



*Come home  
to God's love*

# Our Vision

The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn

**February 2016 Newsletter**



*Valentine's Day  
Sunday Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>*



## LADIES TEA PARTY

**Sat., Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>  
11:30am in Mitchell Hall**

*To benefit the  
Second Mile Center*

See Page 4



## Lenten Worship Service

following FISH dinner  
Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> -6:45pm  
in the chapel

See page 4

## Annual Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>,  
after morning worship**



## Dearborn Big Band Concert

**Sun. Feb 14<sup>th</sup>, 2pm  
in Sanctuary**

See Page 13

## GrouPeru Candy Sale

**Sunday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>  
in  
Narthex**

## Coming Soon....



## Giggles & Goodies Sat.~ March 12<sup>th</sup>

**Have FUN with Nancy  
& her puppets  
as they "Do Science"**

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## February at FPCD

As we turn yet another page we begin with the good news that the PNC has had great conversations with a potential candidate to serve as the pastor of FPCD. Our prayers are with the candidate, the PNC, and the Committee on Ministry as the process continues.

In other good news, we have been informed by David Blyth that we will be receiving a large bequest from the estate of his father, John Blyth in December. We have already received an advanced gift of \$12,000 and the balance will be about \$88,000. At David's request, most of the funds will be used for the organs of the church. John had donated \$100,000 some years ago in memory of his wife Mary, and now his gift will support the music ministry in a special need for the work on the keyboards and the leathers in the Sanctuary organ. It seems the 50 year mark takes its toll on musical instruments as well as the facility. Our thanks for John's faithful support and stewardship over these past years of membership in our church.

The Church year is upon us - Ash Wednesday occurs on February 10 and we will have a 30 minute service each Wednesday during the Lenten season. This will be in concert with our FISH program. Our experience with the catered meal has proved to be far too expensive to continue. We will have FISH during the entire Lenten season but we will be having a soup supper (with a donation) each night at 6:00pm. The Worship will begin at 6:45pm and the evening classes will begin at 7:15pm. Chris Mayer will continue her classes on Grief, and I will continue leading my discussions using the "Wired Word."

The month of February begins with our Annual Congregational Meeting on "Transfiguration Sunday," February 7th. It is also the first Sunday of the month and we will be celebrating 'Holy Communion.' The meeting offers us an opportunity to review the ministry, mission, nurture, and fellowship of our family of faith during 2015. We have had a good year and I am grateful for your continued prayers and support as we have sought to faithfully serve our Lord during this period of transition.

There are several events to highlight for February - We have received and accepted the resignation of Nancy Setterlun as our book keeper. Nancy has served our church for the past 18 years and we are grateful for her diligence and constant care of our financial resources. We ask you to reserve some time following our worship service on February 28th for a reception for Nancy. She will continue to serve us until we secure a replacement - and, she has promised to mentor the new person in utilizing our system, as our finances are extremely complicated.

The Peru team will be holding a candy sale on February 14th - dark chocolate of course will be available- and a great choice of dates especially for the men who forgot the day... (President's Day....) Our Music team has arranged for a Big Band event to be held in the Sanctuary on that same afternoon.

See you in Church - Pastor Don

## Children's Ministry

Sunday School meets at 9:00 every Sunday. If your family hasn't tried out Sunday School yet, give it a try! Kids' Sunday School is similar to what your children have experienced in Children's Church, but with smaller groups and a longer class time. That means we all get to know each other even better! There's more time for music, stories, discussions, and projects. And while your kids are in Sunday school, please take advantage of the adult educational offerings.



Our FISH kids' class continues! This year, we're reading the last book of the Narnia Series, *The Last Battle*. All ages are welcome - come for a great story, discussion, crafts and more. Each week during Lent, we will attend the short Lenten service in the chapel from 6:45 until 7:15. Then we will begin our usual Narnia class, with reading and activities. See you in church!

~ Beckie Dicks, Children's Ministries Coordinator

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## 3 Thank You

*Thank you so much for all the prayers, cards, and good wishes during my recent surgery and ongoing recovery. They are all much appreciated.*

*God bless,  
Jean Johnston*

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## Sunday Night Bible Discussion Group

The Sunday night Bible study group is discussing the book of Daniel (*a book of personal biography and apocalyptic visions concerning events in both secular and sacred history*). Please call Bert Ebi (562-5156) or the Leslie's (336-8238) if you plan to participate.





