



Our Vision

The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn

April 2015 Newsletter



Celebrate Easter!
Sunday, April 5th



*The NBC TV series on the early church
begins Easter Sunday, April 5th*

*Please join us here at church
as we join this journey*

*Wednesday evenings at 6:45pm
starting April 15th*

See page 4

Maundy Thursday
Tenebrae Service
with communion

7:00pm ~ Sanctuary
Thursday, April 2nd



Peru Team 2015
Fundraiser Luncheon

Sunday, April 19th
11am in Mitchell Hall



Please note that Sunday communion has been moved
From April 5th to April 12th.

He is Risen!

Please join us for these special *Easter* events:

| | | |
|-----------------|---|------------------------------|
| March 29 | Palm Sunday ~~~~~ | 10am |
| April 2 | Maundy Thursday ~~~~~ with communion | 7pm |
| April 3 | Good Friday ~~~~~ Worship in the Sanctuary | 12-12:45pm |
| April 5 | Easter Sunday ~~~~~ Brunch in Mitchell Hall ~~~~~ Worship in Sanctuary ~~~~~ | 8:45am 10am |



A PASTORAL RESPONSE TO THE PCUSA DEPARTURE FROM SCRIPTURE

by **Pastor Dave**

I have been asked by some of you to respond to the PCUSA's approval of same sex marriage. I will be brief. Most painful to me is that the action of the PCUSA is contrary to Scripture and is a sign of our denomination's focus on the wisdom of this world rather than God's Word.

However as a church, our focus must be upon seeking for God to direct our actions. The staff will continue to live by the Word of God and hence will not perform same sex marriages. I expressed my personal response earlier in a FPCD website article (posted 6/24/14).

The Fellowship Community, which is a group of Biblically minded Presbyterians, wrote an open letter on how we should respond to this action. I include it here because it is Biblically compassionate and I commend it to you.

We live in a time when it costs people to be faithful to the Word of God. When one does not bow to the prevailing wisdom of the times, there will be ridicule and pressure to bow to the gods of this world. This is compounded by the fact that our society seeks to enforce its will and views upon others without any grace for others. Justice is decided by how the culture feels, rather than by its foundational values or standards. The times ahead will be difficult, I urge you to hold on to your belief in God and His Word, but to do this with the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. As you do this know that the Lord God is watching over you and is with you. You remain in my prayers.

~PASTOR

Do **not** be deceived: **God** cannot be **mocked**. A person reaps what he sows. Galatians 6:7

[Open letter from The Fellowship Community~ a network of churches and leaders called together to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ by growing in Christ's likeness, living by God's Word, and joining in God's mission in the world.]

Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have reached a moment of change in the PC(USA) which some celebrate and others mourn. The redefinition of marriage has now been approved by a majority of the presbyteries. Beginning in June, the Directory for Worship will permit the marriage of two people of the same gender. This change is both profound and expected.

By approving this change we are disregarding the clear teaching of Scripture, the wisdom of those who have lived and died for the faith before us, and the continuing consensus of the contemporary church around the world. To do this is both disobedient and unwise. We know this particular change was intended by its proponents to extend the grace and the good news of Jesus Christ, and to further the witness of his Kingdom. We believe it accomplishes neither. Our objection to the passage of this redefinition is no way anti-gay. Our concern is that the church is capitulating to the culture and, in so doing, is misrepresenting Scripture.

We reaffirm that the language of this amendment does not require participation in services of marriage with which we disagree. It remains up to each Session and Teaching Elder to determine what is and is not faithful for themselves and for their congregation.

We continue to face great challenges to our witness as a denomination and, more importantly, to our personal faithfulness. It is not enough for us to simply be for or against something. We who believe this change in the definition of marriage does not extend the grace and good news of Jesus Christ, nor further the witness of the Kingdom must now ask: What would, and how can we accomplish this?

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Many of our neighbors do not know the Savior. Will we find a way to build relationships with them and introduce them to Jesus without reinterpreting biblical teaching? We believe, by God's grace, we can. But we must be committed to listening carefully and without judgment to their questions and their needs, and to responding with sincerity and with humility as those who have experienced the forgiveness and persistent grace of Jesus.

