Freedom of Religion

A couple had been married for twenty years when they went to a wedding of a close friend’s daughter. During the ring exchange ceremony, the husband started to cry. The wife, surprised by her husband’s emotional outburst, said, “I didn’t realize that you have such deep feelings about your friend’s happiness.” The husband replied, “Twenty years ago, your father threatened that if I don’t marry you, he would put me behind bars for twenty years. And I realize if I had just gone to jail, I would’ve been a free man by now.”

What does freedom mean to you? What mental picture do you have when I say the word freedom? Freedom takes on new meaning as we go through different stages in life.

For the third grader, freedom is summer vacation away from school. There is no homework, there is nothing to study. It’s just time to have fun.

For the 16 year old, freedom is having that drivers’ license and being able to drive to places on your own. How many of you can still remember that feeling of freedom as you cruised down the road for the first time by yourself?

For the college student, freedom is being able to determine for yourself what time you want to come in, and if you want to sleep in and skip class.

For the 29 year old husband whose wife is in Ohio for the weekend visiting her family because they are having a wedding shower for her soon to be sister-in-law, freedom is thinking he’s going to act like he did in college and stay up all night long watching action movies. Going to bed at 4 a.m. is not a good decision anymore.

Freedom has different meanings for different people. Perhaps the best definition of freedom that I can offer is simply this: freedom is the opportunity to make a choice. We enjoy having choices. Americans have excelled at making choices. We love choices. Freedom is about making choices.

Think about this statement, “Life is the sum total of all our choices.” Every day we make choices. Some choices we make are big; some are small; some choices have only a limited effect; while others may affect the course of our entire lives and the lives of others.

There are important decisions like: choosing a career, education, or a spouse. But the most important decision every person will make has to do with their freedom of religion. Life’s greatest choice is freedom of religion.

This is not a choice that began 233 years ago in our nation. Rather, freedom of religion has been in existence since the beginning of time. Adam and Eve had freedom of religion. They had a choice as to whether or not they would choose to worship God or worship themselves. All of human history from that point on has hinged on our choice in freedom of religion.

There is a great example in the Old Testament book of Joshua where the nation of Israel was given the freedom to choose whether or not they would follow God. After Moses passed away it was Joshua who led the people on their conquest of the Promised Land. And nearing the end of his life, the leader Joshua wants to assemble the people and challenge them to always make the choice of worshipping God.

Listen, again, to Joshua 24:1 – “Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and

(Continued ... on page three)
President’s Corner

Holiday Greetings to our Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation members and friends.

Time sure does go by fast; it is hard to believe that 2010 is coming to a close. We are heading into a very festive season of celebrations with family and friends as we observe Thanksgiving and Christmas. Although it is a festive time of year ... for those of us who have our health and are fortunate enough to be surrounded by friends and family ... there are many within our midst that are not so fortunate. At this time of year it is more important than ever to remember those among us who are less fortunate due to loneliness or health issues. It is an opportune time for all of us to reach out to those that may be separated from loved ones due to serving in the armed forces or loneliness due to a lack of support from friends and family members. This holiday season, let’s all be mindful of the less fortunate and try to include them as part of our holiday festivities. I’m sure we can all think of someone who is in need of being part of the holidays and some much needed fellowship.

The Chapel offers many avenues in which to reach out to those in need, or those who you just want to send a card to say “Hi how are you doing?” There are the full color note cards, postcards, as well as Christmas cards. There is also the “Caring Hearts” program staffed by dedicated individuals that offer their prayers and support to those in need through personal visits wherever you reside. Another remarkable program the Foundation offers and is headed up by Becky Van Meter — the “Prayer Shawl Ministry.” This group of individuals get together to make and distribute prayer shawls for those in need. These programs are as rewarding to be the giver as it is to be the recipient. Another form of reaching out to people and is often overlooked: It is our Chapel Directory. You don’t even have to get out of your easy chair to make someone’s day. Personally, I keep mine right next to my easy chair; it takes no time to call someone and asking how they are doing or to merely say hi.