## LADIES TEA PARTY

*Saturday, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>  
11:30am in Mitchell Hall*

*To benefit the  
Second Mile Center*

Please join us as the ladies of our church gather to support the Second Mile Center of Detroit. We are hosting this catered tea party to focus on this important organization. A guest speaker from Second Mile will share their story of mission and ministry in the Detroit community.

### **Second Mile Center of Detroit**

Founded in 2006 by the Presbyterian Women of Detroit, The Second Mile Center provides services and develops partnerships to empower and strengthen people through charitable and educational means.

*Come join us in an enjoyable tea party as we learn about the important role Second Mile plays in the life of those in the surrounding community.*

### GriefShare

GriefShare classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 6:45pm-8:30pm in the South Parlor. We invite you to join us for a catered meal (optional at \$8) at 6pm in Mitchell Hall.

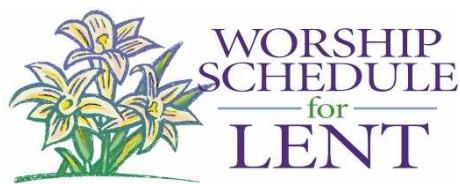


*Total cost to attend the classes is \$20, which includes DVD sessions, discussion, a workbook and refreshments. We hope you will come and allow us to help you navigate this difficult time in your life. Call the church to register at (313) 274-1313 ext. 16.*

### **Lenten Mid-week Worship Services**

**Wednesday at 6:45pm in the Chapel**

**(Come for dinner at FISH at 6:00pm)**



## **What's happening in Christian Education in and around FPC-D?**

Pastor Michael J. Hoffman, CRE. & CE Director

### ***Is there a difference between Teaching and Preaching OR Do we need really need CE AND a sermon during Worship?***

Like prose and poetry, these two terms, teaching & preaching are better understood as opposite ends of a spectrum, rather than raw opposites. When we write prose, we often use poetic devices such as word-plays and metaphors, and when we write poetry we also are communicating information with metric structure. In like manner it is rather difficult if not impossible to teach without preaching to some degree, or to preach without some level of teaching. One way to illustrate the distinction between the two is to note the difference between the indicative and the imperative. The former tells us *what is*, the latter tells us *what we're supposed to do*. Teaching, then tends toward the indicative while preaching tends toward the imperative. Thank goodness that most teachers and pastors do not make the distinction absolute! Wouldn't teaching without any imperative cause us to yawn, to reply, "So what?" In like manner, preaching without indicative would create sermons that merely shout, "Do something!"

So why do we have both, if they both contain elements of each other? It has to do with the setting and the tradition. In many mainline churches, worship is mostly done from the front with minimum interaction from the congregation (when was the last time you heard someone during a sermon say, "Hey pastor, I don't get that...can you explain that?") In education classes, it is traditional and expected for students to interact.

While still offering separate CE and Sermon presentation opportunities, I will continue to try to blend teaching with preaching in worship by using the senses, more non-rote congregational participation, and point-out and examine more image/story-based metaphors that are in scripture.

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## **Presbyterian Women's Bible Study**

**Lamkin PW (Presbyterian Women) Bible Study** will be starting the 2015-2016 HORIZONS Bible study, Come to the Waters. Join us on Thursday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Charlie Aronson and Jane Lewy-Mykytenko will lead our discussions. "The rich imagery of water throughout the Bible helps us understand and articulate our faith. Just as water nourishes our bodies, so the scriptures on water nourish our souls."



## Music Corner

February is here already! We begin our journey through Lent with Ash Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, this year. I hope that you will take advantage of our Wednesday night worship during Lent, as well as our regular Sunday Morning Worship.

On March 13, we will be having our annual Lenten Concert, featuring our Children's Choir, our Youth Choir, our Handbell Choir, and our Adult Choir. The central work will be K. Lee Scott's Requiem, a fantastic work for choir and soloists, accompanied by a small instrumental ensemble.

Please also make plans to join us during Holy Week, with Palm Sunday on March 20<sup>th</sup>, Maundy Thursday on March 24<sup>th</sup>, Good Friday on March 25<sup>th</sup>, and Easter Sunday on March 27<sup>th</sup>. We will have plenty of music during that week, with a musical Tenebrae service on Thursday, and Brass on Easter Sunday!

