



Revelations

June 2009

101 S. Center
P.O. Box 62
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49285

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This week as I was coming back from running errands, I left my sleeping daughter in the car with her grandmother and ran into a supermarket with a short grocery list. The quick trip turned into an hour long scavenger hunt because the entire store was under construction. The contents of the "aisles" (I use the term loosely) no long matched the signs hanging from the ceiling. Instead the store was papered with hand-made flyers pointing the way to different kinds on groceries with magic marker arrows. The diary products were in three opposite ends of the store. The

major changes had probably been made after lots of careful thought and consideration or that decision had probably come about from researching trends, consulting experts and maybe even by interviewing actual shoppers. I wasn't thinking that maybe the outcome would improve my shopping

trips in the future. I certainly wasn't thinking - well they have my best interests as a shopper at heart so I'll wait to reserve judgment until I see how it all turns out. Nope. Not me. I was thinking things are different, nothing is where I expect it to be, where I think it should be because that's how I remember it. Why in the world would they do this. This is stupid, and I don't like it.



baking ingredients were in two different aisles, as were the bread goods. It was time consuming, confusing, and mentally exhausting. This is the second time in a few months I have run into a supermarket to find that major changes were underway, changes that made my shopping difficult and inconvenient. My initial reaction in both cases was frustration. I wanted to tell those in charge how they had inconvenienced me, the consumer, and how user unfriendly my shopping experience had been. Of course I wasn't thinking that the decision to make these

trips in the future. I certainly wasn't thinking - well they have my best interests as a shopper at heart so I'll wait to reserve judgment until I see how it all turns out. Nope. Not me. I was thinking things are different, nothing is where I expect it to be, where I think it should be because that's how I remember it. Why in the world would they do this. This is stupid, and I don't like it.

But I know I'm not the only one that doesn't react well to change. A lot of times we think about changes at church the same strong way as stupid, unnecessary, confusing, inconvenient

just for me. The only thing mom keeps in her purse for me is a tissue. I promise you, candy tastes a lot better. Take my word for it... Love, Evie

outside the church. We forget that we are not customers of the church, but employees of Jesus Christ who is supposed to be the owner & manager of every church. We don't go to church to shop (to pick and choose what we like and don't like) but attend employee training - to learn to live out Jesus' vision of giving what the church has to offer away to others. So the next time something at church starts to frustrate us let's all remember to put down our shopping baskets and pick up our aprons and open our hearts before we open our mouths. Amen. In Christ Pastor Shannon

- Pastor*
Rev. Shannon M. O'Leary
- Elders*
Susan Daily
Dan Dancer
Al Davis
Jon Fillmore
Ralph Geistler
Denise Houle
Tom Taylor
- Deacons*
Katy Dancer
Doug Dault
Hester Fillmore
Lib Ford
Ella Love
John Love
Cindy Schoenberg
Andrea Stickney



Evie's Corner:

Dear Church Family,
Right now I'm enjoying a long visit from my Nana. She brought

toys all the way from Florida in her suitcase. She doesn't make me wear shoes when I go outside. And, she has bought me ice cream twice and made me brownies and bought cookies and she keeps candy in her

purse just for me. The only thing mom keeps in her purse for me is a tissue. I promise you, candy tastes a lot better. Take my word for it... Love, Evie

In Our Prayers

Wannie Allen
 Vivian Blasses (leg surgery)
 Debbie Burkhart (terminal cancer)
 Matt & Mindy Buurma
 Barbara Busse (ministry to Tajkistan, Paleistan & Iran)
 Brian Clark (leukemia)
 Leonard Clark (severe stroke)
 Denny Collier (skin cancer)
 Steve & Linda Collins
 Connie Fisher (Joan Bumpus' sister, spot on liver)
 Shaun Grumelot
 Kelly Grumelot (health)
 Bobby Herriman (Noah Powell's grandmother)
 Bill Johnson (Carrie Johnson's father-in-law)
 Erika Johnson
 Grace Kester
 Kylie (strength, courage, direction-Linda Cooper's niece)
 Pure Mangsong (child in Bangladesh)
 Bob McCue (lymphoma, Roberta & Gary Ludtke's nephew)
 Archie McKay (Joan Bumpus nephew, brain tumor)
 Kim Manoogian (cancer)
 Brian Mason (prostate cancer)
 David Meister (Min Clemon's son-terminal)
 Richard Middlebrook
 Ron & Nancy Montange
 Claudia & Joe Moore
 Leola Moore (pneumonia)
 Bob Munsell
 Mary Meyer (Deb Walker's mom)
 Ed Newell (lymphoma)
 Bobby Price
 Jack Schaible
 Sunni Schoenberg (summer job in NC)
 Lymon Shanes (Heidi Shanes' grandfather-in-law)
 Jeane Stephens
 Nadine Stickney
 Robert Suyzer (orphanage in Uganda)
 Ena Tait
 Don Tippin (bone cancer)
 Joanne Topping

