

CONGREGATIONAL COLUMNS

June 26, 1994

The Results Are In...

Earlier this year the Search Committee gave each member of our congregation the opportunity to fill out a survey that addressed the desires and needs of our church. Approximately 25% of you shared your thoughts and the Search Committee thanks you for your input. The information you supplied will be of great assistance in guiding not only the search efforts, but also other committees and staff members as we plan for the future of our church.

The survey consisted of four major sections which addressed: Ministerial Approaches, Sunday Services, The Church and You, and Demographics. Some of the survey results serve to support the findings of our church's small group discussions from last year, while other information gives us new input for directing future work in the church. Following is a summary of the highlights from the surveys.

The survey responses suggest that there is a desire to have a minister that approaches the congregation with acceptance, friendliness, and with a high priority in community building. Members would also like this individual to put emphasis on spiritual leadership, and to promote spiritual growth by precept and example. This person should be a participant in all aspects of the church community. The respondents would also like someone to provide intellectual challenge and development and to assist members in dealing with life's complexities.

Respondents gave a strong indication that the work of the minister should be focused on the activities of the church and leadership of the church staff, as well as providing meaningful sermons at least three Sundays each month.

Regarding Sunday services; sermons, music, silent meditation, and pastoral prayer were rated as most important. In addition, there were high percentages of people on either extreme of the issue of children's involvement in Sunday services.



From the section entitled The Church and You, the data suggests that we tend to over-utilize certain church members and could improve our church involvement by working on a way to involve more individuals. Similar to the results of our small group meetings, some members perceive that too much leadership lies on self-appointed influential members. This is an area that calls for attention and action.

The survey participants feel our church does supply enough of a variety of activities, but in contrast, does not feel we are meeting the needs of members very effectively. Attention needs to go into this area too.

Many members supplied comments for consideration. A number of members suggested that a regular publication of the financial status of the church be supplied to the congregation.

Again, we are appreciative of the information shared in these surveys. Although there were many members who chose not to participate, we believe that many of the results will serve as a guide for planning in the church. The Search Committee welcomes feedback and questions. We, in turn, will work to keep the membership updated on our progress in the search challenge. Summary copies of the complete results are available in the church office. ■

YOUTH CORNER

• Youth Sunday was a big success! The service featured four different preachers - Liz Gold, Brian Rosenthal, Mark Bergum, and Sarah Ornst - all graduating seniors. Each of the four took a verse from the song "We Are the Church," and discussed its importance. The styles ranged from quite informal to traditional, a strength of the service, said Rob Fredrickson. The service also featured four popular anthems sung by members of P.F.

Many of those who attended the service complimented the youth group on this year's outstanding service.

• Next year's officers have been elected and the results are as follows:

Sr. High

President - Liz Berte
Vice President - Sarah Edens
Chaplain - Dan Rourke
Secretary/Treasurer - Sharon Reddin
Special Project Director - John Ptacin
Service Project Director - Mike Rosenthal

Jr. High

President - Cole Vanderlinden
Vice President - Jake Reddin
Chaplain - Amelia Hahn
Secretary/Treasurer - Lindsay Williams
8th Grade Rep. - Kristin Kopperud
7th Grade Rep. - Bryan Santandrea

• Youth camps are fast approaching. Jr. High Camp is July 10-16th and Sr. High Camp is July 30-August 6. The theme for Jr. High is, "Walk This Way." It will focus on the life path of Christ and encourage youth to follow in His footsteps. Sr. High's theme will be, "The Days of Our Lives," and will focus on five biblical characters: Moses, Ruth, Job, Jesus, and Paul. They will discuss the character strengths and weaknesses of

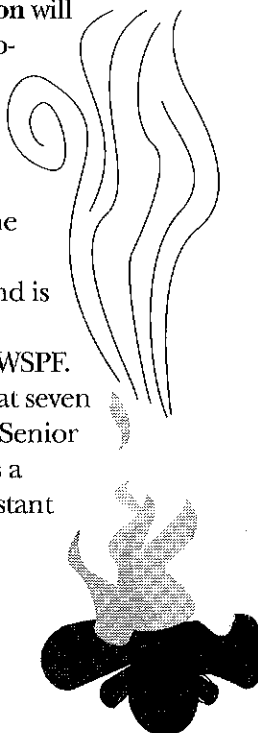
each of the people; their individual challenges and how they faced them; and compare each character to themselves.

Camp Directors include: Shawn Johnson, Rick Stieghorst and Rob Fredrickson.