This may seem to give February short shrift, but this is the time that we begin preparing for all of these Lenten Specials! Now is the perfect time to join any of our choirs. We are always welcoming and would love to have you come, even for just the Lenten Season to sing with us!

Here's looking forward to a Blessed and Reflective Lent, and a glorious Easter!

In Christ, ~Marshall



## Touch of Hope Christmas Offering

Thanks to all who touched the lives of our Touch of Hope families during the Christmas season..

Many people did their part to make the Touch of Hope Christmas Offering a success. Jan Cobb made personal beautiful cards for each of our families. Volunteers who helped with preparation and the angel adoption process were Nancy DeHamer, Sue Ingram, Margie and Mike Maurer, Jan and John Snider, Tracie Szczechura, Jan Witkowski and Lori Wyatt. Gift sorting was done by Nancy De Hamer, Margie and Mike Maurer, Tracie Szczechura, Jan Witkowski and Anne Witkowski. Food sorting was completed by Nancy De Hamer, Dorinda Hughes, Mike and Margie Maurer, Ashley Mayer, Sue Sullivan, Tracie Szczechura, Jan Witkowski, Anne Witkowski, and Lori Wyatt. Wendy Palmer did a great job coordinating room set-up and helping throughout the Christmas Offering process.

Generous church members purchased 94 gifts at an approximate total cost of \$2,565. Our families are very appreciative and many thanks go to those who adopted angels.

Thanks to the congregation members who also donated food, personal care items, and paper products to be distributed to the fifteen families. People who donated money toward the Christmas offering are always appreciated.

As always, the sponsors are the heart of this program and without their involvement, time, and commitment through the year Touch of Hope Ministry would not be a reality. The personal contact and the delivery of food and gifts is a great way to share God's love.

This has been a difficult year for many of our families. They are all grateful for the many generous people in our church family who brightened their celebration of Christmas. Touch of Hope continues to appreciate all that has been done by many to support the ministry.

*~Margie Johnston-Maurer, Touch of Hope Coordinator*

## Musings from Pastor Mike, CRE

Young Adult & Adult CE Director and Youth Groups Leader

“...I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day! – and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.” – 2 Timothy 4:7b.-8

In Roman athletic games, a laurel wreath, a coveted symbol of triumph and honor, was given to the winner. Paul was promised in this section of scripture a reward in heaven, rather than one on earth. Running is exhausting if we are running from sin, guilt, or fear and towards any other means, or false god of fulfillment. Only when we run toward Christ, are we freed up to serve, love, and give thanks without guilt, worry or fear.



“You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.” –Psalm 16:11

“The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song. –Psalm 28:7

“Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.” –Psalm 90:14

We must let God change us.

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.” –Revelation 3:20

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” – John 10:10

“Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.” – James 4:8

At Converge a few weeks ago, a young adult shared his testimony of his conversion from Hinduism to becoming a follower of Christ. This was quite dramatic, being that there were a number of Hindus in the audience. He told how he was seeking Truth and after being given a Bible and reading the gospel of Matthew, was convicted by the Holy Spirit to follow Christ as Lord and Savior. His conversion was not a false or temporary one that came through guilt, fear or intimidation. It was a true conversion that was birthed out of seeking Truth, God reaching down to one who was dead in sin, raising him up to be born again, and this young man finding and accepting Love. The Bible that this young man was given was a present from a person who had taken time to build-up a relationship with him over a number of months.

Who in your life that you know in a casual way needs you to pour into them through a purposeful relationship? Start by having coffee or a breakfast together. Listen to them rather than talk at them. Invite them into your home for a board game or to watch a movie or sporting event. When the time is right, share your story and your faith as you plant a seed. Then stand back and let God do his part! – Amen.

