



Come home
to God's love

Our Vision

The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
May 2012 Newsletter



Requiem 2012
More photos - page 4



Peru
Spaghetti Luncheon
Sunday May 6th
11:00am
Mitchell Hall



More
Puppet Party
Photos
See page 4



PERU ~ Sunday May 6th

9:00am, Mitchell Hall
Hear Kate Bruder's experiences
in Peru.
10:00am, Sanctuary
Hear Kate dialog with Pastor Dave.

See Kate's "Greetings from
Peru"- page 13

Pentecost - May 27th

The Birth of the Church!
Day of Pentecost— see p. 3
Special Service— see p. 11



Pentecost



Picture Directory
Coming Soon!
See page 10



CREW & 4:12
"Telling their Story"
See page 6



Saturday
May 12th
See page 10

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Thank You!

Thank you to all of you who helped make the Family Seder Celebration and Tenebrae a wonderful evening. Everyone who helped set-up and/or clean-up made the work go quickly. Thank you to all the dessert makers. Yum. A special thanks goes to Nancy DeHamer for cooking the delicious Moroccan Seder dinner.

Adult Sunday School

We will continue to focus on Peter and Paul in our spring adult class on Sunday mornings. This series studies the impact those 2 men had on the spread of the gospel. This class will end on Sunday, June 3rd.

Adult Summer Sunday School

On June 10th we will start our summer Sunday School study: Faith Lessons from the Holy Lands. This is a continuation of last summer's study. Using video presentations of Biblical sites in Israel, and Turkey, we will explore the New Testament this summer. We will run through Sept. 2nd. All are invited to join us in the North Parlor at 9am Sundays.

FISH

FISH meets through May 9th and will then break for the summer. If you've never attended FISH but would like to try it, we invite you to come to our last 2 weeks, May 2nd and 9th. We begin with dinner at 6, followed by class at 6:45. The food is great, the fellowship is wonderful and the class discussions are enlightening.

Summer Camp

Parents – consider sending your elementary, middle school, and high school children to church camp. Howell Conference and Nature Center in Howell and Camp Westminster on Higgins Lake have excellent line-ups of camps for this summer. There are brochures on the Christian Education bulletin board.

Step by Step Verses

Our memory verses for May and June are:

May 6	Philippians 4:8	June 3	Hebrews 11:1
May 13	John 12:46	June 10	Matthew 19:26
May 20	Romans 3:23-24	June 17	Psalm 100:1-2
May 27	Matthew 5:7	June 24	1 John 4:11



~Ann Bleivik, Educational Coordinator

Children's Ministry



Happy Mother's Day! Join us on May 13 as our children and youth lead the worship service, to the glory of God, and in honor of our mothers. It will be a blessing!

VBS - July 16-20, 9:30 to noon, grades pre-K through 5. Travel back to Babylon and join Daniel--torn from his home and forced into the king's service. Imagine the pressure of learning a new language and culture...and the shock of discovering your best friends have been tossed into a fiery furnace. Explore exotic sights and smells in a Babylonian bazaar! Kids and adults will find that they're not much different from Daniel and his friends, who kept their faith in a faithless culture.

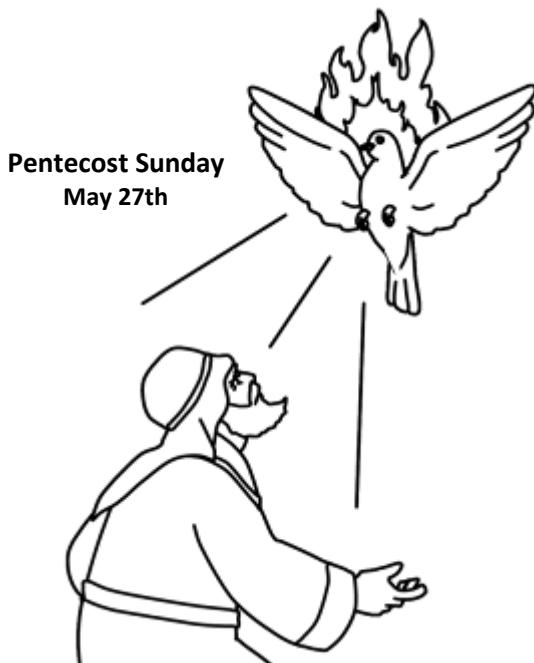
Orff Camp - Elementary aged kids are welcome to join us for a FREE Orff Music Camp, June 25-29, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. They will experience music in a non-competitive atmosphere with musical instruments, singing, games, and movement. Join us at First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn, 600 N. Brady Rd., Dearborn. Call 313-274-1313 or check out www.firstpresdearborn.org for more info and to register.

