

C O N G R E G A T I O N A L C O L U M N S

February 27, 1994

Meet the New Moderator - Tom Godfrey

Tom Godfrey has been practicing law at Godfrey, Brown & Hayes for more than 31 years and is the managing partner. The firm which focuses on general civil law, especially health care defense and small business planning, was his father's firm. His father, coincidentally, is a past moderator of this church.

Tom was baptized and raised at First Congregational Church. His family roots here go back to a great-grandparent. He and his wife, Susan have also raised their family here. Their older daughter, Margaret, 28, worked in Advertising for five years and has returned to school to get her Master's degree at Kellogg. Caroline, 26, lives in Washington D.C. and works for a firm that manages trade associations.

Tom and Susan have both served the church and community in several capacities. Susan is the immediate past Personnel chairperson, a volunteer docent for the Art Museum, chairperson of the Collector's Committee, and has served on the Boards of the Art Museum and Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. Tom has served on the Board of Trustees, Board of Stewardship, Music Committee, was chairperson of the special committee to rewrite the bylaws, chairperson for fund drives, and is the immediate past vice moderator. He is also a member of the Milwaukee Chapter of the Red Cross and chairman and director of the Blood Center of Southeastern Wisconsin to name just a couple of his involvements. The Godfreys have truly given back to this church and the community.

As moderator, Tom feels there are several important goals to meet. First, he says it is very important to get people involved and be



New moderator, Tom Godfrey and his wife, Susan

sure everyone is aware of what is happening at the church. To do this, he feels it is critical to foster an open, frank atmosphere. Tom said that one of the strengths of the congregation is the diversity of opinions and it is important to have tolerance and faith to appreciate each other.

A second very high priority is to get a seasoned, high-quality interim minister in place to help lead this church into the future.

Tom said his final goal is to work at keeping the present finances in order and improve that situation for the future.

"We need to keep the ship on a steady course if not on smooth waters," said Tom. ■

There will be a special meeting of the membership on TUESDAY, MARCH 8, AT 7:00 P.M. for the purpose of approving the selection of the Rev. Robert E. Palmer as Interim Senior Minister.

Choir - A Diverse Group with a Common Interest

The Pilgrim and Chancel Choirs of this church represent a very diverse group of individuals with a common sense of dedication to the church and ministry which binds them all together.

The choir members vary in many ways: from young to old, first-time singers to professionals, no children to grandparents, etc... But when you ask members of the choirs why they got involved in choir or what they enjoy about their involvement, answers are similar.

Cathy Kebbekus, a newer member who considers herself a novice singer said, "I love to sing and I love music. I was always very impressed with the quality of music from the choir. I love singing for and with Lee Jacobi, he is very motivating and inspires us - and the choir is very welcoming to novices."

Tom Jarchow, a long-time choir member said that most of the members have had some sort of involvement with music since they were children and they're all doing what they love to do. He said, "performing and rehearsing are very mentally intensive - it forces you to drive everything else out of your mind, which is very relaxing." In addition he said, "We all love the conductor and organist - it's hard to find anyone better. It's an easy way to give."

Nan Cleveland was a member long before she joined the choir, but she had a commitment on Thursdays. As soon as she could, she joined the choir. "I've been a singer all my life - it's just something I love to do and Lee is fantastic," said Nan. She said it's also a type of learning experience because they sing pieces which are a stretch for many of the people. "The choirs are a family - it's a very

close-knit group which makes it fun - and we're also doing something good for the church," said Nan.

Members of the choir seem to really enjoy their involvement and it's a group that accommodates all types of backgrounds. "We need some 'new blood' though," added Tom Jarchow. The choirs normally perform a Spring Concert, but didn't have enough people available for the type of music they wanted to sing. Anyone who is interested can join at any time! ■

Boy Scout Popcorn Sale

From February 26th through March 15th, the Milwaukee County Council of Boy Scouts of America is holding it's annual popcorn sale. Available are Microwave popcorn in five-bag packages of both butter flavor and plain for \$5.00 per package and 15-bag packages for \$10.00 per package. There are also 3-pound buckets of regular unpopped pop-

corn for \$5.00 and 12 ounces of prepared caramel corn in a collector tin for \$6.00. Anyone interested in purchasing popcorn can contact Troop 47 through Vic Meyer at 774-2397 to place an order. Purchases will be delivered beginning the 23rd of April. Thank you for your support of Scouting.

Drivers Needed

WANTED: Mobile Meals Drivers
We would like to start a second team of volunteer drivers for the Mobile Meals program. If you have

two hours in the mid-day twice a month, please call Alice Krebs, 778-0794. Thank you.