Our culture is marked by increasing hopelessness and isolation, yet we who follow Jesus are being nurtured daily in the community of the Trinity. Can we find a way to extend this community without compromising its foundational teachings? We believe, by God's grace, we can. But we must be willing to go to the darkest and loneliest places with the compassion, conviction, and hope of the Good News we profess.

Joining in God's mission in this culture and leading others in this time of profound change is difficult. Yet God has called and equipped us for his mission. Accepting that call-growing in Christ's likeness, living by God's Word, and joining in God's mission in the world-cannot be done alone. You are not alone. We have created The Fellowship Community to offer encouragement and accountability; spurring one another on to the type of love and good works that will fulfill our mutual calling.

Find more resources and encouragement at our website, www.fellowship.community.

Children's Ministry

Internet and Social Media Safety:

Do you wonder what your kids are doing online? Do you wonder how they can stay safe? Come to a seminar on Sunday, May 17 from 11:30 to noon in room 12 and find out! Girl Scout troop 41520 (Catherine, Elizabeth, Leah and Zoe), led by Nancy Setterlun, will be hosting a web safety and social media seminar for parents, grandparents, and other concerned adults. They will share information about the different social media sites that people are using, the possible dangers, and guidelines for staying safe. Snacks and childcare will be provided. Sign-up sheets will be available in the Narthex.



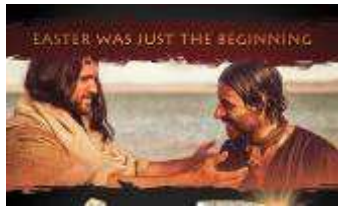
Vacation Bible School:

Believe it or not, VBS is right around the corner! Mark July 13-17 on your calendar! Our theme this year is Mt. Everest. On our icy expedition we'll learn to overcome obstacles by God's grace and power. Kids will learn rock-solid Bible truths that will guide them through life's challenges.

There are many ways that you can help with VBS:

1. **Pray!** Mark July 13-17 on your calendar. Pray for the planning process, decorating, leader preparation, and most of all, pray for the children who will come through our doors.
2. **Volunteer!** We can use all types of volunteers - teachers, leaders, planners, administrators. Contact Beckie Dicks at bdicks1220@gmail.com to reserve your spot.
3. **Donate!** Keep an eye out for upcoming sign-up sheets for snack and craft items that we will need for VBS.
4. **Loan!** Our decorators are already hard at work. Please let me know at bdicks1220@gmail.com if you have (and we may display) the following items for VBS week:
 - ~ Artificial Christmas trees
 - ~ Hiking/climbing supplies, including boots, ropes, back packs, etc.
 - ~ Small tents
 - ~ Sleeping bags
 - or any other items you think might go well at a base camp (all loaned items will be displayed but not used. We will not actually be climbing any mountains!)

~Beckie Dicks- Children's Ministries Coordinator



A.D., the television series on the early church

The *A.D. The Bible Continues* TV event begins Easter Sunday, April 5th, on NBC. A.D. tells the story of the early church. The series (running weekly, April 5th - June 21st) covers the events detailed in Acts 1-10. It begins with Christ's resurrection and continues through the birth of the Church.

The goal of the series is to introduce people to the Bible... to show the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church.

"A.D. The Bible Continues shows us how a deep faith results in raw courage. The key players in this story— the earliest Christians, stunned by the brutal execution of Jesus, were pathfinders for today's believers. Their compelling story gives hope for the modern-day faithful, who face brutality and persecution simply for believing... even today."

Max Lucado

Pastor and bestselling author

***Join us Wednesday evenings at 6:45pm, starting April 15th,
as we begin our journey through the tumultuous events of
the early church!***

50th Anniversary Concert of our Organ



Celebration Performance

by

**Dr. James Kibbie, Chair of the Organ Dept.
University of Michigan**

**3:00pm in the sanctuary
Sunday, May 3rd**

**First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
600 North Brady Rd.
Dearborn, MI**

Jesus Is Risen!