~Beckie Dicks, Children's Ministries Director

Pentecost, the day the Church was born

According to the book of Acts, the Church came into being on the day of Pentecost. As 120 worshipers, including the Disciples, were fasting and praying in an upper room in Jerusalem, the Holy Spirit descended upon them in a violent rushing wind that was heard throughout the city. Small flames of fire rested upon their heads, and they began to speak in other languages.

Written by David Katski
ShareFaith, Letters & Arts Inc.





Photos by Ann Bleivik & Beckie Dicks



Photos by Pam deVeer

Requiem 2012



Notes from our Parish Nurse

Feeding on the Word of God to Avoid Spiritual Malnutrition

In our lives, we can feed ourselves an abundance of foods that keep us from being as healthy as we would like. Thinking of the food pyramid, we might just find that our food intake resembles an upside down pyramid when it comes to the number of servings we eat from the various food groups. If we do that consistently, we may suffer the effects that come from being malnourished (i.e. overweight, lethargic, diabetic, etc.) In the same way, we can become “spiritually” malnourished and not even know it. Did you know that spiritual malnutrition is one of the major obstacles for spiritual growth in the church today? “Its symptoms are many and can be experienced in part, in total, or in a variety of combinations, with the most common appearing to be: discouragement, frustration, the feeling of being separated from brethren and God, irregular church attendance, low resistance to sin, a hesitant faith, uncertainty of salvation, disassociated feelings of guilt, and the impression that God is not quite pleased with you, etc., etc.”. Jesus came to redeem us, so that we could live lives of joy and abundance. Needless to say, if we are experiencing a number of these symptoms, then we are not living the life Jesus came to give us. This article is not to make you feel even worse, but to alert you to what might be happening if you are experiencing some of these symptoms.

I was recently feeling very “ho hum” about my faith, and it alarmed me. I thought I was doing all of the “right things”, praying, going to church, studying God’s Word, serving him, etc, so how could I be feeling this way? As I was praying and meditating on my concern, the Lord brought an article to my attention that “hit its mark”. It was on “spiritual malnutrition”. I had never heard the term and had no idea that it could even exist. One of the key questions asked, to see if it might be an issue was, “Do you think God is pleased with your spiritual growth?” My first thought was “I think so”. I’m praying, studying His Word, going to church, caring for people etc.” But as I let the question settle into my heart, I realized that going through the motions of all of these things was not really helping me draw closer to God. At times, I think I get into an automatic pilot mode of just checking off the tasks that need to be done.

Doris Black, a Bible teacher, author and conference speaker, identified the problem in her book “Reach Your Spiritual Potential” as “spiritual malnutrition”. She described what her “walk with God” was like when He brought this malady to her attention. She spent countless hours studying Scripture, doing research for Bible classes, pouring over commentaries, etc. Yet, she suffered from several symptoms of spiritual malnutrition. Mostly, she kept feeling this vague sense that God was not pleased with her. That there was something more He wanted of her, yet she didn’t know what. She loved God and the feeling of His not being satisfied with her devotion “drove” her into a desperate search for what could be wrong. After really seeking Him for an answer, He revealed that she was just “going through the motions” and that her relationship with Him was not one of closeness or intimacy, rather, a task to be done. He showed her that she often “read” the Word, but didn’t “feed” on it. She uses the analogy of shopping at a supermarket to drive the point home. “Reading” the Word is like going down the aisles and memorizing all the foods that are there, but never purchasing or consuming any of them. “Feeding” on the Word is like taking your list and buying everything you need and consuming it. Obviously one would lead to malnutrition and the other to being well nourished. So, through prayer and study, God gave her a “spiritual feeding program” that helped her to have a more satisfying relationship with Him. So now, she spends a short amount of her personal study time “feeding” on His Word and really allowing it deep into her spirit and then does the other preparation she needs to do. As a result, the symptoms of spiritual malnutrition went away and her joy returned. Next month, I will share with you some of the details of her program and perhaps it will help boost your “spiritual” nutrition.

