



Come home  
to God's love

# Our Vision

## The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn

### March 2014 Newsletter

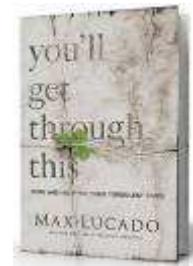


St. Patrick's Day  
Monday, 3/17



**Sermon on the Mount**  
Sermon Series

Living  
as a disciple in the real world  
as directed by Jesus.



### Our Lenten/Spring Adventure Small Groups

Hope and Help for Your  
Turbulent Times

See page 2

### Praise Worship

Saturday, March 22  
4:30pm

*An Hour of  
Praise and Prayer*  
See page 3

### Giggles & Grub

Saturday, March 8,  
5:00pm  
See page 4



Children's Series for Lent  
**Box of Treasures:  
A Lenten Story**

Illustrated in clay tile  
Beginning on March 16

Artist: Sheila Beatty



**Lenten  
Worship Service**  
following FISH dinner

March 5th -6:45pm in the chapel

See page 3

*Pray for God to provide for our financial needs.*

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## **ADVENTURE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

### **Sunday Morning Adult Class**

**The Sermon on the Mount** – This class follows the same weekly theme that we have in worship on Sunday mornings. We are looking at the Old Testament and New Testament scriptures that will help us understand what Jesus is saying and why. Join us Sunday mornings as we seek to learn how we can better live the way Jesus wants us to live. We are called to be salt and light to the world. These lessons will help us understand how to do that in reference to our daily lives. *We meet in the North Parlor at 9am.*

### **FISH**

During Lent, we will have our Lenten Worship Service right after dinner at FISH at 6:45pm in the chapel. Class will then begin at 7:15pm.

Our Lenten/spring class will be led by Mark Dearth, from March 12<sup>th</sup> – May 14. “**Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God**” by Francis Chan will be the topic for this discussion class. God, the Creator of all, loves us with a radical, unconditional, self-sacrificing love. But are we in love with God? We need to fall in love with God, then we will never be the same. Join us for this great class.

We'd like to thank the Rev. Doug Campbell for a wonderful series he taught during January and February. He helped us to put the parables into present day context.

### **Small Group Adventure**

Our Lenten Small Group Adventure – “**you'll get through this**” begins March 5<sup>th</sup> and runs 6 weeks. We have a number of small groups participating in this study. There may still be time for you to join a group. See me if you are interested.

Thank you to Ann Phillips for providing a wonderful lunch for the leader training on Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **VBS Decorating**

I am working on VBS decorations with Bob and Diane Missler. If you like to paint drawings and would like to help, let me know and we can set up a time for you to come in and paint. I have animals and a few scenes that need to be painted. I'd like to get the majority of the decorations done this April and May. Thanks.

~Ann Bleivik, Educational Coordinator

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### **March Mission Sewing**

Mission Sewing day is coming fast. Our sewing date is Tuesday, March 11, from 10 am to 2 pm, in the second floor sewing room. We need pressers and sewers. If you can use a sewing machine to sew a straight seam we need you. A light lunch will be provided. Hope to see you there.



If you have any questions please call me at 313-336-2772 or e-mail me at olimpiatodor36@gmail.com ~Yours in Christ, Olimpia Todor Mission Sewing Coordinator

## Children's Ministry

Believe it or not, summer is just around the corner. And with summer comes VBS! Whether you're a parent, a student, or a volunteer, mark your calendar for July 14-18.



This summer at VBS, we'll take an incredible journey into the wilderness with none other than Moses himself! With Group Publishing's Wilderness Escape 2014 VBS program, kids will learn straight from the Bible through hero Moses. Kids will also learn firsthand what it was like to live in the Israelite camp during Moses' time. Join 1 of the 12 Israel Tribes for crafts, music, games, and more!

Talk to Beckie Dicks if you'd like to be a part of this ministry.