Al Townsend
 Henry Van Hall (Kimber Glenn's dad, chemo)
 J. J. Watt
 Justin Weaver (Detroit Fire Dept.)
 Amy White
 John Workman (Iraq)

The Pastor and Leaders of our Church,
 The Nominating Committee,
 Camp Greenwood Presbyterian Church Camp
 Our President and other world leaders,
 US soldiers, Iraqi and Afghani citizens, and others at
 risk in the Middle East,
 The families, survivors, and
 workers in all the disaster areas,
 the homeless and hungry,

Iraq Presbyterian Prayer List

National Protestant Evangelical Church, Mosul,
 founded in 1952.
 Assyrian Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Baghdad,
 founded in 1921.
 National Evangelical Church, Kirkuk, founded in 1958.
 National Presbyterian Church, Basra, founded in 1940.



June Anniversaries

12 Ric & Jean Buurma
 20 Chuck & Joan Bumpus
 30 Ralph & Betty Geistler

June Birthdays

- 3 Ronald James Fillmore
- 3 Carrie Johnson
- 5 Wannie Allen
- 6 Stephen Collins
- 13 Jacqueline Munsell
- 13 Nathan Wisman
- 14 Ric Buurma
- 25 Tom Shellenbarger
- 28 Brittany Gorrell

As a child of God, prayer is like calling home every day..

Special Events this Month

Communion

June 7

Prepare for this special time
with the Lord.



Don't forget the

Loners Luncheon

Every Thursday at 11:30 a.m.
In Werner Hall.

A great time of Fellowship for
everyone who lives alone!



Community Blood Drive

Thursday

June 4, 2009

1:00 p.m. until 6:45 p.m.

Christian Education Building

Session

Thursday,

7:30 p.m.

Deacons

Sunday, Following the worship
service

Day in the Village

June 19 and 20, 2009

Don't miss out on the fun of a day in your village.

All You Can Eat! Spaghetti Dinner on Friday

And

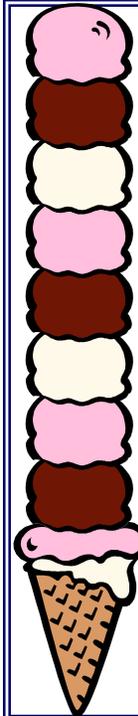
PW Bake Sale on Saturday to benefit

Habitat for Humanity

Father's Day
Ice Cream Social

June 21, 2009

following
the worship service.
(Dad's love ice cream!)



Lots of baked goods are needed

For our PW Bake Sale

On June 20.

Please bake cookies, pies, cakes,
brownies, breads, cupcakes, rolls, etc.
We need your help in making this a big
success for our
contribution to