4:12 Youth Ministries, Jonathan Mallard

We are wrapping up our “Who Is God?” series in youth group, and a particular question from the lesson on Jesus stuck with me: What did Jesus do to show that he is God? Jesus healed people. He walked on water. He cast out demons. The wind and the waves obeyed his command. He taught with authority. He even raised the dead! However, he did one thing completely unique by which he was “declared to be the Son of God in power (Rom. 1:4)”.



Jesus rose from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit! (Rom. 1:4) His repeated declarations of deity are what provoked the Jewish authorities to crucify him (John 8:58), and the proof of his deity is the resurrection from the dead. No other religion can justifiably make a claim like this. Mohammed is dead. Buddha is dead. Moses and Elijah are dead. But Jesus is alive! He has made an example of death and shown his power in glory!

We know from 1 Corinthians 15:4 that Jesus appeared to over 500 people at one time after his resurrection. When Luke wrote his Gospel as a historian, he interviewed dozens of eyewitnesses to what Jesus had accomplished. The martyrdom of the Apostles and disciples throughout history to this day speak of the hope of Christ's resurrection. Lastly, the Holy Spirit continues to speak to our hearts of Christ's triumph over the grave! This is the power of the gospel to those who believe it. Rejoice, for we serve the living God! And the resurrection of Jesus is the firm foundation of our faith.



Pastor Mike Hoffman, CRE & Educational Coordinator

Sunday Morning Adult Education classes from 9-9:50am:

"God's Not Dead" - Video and discussion led by Pastor Mike Hoffman in the North Parlor. Do you know what you believe and how to defend it? Come get a firm foundation of Scripture and evidence to stand on, reaching others for Christ.

Wednesday F.I.S.H. (Fellowship, Inspiration, Scripture, Hope) Adult Education: Starting April 15th, Pastor Don will be doing a 10 week series based on the TV series, "A.D." Be sure to join us on Wednesday evenings in Mitchell Hall for dinner at 6pm (with a suggested donation of \$7 per person), and then stay for class from 6:45-8pm. Come for a short video, great fellowship, and lively discussion on the spread of Christianity after Pentecost.

Various Days and Times during the Week – Adult Small Groups and Bible Studies. Call Pastor Mike at church: 313.274.1313, extension 14, home: 313.562.5961, or cell at 313.213.8319.

The following Clerk & Corporation Officers were elected at the February 17th Session meeting:

President– Dick Fisher

VP– Janet Witkowski

Secretary– Jim Barber

Treasurer– Joel DeHamer

Clerk– Jim Barber



Music Corner

Welcome to Eastertide! Let us with the church universal say "He Is Risen!" "He is risen indeed!" Hallelujah! I hope all had a blessed Lent. Thank you to all who took part in our Holy Week services. On Easter we will have Brass and organ and band and choirs! I hope you can make our celebration of the Resurrection!

We've begun (finally) to see signs of spring! April is a month where the children's and youth choirs prepare for Mother's Day which is May 10th this year. If you'd like to join the children's or youth choirs, now is a great time as we'll be learning new music for the Mother's Day celebration.

Thank you to the Adult Choir for your work on the Lenten Concert. A special thanks to Brandon Spence and the choir of Sacred Heart Catholic Church for joining with us, and to the members of Vanguard Voices who joined us as well. I hope you were all blessed by the first concert in the year commemorating the 50th year of this building and of the organ.

Adult choir continues through Father's Day. This is a great time to check us out! We've finished the big concert in Lent and gotten through Holy Week and Easter. Now we'll be looking at some new music, so come try us out!

We look forward to a wonderful spring of music and fun. A blessed Eastertide to all!

In Christ, Marshall



Special Thanks to Marshall Dicks, Tim Huth, the choirs and all the musicians for the special Lenten Concert held on Sunday, March 22nd.

We celebrate their willingness to share their gifts to the glory of God.

With Sympathy

We offer our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Bob Szczechura who passed away February 26th.

Please keep the family in your prayers.

Musings from Pastor Mike, CRE – April 2015


Gamechanger. That's the Jesus I know. The true non-conformist. That's what Jesus modeled for his followers. He, like us, are immigrants in a foreign culture. Or as Leon Russell sang in my young-adult past, we are a "stranger in a strange land". How many times have I told teens and young adults, "Such behavior is fine for others, but not for us. You see, we are special. We have a different story. We have a different set of values. We are followers of the one, true God. We are Christians."