CONGREGATIONAL COLUMNS

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◆
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Handbell Choir Celebrates 25 Years

Twenty-five years ago the music committee voted to purchase three octaves of handbells with funds granted by the Memorials and Special Gifts Committee. The bells were ordered from the English company that has been hand casting White Chapel bells for over 200 years. White Chapels are produced in limited numbers and it sometimes takes over two years for orders to be delivered.

In December of 1969 Ralph Ehlert began organizing a handbell choir for the junior high youth of our church. At that time there was no musical activity for junior high youth, and since young voices are often changing during the early teen years, it was decided that a Handbell Choir might be a good alternative. Ralph went on to lead the handbell choir for ten years before he retired in 1979. During those years the choir flourished. Many young people crescendoed and thumb-damped

their bells under Ralph's guidance, including our own Rick Koch.

Ralph wanted his choir to gain experience and hear what other handbell groups had accomplished. They performed at nursing homes, church family nights and Sunday services. They played at festivals and attended workshops in Superior and Green Lake.

After Ralph's retirement in 1979, Bonnie Brenner agreed to become our new handbell director. Many young people wanted to join the choir but it was limited by the number of octaves we had. Soon Bonnie expanded the choir into beginning and intermediate groups. They continued to play at church events and attend Regional festivals of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers. Bonnie also organized and hosted the first annual Milwaukee Handbell Festival at our church in 1982. Two more octaves of bells were

acquired in 1984.

After Bonnie and Peter Brenner moved to Salt Lake City in late 1983, Becky Wickert led our choirs for three years. Bob Baranski took over in March 1988 and started our first adult choir.

In 1991 Karen Wysocky came to FCC and is our current director. Karen lives in West Bend. She has taught Choral Music at West Bend High School for eight years and leads their Madrigal Singers and Handbell Choir as well. Karen is an excellent teacher with unlimited patience and a great sense of humor. She makes playing the bells fun and easy.

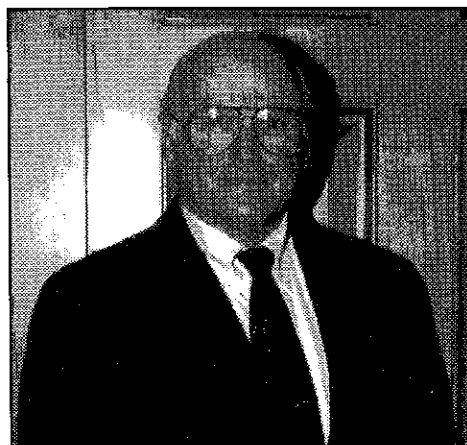
The Handbell Choir is always looking for new members. We practice at the church on Tuesday night at 7:00 P.M. No prior experience is necessary. Come and join us! ■

by Beth Andersen

Church Council Welcomes Four New Members

Nancy Fisher and her husband Steve have been members of First Congregational Church for approximately 19 years. Nancy is a fourth grade teacher at Washington School in Wauwatosa. Their daughter Katie is a college freshman attending Colorado College in Colorado Springs. Nancy has served on the Board of Deacons and on the Board of Christian Education. She is also involved in school committees. Nancy enjoys golfing, walking and reading.

Jeff Kelling is president of Center Fuel Co., an organization which owns and manages gas stations and convenience stores and also involves some



Bob Ornst, one of the new council members.

real estate development. Jeff and his wife Beth have two children: Diana - 9 who is in Jr. Choir, and Kramer - 7. They have been church members for

10 years. Jeff is also involved with "Project Business" with Junior Achievement - he teaches a course for high school students. In his spare time, Jeff enjoys fly fishing and skiing.

Bob Ornst, and his wife Bonnie are long-time church members (50 years). He is an owner of Selzer-Ornst Co., a construction company. Bob Bonnie has two sons, three daughters, and five grandchildren. Bob has served on the Board of Trustees, Personnel Committee, and others. He enjoys photography and boating.

Paul Schulze is a dentist with a 25-year-
(continued on page 7)

Moëller Organ Piping Beautiful Music for 27 Years

An "instrumental" element of nearly every worship service at First Congregational Church is the Moëller organ. Since 1967 when it was first installed, it has filled the church with beautiful music; however, most of us don't know much about the instrument. Hopefully this article will give you a better understanding of the organ, creating a greater appreciation for the music.