Habitat for Humanity



Love
you
Dad



Schedules for June

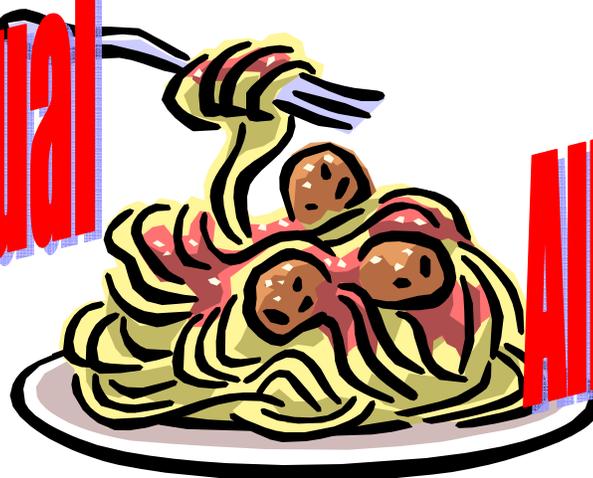
- Ushers 7 Ric & Jeanuurma, Chuck & Joan Bumpus
 14 Donna Lowman, Doug & Linda Dault
 21 John Love, Bill Stickney, Ed Grumelot
 28 Stan & Susan Daily, Al & Darlene Davis
- Lectors 7 Doug Dault
 14 Buurma
 21 Andrea Stickney
 28 Becky Dancer
- Nursery 7 Linda & Amanda Cooper
 14 Jenny Pulk & Jeanuurma
 21 Susan Daily & Ella Love
 28 Cindy Schoenberg & ?

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF STOCKBRIDGE

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

PRESENTS

The 4th Annual



All You Can Eat

GARLIC TOAST

SALAD

Spaghetti Dinner

DESSERT

WHEN: FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2009

5:00 P.M. UNTIL 7:30 P.M.

WHERE: IN OUR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BUILDING

CORNER OF CLINTON & WATER

COST: \$6.00 PER PERSON

CHILDREN 10 & UNDER \$4.00

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE FPC HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Pastor's Report to Session from March 13 - May 8, 2009

Presented at Called Session Meeting of May 26, 2009

Worship & Sacraments

- Planned & led worship and preached: Mar. 15, Mar. 22, Mar. 29, Apr. 19, May 3
- Planned and/or led worship: Apr. 5, Apr. 12, Apr. 26
- Served communion: Apr. 5, May 3
- Special worship services: Palm Sunday, Maudy Thursday Seder Service, Good Friday Stations of the Cross, Good Friday Tenebrae Service, Holy Saturday Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday Cantata, Holy Humor Sunday

Shepherding & Teaching

- Hospital Visits: Bill Johnson, Lillian Houle
- Other Visits: Helen Mary Shellenbarger, Lib Ford, Linda Dault, Wannie Allen, Pat Middlebrook, Audri Houle & Family
- Pastoral Correspondence/ Phone Calls: Angela Dault, Linda Dancer, Glen Pulk, Carrie Johnson, Deb Smith
- Planned & Taught Adult Sunday School (6)

Fellowship & Congregational Life

- Attended Soup & Salad
- Attended Saturday Morning Playgroup (1)

Administration & Leadership

- Planned and led Session Retreat at St. Francis Retreat Center at Dewitt
- Attended Deacon's Meeting Mar. 15,
- Planned and Led Session Meetings Apr. 2, Apr. 23
- Planned and led Worship Committee Meeting Apr 3, May 6
- Meet with head of PLM Transformation/ Redevelopment Team Rev. Tim Marvil
- Attended Community Garden Meeting
- Attended two Congregational Gatherings about Mission hosted by Session

Professional Development & Spiritual Support

- Attended PLM Jackson Cluster Clergy group meeting and spring mini retreat (2)
- Prayer with Rev. Heidi Demott (2)
- Prayer and Spiritual Direction with Rev. Patti Kenney at St. Francis Retreat Center (2)

Upcoming: Vacation August 4th- August 18th

New Orleans here we come...Mission Trip 2009



Signs at the Volunteer Village show that teams have come from across the country to help.

From June 29- July 3, a group from Stockbridge Pres. will be at the Presbyterian Volunteer Village in New Orleans to help with rebuilding efforts from Hurricane Katrina damage. (Yes its still going on!) The cost is \$120 a person (that includes all meals and a place to stay) plus a portion of the travel expenses. All participants must be 18 years of age or older. No special skills are required, but construction experience is welcome. Do you want to come along on this work-cation? We'd love to have you. After all many hands make light work. Just call Pastor Shannon ASAP at 517-819-2805 and she'll hook you up!

The Polity Page

This page is the continuance of a series to be in each month's newsletter. You will learn about the government of the Presbyterian church, the worship in the Presbyterian church and the discipline in the Presbyterian church. We hope that in this series, you will gain a better understanding of how your church works and see new opportunities for serving. Excerpts are taken from the Book of Order, the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

From G10.0000 - G10.0102 Book of Order on Government

The Session

1. General

The session of a particular church consists of the pastor or co-pastors, the associate pastors, and the elders in active service. All members of the session, including the pastor, co-pastors, and associate pastors, are entitled to vote.