Blessings,
Chris Mayer, Parish Nurse



Music
Corner

Music Corner

Thank You ~ It's May already! First off, let me say a very special thank you to all who participated in our music during Lent and Holy Week. We had friends from Vanguard Voices, area orchestral instrumentalists, brass and timpani from Dearborn High School and, of course, our own Adult Choir and Praise Band. We also had our Youth Choir, Children's choir and Children's Handbell Choir. Thank you to all who participated, I felt it was a meaningful season of worship through music.

Special Sundays in May ~ Now that it's May, we have two big Sundays coming up. First is **Mother's Day (May 13)**. Our Youth and Children will be leading us in worship that Sunday, including the Youth & Children's Choirs. The end of the month also marks the end of Eastertide and Pentecost, the birthday of the church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. The choir is looking forward to doing some special music for **Pentecost Sunday (May 27)**.

Special Summer Music ~ Now is also the time to be looking forward to the summer. If you would like to be involved in Special Music over the summer, please see me. I will be putting a schedule together for Special Music beginning Sunday, June 24 and ending Sunday September 2 (Labor Day Weekend). Soloists, either vocal or instrumental, and/or willingness to be in a small ensemble are all welcome! Again, see me if interested.

See you in church,
~ Marshall Dicks, Director of Music

CREW & 4:12 News (High School and Middle School)

Every Christian has a story about how they met God, and what they've gone through while knowing Him. This month CREW and 4:12 are telling our stories to know each other better and tell others about Jesus Christ. Many of us come from Christian homes, and don't always know when we "got saved". However, we still have stories of how we relate to God and how we know He's real. Others have come through very difficult times, knowing that it could only be God who protected us. As we realize more of what God is doing in and through our lives, we will encourage one another to continue praising Him for loving, protecting and empowering us. We aim to embody Romans 1:16 saying, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."

We'll be able to live this out by Feeding the Hungry again this month, hosting Coffee House Refresh, and taping our 2 Word Stories to use for worship. Our CREW consists of students from Dearborn High, Edsel Ford and Divine Child. 4:12 covers a multitude of middle schools. Imagine what an impact we can make for God's Kingdom! Please be praying for God to reveal his good news in the hearts of all the students, and for Christ's bold love to saturate CREW and 4:12.

Proclaiming Christ's Love,

Jonathan and Mike

Musings from Pastor Mike - April 2012

Pastoral Duties: I continue to enjoy working with Pastor Dave and his imaginative, forward thinking methodology of sharing the Gospel. Together we did a couple of “tag-team” sermons/reflections this past month. I also enjoyed preaching solo in April and May, utilizing the creativity of some of our young adults. Randy Bruder and I are working on a two-weekend May outreach in Dearborn and Metro Detroit that will focus on assisting the Men’s Group with the clean-up of our church grounds, collecting food for the Cherry Hill United Presbyterian Food Pantry, assisting The Second Mile Center with a general clean-up, paint-up, fix-up, as well as collecting loose change for Gleaner’s food Bank. This missional outreach has been a dream of Randy’s for some time and I was honored to team up with him to make it a reality.

Converge Young Adults: Converge participation continues to grow as more new young adults stop in to see what we are all about. John Semeniuk is teaching an Apologetics class for advanced learners, Christie Smith is facilitating a NOOMA class by Rob Bell for those who are searching, Chris Masouredis is hosting a Gaming Event, and I am teaching an Art class (see our display in the Youth Center). We went bowling as a group as a social outing and Jonathan arranged for a Mexican meal for 30 from Frida, the new Mexican restaurant in W. Dearborn on Michigan Ave. Converge will move out of doors on May 26th for a bonfire/cook-out and worship. The Core Team of Jonathan, Christie, Lewis, Steven, myself, joined with Pastor Dave to spend a great retreat together in April with a Young Adults Specialist from Pittsburgh. We were able to spend the day together reviewing what we are doing right and offering suggestions for what we want to improve upon.