The organ consists, in part, of three keyboards (or manuals), five octaves each, plus the two-and-one-half octave pedal board. There are 50 ranks which refer to the number of different sounds (such as flutes, strings, horns, etc...) that the organ can generate. Betty said that playing the organ, which uses both hands and two parts of the feet, demands good coordination. Each key requires three ounces of pressure which Betty said she likes because it assists in "clean playing." She wears special shoes which won't get caught in between the pedals. They must also be kept dry (a task which is difficult when walking through the church this time of year) so that they slide across the pedals.

Since the organ is located in the "pit" as Betty refers to it, she must use a remote camera to see the director whenever she accompanies a group performing in the front of the nave rather than from the choir area.

Part of the original plan at the time of installation, the antiphonal (set of balcony pipes) was added five years ago. The only other addition to the organ has been the zimbels which Betty describes as five

bells that ring in a random order creating an angelic sound. The zimbels is used at Christmas, during baptisms and with certain hymns.

The organ, which is tuned once per year, has been very well maintained and has needed very little work. Betty remembered one of the few problems which occurred during the past Thanksgiving service. Dust in a pipe (called a cipher) caused one pipe to sound even when the key was not being played. While she laughed about it now, she referred to the incident as an organist's nightmare. The remainder of the service had to be played on the piano. Obviously, great care was taken during periods of remodeling to protect the pipes from dust.

The organ is currently in need of re-leathering - a maintenance cost. While it seems like a large expense, it's a small percent of the cost of the instrument. Betty says that they are hoping to have the work done this summer. The job will take a crew of four people four or five working days. The Fabry family, which installed the organ has been responsible for most of the maintenance and has been very dependable. They have also taught Betty how to handle some minor problems herself.

While the Moëller organ is rather complex, Betty who has been the organist at First Congregational Church for 19 years said that it is a lot of fun to play and she's always glad to demonstrate the different sounds, etc. to anyone who is interested. ■

Question and Answer

Q What has been the response to the call for additional support at the annual meeting?

A So far, eight people have responded by increasing their pledges. The increases have ranged from \$100.00 - \$2,000.00 for a total of \$6,000.00 for the year. Thank you to those people and any others who are interested in pledging or increasing their pledges are still encouraged to do so. ■

Note From the Board of Deacons

In an effort to be more visible to the congregation, the Deacons voted to wear name tags during the Sundays in March. If members have comments or questions regarding the worship services, the Deacons are always available to receive them.

The hope is that perhaps other Boards and Committees may decide to wear name tags on Sundays also, so that there will always be people available to answer questions from members and guests, promoting fellowship. ■

Roxanne Trump-Miles, Our Junior Choir Director

Roxanne Trump-Miles has devoted her life to music and education. Our Junior Choir (fourth, fifth, and sixth graders) is now fortu-



Roxanne Trump-Miles, the new Jr. Choir Director

nate enough to benefit from her expertise.

For the past nine years, Roxanne has been a first grade teacher at Lloyd Street School in Milwaukee. She has also taught in Fredonia, WI and Camden, ME, including teaching vocal music to grades five through twelve.

Roxanne grew up in Bayside, WI and attended North Shore Congregational Church. She was a state Pilgrim Fellowship Officer and has happy memories from our church at that time. With a laugh, she adds, "I even slept (at First Congregational Church) as a PF-er."

After receiving a bachelor's degree in music education from UW-Eau Claire in 1976, Roxanne traveled for a year with Up With People, an educational organization which presents musical programs. They visited

37 states and spent six weeks in Mexico.

While in college, Roxanne directed the junior choir at Pilgrim Church in Eau Claire. Later, she also directed at the First Congregational Church in Rockland, ME.

Roxanne and her husband, David, (who is also in education and music as the band director at Grand Avenue Middle School in Milwaukee) are kept very busy these days by their 2¹/₂-year-old son Daniel.

When spring really arrives, Roxanne enjoys gardening, but wishes she had more time for it. With the demands of full-time teaching and parenting, we are grateful that Roxanne has made the time to add our Junior Choir to her schedule! ■

by Pam Parker

One Solitary Life

He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in still another village, where he worked in a carpenter shop until he was thirty. Then for three years he was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book; he never held an office. He never had a family or owned a house. He didn't go to college. He never visited a big city.

He never traveled more than two hundred miles from the place where he was born. He did none of the things one usually associates with greatness. He had no credentials but himself. He was only thirty-three when the tide of public opin-

ion turned against him. His friends ran away.

He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing - the only property he had on earth. After he died, he was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race and the leader of mankind's progress. All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the

parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that one solitary life.