In Romans 12:2 Paul writes, "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Billy Sunday, the famous evangelist from the early 1900s once said, "Many a boy and girl trained in the home by their mother to abhor cards have been ruined by going to board in some good-for-nothing, no account, beer-drinking, card-playing, dancing Presbyterian family." Dang, to a guy who was raised in the strict, Missouri-Synod Lutheran church, that sounds really exciting! I guess that I can blame my worldliness on marrying into the Presbyterian Church (thanks Lynn, but make mine a glass of Merlot!).


But what did Paul really mean in Romans? He meant that although we have got to armor ourselves against the world's values, we must go even deeper than the level of behaviors and customs – it must be firmly planted in our minds. But we must also take care. While it is possible to avoid most worldly customs, we can still be sinful in pride, covetousness, selfishness, stubbornness, and arrogance, comparing ourselves to others as we state, "But at least I'm not as bad as those people!" Romans 12:10 states, "Be devoted to each other in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves." Do we realize how non-conformist and counter-cultural that is? In our culture we try to outdo each other in gaining honor. Think, competitive sports, ivy-league colleges, big houses, big cars, big hair (I wouldn't know about any of the last three!) But as Christians we should try to outdo each other in showing honor.

Verse 15 talks about how we should, "Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn." Our church family has that down to a science. We just need to think back a month ago when we celebrated the resurrection life of our dear friend Bob Szczechura. While our church family has some faults, struggles with some "gray-area" theology, and even uses dance in worship (Billy Sunday must be looking down on us in disgust), it is a family none the less. We are a rag-tag group of believers who attempt to live by and out-of the Truth, supportive of one other, and always there for each other to "stand in the gap". Lynn recently took me to see the movie, "McFarland, USA". While not an overtly Christian movie, it focuses on a group of Latino boys, their families, and their Caucasian cross-country coach who has a reverence for the boys not tied to money or status. It is a "must see". Let's be non-conformists and Gamechangers. Let us be strong as together, we transform into a "stranger in a strange land", and give Jesus Christ all the glory! ~*Amen*

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY |
|--|---|--|
| | | |
| Easter 5 8:45-9:20am Easter Brunch- MH (K) (No Education Hour) 9:40am Prelude in Sanctuary 10am Worship Service- Sanctuary NO OTHER ACTIVITIES  | 6 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR EASTER (Deadline for Bulletin) | 7 9am Men's Fellowship Work 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- YC 4:30-5:30pm Sewing Class 7pm Property- Library 7-8pm Deacons- NP 7-9pm Worship & Arts- SP 7:30-9pm AA- MH |
| 12 COMMUNION 8:45-9:57am Confirmation Class-YL 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir 10am Worship Service- Sanctuary No 4:12 Group 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 Deadline for Vision | 13 11:30am-2pm Garden Club- MH 6:30pm NAMI- NP 7-9pm Outreach & Missions- SP 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop- YC Deadline for Bulletin | 14 9am Men's Fellowship Work 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- YC 4:30-5:30pm Sewing Class 7:30-9pm AA- MH |
| 19 8:45-9:57am Confirmation Class-YL 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir 10am Worship Service- Sanctuary 11:15am-3pm Peru Pancake Lunch- MH, K 12-1:30pm Officer Training- NP 3-4:30pm 4:12 Group- 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 | 20 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop- YC Deadline for Bulletin | 21 9am Men's Fellowship Work 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- YC 4:30-5:30pm Sewing Class 5:30-6:30pm Finance- SP 7pm SESSION -NP 7:30-9pm AA- MH |
| 26 8:45-9:57am Confirmation Class- YL 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir 10am Worship Service- Sanctuary 11:30am-12:30pm Officer Training- NP 3-4:30pm 4:12 Group- 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 | 27 1-4pm Home School Class- MH, Kit. 6:30pm NAMI- NP 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop- YC Deadline for Bulletin | 28 9am Men's Fellowship Work 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- YC 4:30-5:30pm Sewing Class 7:30-9pm AA- MH |

