Expressions

CHURCH IN THE HILLS PC(USA)

"What's Next?"
As September rolls into Northern Michigan, we see the kids head back to school, the leaves change their colors, and our snowbirds begin their inevitable journey back to warmer locales. We certainly are a cyclical and seasonal community, aren't we?

But does this cycle lock is into patterns, habits, and traditions that are most appropriate for our mission and ministry here at Church in the Hills? Recently the session has been wrestling with this notion of planned change. During my tenure at CITH, I have see organizational, worship, fellowship, and mission development that strengthens and supports the call God has placed on us. However, I believe we are now in a position not just to be swept up by the rising tide of change, but to accurately plan for what is to come before we are forced into a decision.

In other words, we have a unique opportunity to take a breath, refocus in prayer, and listen for what God would have us do, not just what we think should be done. CITH has experienced substantial spiritual and physical growth over the past two years and we have struggled to keep up with this wonderful new dynamic. Now is the time for us to be more deliberate within the context of this growth and listen, plan, and grow according to God's will.

In good Presbyterian fashion, we are forming a task force to consider these questions and offer guidance to the session and the congregation about where we feel we are called to go. This long-range visioning group is not intended to be another monthly meeting. Instead, we will hold a series of meetings each quarter specifically designed to ask questions about the future of CITH within this community and within the Body of Christ. What will this congregation look like in 5 years? 10 years? 25 years? 100 years? We should be asking these questions and then reacting to the answers we hear through the Holy Spirit.

So, whether you are a member of this congregation or not, you are invited to a special pot-luck luncheon at Church in the Hills immediately following worship on Oct 25. This gives plenty of time to plan ahead, mark your calendars, and start asking those questions of our congregation about who we are and where we are going.

Take the time in this newsletter to see the mission events scheduled over the next few months, the Christian education offerings, and the many ways this church is alive in our community. God bless you as we enter into the beautiful autumn!

Peace and grace,
Pastor Andrew

From the Bench

Our concert series this year concluded in August with the Jeff Haas trio, "A Tribute to My Father, Karl." Many thanks again to all who helped and attended, particularly Dee Lynch for mounting the photograph exhibit, to Tom Frey who helped with the sound system, and to Rex Luxton for arranging for meals for the performers. People continue to speak well of our programs and I am most grateful that we have established a reputation for a church who promotes the arts (not only music) and provides a venue for performers and artists. At the last concert one of the patrons said to me, "You probably don't have this many (l00+) people in church on Sundays." To which I proudly replied, "Actually we do and often times more in the summer." I hope at least some of those who come only for concerts will return to discover the blessings of worshipping with us on Sunday mornings. Music at Church in the Hills is truly a ministry, one that touches many aspects of our lives and, hopefully, brings us all closer together in positive ways.

Please mark your calendars for the week end of October l0 and 11 when the Pomerville's church in Brighton will gift us with a free choir concert on Saturday night, 7:30 p.m., and provide most of the music for the Sunday service the next morning. Our choir is looking forward to participating in the anthem with them. If anyone would like to help provide them with pizza and salad on Saturday night before the concert, please see Dorothy (Clore). We don't need to house the choristers, but we do need to provide a meal. .Any expense for the food will be reimbursed out of the concert fund, but we need a few people to get the food and to set up tables downstairs about 6:00 p.m. Please consider offering to help and look forward to attending both the concert and church the next morning.

Dorothy Clore, Music Director

SEPTEMBER GREETERS

September 6—Ron and Essie Blackburn
September 13—Robert and Rita Drudge
September20—Walt and Dee Owens
September 27—Jeff and Deb Braden

SEPTEMBER LITURGIST

September 6–Maureen Stenback
September 13—Mike Card
September 20—Sue Schorfhaar
September 27—Beverly Dickinson

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2009	
Sarah Juntune	533-9403
Lorraine Knight Barnes	322-6093
CLASS OF 2010	
Doris Ferris	377-7022
John Brostrom	631-3770
CLASS OF 2011	
Carol Gregory	533-8138
Edena Williams	533-8598
Don Hoyt	989-614-0798

LADIES

Starting Thursday Sept 10, following Bible Study we will begin painting pine cones for our annual Meadowbrook Christmas Tea.