Henry Drummond



MARCH 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Chapel Communion, 8:40, 10:40 Worship, Sun. School, & Nursery, 9 & 11 am Jr. Choir, 10 am - Adult Ed., 10:10 am 6	Board Christian Fellowship, 7:00 Board Christian Education, 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:00 7	Lenten Breakfast, 6:45 am Early Christians, 7 am Rt. Men, 9 am - Bd. Deacons, 7:00 - Handbell, 7:00 - Boy Scouts, 7:00 Alic. Anon., 7:30 1	Bible Class, 10 am & 7:45 Circle 12, 11 am Lenten Potluck, pgm., 6:00 Sr. P.F., 7:00 Twin Blessed Moms, 7:00 2	Jr. P.F., 4:00 Pilgrim Choir, 6:45 B.S./C.S. Roundtable, 7:00 Quilters, 7:00 Chancel Choir, 7:30 3	St. Vincent Meal Prog. 8:30 & 4 Artist's Group, 10:00 4	
Chapel Communion, 8:40, 10:40 Worship, Sun. School, & Nursery, 9 & 11 am Jr. Choir, 10 am - Adult Ed., 10:10 am 6	Board Christian Fellowship, 7:00 Board Christian Education, 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:00 7	Lenten Breakfast, 6:45 am Early Christians, 7 am Pre-PF, 4:30 - Brownies, 6:00 - B.S. Potluck, 6:30 Handbell, 7 - Cong. Mig., 7 - Resolve, 7:30 - Alic. Anon., 7:30 8	Bible Class, 10 am & 7:45 D.A.R., 12:00 Lenten Potluck, program, 6:00 Sr. P.F., 6:30 Bd. Stewardship, 7:00 9	Jr. P.F., 4:00 Pilgrim Choir, 6:45 Chancel Choir, 7:30 10	Artist's Group, 10:00 11	McDowell Music Club Auditions, all day 12
Worship, Sun. School, & Nursery, 9 & 11 am Jr. Choir, 10 am Coffee Hour, 10 am Search Update, 10:10 am 13	Senior Women, 10 am Board Trustees, 7:00 Board Benevolences, 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:00 14	Lenten Breakfast, 6:45 am Early Christians, 7 am - Ret. Men's Club, 9 am - Handbell, 7 - B.S., 7 - Jr./Sr. P.F. Parents, 7:30 Bd. Cong. Care, 7:30 Alic. Anon., 7:30 15	Bible Class, 10 am & 7:45 Lenten Potluck, program, 6:00 Sr. P.F., 6:30 16	Jr. P.F., 4:00 Pilgrim Choir, 6:45 Chancel Choir, 7:30 17	Artist's Group, 10:00 18	Milwaukee Symphony Young Artists, all day 19
Worship, Sunday School, Nursery, 9 & 11 am Junior Choir, 10 am Adult Ed., 10:10 am 20	Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:00 21	Lenten Breakfast, 6:45 am Early Christians, 7 am Ret. Men's Board, 9 am Brownies, 6 - Council, 7 - Handbell, 7:00 Boy Scouts, 7:00 Alic. Anon., 7:30 22	Bible Class, 10 am & 7:45 Lenten Potluck, program, 6:00 Sr. P.F., 6:30 23	Jr. P.F., 4:00 Pilgrim Choir, 6:45 Chancel Choir, 7:30 24	Artist's Group, 10:00 25	Milwaukee Symphony Young Artists, all day 26
PALM SUNDAY Worship, Sunday School, Nursery, 9 & 11 am - Jr. Choir, 10 am 27	Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:00 28	Lenten Breakfast, 6:45 am Early Christians, 7 am Handbell, 7:00 Boy Scouts, 7:00 Alic. Anon., 7:30 29	Sr. P.F., 6:30 Pilgrim Choir, 6:45 Chancel Choir, 7:30 30	MAUNDY THURSDAY Jr. P.F., 4:00 Worship Services: Chapel Communion, 6:00 Office of the Tenebrae with Communion, 7:30 31		<i>Event notices and reminders may be dropped in the Newsletter mailbox for inclusion on the Calendar.</i>

Adult Fellowship Groups Always Seeking Members

Are you interested in getting involved in a group, but you don't know which would suit you? Here are some brief descriptions of each club. You can join at any time; or, if you would first like further information, call the contact person listed.

Circles are open to any woman seeking Christian fellowship. Most circles meet monthly at members' homes or at the church. Contact: Church office, 258-7375.