GrouPeru! 12: We are moving ever closer to our departure in the middle of June. Thanks to you all for your support for our 11 missionaries from FPC and APPC. We will team up with a small team of 4 from N. Carolina to make a perfect sized team of 15. Thanks also for the positive comments of how we are trying to keep our fund-raisers “fresh” with the home-made candy and gourmet cupcake sale. We do our best to try out new fundraising ideas, while keeping the ones that you love. A special thank-you to my wife Lynn who is always doing a lot of behind the scenes planning, knitting, bookkeeping, and cooking and baking....way beyond her required involvement as a missionary team-player. We couldn’t do the trip without her!

Bible on the Boulevard, Baby! & CREW Senior High Youth Group: Sue Yarrington-Young is a riot to work with on Sunday mornings teaching the Senior High Sunday school class. What a great bunch of teens we have and how much fun it is to pick them up in the church van and eat breakfast and learn at the same time. I am also thoroughly enjoying my involvement working with Jonathan and the Senior High teens. Check out his story on Acquire the Fire and other events we have been involved with on the Student Ministries page.

~God’s Peace, Mike Hoffman, C.R.E.

Presbyterian Women’s Bible Study

PW Bible Study - We recently passed a milestone of studying together for 16 years. We continue to meet Thursday morning (10:00-11:30a.m.) in the North Parlor, through May 24. Currently we are re-visiting a study guide to spirituality and prayer written by Don Postema. We do not meet during the summer months (June/July/August). Look for future announcements of our Fall schedule and new study. ~Lorraine Lamkin

2012

May

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
		9:00am Men's Fellowship Work 7:00pm Property- Library 7:00pm-9:00pm CE Committee- NP 7:00pm-9:00pm Worship & Arts- SP 7:30pm-9:00pm AA- MH	1 10:00am Stephens-Currie- R12 10:00am-4:00pm Treasure Chest 10:30am-12:00pm ALL Staff - SP 7:00pm-9:00pm Outreach&Missions- SP 6:00pm-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH 6:45pm-8:00pm Classes- MH, NP 7:00pm-9:00pm AdultChoir-Sanct.,Turco
Communion Dialogue Sermon with Kate Bruder 9:00am Ed. Hr withKate Bruder-MH 9:25am Adult Choir 10:00am Worship Svc- Sanctuary 11:00am Peru Spaghetti Lunch-MH,K 3:00pm-4:00pm Youth Choir 4:00pm-5:00pm Children's Choir 4:00pm-6:00pm CREW Youth- YL 5:00pm-6:00pm Children's Handchimes 7:00pm Sun.EveBible Study-BertEbi's	6 5-9pm Dearborn Symphony Schol. Audition- R16, 14, 12 7-8:30pm Grief Support- MH, SP, Lib. 7:30pm-9:00pm BoyScoutTroop-YC DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN	7 9:00am Men's Fellowship Work 9:30am-11:30am Prayers & Squares 7:30pm-9:00pm AA- MH	8 10:00am-4:00pm Treasure Chest 6:00pm-6:45pm LAST FISH (dinner) MH 6:45pm-8:00pm Classes- MH, NP 7:00pm-9:00pm AdultChoir-Sanct.,Turco
Mother's Day/Children's Day Flower Flat pickup 8:45am Contemporary Service- Sanct. 10:10am Education Hour 10:20am Adult Choir 11:00am Traditional Service- Sanct. 3:00pm-4:00pm Youth Choir 4:00pm-5:00pm Children's Choir 4:00pm-6:00pm CREW Youth- YL 5:00pm-6:00pm Children's Handchimes 7:00pm Sun.EveBible Study-Bert Ebi's	13 11:30am-2:00pm GardenClub (last one till Sept)- MH 7-8:30pm Grief Support- MH, SP, Lib. 7:00-8:00pm Deacons(last one till Sept)- R12 7:00pm NAMI- NP 7:30-9:00pm BoyScout Troop-YC DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN	14 9:00am Men's Fellowship Work 5:30pm-6:30pm Finance- SP 6:30pm SESSION/COORD.COUNCIL-NP 7:30pm-9:00pm AA- MH	15 10:00am Stephens-Currie- R12 10:00am-4:00pm Treasure Chest 10:30am-12:00pm PROGRAM Staff -SP 7:00pm-9:00pm AdultChoir-Sanct,Turco
9:00am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir 10:00am Worship Service- Sanctuary 1-9pm BoyScoutTrail toEagle MH, K, YCYL,N&SP,R16,14,12, Sanct., 2A&B 3:00pm-4:00pm Youth Choir 4:00pm-5:00pm Children's Choir 4:00pm-6:00pm CREW Youth- YL 5:00pm-6:00pm Children's Handchimes 7:00pm Sun.Eve Bible Study-Bert Ebi's	20 7-8:30pm Grief Support- MH, SP, Lib. 7:30-9:00pm BoyScoutTroop-YC DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN	21 9:00am Men's Fellowship Work 9:30am-11:30am Prayers & Squares 1:00pm PictureDirectory meeting- NP 7:00pm-8:00pm Technology- R12 7:30pm-9:00pm AA- MH	22 10:00am-1:00pm Keenagers- off site 10:00am-4:00pm Treasure Chest 7:00pm-9:00pm AdultChoir-Sanct,Turco
DAY OF PENTECOST Pentcost Offering 9:00am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir 10:00am WorshipService- Sanctuary No Youth Choir No Children's Choir 4:00pm-6:00pm CREW Youth- YL 4:30pm- PENTECOST CELEBRATION No Children's Handchimes 7:00pm Sun. EveBible Study-Bert Ebi's	27 Memorial Day observed CHURCH CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN	28 9:00am Men's Fellowship Work 7:30pm-9:00pm AA- MH	29 10:00am-4:00pm Treasure Chest 7:00pm-9:00pm AdultChoir-Sanct,Turco