**VBS Dates: July 14-18. Please mark your calendars!**

~Beckie Dicks- Children's Ministries Coordinator

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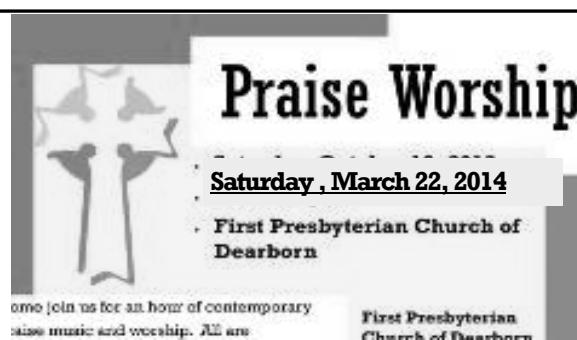
## Lenten Mid-week Worship Services

Wednesday at 6:45pm in the Chapel

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



## Contemporary Praise Music and Prayer Event



We will be hosting another of our praise and prayer events on Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> starting at 4:30 PM. Please invite friends and neighbors and plan on joining us in the Sanctuary as we seek inspiration and enjoy contemporary praise music led by our praise ensemble. This event is co-sponsored by the DNA committee and Worship and Arts.

## Giggles & Grub!

Come to our 6th Annual  
Giggles & Grub on  
Saturday March 8th.

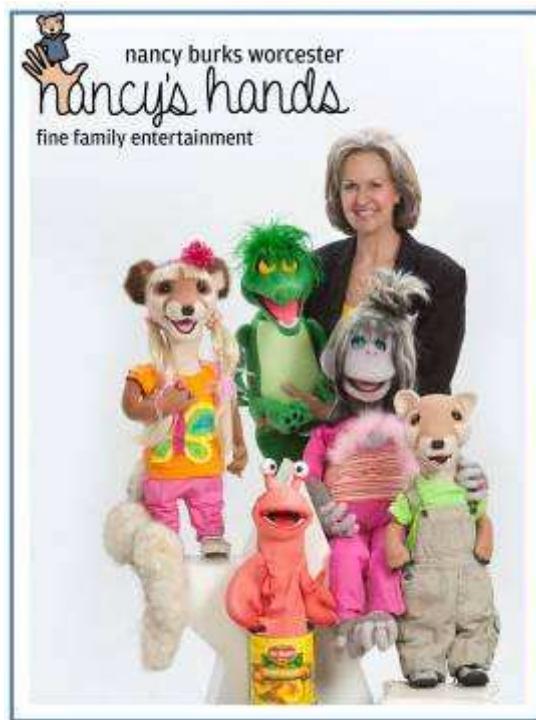
Nancy Worcester and

her wonderful family of puppets are returning  
for another evening of fun and fellowship.

The event is free and includes dinner for everyone! Dinner at 5:00pm; Showtime at  
5:30pm.

Nancy is a fabulous storyteller and the kids  
and adults all enjoy her. Please feel free to  
bring friends, neighbors, grandchildren, nieces,  
nephews or anyone you think would enjoy a few  
laughs combined with a thoughtful message.

If you have any questions please contact Kim  
Doverspike at [kim.doverspike1@gmail.com](mailto:kim.doverspike1@gmail.com).



## Student Ministries – 4:12 Youth Group

Have you ever wondered where 4:12 Youth Group got its name? It's from **1 Timothy 4:12** – “Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.” In February we learned how we can forgive others because Christ forgives us. Check out the new artwork that the students made in the youth lounge!

This month we are going to Spring Hill Camp for the winter teen retreat, and having guys and girls' retreats at the end of March. Please pray that the students would feel God's love for them, have a ton of fun and learn to love one another. Some of the students could use scholarships to attend the spiritual retreats. If you would like to donate to the scholarship fund, please make a check out to First Presbyterian with “Youth Scholarship” on the memo line and put it in my box at church. May the peace of Jesus bless you richly this month.

~In Christ, Jonathan Mallard



Think  
Spring!

## *With Sympathy*

### *Our sincere condolences to:*

Johanna Bolash and family on the January 26<sup>th</sup> passing of Johanna's husband, George Bolash.

Joel DeHamer and family on the January 26<sup>th</sup> passing of Joel's father.

Jim Shearer and family on the February 12<sup>th</sup> passing of his brother, Tom Shearer.

The Gentinne family on the February 19<sup>th</sup> passing of Thelma DeHaven.