The session is responsible for the mission and government of the particular church. It therefore has the responsibility and power

- a. to provide opportunities for evangelism to be learned and practiced in and by the church, that members may be better equipped to articulate their faith, to witness in word and deed to the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and to invite persons into a new life in Christ,;
- b. to receive members into the church upon profession of faith, upon reaffirmation of faith in Jesus Christ, or upon satisfactory certification of transfer of church membership, provided that membership shall not be denied any person because of race, economic or social circumstances, or any other reason not related to profession of faith;
- c. to lead the congregation in participation in the mission of the whole Church in the world,;
- d. to provide for the worship of the people of God, including the preaching of the Word, the sharing of the Sacraments and for the music program, in keeping with the principles in the Directory for Worship, and to appeal to the presbytery for a duly trained and authorized elder...in those extenuating circumstances where an ordained minister of the Word and Sacrament is not available to meet the needs for the administration of the Lord's Supper;
- e. to provide for the growth of its members and for their equipment for ministry through personal and pastoral care, educational programs including the church school, sharing in fellowship and mutual support, and opportunities for witness and service in the world;
- f. to develop and supervise the church school and the educational program of the church;
- g. to lead the congregation in ministries of personal and social healing and reconciliation in the communities in which the church lives and bears its witness;
- h. to challenge the people of God with the privilege of responsible Christian stewardship of money and time and talents, developing effective ways for encouraging and gathering the offerings of the people and assuring that all offerings are distributed to the objects toward which they were contributed;
- i. to establish the annual budget, determine the distribution of the church's benevolences, and order offerings for Christian purposes, providing full information to the congregation of its decisions in such matters;
- j. to lead the congregation continually to discover what God is doing in the world and to plan for change, renewal, and reformation under the Word of God;

- k. to engage in a process for education and mutual growth of the members of the session;
- l. to instruct, examine, ordain, install, and welcome into common ministry elders and deacons on their election by the congregation and to inquire into their faithfulness in fulfilling their responsibilities;
- m. To delegate and to supervise the work of the board of deacons and the board of trustees and all other organizations and task forces within the congregation, providing for support, report, review, and control;
- n. To provide for the administration of the program of the church, including employment of non-ordained staff, with concern for equal employment opportunity, fair employment practices, personnel policies, and the annual review of the adequacy of compensation for all staff, including all employees;
- o. To provide for the management of the property of the church, including determination of the appropriate use of church buildings and facilities, and to obtain property and liability insurance coverage to protect the facilities, programs and officers, including members of the session, staff, board of trustees, and deacons;
- p. To maintain regular and continuing relationship to the higher governing bodies of the church, including
 - (1) electing commissioners to presbytery and receiving their reports; sessions are encouraged to elect commissioners to the presbytery for at least one year, preferably two or three;
 - (2) nominating to presbytery elders who may be considered for election to synod or General Assembly;
 - (3) in both the above responsibilities, implementing the principles of participation and inclusiveness to ensure fair representation in the decision making of the church;
 - (4) observing and carrying out the instructions of the higher governing bodies consistent with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.);
 - (5) welcoming representatives of the presbytery on the occasions of their visits;
 - (6) proposing to the presbytery and, through it, to the synod and the General Assembly such measures as may be of common concern to the mission of the whole church;
 - (7) sending annually to the stated clerk of the presbytery statistical and other information according to the requirements of the presbytery.
- q. to establish and maintain those ecumenical relationships necessary for the life and mission of the church in its locality;
- r. to serve in judicial matters in accordance with the Rules of Discipline;
- s. to keep an accurate roll of the membership of the church,....and to grant certificates of transfer to other churches, which when issued for parents shall include the

The Polity Page

names of their children specifying whether they have been baptized, and which when issued for an elder or deacons shall include the record of ordination.

Next month we will begin looking at Governing Bodies continuing with the moderator and meetings. Stay tuned!