# Februa

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDI
	10am Card Ministry- R14  <b>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</b>	1 9am Men's Fellowship Work 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- YC 4:30-5:30pm Sewing Class 7-8pm Deacons- NP <b>7:30-8:30pm Endowment Committee</b> 7-9pm Worship & Arts- SP 7:30-9pm AA- MH	2 10am Stephens-Currie- 10am-4pm Treasure Chi 10:30am Staff meeting- 6-6:45pm FISH(dinner)- 6:45-8pm Adult and Kids 6:45-8:30pm GriefShare 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanc
<b>Transfiguration of the Lord Communion</b> 7 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir <b>10am Worship Service- Sanctuary</b> 11am Annual Congregational Meeting- Sanctuary 11:30am Property- Library 3-4:30pm Youth Groups- YL, YC, 2A 3-4:30pm Youth Groups- YL, YC, 2A 3:30-4:30pm Children's Choir- Sanctuary 4:30-5pm Handbell Choir- Bell Room 7pm Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	11am-2pm Garden Club- MH 6:30pm NAMI- NP  <b>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</b>	8 9am Men's Fellowship Work 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- YC 4:30-5:30pm Sewing Class 7-9pm CE Committee- NP 7:30-9pm AA- MH	9 <b>ASH WEDNESDA (BEGINNING OF</b> 10am-4pm Treasure Chi 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner) 6:45-7:15pm Worship- 6:45-8:30pm GriefShare 7:15-8pm Adult and Kit 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanc  <b>DEADLINE FOR VISION</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> 14 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir <b>10am Worship Service- Sanctuary</b> 11am GrouPeru Candy Sale- Narthex 2-5pm Big Band Concert- Sanct., Narthex 3-4:30pm Youth Groups- YL, YC, 2A No Children's, Handbell, or Youth Choirs 7pm Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	<b>Presidents' Day</b> 15  <b>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</b>	9am Men's Fellowship Work 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- YC 4:30-5:30pm Sewing Class 5:30-6:30pm Finance- SP <b>6:30pm SESSION/CC -NP</b> 7:30-9pm AA- MH	16 10am Stephens-Currie- 10am-4pm Treasure Chi 10:30am Staff Meeting- 5:15pm Outreach & Mi 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner), <b>6:45-7:15pm Worship- 6:45-8:30pm GriefShare 7:15-8pm Adult and Kit 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanc</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> 21 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir <b>10am Worship Service- Sanctuary</b> After worship: Girl Scout Cookie Booth in the Narthex 3-4:30pm Youth Groups- YL, YC, 2A 3:30-4:30pm Children's Choir- Sanctuary 4:30-5pm Handbell Choir- Bell Room 5-6pm Youth Choir- Sanctuary 7pm Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	6:30pm NAMI- NP  <b>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</b>	22 9am Men's Fellowship Work 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- YC 4:30-5:30pm Sewing Class 7:30-9pm AA- MH	23 11am-1pm Keenagers- I 10am-4pm Treasure Chi 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner) 6:45-7:15pm Worship- 6:45-8:30pm GriefShare 7:15-8pm Adult and Kit 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanc
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> 28 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir <b>10am Worship Service- Sanctuary</b> Reception for Nancy Setterlun after worship in Mitchell Hall 3-4:30pm Youth Groups- YL, YC, 2A 3:30-4:30pm Children's Choir- Sanctuary 4:30-5pm Handbell Choir- Sanctuary 5-6pm Youth Choir- Sanctuary 7pm Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	1-4pm Home School Class- MH, Kit  <b>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</b>	29	

# January 2016

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 Currie- NP Tre Chest Meeting- SP Dinner)- MH and Kids' Classes fShare- SP r- Sanct., Turco	4 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP		5 Set up Communion 9am-11am Rebekah Circle- MH 5:30-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares
<b>ESDAY</b> <b>(3 OF LENT)</b> Tre Chest Dinner) MH ship- Chapel fShare- SP and Kids' Classes r- Sanct., Turco	10 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP	11 6:30-9pm Game Night- MH	12 10am-2pm Treasure Chest 10am-12pm Girl Scouts- R14 1-3pm Peru team candy bagging 5:30-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares
VISION			13
17 Currie- NP Tre Chest Meeting- SP 1 & Missions- Room 12 Dinner) MH ship- Chapel fShare- SP and Kids' Classes r- Sanct., Turco	18 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP		19 10am PW Board- NP 5:30-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares
24 gers- MH (K) Tre Chest Dinner) MH ship- Chapel fShare- SP and Kids' Classes r- Sanct., Turco	25 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 7-9pm Knitting Grp.- NP		26 11:30am Ladies Tea party- MH (K) 5:30-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares
			27