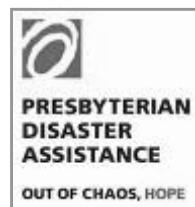
*Please keep these families in your prayers.*



*Thank you for your prayers, cards, calls and visits during my stay at rehab. Your thoughtfulness made my stay a lot easier and I appreciated everything.*

*Ed Riopelle*

**Disaster Relief** - The congregation can contribute to the relief efforts by the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) for the Philippines and tornadoes in the Midwest U.S. You can designate the "Other" section of your giving envelope and write "Philippines" or "Tornadoes." As an alternative, you can use the envelopes in the church pews and write "Philippines" or "Tornadoes." Please indicate the amount or percentage for each of the designations. Thank-you for your support.



**Do you use EMAIL? Have you been receiving the email messages about FPC events?**  
If not, we would love to add your email address to our list. The DNA Committee has been sending out limited messages on upcoming events. These messages are great reminder for you and can be easily forwarded to friends. Forwarding is a way for you to invite someone to experience God's love in action. Please email [fpcd.events@gmail.com](mailto:fpcd.events@gmail.com), or call the church at **(313)274-1313** to give us your email address, or permission to use your email address that we have on file.



## Music Corner

Welcome to a very late Lent! Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 5. Join us for our Wednesday night FISH program as we include a short service from 6:45 to 7:15 in the chapel. We will be following the service with our usual FISH schedule, including Choir.

As we move into March the choir will be preparing for our April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> concerts of the Mozart Requiem, in conjunction with the First United Methodist Church of Dearborn. This is such a wonderful work. It has been great fun to join with another area church to do these concerts. There's still time to join us! Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:00pm, just after the FISH dinner. As president of the Michigan chapter of the Choristers Guild, I have been picking up resources for use with the Children's and Youth Choirs. I was able to recently attend a workshop with Pearl Shangkuan, Director of Choirs at Calvin College in Grand Rapids. We spent some time talking about how children's and youth choirs had impacted us, growing up in the church. We also shared stories of the joy and fun we get to share with our children and youth choirs as directors. If you'd like to be involved in the children or youth choir programs, they are open to all who want to sing. Children's choir is for grades K-5, and Youth choir is open to grades 6-12. We also have a combined youth/children's handbell choir. The schedule is 3:30pm Sundays for Children's choir, 4:30pm Sundays for Handbells and 5:00pm for Youth.

I pray that we all have a blessed season of Lent, and hope that through our observation of this holy season our celebration of the Resurrection will be enhanced and made even more joyous!

~In Christ, Marshall

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## Catered Tea and Diaper Drive

Sponsored by Presbyterian Women

Please join us Saturday, March 1st, at Noon in Mitchell Hall, for this Presbyterian Women sponsored event.

**Guest speaker: Marybeth Levine, Detroit Area Diaper Bank**

**Cost: \$5.00 and Diaper Donation**

Sign up in Narthex, or call Charlene Reid at (313) 791-2621



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

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## Presbyterian Women's Bible Study

Presbyterian Women's Bible study continues to meet on Thursday mornings (10:00-11:30a.m.) in the North Parlor. We are currently studying in the Old Testament (Exodus/Deuteronomy). PW Bible studies are written by women Pastors to be studied by women throughout the country for an entire year. This year's study will include discussion of immigration issues.

~Lorraine Lamkin

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## Emergency Contact Forms

Emergency Contact Forms are now available in the Narthex. If you would like the church to have contact information on file for you in the event of an emergency, we encourage you to fill out the form and turn it in to Vicki Davidson, Administrative Assistant to the Senior Pastor.

~Thank You.

## **Musings from Pastor Mike - March 2014**

Mission has been a large part of the Presbyterian Church since The Reformation. We Presbyterians take to heart the words of James found in James 1:22-25.

“But be **doers** of the word, and **not hearers only**, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.”

The opening sentence in this passage **commands us** in a positive and negative manner. The first part of the sentence, “But be doers of the word”, directs us to take action. Jesus told us many times to do exactly the same thing. “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he **who does the will of my Father** in heaven.” – Matthew 7:21. John Calvin wrote that “the doer is he who from the heart embraces God’s word and testifies by his life that he really believes.” In the second part of the sentence, “and not hearers only”, James **opposes hearing only**. The Word of God is a command, a trumpet, an appeal for action!

The final part of the opening sentence is a **warning**, “deceiving yourselves”. The word that James uses, in the original Greek, means “to reckon wrong” or literally, “to reason falsely”. That’s like listening to a message by a pastor, hearing a Sunday school lesson, or reading Scripture, and then reasoning that the Holy Spirit wants you to take a nap!