Shawn Johnson will serve as Director of Junior High Camp. Shawn has been a Co-Advisor to the Wisconsin State Pilgrim Fellowship (WSPF), and has directed three previous WCA Junior High Camps. In addition, he has counseled at five previous WCA Senior High Camps. He has also served as Director of Christian Education at Heritage Congregational Church in Madison.

Rick Stieghorst will serve as Co-Director of Senior High Camp. Rick has served as Co-Advisor to the WSPF, and has served at seven previous WCA Senior High Camps as a counselor and Co-Director. Rick is working toward his master's degree in social work.

Rob Fredrickson will also serve as Co-Director of Senior High Camp. As most of you know, Rob is the Youth Director here at FCC, and is currently a Co-Advisor to the WSPF. He has served at seven previous WCA Senior High Camps as a counselor, Assistant Director, Co-Director, and Director. ■



Think About It

You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer and even once say "I".

You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer and even once say "my".

Nor can you pray the Lord's Prayer and not pray for one another.

And when you ask for daily bread, you must include your brother.

For others are included...in each and every plea,

From the beginning to the end of it, It does not once say "Me".

submitted by Virginia Hutton

Play Trip Cancelled

Due to lack of reservations, we had to cancel the Fellowship outing to the Fireside for "My Fair Lady." If you are interested in attending "Anything Goes" on September 18, please get your reservations in at the church office before August 18. ■

CONGREGATIONAL COLUMNS

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♦
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♦
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Donated Flowers Add Beauty to Services

Each Sunday, flowers add beauty to the church, enhancing our worship. The flowers are donated each week by members for various occasions.

For two years, Marilyn Ornst has been in charge of making sure that there are flowers every week. She says that people donate to commemorate many different occasions such as birthdays, weddings, baptisms, anniversaries, remembering loved ones, or just to help create

a more beautiful service. She says some people also request to donate anonymously and, naturally, the church is happy to accommodate that request as well.

If you are interested in donating flowers, it's very simple to do. Call Marilyn and request the date in which you're interested. You can reach her at home, 783-5988, or work, 782-3110. Each bouquet costs approximately \$30. Marilyn will be happy to order the flowers for you or you can do it yourself. If there is a certain flower or color you prefer, she will certainly do her best to get it.

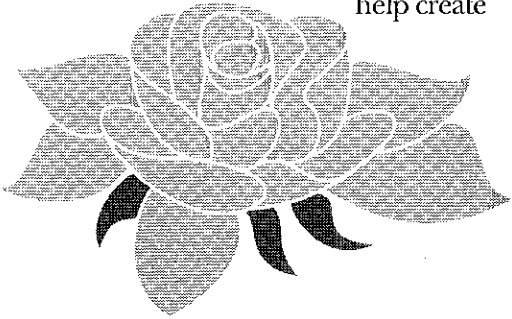
In addition, Marilyn recently purchased a flower chart which is posted in the church (it was not hung at the time of printing, so check with the

church office if you can't find it.) You can sign up for any dates you're interested in donating.

Available dates in the near future include:

- ~~July 10~~
- ~~August 21~~
- August 28
- All September
- All October
- All November

After the services, you may do whatever you wish with the flowers. Some people take them home, others donate them to Congregational Home or other organizations. ■



JULY 1994						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9:40: Chapel Communion 10 am: Worship, Sunday School, & Nursery 3	Independence Day Building closed  4	5	6	7	8:30 & 4:00: St. Vincent Meal Program 1	2
10 am: Worship, Sunday School, & Nursery Junior High Camp at Lucerne 10	7:00 Board of Trustees Junior High Camp at Lucerne 11	4:00: Personnel Committee Junior High Camp at Lucerne 12	Junior High Camp at Lucerne 13	Junior High Camp at Lucerne 14	Junior High Camp at Lucerne 15	Junior High Camp at Lucerne 16
10 am: Worship, Sunday School, & Nursery Deadline for submitting Columns articles 17	18	7:00: Quilters 19	20	21	22	23
10 am: Worship, Sunday School, & Nursery 24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10 am: Worship, Sunday School, & Nursery 31						<i>Event notices and reminders may be dropped in the Newsletter mailbox for inclusion on the Calendar.</i>

In Brief

The Editor Thanks: Sarah DeYoung for written materials; John Bockhop for photographs and the office staff for their assistance.

Our Church Family

Baptisms

Sara Nicole Strohmaier, daughter of Carl and Mary McDermott Strohmaier, June 12

Leah Rose Mott, daughter of David and Laura Mott, June 12

Death

Mr. Phillip W. Kuehn, 90 years of age, passed away on June 13, 1994.

Children's Sunday



Dated Material - Please deliver immediately

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