I have dedicated much of this article on the importance of reaching out to people for a couple of reasons. First of all, we are approaching the holiday season when loneliness and depression can be magnified due to lack of family support or availability of friends. And secondly, I can speak from experience that you do not have to be lonely or in a state of depression to have your spirits lifted by being a recipient of these great programs. When I was experiencing health issues (a year ago) it was absolutely amazing what it did for me to be on the receiving end of these programs. You owe it to yourself and the people in need to be a part of these ministries offered by the Chapel not only during the holiday season, but throughout the year.

(Continued ... on page four)

Board of Directors

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The Board welcomes input from members. If you have an idea or suggestion, please feel welcome to contact the appropriate Board person.

Scheduled Board Meetings:
Saturday (9:00 a.m.) ...
13 November 2010 ... in the Fed Bldg
Sunday (1:00 p.m.) ...
19 December 2010 ... in the Chapel

If you would like a copy of the 2009 Annual Report, please secure one in the Fellowship Hall or call the Foundation Office at (612) 970-7866 and leave your name/mailing address that we may send you a copy of this impressive report of last year’s accomplishments.
they presented themselves before God." So here we see the stage set. Joshua has everyone get together and stand before God.

In his farewell address to the nation, Joshua gives them ... 

I. A Challenge to Remember

In Joshua 24:2-13, Joshua gives a quick summary of the nation's history up to that point. He challenges the people of Israel to remember how God has delivered them to the place they are now. God has blessed them in incredible ways!

I think it is crucial for us to remember how good God has been to the United States of America. Our nation's rise to greatness cannot be attributed to any other reason except God's blessing.

Our earliest settlers were people who came here primarily looking for religious freedom. The pilgrims who sailed on the Mayflower in 1620 were leaving Europe in order to seek freedom of religion. These early settlers signed their names to the Mayflower Compact document which stated their intent on coming to this new world for "the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith."

Jamestown, which was the first permanent English settlement, was begun as a commercial venture, not a religious one. But, the largest building at the very center of the settlement was the church building. Services were held twice everyday, morning and evening. On Sunday, services lasted five hours. Attendance at the services was mandatory. If you missed a service, that meant you did not receive your food ration for the day and if you had repeated absences, you could be punished by a public whipping.

Later on as the new nation began to take shape, we see that the founding fathers believed freedom was a gift from God. The Declaration of Independence has this famous line, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

We remember the words of Patrick Henry who during a speech he said, "Give me liberty or give me death." That was the choice Patrick Henry wanted to make.

The first amendment to the Constitution says specifically, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." Notice — that does not call for the separation of church and state, as many assume it does. The first amendment restricts the activities of the federal government. There was never any desire to restrict religion in our country. The fear that our founding fathers had was that the federal government might try and establish a national church. A church that you would have to belong to or you would not be able to serve in government, or possibly even own land. The first amendment was designed to ensure religious pluralism, not religious prohibition.

We need to remember that it was a foundation based on the choice of worshipping God that has helped make this country great.

John Adams, our second President said, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

Consider these words from Calvin Coolidge, our 30th president — "The foundations of our society and our government rest so much on the teachings of the Bible that it would be difficult to support them if faith in these teachings would cease to be practically universal in our country."

Of the first 108 universities founded in America, 106 were distinctly Christian ... including the first, which was Harvard University, chartered in 1636. Harvard, like many of the other institutions, was begun primarily as a place for educating ministers. Harvard began as a Bible college! Why, in the original Harvard Student Handbook, rule number 1 was that students seeking entrance must know Latin and Greek so that they could study the Scriptures: "Let every student be plainly instructed and earnestly pressed to consider well, the main end of his life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ, which is eternal life, John 17:3; and therefore to lay Jesus Christ as the only foundation for our children to follow the moral principles of the Ten Commandments."