In the final part of the passage, “For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like...” James gives us two examples. The first one is what we should **not do**, namely to look into the mirror (God’s Word) and to walk away from it (“out of sight, out of mind”). The second example is the correct one. James uses a Greek word that means “to stoop down to get a good look”, not once, but continuously. The Psalmist confirms this when he wrote, “But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on this law he meditates day and night.” –Psalm 1:2. At the end of this scripture, James closes with, “this one will be blessed in what he does.” **Doing God’s Word** is the path to blessing and joy. “Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.” –John 13:17.

I am happy to report that the GrouPeru! ’14 Mission Team is nearly solidified. This year the team consists of David Carlson, Steven Stormzand, Natalie Husby, Kim and Grace Doverspike, Mike, Lynn, Elissa, and Jared Hoffman, a female, young adult from North Carolina, and possibly a female friend of Lynn’s. We are grateful to our family of faith who supports us regularly in our fund-raising efforts. You have 5 more opportunities to be a part of the “**doers of the Word**”.

**Sunday, March 23 - Soup & Salad Luncheon & Flower Flat/Hanging Basket Orders**

**Sunday, April 13 - Home-made Chili Luncheon**

**Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup> - Gourmet Cupcake Sale**

**Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> - Flower Flat/Hanging Basket pick-up**

**Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> - Grilled Hotdog Luncheon**

All of the above events will happen right after worship services from approximately 11:15 AM-1:00 PM.

On behalf of the GrouPeru! ’14 Team, I would like to thank our family of faith for being so faithful!

# 2014

# March

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<b>Communion</b> 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir <b>10am Worship Service- Sanctuary</b> 11:15am Prayer Shawl Mtg- SP <b>11:30am VBS Meeting- NP</b> 3-4:30pm 4:12 Youth Group YL, YC 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	2 7-9pm Greeting Card- R14 7pm Young Adult Bible Study- off site 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop- YC  <b>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</b>	3 9am Men's Fellowship Work 9am Young Adult Bible Study at Panera Cares 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- MH 7pm Property- Library 7-9pm Worship & Arts- SP 7:30-9pm AA- MH	4 <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 10am Stephens-Currie- R12 10am-4pm Treasure Chest 10:30am-12pm ALL Staff- SP 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH 6:45-7:15pm Worship- Chapel 7:15-8pm Classes- NP 7-9pm Outreach & Missions- SP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> Daylight Saving Time begins <b>Girl Scout Sunday</b> 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir <b>10am Worship Service- Sanctuary</b> 11:30am Blood Pressure Screening- Narthex 3-4:30pm 4:12 Youth Group YL, YC 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	9 11:30am-2pm Garden Club- MH 5:30-10pm B. Scout Pre-Camp Council- MH, K, YC, YL 6:30pm NAMI- NP 7pm Young Adult Bible Study- off site 7-8pm Deacons- R12  <b>DEADLINE FOR VISION</b> <b>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</b>	10 9am Men's Fellowship Work 9am Young Adult Bible Study at Panera Cares <b>10am-2pm Mission Sewing- MH, Kit., Sewing Room</b> 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- MH 7:30-9pm AA- MH	11 10am-4pm Treasure Chest 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH 6:45-7:15pm Worship- Chapel 7:15-8pm Classes- NP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir <b>10am Worship Service- Sanctuary</b> 3-4:30pm 4:12 Youth Group YL, YC 3:30-4:30pm Children's Choir- Sanctuary 4:30-5pm Handbell Choir- Bell Room 7pm Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	16 7pm Young Adult Bible Study- off site <b>No Boy Scout Troop</b>  <b>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</b>	17 9am Men's Fellowship Work 9am Young Adult Bible Study at Panera Cares 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- MH 5:30-6:30pm Finance- SP 7pm <b>SESSION -NP</b> 7:30-9pm AA- MH	18 10am Stephens-Currie- R12 10am-4pm Treasure Chest 10:30am-12pm <b>PROGRAM Staff- SP</b> 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH 6:45-7:15pm Worship- Chapel 7:15-8pm Classes- NP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir <b>10am Worship Service- Sanctuary</b> <b>11am GrouPeru Lunch &amp; Flower Flat Ordering- MH (K)</b> 11:30am Blood Pressure Screening- Narthex 3-4:30pm 4:12 Youth Group YL, YC 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	23 6:30pm NAMI- NP 7pm Young Adult Bible Study- off site 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop- YC  <b>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</b>	24 9am Men's Fellowship Work 9am Young Adult Bible Study at Panera Cares 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- MH 7-8pm Technology- R12 7:30-9pm AA- MH	25 11am-1pm Keenagers- MH (K) 10am-4pm Treasure Chest 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH 6:45-7:15pm Worship- Chapel 7:15-8pm Classes- NP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir <b>10am Worship Service- Sanctuary</b> 3-4:30pm 4:12 Youth Group YL, YC 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	30 1-4pm Homeschool Class- MH, Kit. 7pm Young Adult Bible Study- off site 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop- YC  <b>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</b>	31 8	