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2012

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
2	National Day of Prayer 8:00am-8:00pm CHAPEL OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER 10:00am-11:30am PW BiblStudy- NP 11:00am-3:30pm B. B.Seniors-MH,Kit. 6:00pm-7:00pm Personnel- SP 7:30pm-9:00pmPraiseBand-Sanctuary	3	4	Set up Communion 9am-11am Rebekah Circle-NP,K 3:30-5pm Hoff.-SzczSmal grp-MH 6-10pm Converge- K.,YL,YC,2A	5
9	10:00am-11:30am PW Bible Study-NP 11:00am-3:30pm B. B.Seniors- MH,Kit. 11:00am C.O.M. (Pastor) offsite 7:30pm-9:00pm PraiseBand-Sanctuary DEADLINE FOR VISION	10	11	9am-1:30pm Church Spring Cleaning- Outside, (MH ,K) 10:00am-12:00pm BEOMClub-NP 9:00am-10:30am DNA- R16 6-10pm Converge- K., YL, YC 2A	12
16	Ascension of the Lord 10:00am-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 11:00am-3:30pm B. B. Seniors- MH, Kit. 1:00-3:00pm LydiaMarthaMary(last one till Sept)- NP 7:30pm-9:00pm Praise Band-Sanctuary	17	18	9:00am PW Board- NP 11am Memorial for Bud Apeseche- Sanctuary 12pm Apeseche luncheon-MH,K 3:30-5pm Hoff.-Szcz.Smallgrp-MH 6-10pm Converge- K., YL,YC,2A	19
23	10:00am-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 11:00am-3:30pm B. B.Seniors-MH,Kit. 5:30pm-9:00pm BoyScoutCouncil-MH, Kit.,NP, SP 7:30pm-9:00pm PraiseBand-Sanctuary	24	25	9:00am-10:30am DNA- R16 6-10pm Converge- K.,YL,YC,2A	26
30	10:00-11:30am PW BibleStudy (last one till Sept.)- NP 11:00am-3:30pm B. B.Seniors-MH,Kit. 7:30-9:00pm PraiseBand-Sanctuary	31			



COMING!!! Pictorial Directory

We are creating a new Pictorial Church Directory. Pictures will be taken August 16 – 18 and Sept 7 – 8. Sign-ups will begin in July. You will have the option of signing up for your photo shoot either on Sundays, before and after worship or during the week, online, using the church website. You will receive more information later this spring but mark your calendars now.