In the early days of our country, the Bible was allowed in the public school system. In 1782, the United States Congress voted this resolution: "The Congress of the United States recommends and approves the Holy Bible for use in all schools."

Over a 10-year period, political-science professors at the University of Houston collected and cataloged 15,000 writings by
Special
Patriotic/
Veterans
Events...

Sun, 7 Nov 10 — Veterans Day
Remembrance — recognizing
U.S. veterans of all branches of
the armed forces.

Sun, 5 Dec 10 — Pearl Harbor
Remembrance — recognizing
survivors ... with the tolling of the
ship bell for those who have
passed away since last year.

Mark your calendar with these
dates ... and join us at 11:00 a.m.

(Continued ... from page two)
Throughout the year the Chapel
community pays tribute on the
Sunday nearest to a number of
national commemorations,
including these upcoming events:
Veterans Day (7 November) and
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
(5 December). Mark your calen-
dars for these dates and plan on
attending these special services
honoring our servicemen and
women.

You will want to reserve Sunday,
12 December for the annual
Foundation Christmas Luncheon
which begins at 1:00 pm. Please
note that this year the luncheon
will not be held at the Embassy

— Bob Bernloehr
Foundation President
(651) 739-0089
Cell: (651) 343-5632
E-mail: bob.bermloehr@lmco.com

Veterans Day Remembrance

The following letter was written by Wirt Kelley a Spanish American War
Veteran to his nephew Phil Kelley as he was about to enter the service
during World War II. Mr. Phillip Kelley is a retired Fort Snelling Memo-
rial Rifle Squad member. It is copied with his gracious permission.

"Aunty Mary is writing and it gave me a little courage to also write you a few
lines. It seems a long time since you were here, and the more I read about the
duck hunters and the big strings they are bringing in, I think of you and all the
good fun we are missing. Well Phil, I suppose you will soon be leaving for a
strange world, but it will not be as strange to you as it was to me 45 years
ago. No one ever heard of the Philippines in those days. But no matter where
you go or what you may run into, it is always a pleasant thought to know that
you are only one of many thousand American soldiers who are ready to back
you to the limit. There is nothing to be afraid of, because what is to be will be,
so you may as well take it merrily and be happy. No man is any better or big-
ger than you. There was a time when I was very doubtful about another days'
life, and I lay on the ground thinking. Suddenly my father spoke to me just as
plain as though he was right by my side. He said: 'Don't be afraid kid, go after
them. You will not be hurt.' I immediately felt a different person and no longer
had any fear. Well Phil, wherever you may go, whatever you may do, good or
evil remember Uncle Wint will stand by through thick and thin. Chin up Kid,
always smile, do your duty always as a soldier. I know you will be all right and
once more get home and we then will make up for lost time.

Your Uncle, Wint Kelley"

To all our veterans, THANK YOU for serving our country! We will never
know the fears, loneliness and sacrifices you made on our behalf. It is
our sincere prayer that God will bless your hearts and bring peace and
healing to all of the heartaches you have suffered.

On 7 November, the Foundation will recognize and honor veterans of
all branches of service. Plan to join us on this very special day.

Kay Schoen
Worship Committee, Chair

Suites in Bloomington, but rather
at the Fort Snelling Officers Club
located at Hwy 5 and Post Road,
(very near the airport). Additional
information, along with directions,
will be supplied prior to this
event. Please plan to purchase
your tickets starting on 7 Novem-
ber and consider inviting some-
one who doesn't get a chance to
got out all that often, I'm sure they
would appreciate it.
the founding fathers. Their goal was to determine the primary source of ideas behind the Constitution by identifying the sources quoted most often by them. Guess what that primary source was? It was the Bible. Their conclusion was that 94% of the quotes made by the founders of our nation were based upon the Bible.

I could keep going on and on, but I think you get the idea. Our nation’s history is firmly established with a link to God’s blessing. And just as Joshua challenged the people of Israel to remember how they had been blessed by God, we too need to listen to that challenge and remember.