# 2014

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
			<p><b>Set up Communion</b> 1</p> <p>9-11am Rebekah Circle- MH or R12 9-10:30am DNA- R16 <b>12pm-3pm Presbyterian Women's Catered Tea &amp; Diaper Drive-Parlors (Kit.)</b> 6-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares 7:30-10pm Converge small groups- YL, YC, 2A</p>	
5	10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP	6 <b>World Day of Prayer</b> 7pm Praise Event Rehearsal- Sanctuary ?	7 10am-12pm BEOM Club- NP <b>5-7pm Giggles &amp; Grub- MH, Sanct.</b> 6-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares 7:30-10pm Converge small groups- YL, YC, 2A	8
12	10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 11am C.O.M. (Pastor) offsite	13 <b>11am-7pm Scrapbook Event setup- MH, K</b> 6:30pm-9pm Game Night- YC 7pm Praise Event Rehearsal- Sanctuary ?	14 9am PW Board- NP 9-10:30am DNA- R16 <b>8am-9pm Scrapbook Event- MH, K</b> 6-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares 7:30-10pm Converge small groups- YL, YC, 2A	15
19	10-11am POD Congregational Life- SP 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP	20 7pm Praise Event Rehearsal- Sanctuary ?	21 <b>4:30pm Praise Worship- Sanctuary</b> 6-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares 7:30-10pm Converge small groups- YL, YC, 2A  <b>GrouPeru Luncheon setup- MH, K</b>	22
26	10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP <b>5:30-9pm Boy Scout Council- MH, Kit., NP, SP, Lib, YC, YL, R16, R14, R12, R2a&amp;b</b> <b>7-9pm Prayer Shawl Grp.- Children's Library</b>	27	28 9-10:30am DNA- R16 6-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares 7:30-10pm Converge small groups- YL, YC, 2A	29

## Notes from our Parish Nurse

Did you know that for the first time in the history of the United States, single adults outnumber married adults? According to the 2011 Census & the Barna Group 52% are single and 48% are married. This is an important statistic. It means that if the Church is going to be an effective entity in reaching our neighbors for Christ, we are going to have to make changes in how we weave single people into the corporate life of the church. According to Katelyn Beaty, in an article of In Touch Magazine, “the word corporate may draw to mind a business boardroom or a three-piece-suited CEO, but in fact it means “united in one body” or “corpus”. Thus, it carries rich biblical resonance. Paul uses the image of the body to talk about spiritual gifts in the church of Corinth: “There should be no division in the body, but...its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it” (1 Cor. 12:25-26 NIV).”

What a beautiful illustration. And while that Scripture has been there from the beginning, unfortunately, the church has not done as much as it should to help single people feel like an integrated part of the family. Having said that, now is the perfect time to start! So, what might that look like? First of all, it is always important for there to be opportunities for people who have some common ground to meet and be able to interact with each other. In the past year-and-a-half, there has been a group that meets for just that purpose. The group is known as S.O.A.R. (Singles Outreach And Renewal), and is coordinated by Lynn Campbell (misslynn719@hotmail.com). But that is only a small part of the big picture. What is more important, is to integrate singles into all areas of the church, and value the gifts of who they are and the unique spiritual gifts that they bring to the body of Christ.

Dr. Stanley points out some of the unique qualities/gifts single people bring: “1) A witness to the church that abundant life flows from the resurrection, not just from biology. They reveal that we come into the community of faith not by a womb, but by the water of baptism. The ligaments of the body are constituted by Christ, not by blood lines. 2) Single people *remind a family-focused church that while family is a beautiful, sustaining gift, it is not God's only or primary means of building His body in each generation.* 3) Singles often embody a more radical dependence on God to provide for their earthly needs, since there isn't a second person to help share the load.