From W-2.406 - W-2.4010 Book of Order on Worship

4. The Lord's Supper

Around the Table of the Lord, God's people are in communion with Christ and with all who belong to Christ. Reconciliation with Christ compels reconciliation with one another. All the baptized faithful are to be welcomed to the Table, and none shall be excluded because of race, sex, age, economic status, social class, handicapping condition, difference of culture or language, or any barrier created by human injustice. Coming to the Lord's Table the faithful are actively to seek reconciliation in every instance of conflict or division between them and their neighbors. Each time they gather at the Table the believing community

- a. are united with the Church in every place, and the whole church is present;
- b. join with all the faithful in heaven and on earth in offering thanksgiving to the triune God;
- c. renew the vows taken at Baptism;

And they commit themselves afresh to love and serve God, one another, and their neighbors in the world.

In this meal the Church celebrates the joyful feast of the people of God, and anticipates the great banquet and marriage supper of the Lamb. Brought by the Holy Spirit into Christ's presence, the Church eagerly expects and prays for the day when Christ shall come in glory and God be all in all. Nourished by this hope, the Church rises from the Table and is sent by the power of the Holy Spirit to participate in God's mission to the world, to proclaim the gospel, to exercise compassion, to work for justice and peace until Christ's Kingdom shall come at last.

In the life of the worshipping congregation, Word and Sacrament have an integral relationship. Whenever the Lord's Supper is observed, it shall be preceded by the reading and the proclamation of the Word.

The Lord's Supper is to be observed on the Lord's Day, in the regular place of worship, and in a manner suitable to the particular occasion and local congregation. It is appropriate to celebrate the Lord's Supper as often as each Lord's Day. It is to be celebrated regularly and frequently enough to be recognized as integral to the Service for the Lord's Day.

It is also appropriate to observe the Lord's Supper on other occasions of special significance in the life of the Christian community, as long as the celebration of the Sacrament is open to the whole believing community. The Lord's Supper may be observed in connection with the visitation of the sick and those isolated from public worship as a means of extending the church's ministry to them. On all such occasions of the celebra-

tion of the Sacrament, the Word shall be read and proclaimed. Even though such a celebration may involve only a few members of the congregation, nevertheless it is not to be understood as a private ceremony or devotional exercise, but as an act of the whole church, which shall be represented not only by the minister or the one authorized by presbytery to administer the Sacrament, but also by one or more members of the congregation authorized by the session to represent the church.

Next month we will look at who may receive, baptized children and responsibility.

From D-7.0300-D-7.0304 Book of Order on Discipline Trial In A Remedial Case

3. Procedures in Trial

Each of the parties in a remedial case shall be entitled to appear and may be represented by counsel, provided, however, that no person shall act as counsel who is not a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). No member of a permanent judicial commission shall appear as counsel before that commission while a member.

No party to a remedial case or any other person shall circulate or cause to be circulated among the members of the permanent judicial commission any written, printed, or visual materials of any kind upon any matter pertaining to the case before the final disposition thereof. Notwithstanding this prohibition, the permanent judicial commission may request, or grant leave to file, additional materials.

The permanent judicial commission shall have full authority and power to control the conduct of the trial and of all parties, witnesses, counsel, and the public, including removal of them, to the end that proper dignity and decorum shall be maintained.

a. Questions as to procedure or the admissibility of evidence arising in the course of a trial shall be decided by the moderator after the parties have had an opportunity to be heard. A party or a member of the permanent judicial commission may appeal from the decision of the moderator to the commission, which shall decide the question by majority vote.

b. The absence of any member of the permanent judicial commission after a trial has commenced shall be recorded. That person shall not thereafter participate in that case.

Loss of a quorum shall result in a mistrial and the case shall be tried again from the beginning.

More to follow next month on the trial.



Watch for the "Polity Pages" again next month to learn more about your church and how it functions.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF STOCKBRIDGE

STATED SESSION MEETING

APRIL 23, 2009

APPROVED MINUTES

The meeting was held in the CE bldg and opened with prayer by Moderator, Pastor Shannon O'Leary at 7:30 p.m. The following quorum of Elders was present: Denise Houle, Tom Taylor, Susan Daily, Jon Fillmore.

Elders excused: Ralph Geistler, Al Davis, Dan Dancer.