If you have them bring craft brushes, craft paint, green, white snowy or silver glitter, and glue. Stay as long as you can. (Bring a brown bag lunch.
Thanks Deacon, Edena Williams

PRESBYTERY POINT WORK CAMP

We will be joining in a work project to close Presbytery Point Camp for the winter. We will leave Monday morning October 5 and return Thursday October 8. There will be a variety of tasks calling for a variety of skills. If you are interested, please leave your name and number on the sign up sheet or call Pastor Andrew for further details.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

AUGUST 2	8:15—32	10:00—137	
			TOTAL—169
AUGUST 9	8:15—24	10:00—151	
			TOTAL—175
AUGUST 16	8:15—31	10:00—141	
			TOTAL—172
AUGUST 23	8:15—18	10:00—130	
			TOTAL—148

Church in the Hills will participate again this year in gathering backpacks and supplies for needy children in the Antrim County area.
Last year we provided 100 backpacks and supplies for children in Bellaire, Mancelona, Alba and Rapid City. We began collecting donations August 2, and will plan to dedicate all supplies and backpacks on August 30, for distribution after Labor Day. A supply list is included in this newsletter. We are asking for donations of supplies and backpacks or money to buy them.
On behalf of all of the children who will benefit from your generosity-Thank You!
Mary Ann Waara— Project Coordinator

SUPPLY LIST
Loose Leaf Paper
Pencils
Pens
Crayons,
Single subject notebooks
Folders

Bellaire Community Food Pantry

In response to the increasing needs of our community, the Bellaire Community Food Pantry has decided to increase its hours at the new facility to include Saturdays. Our continued contributions of food, paper goods, and cash are needed, as are additional volunteers to help out at the site.

CLOTHING DRIVE

We are again conducting a clothing drive for the Copper Country Christian Fellowship in Calumet. All items are donated to needy individuals and winter items in good condition are particularly needed. Please bring your items to the church during the week of September 27-October 4. We will

deliver the items on our trip to the Upper Peninsula on October 5.

THURSDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We will meet Sept. 3 to wrap up the discussion of Joshua and make plans for the future. In good Presbyterian women style, refreshments will be served.

Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendar the Annual congregational meeting will be Sunday September 27th. This meeting is to present the 2010 budget and to elect Elders, Deacons and the Nominating Committee. Please plan to attend.

PEACEMAKING OFFERING

The Presbyterian Church receives four special offerings during the year. The Peacemaking offering will be received on World Communion Sunday October 4. A portion of the proceeds remains in our community. Watch for further information in the weeks preceding.

THANK YOU

Church in the Hills Staff and Volunteers:
We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to all those involved in this year's Rubber Ducky Festival 5K Run/Walk. Your event was extremely well organized, had a nice group of volunteers who had their act together helping and directing, and a beautiful and challenging course. We had a very nice time for a worthy cause which made the morning even more enjoyable. Thank you for taking time out of your schedule to present this event, it's very much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Kris Bullock and Greg Mills
PS—It's not every event a person can place and come home with a ducky caller. Great idea!

Dear friends at Church in the Hills,

Thank you for opening your doors and your arms to the Moms and Tots Center this summer. We are grateful for your generous gifts of $970.00 to our ministry ($300.00 for new bldg). There's a day of celebration coming when we'll open our new building. We'll let you know when that will be. Hope your can came.
Sincerely,
Carole Broadwick , Director

BASEBALL FANS

Thank you for your support this baseball season by doing good deeds to receive your Beach Bums free tickets. I'm sure God is pleased with those deeds. Most of the tickets were used and there are no more. A big thank you to the wonderful people at Wuerful Park for their generosity.

Our Annual baseball outing was a success even though it was a very busy weekend. We had wonderful seats and the weather was great during the game. Then the Bums lost by quite a margin and there was no display of fireworks. The rains came right after the game. Save a spot for next year for another fun filled event. Thanks to every one who participated.
Deacon Carol Gregory

USED STAMP PROJECT

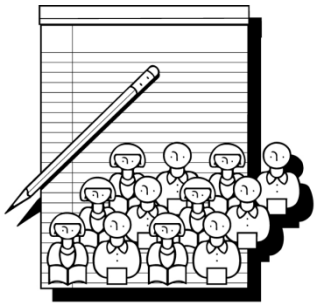
We received a very nice Thank-You note from the "Stamps for a Living & Deaf/Reach" projects for the large box of used stamps we sent recently. Special needs people earn money and gain training and job experience by soaking them off their backing. The stamps are then sorted and sold. This work has made a major difference in the lives of numerous people, so please continue to tear off canceled stamps, leaving about 1/4" of envelope around each one. Please put them in the designated orange envelope in the Hospitality Center.