Single Christians face challenges of modern myths about sex and romance, namely, that both are needed in order to live. And while love and relationships are necessary, they can take many different forms. One of the most important things for singles to have in their lives, is deep, sustaining friendships. Single Christians demonstrate that “community and intimacy take many forms and need not be squeezed into the narrow path of erotic love.

The truth that marriage- and with it sexual fulfillment and the possibility of children are not guaranteed. But, what we can count on is that if we follow the risen Lord, we are promised a new life and a new family! And this family will be with us for eternity! So let us begin now, caring for each other as important parts of the same family, by praying for each other, inviting each other to share our lives and by looking to how we can serve the Lord together and build those deep and sustaining friendships. If you have any suggestions as to ways we can help weave singles into our family, please contact me.

Blessings, Chris Mayer, Parish Nurse (313) 274-1313 (ext 16)

\*\*taken from Eternal Family by Katelyn Beaty, In Touch Magazine, Feb. 2014.



## Blessed are the merciful for they will receive mercy. *Matthew 5:7*

How we treat others affects how we will be treated. Jesus indicates this in the Lord's Prayer on forgiving debtors (*Matt 6:12, 14, and 15*), the Golden Rule (*Matt 7:12*), and elsewhere applied to generosity, forgiveness, love, and judging (*Matt. 18:21-35; 25:34-40; Luke 6:36-38*). Jesus promises that by being merciful to others, we will be blessed with mercy.

God is merciful (*Ezekiel 33:11; 1 Tim 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9*), and we are to be merciful as well (*Luke 6:36*). All who have experienced God's mercy through a new life in Christ (*Eph. 2:4-7*) are to be merciful to others. The word comes from two parts of a Latin word meaning "pity" and "of the heart." Our word "sympathy" comes from two Greek words meaning "together" and "to experience or suffer." Mercy is kindness and compassion to the hurting, especially those under one's power. The merciful identify with the miserable in their misery; the more we understand another's experience, the less likely we are to judge harshly. Mercy flows from our heart's reaction to another's distress; it is grace in action, especially when undeserved.

Scripture teaches that we should be reluctant to judge, for the measure we use will be used on us (*Luke 6:37, 38*). When we must judge, do so with mercy, for how we judge others will be applied to us. (*James 2:12, 13*).

Being merciful produces joyful blessings for everyone.

~John Holden

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## One Great Hour of Sharing

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be taken during the month of March. In recent years Presbyterians world-wide have given about \$8 million a year. The funds support disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development aid in over 100 countries including the U.S. and Canada. 36% goes to the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and 32% goes to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and 32% goes to the Self-Development of People ministry. You may designate your regular giving envelope, or you can use the One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes available in the narthex.



Please prayerfully consider supporting this ministry.

Thank-you. *Outreach and Mission Committee*

**Sunday Bulletin Announcements:** Please submit your announcements for the **Sunday Bulletin** to Vicki no later than noon the Monday prior to the service at [vickidfpcd30@gmail.com](mailto:vickidfpcd30@gmail.com). Please use Microsoft Word format when sending your articles via email. There is also a bin in the front office of the church for your submissions. ~ Thank you, Vicki Davidson—Administrative Assistant.

**Our Vision** is the monthly newsletter of The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn. Articles are to be turned in to the office or emailed to Jim Barber at [jimb@firstpresdearborn.org](mailto:jimb@firstpresdearborn.org) no later than the **10th** of the month. Please date your articles & keep them brief - one page or less. Longer articles will result in smaller font. We reserve the right to edit as needed.

## Noteworthy

- ◆ Ann Bleivik & Jane Mykytenko are interested in building up our costume supply for our upcoming productions. If you are interested in helping, please contact Ann at the church or Jane at 313-657-2776.
- ◆ Jane Lewy-Mykytenko is thinking of starting a music studio. If you are interested in voice or piano lessons for child or adult, please contact Jane @ 313-657-2776.
- ◆ With only two custodians, we do not have custodial support on Fridays. If you require custodial support for a Friday event, you must request it.
- ◆ Join us for Community Game Night the 2nd Friday of every month. \$5 donation includes pizza, drinks, dessert & games. Euchre tournament entry \$5.