## Parish Nurse

### Stress: A Matter of Choice - Christian Emotional Wellness by Linda Goldfarb

Too often we are frantic to speed things up, determined to cram big things into small spaces, and forever trying to be everything to everyone, only to realize it's an impossible task, leaving us frustrated and stressed out. Let's look at some principles of "Christian emotional wellness". I'm reminded in **Isaiah 58:11**, "*The Lord will guide you always... You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.*"

We are to lean on God in all things, as He will provide all of our needs. So instead of looking at the rest of this year as being full of "stress opportunities," I wanted to share these "stress reducers." I'm not sure where I first saw a similar list; this is definitely not an original concept. I have made a few changes, reflecting more of my personality. Cut these out and place them on your refrigerator or bathroom mirror as a reminder of choices you can make every day, choices that will lead to a healthier you in the future.

**Pray often, multiple times a day.** I have found, if we limit our relationship with God to a once or twice a day experience we miss out on a continual flow of His Grace and blessing. Prayer is communication with God, a way to develop a relationship. If we only speak to Him once a day, how can we truly know Him?

**Make your daily resting-goal a minimum of seven hours of uninterrupted sleep.** We don't need studies to prove lack of sleep results in a less than desired effect on our health, work, and relational habits. We must be refreshed to be refreshment to others.

**Lay out clothing the night before** – an excellent habit to teach your children. If you find yourself standing in front of your closet for more than two to three minutes deciding what to wear, you can benefit greatly by organizing your wardrobe. Match outfits ahead of time, even down to the jewelry you will wear with it, and hang them all together. (This is a great tip from my friend Jill Swanson, an image coach). Guys, you can do the same with ties, socks, and shoes – never assume it's only the girls spending time in front of the closet.

**Say "No" more often.** Burning the candle at both ends has become an acceptable pastime for all "Good Christians." But living a multiple-wick life leads to early burn out. Getting our priorities straight -- God, family, job, and other -- will help in choosing which wicks to light. Just in case you're asking, spending time at church every moment the doors are open does not fall under the "God" slot; it may be under your "job" slot if you're a pastor or church secretary, but if not, it's "other."

**Delegation makes others stronger.** Sure, you can choose to make yourself solely responsible for every detail of life in your house, or you can delegate tasks to capable others; your strength is seen in your weakest link. Teach the kids to set and clear the table, fold laundry, water the garden--any chore appropriate for their age and ability. Most important, don't stress out if they don't do it exactly "your" way.

**Simplify and downsize** your life, office, and closets. Keep, store, or give away – repeat every six months.

**Stop using credit cards.** It's easy to whip out a credit or debit card for all those little purchases in life, but the statements at the end of the month can be major stressors. Instead, designate a cash amount for your weekly quick-spends (maybe \$30) and leave the credit/debit cards at home.

**Plan for a rainy day.** Here are some ideas: crossword puzzles, board games, favorite family movies. Plans change, but if we plan ahead for those unexpected changes, we can redirect hurt feelings or bouts of disappointment.

**Ops Items.** Carry an extra car key in your wallet or purse, hide an extra house key, keep extra stamps in the car, and make a photo copy of the credit cards you carry. Ask the family for ideas. What do we always seem not to have at the time we need it? What would we hate to lose? Making the list can be fun, and it will prevent stress-filled moments.

**(continued from previous page)**

**Do something just for fun at least once a week.** Movies, fishing, time with the grandkids, garage sales, date night, the zoo, painting furniture -- whatever works.

**Incorporate at least 30 minutes of accumulated physical activity a day\*.** I really believe stress can't live in an active body. I don't have scientific proof, unless you count my soon to be 97-year-old mother-in-law: Cancer survivor, avid gardener (used a powerless push-mower for more than 50 years), walks one to two miles a day, and plays one mean piano for church, for her apartment complex, and for family.

**Journal your thoughts.** Use a journal to reflect, share, and recognize the positives God is doing daily in your life. Stress can consume our thoughts with "what if's" and "why not's." If we make a conscious effort to pen the positives, we can loose the grip of daily stress.

**Laugh out loud!** Four great ways to incorporate humor into your day: Play with a puppy; run with your child; sit down in front of *Lucy*, *Carol Burnett*, or *The Three Stooges*; or record some at home karaoke and play it back for friends.

**Talk less; listen more.** We have two ears, one mouth – there's a reason.

Allowing these simple changes to incorporate positive choices in your life will open doors of opportunity for you to shine as a child of the King. This is the year of change – embrace it!