Spring Cleanup– Saturday, May 12th



FPCD's annual Spring Clean-up is Saturday, May 12th from 9:00 to 11:30am. Lunch will be served at 11:30 in Mitchell Hall. Bring your work gloves and favorite rake. There's plenty to be done around our church including lunch clean-up. Remember, this is an open invite to all... any age, any gender. Your help is needed and will be greatly appreciated. See you there, **Men's Fellowship**

Mother's Eyes

By Mary D. B. Hull

*What are the songs the mother sings?
Of birds and flowers and pretty things;
Baby lies in her arms and spies
All his world in the mother's eyes.*

*What are the tales the mother tells?
Of gems and jewels and silver bells;
Baby lies in her arms and spies
All his wealth in the mother's eyes.*

*What are the thoughts in the mother's mind?
Of the gentle Saviour, loving and kind;
Baby lies in her arms and spies
All his heaven in the mother's eyes.*



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.**

Sunday Bulletin Announcements: Please submit your announcements for the **Sunday Bulletin** to Vicki no later than noon the **Monday prior to the service** at vickid@firstpresdearborn.org. 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 to the Senior Pastor.



Special Pentecost Sunday Service

On Sunday, May 27th we will host a Pentecost celebration event in our Sanctuary starting at 4:30 PM (starting time is tentative). There will be more than a dozen musicians, singers, and praise leaders from various churches in the area performing a wide variety of Pentecost-themed praise music interspersed with prayers to bless our congregations, communities, and our leaders with an infilling of the Holy Spirit. The celebration of praise and prayer is open to all so please invite friends and family to come and celebrate the anniversary of the Holy Spirit's empowerment of the church. This promises to be a birthday celebration like no other so please mark your calendars and come join us! Please also join us in supporting the success of this event by praying for God's anointing on those who attend and our various organizers and musicians.

~Mark Dearth, on behalf of the Worship and Arts committee.

Treasure Chest News

Are you aware of the fact that our church has a resale shop? The shop is located on the lower level where it occupies several former classrooms. We accept donations of women's, men's, and children's clothing and shoes. We also accept housewares, linens, Christmas decorations, small electronics, pictures & frames, small appliances (no stoves, refrigerators, large TV's, or dishwashers please) and all manner of knickknacks. The Treasure Chest was started by a group of women many l-o-n-g years ago for the purpose of raising money for special projects for the church. One such project was the installation of the elevator. We also donate money for special needs within the church.

The Treasure Chest also serves to provide goods at very good prices for those in our community who may not be able to afford them otherwise. We have many regular customers who bring their friends and most always find a treasure to purchase. We have held a rummage sale every year during the first week of October. Plan to stop by and let us get to know you. We are open every Wednesday from 10am to 4pm. Perhaps you would like to help. We always need extra hands to sort and price, and sell all the items that come in. If you are interested, call me at 313-336-2772 (Olimpia Todor) or the church. Hope to see you there.

~Yours in Christ, Olimpia Todor

Card Ministry

The Card Ministry is taking a "Spring Break" - no meeting in May.

We'll resume Monday, June 4th, to make a summer card for our 30 homebound. You are welcome to join us.

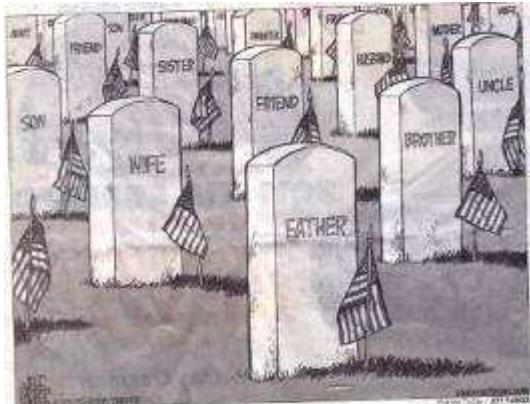


Memorial Day Reflection

"... It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—..."