### All Day Scrapping, Stamping & Crafting Spring Fundraising Event

Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.



Sponsored by First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn  
600 Brady St, Dearborn, MI 48124 / Phone: 313-274-1313

\$40 non-refundable registration fee includes an 8ft table & delicious breakfast, lunch and dinner

We suggest that you bring as many projects with you that you feel you can accomplish in a 13 hour time frame. For those that don't scrapbook, we're going to have free demonstrations throughout the day showing different techniques and you'll have your very own space next to some experienced scrappers to archive your memories in a very creative way! Our goal is to have representatives from Close To My Heart (Stamping) Ahni & Zoe, Stampin' Up, Origami Owl & It's A Wrap at the event. Feel free to pick their brains for ideas!

For a registration form please contact Jeni by Email: [jcole1971@gmail.com](mailto:jcole1971@gmail.com) or call 248-470-7875.

We're looking forward to a day filled with FUN, food, creativity, fellowship and raising money for the ChristNet program that we host at our church every year. ChristNet is a rotating shelter for the homeless in the downriver community.

Get your registration in ladies and gentleman we will have only 32 tables available for this event!

### STEPHEN MINISTRY



For those who have suffered a loss or who are going through a difficult time, life can be filled with painful loneliness and emptiness. If you are smiling on the outside, but full of pain on the inside and the joy you long for seems far away, help is available. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care. They will listen, care, encourage, and pray with and for you. Stephen Ministers have been specially trained to meet your emotional and spiritual needs; male Stephen Ministers are always matched with men, and female Stephen Ministers are matched with women. If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders: Art Hughes (313) 383-2589) or Chris Mayer (313) 562-1943. Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!



## Dearborn Couple Celebrates 71 Valentine's Days Together

**Dearborn, Mich.** (February 10, 2014) "We've always done things together," said Eugene Smith, when asked about the secret to his happy marriage with wife Clara and their 71 years of Valentine's Day celebrations. The Smiths' marked their 71<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary on January 31, only a few days before Valentine's. Unlike their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration which included a trip to China, this year the Dearborn couple shared cake with their friends and neighbors at Oakwood Common. "I made sure we had a two-tiered cake, because my wife ordered two tiers for our wedding day, and the baker only delivered a sheet cake," said Smith. "I'll always remember how disappointed she was, and I want her to be happy."

Sharing her thoughts about their years together, Clara Smith said, "I don't know if there are any secrets to our marriage. It's all about give and take. You try your best to get along together." The couple first met when they were only nine years old and attended the same church in Columbus, Ohio. "It wasn't until I was in the Army and graduated from Officer's Candidate School that I could afford to marry her," said Smith. "It was during World War II, and I was on leave. They opened up the registrar's office on a Saturday so we could get a marriage license."

The Smiths' marriage began the first of many travels the couple made together. Because of Eugene's education and teaching experience in math, the Army sent him to advanced training schools throughout the United States. Clara was able to accompany him on all his assignments except the Philippine Islands where he spent eight months teaching at the United States Armed Forces Institute.

More than 50 years ago, Eugene Smith joined Wayne State University as a professor of math education, and their family settled in a house near Oakwood Hospital. Today, the couple's son Eugene Lynn Smith is an attorney in Dearborn, living nearby. The Smiths also have two grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Having traveled over the years to every continent except Antarctica, the Smiths are now content to stay closer to home and keep busy with a variety of social and fitness activities at Oakwood Common.

Eugene is prepared for Valentine's Day and with a mischievous smile added, "I've already ordered a box of chocolates for Clara, because she is a 'chocoholic'." Clara agreed and never revealed how many boxes of chocolates Eugene has given her over their 71 Valentine's together.



### Births:

*Congratulations to Dave & Jan Smith on the Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> birth of their granddaughter, Isabel Joy Thormann. Her parents are Laura (Dave and Jan's daughter) and Ryan Thormann. Little Isabel was born at 6:21pm, weighed 6 lb., 7 oz. and was 21 inches long. She joins her older brother, Luke David.*

**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.

## ***'Forgiveness'***

**To Forgive:** My American Heritage Dictionary shows: to excuse for a fault or offense, to pardon.

An extended meaning is 'to free the offender from the consequences of it; to grant pardon without harboring resentment.' But, "**without harboring resentment**" may be difficult for many of us to do.