Joshua did not stop at challenging them to just remember. Joshua gave them...

II. A Challenge to Choose

Listen to Joshua 24:14 – “Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshipped beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.”

Freedom of religion begins with a healthy respect of the Lord. This respect leads us to be authentic in our worship. God knows whether or not our hearts are fully devoted to Him. It’s obvious to Him.

A family was traveling on vacation during the summer. They had packed up the family vehicle and headed out west for a 3 week trip. As they are driving along the dad notices a sign which says “Naturalist Camp.” Well thinking that he is a naturalist that enjoys God’s creation, he’ll just take his family down this road and check out God’s creation. As they enter the naturalist camp area 5 people go by them on bicycles... not wearing any clothing. The father is thinking about how fast he can get out of there when his young son yells out from the back seat, “Dad!! Did you see that?” He says, “Yes, son, I saw it.” His son said, “None of them were wearing helmets!”

Sometimes we can miss the obvious. But God does not miss the obvious. It is obvious to Him whether or not we are worshipping Him authentically. That’s why Joshua tells the people they cannot fool God. Throw away your idols. Get rid of them! God is only interested in people who choose to give their entire heart to Him. We are taught to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, body, mind and strength.

Joshua goes on in verse 15 to tell the people, “But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living.” (Joshua 24:15)

Have you ever thought that serving God is undesirable? We do not like that word “serve.” Remember, we want freedom! We don’t want to serve. But there can be no doubt that serving God is what Joshua is after. The word “serve” is used six times in verses fourteen and fifteen. Joshua was calling for a decision that would result in the people deciding once and for all who they would worship. And just in case they wondered, Joshua let it be clearly known what he was going to do. Listen to the end of verse 15, “But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.” Joshua used his freedom and made a choice to serve the Lord.

Today there are many people concerned about the direction America is heading. I want to make very clear this morning that I consider myself patriotic. I proudly wear the uniform of an U.S. service member. I am willing to step up and defend my country against its enemies – both foreign and domestic. But first and foremost my allegiance needs to be to Jesus Christ and His Kingdom.

I submit to you that as our families choose to serve the Lord, our communities will change; as our communities change, our state will change; and as our states change, our nation changes. While we need to pray for our country, right now it’s time to focus on our respective homes.

For many years the license plates of New Hampshire had on them the slogan made famous by Revolutionary War general John Stark, “live free or die.” The irony is that those great words were printed onto the license plates by inmates in the state prison. I’m worried that there may be some people here this morning who desire freedom, but they are choosing to serve other gods, and instead find themselves in a prison.

Paul told the Galatians church, “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.” (Galatians 5:1) Jesus said in Matthew 7:13-14, “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”

In our desire for freedom we naturally think we don’t want the narrow gate. We don’t want the
Getting to Know You ... 

Pay it forward. You know the concept. Someone enriches your life with a word or deed and you, in turn, pass it on to someone else — you “pay it forward.” Well, Christians, of course, have been “paying it forward” for generations — father to son, mother to daughter, grandmother to granddaughter and so on — paying forward their knowledge of Jesus Christ to new generations, and dispatching prayers for grace down through the ages.

Nancy Tjornhom knows about paying it forward, although she’s probably never put it quite this way. Ever since she can remember, she’s been fed on the Good News of the Gospel. “I had one praying grandma that always talked about Jesus,” she said. “I still have some of her handwritten letters to me when I was in my teens.”

“I’m going to be praying day and night,” wrote Grandma Luxon, “that you will be led of the Spirit to know what being saved really means...” Once, while venturing onto the city of Lebanon, Ohio’s website, Nancy found a picture of the Old Pioneer Cemetery and the grave marker of a “many-greats grandmother” named Sarah Corwin.