- 1.) Motion was made to approve docket. **Motion carried.**
- 2.) Motion was made to approve consent agenda. **Motion carried.**

Clerk's Report

- 1.) Motion was made to approve minutes of March 12, 2009 stated Session meeting as presented. **Motion carried.**
- 2.) Motion was made to approve minutes of April 2, 2009 called Session meeting as presented. Motion carried with the following revision: Item 5: Motion was made to approve the use of church property for a community garden, with 10% of the produce from each garden being given to Outreach. Motion carried - to **Motion was made to approve the use of church property for a community garden. Motion carried.**

Discussion regarding a new listing contract with existing realtor or new realtor followed. Decision was made to move forward 2 weeks from this date 04/23/09 to investigate a new listing with Kristy Misiak.

Also, at this time Pastor Shannon informed session that she had been in contact with Karen Smith regarding the Community Garden meeting that would be hosted by Session. Pastor Shannon stated that she will be informing Session in the upcoming week regarding the day and time of this meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report was presented with the concerns regarding the cost of heating the Church building, and the problems with thermostats. Discussion followed as to reaching a solution to this problem.

CE Report

Motion to approve the adjustment of the Christian Education line item budget for Senior Awards/Gifts from \$100.00 to \$150.00 was made. **Motion carried.**

Building and Grounds

Pastor Shannon went over the Church calendar for May, and asked that a date for "Spring Clean-up Day" be considered. It was agreed that the church property was already looking good, as far as lawn maintenance, and that just window cleaning and dusting would be required this year.

Worship

Communion was served during worship on Sunday, April 5, 2009. Next communion scheduled for May 3, 2009. The next scheduled Stated Session meeting will be held Thursday May 14, 2009.

Meeting adjourned with prayer at 9:40 p.m.

Denise Houle, Clerk of Session

OPPORTUNITY

Presbyterians Today is a general interest magazine of the PC(USA), which explores issues of faith and life, tells stories of Presbyterians living out their faith, and covers a range of church news and activities. It is published 10 times a year. The cost is \$19.95 for one year. However if we get enough subscriptions, there may be a quantity discount available. Please let Pastor Shannon know or call the office 851-7015 to add your name to the list.



**Honoring our Graduates
Both near and far**

**Rebecca Helen Dancer
Stockbridge High School**

Plans to attend Lansing Community College for two years

Then transfer to Eastern Michigan University

To obtain a degree in Education (English Major)

She is the daughter of Daniel and Linda Dancer.

Granddaughter of James & Alice Diefenthaler, Ray & Judy Dancer, Polly Toney.

**Mallari F. Johnson
Stockbridge High School**

Plans to move to Lansing to live with her friends while she

Attends Lansing Community College

To obtain a degree in Dental Hygiene/Dental Assistant

She is the daughter of Tim and Carrie Johnson.

Granddaughter of Chuck & Joan Bumpus, Bill & Polly Johnson.

**Kaci Lynne Schoenberg
Stockbridge High School**

Plans to attend Eastern Michigan University

Majoring in Biology with hopes to

Become a High School Biology teacher.

She is the daughter of Dale and Cindy Schoenberg.

Granddaughter of Don & Cheryl Schoenberg, Gloria Robbins



Deborah Jo Smith
Graduated May 8, 2009
From
Michigan State University
She has earned a PHD from the
Department of Family & Child Ecology,
College of Social Science

Gavin David Fillmore
Mt. Carmel High School, San Diego, California
Plans to attend
San Diego State University
To obtain a Degree in Business
He is the son of David and Sandi Fillmore
Grandson of Hester Fillmore

Jane Fillmore
Graduating from
Montana Tech/University of Montana
With a Masters Degree in Geosciences/Geological Engineering
She is currently working as an Environmental Engineer
At FMC Corp. in Green River, Wyoming
She is the daughter of Hester Fillmore.

Shaun Jacob Grumelot
Waverly High School, Lansing, Michigan
Plans to attend Lansing Community College
Where he will continue studies in
Computer Repair/Electronics
He is the son of Kelly Grumelot
Grandson of Edward and Jennifer Grumelot

We ask the Lord's blessing on each of these graduates that they may
continue to strive for knowledge and wisdom and that each may find
focus on their chosen studies and not stray from their knowledge and love of the Lord.
God Bless All of You with peace and joy.
CONGRATULATIONS!!