3/25/2015 10:30:00 AM

April 2015

| WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|---|--|
| 1 10am Stephens-Currie- NP 10am-4pm Treasure Chest 10:30am-12pm ALL Staff - SP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco NO FISH | 2 Maundy Thursday No PW Bible Study 6-8pm PNC- NP 7pm Tenebrae Service with Communion in Sanctuary | 3 Good Friday 12-12:45pm Worship- Sanctuary CHURCH OFFICE CLOSES AT NOON | 4 9am-11am Rebekah Circle- MH 5:30-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares |
| 8 10am-4pm Treasure Chest NO FISH NO ADULT CHOIR | 9 No PW Bible Study 11am C.O.M. (Pastor) offsite 6-8pm PNC- NP | 10 6:30-9pm Game Night- MH 7pm-9am High School Lock-In YL, YC, R16, R12 7pm Praise Rehearsal- Sanct. | 11 Set up for Communion 10am-2pm Treasure Chest 5:30-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares |
| 15 10am Stephens-Currie- NP 10am-4pm Treasure Chest 10:30am-12pm PROGRAM Staff - SP 5-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH 6:45-8pm Class- NP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco | 16 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 5:30-9pm Boy Scout Council- MH, Kit. 6-8pm PNC- NP | 17 7pm Praise Rehearsal- Sanct. | 18 10am-1pm Peru lunch set up- MH, K 4:30-5:30pm Saturday Night Alive-YL 5:30-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares Dearborn Martian Run  |
| 22 11am-1pm Keenagers- MH (K) 10am-4pm Treasure Chest 5-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH 6:45-8pm Class- NP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco | 23 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 6-8pm PNC- NP 7-9pm Knitting Grp.- NP | 24 | 25 5:30-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares |
| 29 10am-4pm Treasure Chest 5-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH 6:45-8pm Class- NP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco | 30 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 6-8pm PNC- NP | | |

Intentional Living in a Digital World

“So be careful how you act; these are difficult days. Don’t be fools; be wise: make the most of every opportunity you have for doing good. Don’t act thoughtlessly, but try to find out and do whatever the Lord wants you to do”. (Ephesians 5:15-17 TLB)

Have you noticed how much time you, or people around you, spend on their digital devices? Many hours are taken up with texting, internet browsing, gaming, watching movies, etc. Any of these things, or all in moderation, are fine. But the issue these days, is that using these devices and filling up almost every spare minute of the day isn’t healthy! “The internet seems to be invading and overtaking our real life. There is a growing concern among mental health professionals, neuroscientists, and church leaders that using our digital technology to the extreme is tantamount to wasting our real life away. Not only is the cyber world changing our brains, it is changing our behavior, manners, culture and customs.” As the title of this article and our scripture suggests, as Christians, we should be focused on being wise and serving the Lord and his purposes. We must be careful not to waste our lives on useless busywork and pursuits that have no added value to our lives. Some startling statistics were released recently that got my attention. It was a chart that showed how the “consumption of technological media” has changed over the past 13 years.

| | <u>In 2000</u> | <u>In 2013</u> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Time spent online: | 2.7 hours per week | More than 30 hours per week |
| Google searches: | 100 million daily | 4.7 billion daily |
| Apps downloaded: | 0 | 25 billion |
| Text messages sent: | 14 billion daily | 188 billion daily |
| YouTube video: | 0 monthly views | over 800 million monthly |
| People on Facebook: | 0 | 1 billion |
| Tweets: | 0 | 400 million per day |
| Netflix digital stream: | 0 | Over 1 billion hours in a month |
| Video game usage: | 13 hours per week | 22 hours per week |

One of the concerns in being distracted and overly involved with our digital devices, is that time seems to be vanishing, and we have little to show for it. As Christ followers, we must be careful to be good stewards of not only our money and talents, but time as well. Romans 2:6 says *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.”* We don’t want to get to the end of our lives and live with the regret of unfulfilled goals and dreams. God has a plan, a purpose and a destination for your life. But, it will take time, intent, energy and solitude to find out what it is and how to follow the path. My prayer is that these articles have brought an awareness of the potential issues of overuse of digital technology, and that the Holy Spirit will guide you in the path He has for you.