“Believe it or not,” said Nancy, “I could read the headstone.” It says, “... a member of the Baptist Church and a faithful Christian for 65 years ... she prayed for her descendents that they would follow Christ.” Sarah also knew about “paying it forward.” Nancy, a forward-thinking grandmother herself now, intends to keep the trend going — passing the baton, as in a heavenly relay race, to her children and grandchildren.

Nancy grew up in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, the first of two daughters born into a “modest, loving, and patriotic family.” For her tenth birthday, she asked for and received from a friend her very first Bible purchased from the Ben Franklin store for 49-cents.

Although she hungered to know more about Jesus, it wasn’t until her teen years when a wonderful older lady named Anna Hursch invited her to join a women’s Bible study that Nancy understood the personal nature of belief and took Jesus into her heart. It was “Just the beginning,” she said, “the most passionate path in my life.”

From Grand Rapids, Nancy came to St. Paul, in 1952, to attend Macalester College, which in those days had Inter-varsity Christian Fellowship. Nancy eagerly joined. In addition, she says the greatest blessing she received at Macalester was meeting Tom Tjornhom, her future husband.

Tom had already received his doctor’s degree in Chiropractic and was well on his way to earning a B.A. in music education. “Our paths did cross,” said Nancy, “I played bassoon in the college band and he sat behind me playing trombone.”

After marriage, the Tjornhoms settled in Richfield and Tom began his chiropractic practice, which continues today. Their family grew to three sons and two daughters, and eventually sixteen grandkids — “God’s amazing diverse creations,” says Nancy. “They know about patriotism, love of America and conservative values.” And they know about Jesus.

To date, the Tjornhom children and “grands” have been involved in a variety of occupations and ministries. These include teaching assignments in China — using Bible scripture as lesson material — Bible translation in New Guinea and taking a stand for the sanctity of life in the Twin Cities. One

(Continued ... on page eight)
Pearl Harbor Remembrance

Planes of the Japanese Imperial Air Force attacked the American installation at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, at 7:55 a.m. Sunday, 7 December, 1941; a second wave hit an hour later. The attack destroyed most of the American planes on the island of Oahu, and wrecked eight battleships, three destroyers, and three cruisers. The battleships Oklahoma and Arizona were completely destroyed. The American death toll stood at 2,323. In two hours, the navy lost more men that it had in the Spanish American War and World War I combined. The next day President Franklin D. Roosevelt spoke to a joint session of Congress, calling 7 December “a date that will live in infamy” and receiving a confirmation of a declaration of war. On 11 December, Germany and Italy declared war on the U.S.

We will never forget the lives that were lost or those who survived the horrific event. At Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel we honor and offer comfort to those survivors who pay tribute to those who have passed this past year. We cherish your presence with us. Please join us 5 December as we mark the 69th anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

Kay Schoen
Worship Committee, Chair

Election Prayer for Life

O God, we acknowledge You today as Lord, not only of individuals, but of nations and governments. We thank You for the privilege of being able to organize ourselves politically and of knowing that political loyalty does not have to mean disloyalty to You.

We thank You for your law, which our Founding Fathers acknowledged and recognized as higher than any human law. We thank You for the opportunity that each election puts before us, to exercise our solemn duty not only to vote, but to influence countless others to vote, and to vote correctly.

Lord, we pray that your people may be awakened. Let them realize that while politics is not their salvation, their response to You requires that they be politically active.

Awaken your people to know that they are not called to be a sect fleeing the world, but rather a community of faith renewing the world. Awaken them that the same hands lifted up to You in prayer are the hands that pull the lever in the voting booth; that the same eyes that read your “Word” are the eyes that read the names on the ballot, and that they do not cease to be Christians when they enter the voting booth. Awaken your people to a commitment to justice to the sanctity of marriage and the family, to the dignity of each individual human life, and to the truth that human rights begin when human lives began, and not one moment later.

Lord, we rejoice today that we are citizens of your kingdom. May that make us all the more committed to being faithful citizens on earth. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Fr. Frank Pavone
served three terms in the Minnesota State Legislature; others hold Bible studies in their home and host Family Life Ministry programs. Yet another is an award-winning producer of Christian music in Nashville.