Article taken from: <http://www1.cbn.com/health/stress%3A-a-matter-of-choice-%09%09-christian-emotional-wellness>

~ Chris Mayer, Parish Nurse



This  
Month's  
Reflection

**Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth (Matt. 5:5)**

**on the Word** What is meekness? The Greek word used in the third Beatitude expresses the middle point between excessive anger and the inability to express anger at all. The meek are those who get angry at the right time and never angry at the wrong time (*Barclay*). They are blessed because they are God-controlled. God helps us avoid anger over an insult or injury done to us; selfish anger is sin. But we should be angry about injuries done to others; selfless anger can strengthen morality.

We become meek when every impulse or passion is under control. We cannot do that by ourselves; it is possible only by yielding to God's control. Meekness requires humility; unless we know our own weaknesses, ignorance, and need, it is hard for us (1) to learn (*Psalm 119:67, 71; Prov. 1:7*), (2) to worship God, or (3) to love. Our meekness comes from our relationship with Jesus (*Matt. 11: 29*). The Greek word is also used to describe a domesticated animal trained to obey its master. No one should control others until, with God's help, they can control themselves (*Prov. 16:32; 25:28*).

The meek yield to God, reject pride (*Prov. 16:18, 19*), and are aware of their needs. They feel superior to none, and know that whatever they have is from the bounty of God. Two meek individuals are identified in the Bible: Moses and Jesus (*Numbers 12:3; 1 Peter 3:4*). The promise of earth is a repetition of *Psalm 37:11* -- a promise of future rewards. There is a sense that the meek already have the earth, for they are usually more satisfied and contented (*Phil. 4:11, 19*) than others. Paul owned little but he spoke of possessing all things (*1 Cor. 3:21-23; 2 Cor. 6:10, Boice*). Once blessed by God, the meek lack no good thing.

~ John Holden

## ***With Sympathy***



*Our deepest sympathy is extended to family and friends of the following who have passed and joined the Church Triumphant:*

- ~ Margaret "Peggy" Belloff, who lived to be 102 years of age
- ~ Wes Pelling, devoted husband to Helen, and longtime member of our church

*Please keep these families in your prayers.*

## ***Annual Congregational Meeting***

**Sunday February 7, 2016**  
**After morning worship**

*Annual Reports will be available the week prior.*

## **DEACON CARD MINISTRY INTERESTED?**

*We meet the first Monday of the month at 10:00am upstairs in Room 14.*

**All are welcome!**

*For further information, please contact Nancy Barber, (313) 565-2741*



## **If you are KEEN... and over 50 years of age, YOU ARE A ~ Keenager**

*Please join us the fourth Wednesday of each month for Christian Fellowship and Information as we go for lunch, or meet in Mitchell Hall. Check the Keenager bulletin board for details and sign-up sheet.*



## Dearborn ***Big Band*** Concert

**Sun. Feb 14<sup>th</sup>, 2pm ~ in Sanctuary**

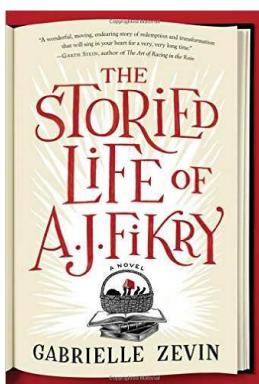
Come hear the big band sound as the Dearborn Community Big Band performs selections from the Glen Miller Orchestra and more!

Enjoy numbers like *In The Mood*, *Tuxedo Junction*, and *Don't Get Around Much Anymore*.

Join us for Big Band swing music and jazz that are sure to bring back the memories!

## Book of the Every Other Month Club **Next Meeting: Sat, March 12<sup>th</sup>**

Our book to be discussed: "*The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry*" a novel by Gabrielle Zevin



... A. J. Fikry, the irascible owner of Island Books, has recently endured some tough years: his wife has died, his bookstore is experiencing the worst sales in its history, and his prized possession—a rare edition of Poe poems—has been stolen. Over time, he has given up on people, and even the books in his store. Instead of offering solace, they are yet another reminder of a world that is changing too rapidly. Until a most unexpected occurrence gives him the chance to make his life over and see things anew.