~Blessings, Chris Mayer, Parish Nurse

*information taken from [The Digital Invasion](#) by Dr. Archibald Hart and Dr. Sylvia Hart Frejd.



And without faith, it is impossible to please Him. For whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and rewards those who seek Him *Hebrews 11:6 RSV*

The context is Enoch who “pleased” God and was taken by God; he did not experience death. The first verse in that Chapter describes faith as being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see (*Hebr. 11:1*). For by this the ancients received divine approval (*Hebr. 11:2*).

God rewards earnest seekers: “You will seek me and find me; when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you” (*Jer. 29:13, 14*). “For everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved” (*Rom. 10:13; Joel 2:32*). God reveals Himself in history, Creation (*Rom. 1:20; Psalm 19*), and personally. He forgives all who repent and turn to Him (*2 Peter 3:9; Ezek. 18:32*). God’s Spirit speaks to those who are listening for Him. He is not far from any of us (*Acts 17:27b*).

How can we please God? It is not through merit, effort, or knowledge. Instead, it is about living now by faith in Him as our Lord and Savior for both this life and eternity. Living by faith increases our confidence in Him, as a child learns to trust a loving father through experience.

How might we respond? By resting in our faith and doing acts of loving service (*Gal. 5:6; Matt 22:36-40; Mark 10:42-45; Rom. 13:8-10; James 1:22, 26-28; 2:14-20*) with no provision for sin (*Rom. 13:14*). God is both holy and loving. “We live by faith, not by sight.” (*2 Corinthians 5:7*)

~John Holden



Presbyterian Women’s Bible Study

Lamkin PW (Presbyterian Women) Bible Study - This Bible study meets on Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the North Parlor of First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn. We continue our study on spiritual gifts, “*God’s Vision For Your Life.*” Anyone can join in at any time through out the study. Come and join us for lively discussion as we deepen our relationship with Jesus through the study of His Word. Visit our blog for a review of this study and to discuss current PW events!!

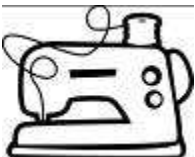
~Jane Lewy

Sunday Bulletin Announcements: Announcements for the Sunday Bulletin must be received by Noon on the Monday prior to the Sunday you wish them to be announced. Email them to Vicki Davidson at vickidfpcd30@gmail.com. Please use Microsoft Word format. Remember to keep your information brief due to space constraints. We reserve the right to edit as needed. 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 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.**

**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.



SEWING CLASS

The sewing class is in full swing. At this time all our machines are occupied but not all the time so if you are interested in joining us let me know by calling 313-336-2772 or e-mail olimpiatodor36@gmail.com.
Hope to hear from you. ~Olimpia Todor

Diaper Ministry!

Thank you to everyone who supports the Diaper Ministry, through donations and diapers. We were able to donate over 3000 diapers, which were distributed to those in need within 2 days of delivery!

Thank you again for your support.
~The Diaper Ministry



Easter Offerings

The Easter season presents a wonderful opportunity for First Presbyterian to thank those individuals and families that support the church throughout the year with their time, talent and financial contributions. And, with services well attended during this season, it is also a good opportunity to extend a warm welcome to our new and returning congregation members.

We hope that you will also be generous with your time and financial support. To assist everyone in making the consistent offerings that are so important to First Presbyterian, we are pleased to offer the option of giving online. Please contact Nancy Setterlun in the church office to set up online giving.

Giggles & Grub Fun with Waco and Friends!



Following is a letter from the University of Wisconsin student volunteers whom we housed while they were here participating in a 'Hands-On Ministry' mission trip through the Presbytery of Detroit.



Dear First Presbyterian Church,

We want to thank you for your wonderful & generous hospitality. We were so thankful & fortunate for your willingness to open up your doors to us so that we would have a comfortable place to stay during our trip. All the members/workers here that we interacted with were so kind, and that was also very appreciated.

Our amazing experience here in Detroit was made so much better by your hospitality. So thanks again.