A granddaughter named Elizabeth wrote this from a recent mission trip to Mexico. “The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” Now that’s music to a grandmother’s ears.

Nancy sets the example. A lifelong student of the Bible, she’s taught Bible study for decades, and for as many years has been devoted to the Pro-Life movement. Her training as a speaker with Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life and “sidewalk counseling” with Pro-Life Action Ministries is an inspiration. Yet Nancy reminds me that with each life saved, “it’s all about God,” not about her or any other participant.

In the 1970’s, Nancy and Tom hosted Pastor Richard Wurmbrand and his wife Sabina in their home for a week. The Wurmbrands, you may remember, became the voice of the “Persecuted Church” after enduring fourteen years of imprisonment at the hands of the communists in Romania, and lived to testify of God’s great faithfulness.

The “most amazing of all” Nancy explains, “was [Richard] telling of coming up out of the underground cell after years of confinement and seeing light, color, people … and he mostly MISSED the glowing light and presence of the Lord in his cell.”

Nancy recalls how at their kitchen table Pastor Wurmbrand blessed each one of her five children as they bowed their heads in prayer. “Richard was imprisoned when he spoke up publicly for the Lord,” said Nancy. “He paid the price. He also forgave his tormentors.” Even knowing the risks, the Wurmbrands weren’t afraid to pay it forward. And the Tjornhom’s paid attention.

About this time, Tom, with his ability to play just about any instrument, got involved with the Gamble Folk singers, playing string bass at the Billy Graham Crusades. Nancy went along, traveling from city to city through the 1970’s and 80’s, witnessing revival and enjoying “good times” with Cliff Barrow, George Beverly Shea and Canadian-born crusader, John Wesley White, to name a few.

“Yes, we were young,” said Nancy. “Now, we are very young at heart, but a tad older.” Yet they’re not too old to sing. She and Tom have been singing together with his sister and her husband in a quartet called the Sentimentals, until a few years ago. “Tom wrote lots of the arrangements,” said Nancy, “and we even recorded in Nashville.”

Experiences like these make Nancy think about the influence others have on our lives, including the effect of prayers from those we may never know this side of Heaven. “They pray for us and God hears them and answers their loving intercession that follows us all our lives.”

She adds, “We pray for our loved ones, their lives, their futures, with a prayer that each will seek the Lord with all their heart.” In other words, they lovingly “pay it Forward.”

Nancy and Tom’s grandson William recently turned eleven. Can you imagine what he bought with his birthday money? You’ve guessed it – his very own Bible.

Sarah Corwin must be smiling.

Submitted by: Barbara Sommerville
Benevolent Giving …

It's your Birthday and there is no celebration. Your birthday is a gift from God that should be celebrated. There are many families in the twin city area that are so financially strapped that birthdays are overlooked. There is one organization called Birthday Buddies, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that tries to brighten the lives of those children and families who do not have anything for a birthday party.

Birthday Buddies started in 2006 by Nancy Donahue and her sister, Patti Donahue. Nancy states that while driving to work (she is the director of Koepke Law Office) four Christmas' ago she heard a piece on the radio about the Toys for Tots program. This sparked a discussion with her sister, Patti, about who provides for these kids the rest of the year. Hence, the organizational idea came to life called Birthday Buddies. The organization's goal is to provide all items needed for a complete birthday party. All items are donated unwrapped so that the parents can have the joy of wrapping the gifts for their child.

The birthday party packages contain everything a family will need to make their child's party complete! Birthday Buddies has two methods of connecting with the families that need assistance:

- They work directly with state and county agencies, building bags from the information provided on each order form. Enough information is provided so the child will never know that the family did not actually purchase the presents for them. Although they truly love building the bags with a specific child in mind, they also work with food shelves and provide bags for them to have on hand when families stop in.