Abraham Lincoln
(from the Gettysburg Address)

Let us pause to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice to defend the freedoms we enjoy.



Memorial Day
Monday, May 28th

AAUW (American Assoc. of University Women—Dearborn)
(AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research)

AAUW Book Barrel Donation Program

The AAUW-Dearborn Branch is getting ready for its 61st annual used book sale and will have a book donation barrel in the Mitchell Hall coat room from April through August. Please consider donating your used books to this worthy cause which provides scholarships to U-of-M Dearborn and HFCC, and financial support to community organizations, including Alternatives for Girls, Dearborn Community Fund, and First Step. The 2012 book sale will be held Thursday, Sept. 20th through Saturday, Sept. 22nd at the Dearborn Ice Skating Center, 14900 Ford Road, Dearborn.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Does the Joy of Easter Seem Far Away? For those who have suffered a loss or who are going through the difficult time, Easter can be a time of painful loneliness and emptiness. If you are smiling on the outside, but full of pain on the inside and the joy of Easter 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!

Greetings from Lima, Peru!



2012 has already gotten off to a wonderful start here in Peru! I spent the month of January helping with a summer camp and went to a high school & elementary school graduation. I also helped the house parents of our home in Kusi when they came to Lima for vacation with the 40 boys! In February, it was back to our beach home, Kawai with a team from New York City, and March was hosting 2 very large, 40-person teams at our homes, Kusi and Kimo. I spent the first week in April in jungle, back at Puerto Alegría with a group from Philadelphia and got to get to know the new boys living at the home. Now, the big project is getting everything ready for the upcoming work teams that will join us during the summer - including your very own team from First Presbyterian! I am looking forward to meeting and working with all of the volunteers that will be joining us this year, May through October.

Before the busy work team season starts, I will be back in the States for a few weeks during the beginning of May for a friend's wedding. **While in Michigan, I will have the opportunity to share about my experiences and work in Peru during Education Hour and worship at First Presbyterian on Sunday, May 6th.** All are invited to attend and I look forward to seeing you there!

Don't forget, you can stay current with what I am doing in Peru on my website, www.katebruder.com/peru. There, you can find stories and many photographs about what I am doing with Scripture Union Peru.

Thank you once again for your prayers and support. It is a blessing to be a part of God's work here in Peru. ~Kate Bruder



Touch of Hope Easter Offering

The Easter Touch of Hope Offering provided Kroger gift cards and needed non-perishable items to fifteen families this year. In addition five children received Easter baskets. We have lowered the age of children who received baskets. Older children received chocolate crosses.

There are many people to thank for the successful offering provided by this ministry. The shopping and basket assembly was done by Charlene Reid and Margie Maurer. Very special thanks to Jan Cobb and the Card Ministry for creating beautiful Easter cards for the families. Emma Scott created the card design. On the Sunday of the offering committed volunteers helped to transport, sort and pack items collected from the congregation. Volunteers included Bonnie Andrew, Joe DeHamer, Janet Leslie, Margie and Mike Maurer, Charlene Reid, Christie Smith, and Lori Wyatt. Wendy Palmer was helpful during the entire offering process. We thank everyone involved and appreciate the help. Thanks to all congregation members who graciously donated items and monetary donations to the offering. Our families were very appreciative.

The sponsors who work with families on a regular basis are to be commended for their time and effort. The sponsors delivered the Easter offering to their Touch of Hope families with blessings. Many people within the congregation are responsible for the successful Touch of Hope Offering. We can be proud of the support we extend to the families. Thank you to all who helped with this ministry.



A Mission Sewing 'Thank You'

A great big thank you to the wonderful sewers who took time from their busy schedules to come and help us hem and press baby blankets. In total 25 blankets were made ready for some babies to cuddle into. Thank you also to Mary Ann Bassett for the delicious lunch she prepared for us. Mary Ann is indeed our treasured "gift that keeps on giving." Our Mission Sewing day is on the second Tuesday of March. We have a beautiful sewing room on the second floor that is equipped with sewing machines ready to be used. Mission Sewing is a ministry of Presbyterian Women. If you would like to know more about it, call Olimpia Todor at 313-336-2772.