Baby Boomers provides fellowship and social opportunities for couples or singles who fit the baby boomer category (ages 25-40). The group meets spontaneously and sporadically three to four times a year. Contact: Marty & Nancy VanderVelde, 475-0554

The Kouples Klub provides social activities for couples and single parents between the ages of 35-55. The

group meets on weekends during the school year in homes, at the church or in the community for potluck suppers, sports events, concerts, etc. Contact: Merrill & Mary York, 786-3959.

39ers Club provides fellowship for older couples and singles. The group meets several times a year for a variety of activities at the church, in members' homes, or in the community. Contact: Jim & Lucy Miyazaki, 453-0684.

The Artists Group provides a chance for all people from beginners to advanced artists of any media to share ideas, critiques, advice and conversation. Members bring their own materials; there is no formal instruction. The group meets each Friday from 10:00 to 2:00, October through May. Members bring their own bag lunches. Contact: Marge Shirer, 545-0465.

Sports Teams play as part of the Wauwatosa Recreation Department. The church sponsors an adult softball team that plays on Tuesday evenings in Hart Park from April through July and a basketball team that plays in the fall and winter months. Coed volleyball is also played several times per year. Contact: Church office, 258-7375.

The Senior Women's Group provides fellowship for women over 50. The group meets on the second Monday morning of the month (except July, August, and September) at 10:00 in Friendship Lounge for an informative program and refreshments. Contact: Holly Krull, 662-4196.

The Retired Men's Club of Wauwatosa is a social and service organization. It meets on the first and third Tuesday mornings of each month (except summer) at 9:00 in the Social Hall. Contact: Brooks Boyce, 258-5960. ■

Council cont'

old general practice in Wauwatosa. He and his wife Kris have three children: Lisa, who is married and has one child, Emma; Andrea, married with one child, Jane; and Eric, a junior at Madison. Paul and Kris were married in the church and have been members for more than 30 years. He has served on numerous church committees and boards, most recently the Board of Deacons, Board of Fellowship, and Habitat project. Paul enjoys golf, tennis, and downhill skiing. He is active with the State Dental Association and Mayfair Rotary Club.

"This church has 150 years behind, yet this is one of the more exciting periods," said Paul - that's why he said yes to becoming a council member. ■

Search Committee Members

Continuing from past issues are more Search Committee profiles~

Beth Andersen is a Teaching Assistant to cognitively disabled students at Whitman Middle School. She and her husband Bill have two children - Kris, 25 and Steve, 23. Beth is a lifetime member and is currently on Church Council, Communications Comm., Search Comm., and is a member of Handbell Choir. She enjoys most sports, quilting, reading and gardening.

Dan Christiansen is an architect with HNTB Inc. He and his wife Pam have two sons - Jason, 16 and Josh, 11. Dan has served on the Nave Refurbishment Comm., Trustees, Bd. of

Directors for Congregational Home, and Search Comm. In the community, Dan served on the Mayor's Police Facilities Review Comm. - Wauwatosa, is involved in Cub Scouting, and is a past member of the Design Review Bd.

Stew Davis, a 3rd generation church member, is vice president of Grede Foundries. He and his wife Sandy have two children - Brian, 17 and Cindy, 13. In addition to his membership on many Boards, Stew and Sandy taught a Sunday School class. He is also on the Boards of Brookfield Academy (chairperson), Goodwill Industries of Wisconsin, West Suburban YMCA and HCN-Wisconsin. ■

In Brief

The Editor Thanks: Beth Andersen and Pam Parker for written materials; Betty Dethmers, Lee Jacobi and Tom Godfrey for article information; Sally Schulenburg for photographs and the office staff for their assistance.

Circles to Meet

Circle 8: Tuesday, March 1, 11:30

Meet at Congregational Home to have lunch with the Health Care Center residents.

Circle 12: Wednesday, March 2, 11:00

Meeting, lunch and program.

Early Christians: plan to meet in the Parlor every Tuesday, 7:00-8:00 a.m., during Lent.

Our Church Family

Baptisms

February 12, 1994: Daniel David Brown, son of Robyn Ann Olcinik Brown and David Dean Brown. Born Nov. 6, 1993.

February 13, 1994: Christina Margaret Kiel, daughter of Margaret Mary Schumaker Kiel and Douglas George Kiel. Born October 29, 1977.

February 13, 1994: Laura Beth Kiel, daughter of Margaret Mary Schumaker Kiel and Douglas George Kiel. Born October 27, 1979.

Marriage

February 14, 1994: Dennis John Richards and Kristi Anne Coppinger.

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