- The families targeted are low to no income. An attempt is made to personalize each package appropriate to the child, but other items are included that will assist the family. One family responded that their child was excited to receive new socks. New socks and toothbrushes are something that most folks take for granted.

Listed (below) are examples of what is supplied in each package:

- a new, unwrapped gift ($10 plus in value)
- small item "stocking stuffers"
  - toothbrushes
  - socks
  - books
  - art supplies
  - school supplies
- gift bags and tissue paper
- cake mix, frosting and candles
- plates and napkins

The first year they supplied birthday party bags for 402 families. In 2008, they supplied 904 bags; in 2009 the goal was 1,500 bags they supplied 1,009. Why did they miss these goals? It was due to a lack of funding — not lack of demand. No family is turned down, except for when there is a lack of supplies and donations. Donations are given mainly by private parties, but they are always looking for corporate sponsors. Birthday Buddies is an all volunteer organization, with no paid staff. Nancy works out of her home. 100% of the donations go to putting the birthday packages together.

(Continued ... on page ten)
(Continued … from page nine)

Foundation member, Carol Nygaard is a supporter of Birthday Buddies. She assisted Nancy in completing and submitting a benevolence request to the Foundation’s Board. In September 2010, the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation’s Board of Directors approved a $250 gift for Birthday Buddies. Nancy says the needs are great and they could use a lot of support.

I would like to thank Nancy; her sister, Patti; and Carol Nygaard for making a difference in a lot of families lives. If you would like to donate or receive more information, please call Nancy Donahue at 612-202-9438 or visit their website at: www.birthdaybuddiesmn.com

— Pat Hoy, Chair
Benevolence Committee

2010 Chapel Directory

The membership directory for the Foundation has been updated with all of the corrections received through mid-October. The new directory will be distributed to all members beginning 14 November 2010 … just in time for you to address Christmas cards. You will be able to pick up your copy in the Fellowship Hall.

— Leila Campbell, Office Manager

Veterans Day

Look around “America” …
At the young and very old …
Who answered the “call to arms” …
And fought so very bold!

It’s what our Veterans did …
When our country went to war …
And that tradition still prevails …
Like it always has before!

Noble warriors still exist …
Across our land so dear …
And when old “Uncle Sam” needs help …
More of them appear!

They know the cost of freedom …
Which they’re willing to defend …
For without this love of country …
Our way of life would end!

From the early days til now …
“Old Glory” still flies proud …
And veterans aren’t afraid to say …
Their pledge to her out loud!

So on this Veterans Day …
Which comes to us each year …
Remember why you’re free …
For the answer’s very clear!

Bob Beskar… Vietnam Veteran
2009
Celebrate the Season!

Christmas Garden of Poinsettias
A tradition at the Chapel is to adorn the altar area with beautiful poinsettia plants at our Christmas Eve Candlelight Services (4 and 6:30 p.m.). The Chapel is made alive with color. You can participate by purchasing a red, pink or white plant(s) — $14 each. This tradition is made even more precious by the dedications which are made for each of the plants. It's a beautiful way to honor or remember your loved ones at this sacred and holy time of year. Plants will be on sale in the Fellowship Hall starting 28 November — 12 December. Plants may be taken following the 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

Christmas Caroling at the VA
Once again, the chapel congregation will be singing Christmas carols ... making melody through the halls of the MN Veteran's Home on Sunday, December 19th (2:00 p.m.). Those interested in participating should gather at 1:30 p.m. at the Chapel Fellowship Hall. Following our caroling, the group will be going out to eat together.
Help us spread the joy of Christmas in song with those veterans who risked their lives so that we might have such freedom to express our faith.
— Your Fellowship Committee