*~Yours in Christ,
Olimpia Todor*



Forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven our debtors.

Matthew 6:12

Christians forgive! God forgives us, and we forgive others. Forgiving means to suffer the loss and forfeit the right to "get even." Forgiving shows love and promotes peace. "Be Kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you" (Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:13; John 13:34).

Here, we ask God to forgive us as we have forgiven others. Can we expect grace if we deny others the same grace God gave us? Can we presume forgiveness holding a grudge? Are there limits?

Jesus told Peter to forgive a sinning brother not just seven times but seventy times seven times (Matthew 18:22). He then used an allegory (Matthew 18:23 – 35) to teach how God treats those He has forgiven who then refuse to forgive others. Jesus ended with the warning: "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from the heart (Matthew 18:35).

Forgiving others is essential. Refusing to forgive destroys our witness and walk with God (1 John 3:14; 4:20-21). This is the only part of the Lord's Prayer that Jesus immediately emphasized (Matt 6:14, 15).

Experiencing God's forgiveness helps us forgive even grievous sins. Corrie Ten Boom experienced this when, in 1947, she forgave a former Nazi guard under whom she and her sister Betsie (who died in Ravensbruck) had suffered. When she forgave the guard, she experienced God more intensely than she ever had before. Forgiving helps us spiritually, and it helps us feel much better than holding a grudge.

Vengeance is not our business; let God handle that (Romans 12:17-21).

~ John Holden

Prayer Request

Key Muslim leaders in the Middle East have issued a call that no religion should be practiced other than Islam. Please keep the Christian faithful in that region in your prayers, especially our Mission Partner, Rev. Fouad Antoun in Lebanon. We pray for their safe keeping and the tolerance of those in power to allow them to live in, and worship Christ.

Our Sincere Condolences

Long-time member, Charlie (Chuck) Cherry died in hospice care on April 4th in Holland Michigan. Notes of sympathy can be sent to his daughter & her husband:

*Bonny & Rick Dine
305 Lang Rd.
Dunlap, Tennessee 37327*

Those of you who knew Charlie remember how smart he looked in his kilt playing the bagpipes for special occasions.



Eastertide Greetings

Greetings to all in this joyful Eastertide! He is risen as He said! May the grace and peace of Jesus be with us all, and may the joy of our song mingle with the joyous Alleluia of the angelic choirs!

Timothy Huth DMA
Your Organist

• May •

BIRTHDAYS

05/02: Frank T. Jones, David Mantey
05/03: Phill Mayer
05/04: Lisa Holt
05/05: Donald Martin, Kevin Nietering
05/07: Janet Leslie
05/08: Nancy DeHamer, Lauren Nilsson
05/09: Ian Higgins
05/11: Emily Carlson
05/12: Jeremy Hughes
05/15: Edward Mistecki, Wes Pelling
05/16: Linda Ashton
05/17: Bob Jones
05/19: Ted Daykin, Jim Scott
05/20: Virginia Cassidy
05/21: Alicia Laura
05/22: Chris Mayer
05/23: Sandra Evans, Bob Szczechura, Vic Todor
05/24: Becky Bergren, Nelda Johnson
05/26: Diane Mitchell, David G. Setterlun
05/27: Kathy White
05/28: Paul Bassett Sr.
05/30: Clara Smith
05/31: Amy McCarthy
And a happy belated April 3rd birthday to Alan Brailsford!!

CELEBRATIONS- Births:

Congratulations to Tanya Delgado and Jesus Coronado on the birth of their daughter, Tanya Elizabeth. Little Tanya was born at 9:11am on Wed. April 18th, and weighed 5lb, 10oz.

Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 am

May 6 / - Communion; Dialog sermon with Kate Bruder
May 13 / - Mothers Day (Children & Youth service)
May 20 / - Mike Hoffman, C.R.E.
May 27 / - Pentecost; Rev. Dave Bleivik

Newsletter of The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
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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

Young Adult Coordinator
Mike Hoffman, CLP

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