On forgiveness, in the New Testament, (JOHN 21. v.15-17), Jesus Christ told Peter, "Feed My Lambs!" This has been interpreted as "nourish, or/tend to those who are young in age, or experience."

There appears to be a strong symmetry between 'LOVE' and 'FORGIVENESS'. Garry Wills writes in 'What Jesus Meant' p. 142, (Love is patient ... kind ... not swollen with self ... does not flare with anger, nor bare a grudge ...") Considering this passage, doesn't that indicate that '*forgiveness is akin to love*'?

It would be difficult to live without, sometimes, satisfying one's grievances and anger. With only one orbit around this life of ours, none of us know how much time we have left. Wouldn't it make sense to settle any known grievances, and to give 'the other person' the benefit of doubt? Amazingly, by taking this action, you are actually helping yourself! Approach God in prayer, asking for His help, in this area of your life.

Forgiveness, then, does not mean that you will automatically and instantly forget the hurts, the wounds inflicted. But, it *can* mean that to live peacefully, and as unfretfully as possible, **a person needs to forgive, and also to receive forgiveness.** In praying, we need to address those cares, and to endeavor to dismiss the troubled feelings. Should we, then, "grant pardon without harboring resentment"? Not always an easy task! But, maybe it is a task on which we all can work?

Max Lucado writes in "Grace for the Moment": Regardless of what you've done, it's not too late ... of how far you've fallen ... it's not too late to let it go, and be free.

Lucado concludes with, **What Makes A Christian A Christian, is not perfection, but forgiveness.**

In Christ's Name,  
Jose Brailsford: February, 2014

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

Not just to church. If you or someone you know needs a ride to an appointment, the store, Sunday service or a church event, your FPC family would like to help. Contact Nancy Barber at (313)565-2741, Bob Missler at (313)791-0377, 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. ~Bob Missler, Deacon Moderator. *Matthew 25:40 "Whatever you do for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."*



## New Logo Name Tags

Name tags with our new cross logo can be ordered through the deacons. This is a good way for all of us to get to know each other. To order, please see Bob Missler, Deacon Moderator (313)791-0377.



## Sweatshirts for Sale

DNA has sweatshirts & fleeces for sale with our new church logo. *Please see Kim Doverspike if interested.*

**March**



- 03/01: Keith Ingram
- 03/02: Helen Kane
- 03/04: Dean Masouredis
- 03/05: Rachel Conte, Donna Barringer
- 03/06: Zander Perkovich
- 03/08: Austin Watson
- 03/09: James Jensen, Carole Speier, Delia Warner, Susan Ingram
- 03/12: Thomas Watts
- 03/15: Carl Bryer, Mary Jo Miller
- 03/16: Jane Mykytenko, Jon Szczechura
- 03/18: Dorothy Ebi, Marion Holowaty
- 03/21: Bonnie Kutt
- 03/22: Bill Schanz
- 03/25: Georgine Jensen
- 03/26: Dorinda Hughes
- 03/28: Patricia Ervin, Randy Bruder
- 03/29: Dave Young
- 03/30: Robert Todd, Catherine Hults, Michael Maurer
- 03/31: Joel DeHamer

## Lost '*The Story*' DVD's

If you borrowed The Story DVD's from Ann's office or the library, please return them. ~Thank you.

## 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 nonreturnable 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. Bob Missler - Deacon Moderator

## Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 am

- March 2 / - Communion, Love your enemy, Rev. Dave Bleivik**
- March 9 / - Give to those in need, Nancy Worchester**
- March 16 / - Prayer, Mike Hoffman, CLP**
- March 23 / - Fasting, Mike Hoffman, CLP**
- March 30 / - Money, Rev. Dave Bleivik**

Newsletter of The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn  
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[firstpresdearborn.org](http://firstpresdearborn.org)

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## Our Vision

## Sent with a Prayer

Pastor  
Rev. Dr. David Bleivik

Parish Associate  
Rev. Don Wright

Children's Ministries Director  
Beckie Dicks

Youth Ministries Director  
Jonathan Mallard

Educational Coordinator  
Ann Bleivik

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

Parish Nurse  
Chris Mayer, R.N.

**Are you praying for Vision?**  
**Pastor Dave**