Finance

July Report

Operating receipts	$13,084.54
Expenditures	$12,206.04
	$ 878.50

We are in good shape. Thank you for your continued support.



Inquiry Class

The Church in the Hills membership team will be offering an inquiry class for anyone wanting to learn more about our congregation, the Presbyterian Church (USA) or how to join Church in the Hills, two times this month. The first class will be offered immediately after worship on Sept. 13 from 11:00 to 12:15, and the second class will be offered Monday evening, September 21 at 7:00 pm at Church in the Hills. If you are interested in joining our congregation, you must attend at least one inquiry session. Please call the church office (533-6001) or e-mail churchinthehills@charterinternet.com to RSVP. Children are welcome.

Five Fourteen

Five Fourteen (our Junior High Youth group for 6th—8th graders) will be meeting again starting Sunday night, September 13 at 5:14 pm at the First Baptist Church of Bellaire, which is located downtown Bellaire right next to the bridge. We will meet every Sunday night in September, except Labor Day Weekend. All middle schoolers are invited! Bring a friend!

In July our group met to discuss Booking Passage We Irish and Americans and even through everyone hadn't finished it the discussion was lively and encouraging! I am anxious to finish this book. The author, Thomas Lynch of Milford, Michigan, is not only a writer but also a mortician. The story seems to wander as he tells of his return to County Clare on the west coast of Ireland to find the binding ties of family, faith, language and home. Part memoir, part cultural study, Booking Passage is written in flowing prose which often is quite funny. It touches on Irish- American themes which draws the reader to identify with perhaps, that wee bit of Irish in many of us. The book is one you need to put aside for a while to muse over only to be drawn back for more. Lynch tends to drift giving a feeling of disorganization but his insight into characters and events make one feel as if he were right there with Lynch, experiencing the history of the people. I was told by those that have finished the book that Lynch includes a chapter on Catholicism which is "superb" and "frames a meditation examining Irish Catholicism from many angles, both in Ireland and its remnants in America." The strength of this book comes from Lynch's determination to make the point that to be Irish you need not have been born there, merely to claim allegiance.

Mary Ann McBeth

The August book was The Space between Us by Thrity Umrigar, and everyone recommends it very highly. It reads quickly and tells the story of the relationship of two women in today's India. Sera is an educated middle-class women, and Bhima is her illiterate servant, whom Sera befriends on numerous occasions until a major tragedy strikes.

Upcoming books and dates are:

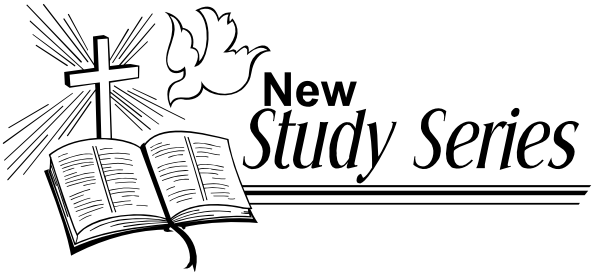
September 15: The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. It is "a tale of the island Guernsey … and of a society as extraordinary as its name…radiant with eccentricity and kindly humor."

October 20: The Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafon. The main character reads a mysterious book, and when he tries to find more books by that author, he discovers that someone is systematically destroying every copy of that author's work.

November 17: Water for Elephants, one aspect of which is growing old in a nursing home.

All are welcome, we meet from 1-2 pm in the Community Health Center conference room. The building is behind the courthouse and next to the Food Pantry.