[Source: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)]

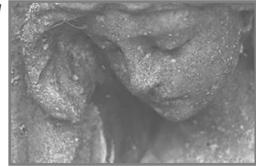
"Zevin perfectly captures the joy of connecting people and books... Filled with interesting characters, a deep knowledge of bookselling, wonderful critiques of classic titles, and very funny depictions of book clubs and author events, this will prove irresistible to book lovers everywhere."

- *Booklist*

**Come join our discussion of this New York Times Bestseller!**

## No, You Don't Need 'Closure' by Stephen J. Forman

*There are few among us who have not experienced the loss of a friend or loved one. Often it comes without warning, in an accident or, as we've seen all too often recently, an act of terrorism. The experience of loss after a lingering illness like cancer, though more expected, is just as deeply felt. As time passes, we often hear how important it is to gain closure—a way of tidying up to help us move on with our own lives.*



*The reality is that closure is a myth. My personal and professional experience with those who have lost friends and family, including children, has taught me that going on with life is not the same as gaining closure. The wound of loss is a part of each person's life forever. We continue to think about those dear to us, though perhaps not every day or with the same intensity. Recollection is sometimes provoked by a date on the calendar or, less predictably, by a sight, sound, aroma, melody or place that evokes the missing person.*

*These personal moments, seemingly forever paused in time, can cause us to feel alone, especially during sentiment-filled holidays. The danger of the idea of closure is that it heightens this loneliness, by giving us a false expectation that these experiences should and will at some point end. They won't...*

*...A few months ago, I ran into a woman who many years ago had, at a very young age and early in her marriage, lost her husband to cancer. Since then she had moved away, met another man whom she adored, married him and had a family. Together they raised their children. She had built a successful career. Seemingly she had found closure from the tragedy of her early life. As we finished talking and she began to walk away, she turned around, and with eyes full, said: "I think of him almost every day."*

*Dr. Forman leads the Hematologic Malignancies and Stem Cell Transplantation Institute at City of Hope.  
[ 1/6/16 WSJ Article contributed by Norma Bak and Ken Stivenson ]*

## Thank You!



*We at the Cherry Hill Presbyterian Food Pantry want to thank you for your extraordinary monetary gift—we were able to help give families an extra Christmas holidays boost with it.*

*Thank you also, for the year-round food donations you and your members have offered*

*God Bless you & Happy New Year,  
The volunteers at the Helping Hands Food Pantry.*

## NEED A LIFT? WE'D LIKE TO HELP!

We will try to accommodate members who need a ride to a medical appointment or Sunday Service. Contact Nancy Barber at (313)565-2741, or call the church at (313)274-1313. Also, if you are free to occasionally help with driving, we'd like to hear from you too.

~Nancy Barber, Deacon Moderator.

*Matthew 25:40 "Whatever you do for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."*



## FPC Knitters

Calling all knitters and those who want to learn: Make time to join us Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 7 pm. Bring whatever project you are working on, or come and learn some basic stitches. Hope to see you! ~Lynn Hoffman



Bob Kuhlman's new address:  
c/o Katie Slabough  
2168 Quarry Rd.  
East Lansing, MI 48823



Mary Ann Bassett's new address & phone:  
16351 Rotunda Drive  
Apt. 274  
Dearborn, MI 48120  
Home phone: (313) 845-7104

## Meals for the Homebound

Some of our homebound congregation could use assistance with meals. The next time you are preparing something that is easily frozen, just make a little extra. Freeze enough for two people in a non-returnable container and drop it off at church, letting the office know. The Deacons will deliver it. This small gesture will mean a lot to the recipients and what a wonderful way to show our Christian love. Nancy Barber - Deacon Moderator

## Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 am

February 7 / - Communion, *Listen* - Rev. Don Wright  
February 14 / - A Lenten Journey - Rev. Don Wright  
February 21 / - A Big enough God - Rev. Don Wright  
February 28 / - *It can Happen!* - Rev. Don Wright

Newsletter of The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn  
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## Our Vision

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## Sent with a Prayer

**Are you praying for a Vision?**  
**Pastor Don**

Pastor  
Rev. Don Wright

Education & Young Adult Coord.  
Mike Hoffman, CLP

Parish Associate & Pastor Emeritus  
Rev. Don Wright

Children's Ministries Director  
Beckie Dicks

Director of Music  
F. Marshall Dicks, M.M.

Parish Nurse  
Chris Mayer, B.S.N.