Annual Christmas Luncheon
Be sure to mark your calendar — December 12th at 1:00 p.m. — to join your Chapel friends and their guests at our Annual Christmas Luncheon. The wonderful new venue will be the historic Fort Snelling Officers Club located just south of the Int. Airport on Hwy 5 and Post Road. Tickets are $18 each for your choice of either chicken picante or roast pork with rosemary. Tickets will go on sale after worship in the Chapel Fellowship Hall starting November 7th thru December 5th.
Our entertainment for the afternoon will be the fabulous Jimmy Steffen and Holly Circle Band playing their upbeat arrangements of familiar and danceable tunes.
— Your Fellowship Committee

Christmas Eve
On Friday, 24 December we will have worship services at 4 and 6:30 p.m. Join in the singing of the carols ... accompanied by our Minister of Music — Craig Tennison — on the historic Kimball pipe organ ... in the beauty of candlelight and of a garden of poinsettias. The special music will be the "Regency Trio" and "Touching Hearts" ... featuring instrumental and vocal. A shuttle bus will be available.

Christmas Cookies Needed
The Kitchen Angels are requesting cookie donations for Sundays Nov 28, Dec 5 & 19 for our fellowship hour. Sign-up on the board just outside the Chapel kitchen. Thank you.
— Terry Ulstad Coordinator

Advent
The Advent wreath is circular to remind us of God's never ending love as it symbolizes the eternity of God. Take time this Advent Season to deepen your faith, steady your hearts and feel God's presence in your life. As you draw into God's presence take serious time to feel His love the love that unites all creation. Share this love with family, friends and those who are lonely.
Sometimes it is easy to get carried away in the commercialism of the season, remember God gave us the greatest gift of all — His very own Son, Jesus; and we can never out give God.
Kay Schoen
Worship Committee, Chair
Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation

This is a non-denominational Christian church founded in 1967. We invite you to join us for worship each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. at this historic Chapel.

The Fort Snelling Veterans Memorial Chapel is a unique Minnesota memorial—a splendid monument to the patriotism, the moral earnestness and the convictions of the people of this state—a shrine to commemorate those who have died for their country. Weekly Sunday worship is sponsored by the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation and is not subsidized by the state.

For Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation information call the Foundation Office at (612) 970-7866, or write to the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation 1 Federal Drive Fort Snelling, MN 55111-4027 or e-mail to info@fortsnellingmcf.org or check our web site at www.fortsnellingmcf.org

Ft. Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation Staff

Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr., Chaplain
Craig Tennison, Minister of Music
Leila Campbell, Office Manager
Ruth Fardig, Minister of Music Emeritus

The Snelling Spirit Staff:

The Snelling Spirit is a bimonthly publication of the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation. We welcome your input, your letters and your suggestions.

Feature Contributors:
Rev. Dr. Kenneth Beale, Jr.
Bob Bernloehr
Newell Chester
Pat Hoy
Kay Schoen
Barbara Sommerville
Craig Tennison

Photographer:
Leland Granberg
Becky Van Meter

Layout/Design/Printing:
Leila Campbell
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**Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation Staff**

Chaplain: Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr. — Phone: 612/747-1059 —
E-mail: kenneth.beale@us.army.mil

Minister of Music: Craig Tennison — Phone: 612/729-7990
Office Manager: Leila Campbell — Phone: 612/970-7866 —
E-mail: info@fortsnellingmcf.org
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**2nd Sunday in Advent**

Pearl Harbor Remembrance
10:00 a.m. Adult Education Class
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sermon: "Why a Stable?"
Music: Chord Ayres, Male Chorus

**3rd Sunday in Advent**

10:00 a.m. Adult Education Class
10:30 a.m. Christmas Carol Sing
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sermon: "When the Shepherds Met the Shepherd"
Music: Faith First Chorus

**4th Sunday in Advent**

10:00 a.m. Adult Education Class
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sermon: "Unwrapping Christmas"
Music: Land of Lakes Nordic Chorus

**1st Sunday after Christmas**

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion
Sermon: "A Time of Hope"
Music: Nancy Guerin, Soloist
Joe Sanchelli, Harmonica