Deacon Sarah Juntune



Wed Evening Bible Study

Can this be Sept. already? The children have returned to school and the academic year has begun again. "The most beautiful thing in the world is the conjunction of learning and inspiration" (Wanda Landowski 1879-1959 musician)

Beginning Wednesday September 9, Church in the Hills will begin a 11- week Focus on the Family Video presentation of **"The Truth Project". (See the green insert in this newsletter for more information.)**

A special thank you to all of our <u>wonderful</u>, thoughtful, dedicated volunteers at this year's Rubber Ducky 5 K. We couldn't have done it without you!
Pastor Andrew

Flu Vaccine

According to CDC, about 20% of Americans get the flu each year. More than 200,000 people are hospitalized and about 36,000 people die. These statistics would decrease if more people took advantage of the opportunity to prevent flu with a flu shot. Because flu season may begin as early as October and run through May, the best time to get a flu shot is in Oct. or Nov. You can still get the vaccine in Dec. but earlier is better.

The Vaccine should be available very soon. Protect your self!!!

Pneumonia Vaccine

Pneumonia is the fifth leading cause of death in adults each year. It is estimated that 50,000 people die each year of pneumonia-50 percent of those deaths could have been prevented with a pneumonia vaccine injection. The vaccine is very safe. People who should be vaccinated are:

Person age 65 and older but they should receive it only once.

Persons 65 years and older, if you have received an initial immunization before you turned 65. Get a booster shot after you turn 65 if there have been five years between.

18-65 one immunization and then one booster after age 65 if five years have passed since the initial shot.

Shingles vaccine

Zostavax is a live attenuated virus vaccine indicated for prevention of shingles in individuals 60 years of age and older. Person with a history of acquired

immunodeficiency including leukemia and lymphomas should not get the shot.
The most convenient local site to receive the vaccine is at the Rite-Aid Pharmacy in Kalkaska. An appointment must be made with Beth as the vaccine is kept frozen and must be administered within 30 minutes of removal from the freezer. No prescription is necessary if obtained there. She can also administer the flu and pneumonia vaccines. The phone number is 231-258-2081

Ref:Flu-WEBMD Medical Reference
Pneumonia-Sutter Health with you.For Life
Shingles- Merck & Co.

HAVE A HEALTHY WINTER!!!
Deacon, Doris Ferris

Themes, Scripture and Sermon Titles For Worship Service

September. 6—LAST SUNDAY WITH 2 SERVICES

Pastor Andrew will be out of town. Pastor Corey Lecuraux from the First Baptist Church of Bellaire will be leading worship. Pastor Corey has worked with Pastor Andrew extensively on the Saturday Ski Chapel, Spirituality:untapped, 5:14 Junior High Youth Group, and a variety of ecumenical activities throughout our community. We welcome him into the congregation as a brother in Christ!

September 13
Theme—Why Must There Be Suffering?
Sermon —"I'm With Peter"
Scripture Reading—Isaish 50:4-9a, Mark 8:27-38

September 20
Theme – God Will Prevail
Sermon – "Conquer Me"
Scripture Reading – Psalm 54, Mark 9:30-37

September 27— The Congregational meeting immediately following worship.
Theme - Acting on behalf of those who have no voice.
Sermon- "Tempted to do the Right Thing"
Scripture Reading-Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22 Mark 9:38-50

Family Community Dinner

The Deacons are planning a Family Community Dinner on September 13, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. at the Bellaire Senior Center. This will be a "Stimulus Dinner" centered on families in our area that have been affected most by the economy. We have 198 tickets available to be distributed by the Food Pantry and other local agencies helping low income families.
The Presbytery has awarded CITH a $1,000 Grant for the purpose of providing dinners and assistance to those in need. We are asking various restaurants and businesses to contribute to the event. If you would like to volunteer to host a table or participate in other ways, please call: Lodi Barnes at 322-6093 or Carol Gregory 533-8138.

Church in the Hills-Deacons

Finances

The Session seeks your comments and questions regarding the recently adopted Budget for 2010. This will also be one of the agenda items for the September 27, 2009 Congregational Meeting.