Sincerely, Detroit Destination 2015

Connor
 Amy
 Shene
 Bailey
 Honelle
 Meaghan
 Daven
 Daniel
 Carissa
 Lily
 pass it on. >>>



Touch of Hope Easter Offering

The Easter Offering for our Touch of Hope families will take place on March 29. Items will also be collected on the 22nd. Our present families are in great need. Families receive a Kroger gift card for perishables and non-perishable items are donated by the congregation. Donated items include non-perishable food, paper products, personal care items, and cleaning supplies. Bagged Easter candy would also be appreciated. We presently have 16 families. Bringing 8 or 16 of one item is helpful during the sorting process; all items are appreciated in any amount. Please check the expiration dates on your items before bringing them to church. If you are unable to attend church on the 22nd or 29th, items can be donated at the church office before the event. Many hands will be needed to sort items. Please consider giving some time on Sunday morning March 29 to help sort and pack. Young children in our families will receive an Easter basket.

Sponsors and families will pick up items for delivery after the service on March 29. We thank the sponsors for their year-round commitment to the community outreach Touch of Hope provides. We also thank our generous congregation members who support the Touch of Hope Ministry by donating time, money and non-perishable items to this ministry.

If you would like to get more involved in Touch of Hope or planning for the Easter Offering please contact Margie Maurer at 313 563-9520.

Margie Johnston-Maurer
Touch of Hope Coordinator



To our church family,

Thank you so much for the outpouring of sympathy, caring and love you have shown to us during this difficult time.

The Family of Bob Szczechura

Sunday Night Bible Discussion Group

The Sunday night Bible discussion group began a study of the Gospel of Matthew on Sunday, September 8th. Rev. John Sefcik started and ran this class for many years prior to his death. His wife, Delphine sent John's notes to us, so we still have the benefit of John's Biblical insights. Join us at 7:00PM at Bert Ebi's house (501 Kingsbury). The meetings last one hour.



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."*



Knitters Welcome!

Calling all knitters and those who want to learn: April showers mean more time to stay indoors and knit!



Make time to join us **Thursday, April 23rd at 7pm**. Bring whatever project you are working on, or come and learn some basic stitches. Hope to see you!

~ Lynn Hoffman

April Birthdays



04/03: Alan Brailsford, Roger Hayman, Mark Guinn
04/05: Sydney Hemp
04/06: Kay Erickson, Kerry Higgins
04/07: David Pempeit, Aiden Rehbein
04/08: Johnston Cummings, Dale Romeo
04/09: Jack Evenhouse, Jacob Samuel
04/10: Adrienne Young
04/11: Jacqueline Wolter
04/12: Ivie Morris, Clare Maloney
04/13: Peter Masouredis
04/15: Heather Cummings
04/16: Jonathan Sogoian
04/18: Louis Orcutt, Kim Doverspike
04/19: Jim Shearer
04/21: Catherine Dicks, Elizabeth Dicks
04/22: Patsy Knoop, Kenneth Isaacson
04/23: Dan Kutt
04/25: Sumie Satoh
04/27: Hannah Knoop
04/29: Dan Saylor, Andrew Mayer, Grace Doverspike
04/30: Lauren Christian, Kendall Nagy

Noteworthy

- ✦ The Saturday, April 18th, Martian Marathon will cause road restrictions in the area. Please use caution!
- ✦ Communion has been changed from Easter Sunday, April 5th to Sunday, April 12th.

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

April 5 / - Rev. Don Wright
April 12 / - Communion, Mike Hoffman, CRE
April 19 / - Rev. Don Wright
April 26 / - Rev. Don Wright

Newsletter of The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
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Our Vision

Sent with a Prayer

Are you praying for a Vision?
Pastor Don

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|---|---|--|---|
| Pastor Rev. Dr. David Bleivik | Parish Associate & Pastor Emeritus Rev. Don Wright | Children's Ministries Director Beckie Dicks | Youth Ministries Director Jonathan Mallard |
| Education & Young Adult Coord. Mike Hoffman, CLP | | Director of Music F. Marshall Dicks, M.M. | Parish Nurse Chris Mayer, R.N. |