergenerational trip to Taize in December of 2018. I know that All Saints and my office would welcome members from MPC as part of this effort.

- *Mutual prayer and awareness of our ministries*

Always awareness and prayer is welcome. The risk of being on a campus is that I and students can lose sight of congregational life and that the church often forgets that we exist to support one another's mission.

I welcome your thoughts and look forward to discovering what God has in mind for us over the next few years.

Partners in Ministry,
Reverend Linda Morgan-Clement



Children and Youth Ministry Program Gears Up for Fall

by Joel Screnock, Resident Christian Educator

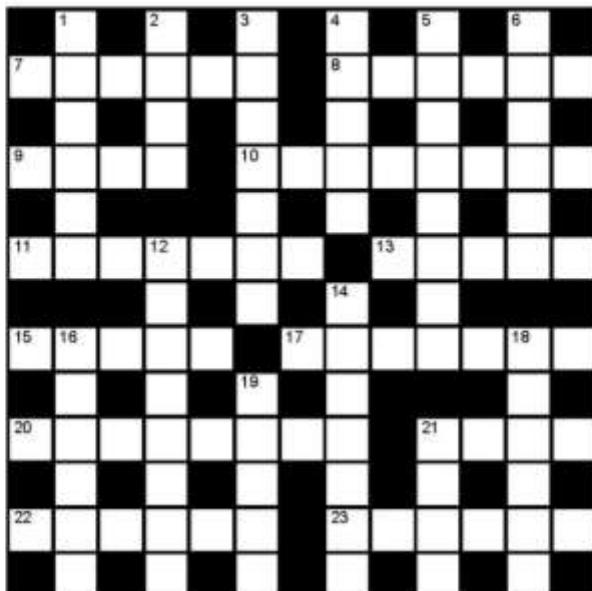
This past year has brought some exciting things to the Children and Youth Ministry program here at MPC. While the summer has been relatively quiet so far, there is definitely a lot of enthusiasm about the upcoming year! It will all kick off with the Youth Fellowship's work trip to Louisville, when a group of six high school students will be taking a week to do some community service down in Kentucky. Everyone is really looking forward to this trip, and we are extremely grateful to those who donated to help us go. Everyone who gave support will be able to celebrate the trip with us when we hold the Shareholders Lunch after the church service on August 27th.

And then (please don't get mad at me for saying this), summer will be over and it's back to school! We'll be doing the Blessing of the Backpacks and kicking off the new ministry year. We've got some great leaders coming back, and also some new faces that are ready to start helping out.

It's going to be another great year of Children and Youth Ministry, and we just can't wait to get started!



Test your knowledge of the Book of Exodus with this crossword puzzle (solution appears on page 3):



Across

7 Aaron was this. Ex 28:1 (6)

8 The Jews who saw Moses' crime said, "Who made thee a _____ and a judge over us?" Ex 2:14 (6)

9 "This is my name for ____." Ex 3:15 (4)

10 The garments of Aaron and the priests are to be _____. Ex 29:29 (8)

11 God promises to ____ the borders of Israel. Ex 34:24 (7)

13 "And the third row a ligure, an _____, and an amethyst." Ex 28:19 (5)

15 The LORD troubles the Egyptians during the morning _____. Ex 14:24 (5)

17 "The cause of both _____ shall come before the judges." Ex 22:9 (7)

20 "Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have _____. " Ex 23:20 (8)

21 The people of Israel wanted Moses to speak to them, rather

than God directly, "____ we die." Ex 20:19 (4)

22 The feast of unleavened bread is celebrated in the month Abib when the Israelites "____ out from Egypt." Ex 34:18 (6)

23 This word describes someone who lends money at an unfair rate. Ex 22:25 (6)

Down

1 "And they were _____ out from Pharaoh's presence." Ex 10:11 (6)

2 "Come _____ before the LORD: for he hath heard your murmurings." Ex 16:9 (4)

3 "Ye shall offer no _____ incense thereon, nor burnt sacrifice, nor meat offering; neither shall ye pour drink offering thereon." Ex 30:9 (7)

4 A garment that the priests wore. Ex 28:4 (5)

5 The LORD smote the firstborn in Egypt at this time of the night. Ex 12:29 (8)

6 "Then shall an oath of the LORD be between them both, that he hath not put his hand unto his neighbour's goods; and the owner of it shall _____ thereof, and he shall not make it good." Ex 22:11 (6)

12 Exodus 28:38 describes what Aaron should wear, "that they may be _____ before the LORD." (8)

14 One of the types of stones that was set in the breastplate that the priests wore. Ex 28:17 (7)

16 The Israelites were scattered _____ throughout Egypt. Ex 5:12 (6)

18 God set up judges for Moses. "So shall it be _____ for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee." Ex 18:22 (6)

19 "And he made for the altar a brasen _____ of network under the compass thereof beneath unto the midst of it." Ex 38:4 (5)

21 Describes the sound of the trumpet. Ex 19:16 (4)

King James Version

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A Blast from the Past

This poem appeared in the March 1889 edition of MPC's monthly newsletter, the *Appleton Presbyterian*. Even in its old-fashioned way, this message of this poem still holds true today.

*Keep a watch on your words, my darlings,
For words are wonderful things;
They are sweet, like the bee's fresh honey;
Like the bees they have terrible stings:
They can bless, like the warm, glad sunshine,
And brighten a lonely life;
They can cut in the strife of anger,
Like an open two-edged knife.*

*Keep them back, if they're cold and cruel,
Under bar and lock and seal;
The sounds they make, my darlings,
Are always slow to heal.
May peace guard your lives, and ever,
From the time of your early youth,
May the words that you daily utter
Be the words of beautiful truth!*

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