Expense Category	2010 Budget	Change from 2009
Property	$ 21,050	10%
Administrative	11,600	—
Christian Education	2,500	—
Worship and Music	1,750	—
Personnel	112,903	2.6%
Mission	15,000	20%
Congregational Life	1,800	—
Total 2010 Budget - Expenses	**$166,603**	**4.5%**

We are in good financial condition:

1. We project a cash carry-over from 2009 to 2010 of $31,875.52 which includes all emergency contingency funds.
2. Each item of the above Budget has been reviewed by the Session in detail as to it's adequacy. Included in the % changes above are the following detailed increases: Building Maint. Up $600, Custodial Wages up $1,000, Grounds Maint. up $250.
3. The Mission expense line item reflects the desire to return to our former level of Mission activity, especially wanting to support Local Mission efforts. Our goal is to at least fund Mission activity at 10% of total Budget (it's 9% at this level). Of the Budgeted $2,500 increase for Mission, $2000 is for Local Mission.
4. Looking forward, we believe, with your continued support that income will be sufficient to meet these expenses for 2010.

If you have any questions regarding the Budget, please direct it to the Session Members.

Thomas and Sharon Frey	9-1
Karl and Kathy Dingman	9-3
Bob and Ardith Peters	9-8
Leslie and Barbara Harcus	9-9
Vic and Cindy Overby	9-10
Robert and Dorothy Schaefer	9-25
Rev. Andrew and Rachell Pomerville	9-27

Jan Lemmer	9-1
Ron Lynch	9-2
Rex Luxton	9-7
Ingeborg Fritz	9-15
Donna Grill	9-15
George Fritz	9-16
Annabelle Henley	9-16
Kate McManus	9-24
Walt Owens	9-24
Lila Wilson	9-25
Ralph Berry	9-26
Donna Lesperance	9-27
Harry Nicholie	9-27
Bob McClelland	9-28
Sue Martin	9-29
Ann Schwandt	9-29
William Washburn	9- 29

SEPTEMBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 7:00 pm Mission Meeting	2 7:00 pm choir	3 9:00 am Men's Rap 7:00 pm Spirituality untapped (Shorts)	4	5
6 8:15 am Worship 10:00 am Worship Last Sunday with 2 services	7 Pastor Sabbath Labor Day	8	9 10:00 session 12:00 Noon Nomination Committee 1:00 Worship 3:00 C.E. 5:00 pm Bible Study and potluck 7:00 pm Choir	10 9:00 am Men's Rap 7:00 pm Spirituality Untapped (Shorts)	11	12
13 10:00 am Worship New member Class 11:00 am Stimulus Dinner 5:00 pm	14	15	16 5:00 pm Bible Study and Potluck 7:00 pm Choir	17 9:00 am Men's Rap 7:00 pm Spirituality Untapped (Shorts)	18 Pastor Sabbath	19
20 10:00 am Worship	21 New member Inquiry Class 7 ;00 pm	22	23 5:00 pm Bible Study and Potluck 7:00 pm Choir	24 9:00 am Men's Rap 7:00 pm Spirituality Untapped (Shorts)	25 Wedding Rehearsal	26 Mavity – Miller Wedding
27 10:00 am Worship Congregational Meeting	28 Pastor Sabbath	29	30 5:00 pm Bible Study and Potluck 7:00 pm Choir			

Church in the Hills

A Presbyterian Community of
Faith and Friendship in Christ

6401 Shanty Creek Road Bellaire, Michigan 49615
Phone: 231-533-6001

OFFICE EMAIL:
Churchinthehills@charterinternet.com
WEBSITE
www.churchinthehills.org

Service of Worship: 8:15 a.m. Sept 6 ONLY
10:00 a.m. Sunday
Children's Program: 10:00 a.m. Sunday

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. -12.00
Secretary Cindy Overby

Church in the Hills is a member of the
Presbytery of Mackinac
The Synod of the Covenant
The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Reverend Andrew Pomerville
231-350-1186
Church in the Hills Session:

Clerk of Session:	**Dottie Schaefer**	**377-7848**
Class of 2009		
Connie Garcia	Christian Ed	533-6588
Jerry Walsworth	Finance	533-9300
Tom Juntune	Mission	533-9403
Class of 2010		
Ron Lynch	Membership	377-7077
Bob Peters	Building	544-3613
Bob McClelland	Grounds	533-94 08
Class of 2011		
Bob Schaefer	Personnel	377-7848
Fred Harris	Finance	533-6105
Sue Schorfhaar	Worship	533-5071
Jean Rowe	Treasurer	533-8131
Dorothy Clore	Choir/Organist	331-6587
Edena Williams	PW of CITH:	533-8598

The Reverend Mr. Donald E. Gordon, Pastor Emeritus

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