



Come home
to God's love

Our Vision

The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
September 2015 Newsletter



In Remembrance
Patriot Day
September 11th



Rally Day!

Sunday, Sept 13th

9am ~ Mitchell Hall

- ❖ *Have breakfast!*
- ❖ *Hear our exciting
Christian Education
plans for this fall!*

See page 4



F.I.S.H.
Fellowship
Inspiration
Scripture
Hope

Wed., Sept. 16th

6pm-dinner; 6:45pm-classes

See pages 4 & 5

Coming Soon...

Treasure Chest Rummage Sale

*10am-6pm Fri., Oct. 9th
10am-2pm Sat., Oct. 10th*



All Day Scrapping, Stamping, Crafting
Saturday, Sept. 12th

See page 14

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September at FPCD

Where did it go? Summer, of course. The distribution of backpacks by Touch of Hope surely marks the beginning of the school year and the celebration of Labor Day. Staff is prepared! We have spent some time "hooling" over ways in which we can enhance the spiritual growth of our family of faith.

Rally Day will be on Sunday, September 13th - starting with a continental breakfast offered by our CE team. Classes will be offered from early childhood to adults each Sunday morning culminating in stimulating worship services at 10:00am. Our youth ministry program this fall will be under the direction of our lay pastor, Mike Hoffman assisted by volunteer helpers. Beckie Dicks reminds us that volunteers are always welcome to assist in the nurture of all ages while Marshall issues a call for singers and ringers.

FISH is set to start on Wednesday September 16th. This year we will be providing a special treat as our meal service will be catered at the suggested low price of just \$8.00 per person. Children 12 and under are \$5.00 and children under 5 are free. We will also honor the family of 5 or more at \$25.00. The caterer has promised a diverse selection of meals each week. As usual, we regard these as "donations" - or, contributing as able. It is expected that meal service also will include participation in the children's program, the choir, or the Adult Study.

Many of you took part in the year long program two years ago of "the Story." While that was an integrated program with education and worship, the study this year will be on Wednesday evenings, as the PNC is in search for a new pastor with freedom to select his own theme for worship. This year's study theme is: "BELIEVE," the author is again, Randy Frazee, the Senior Minister of Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas. Randy will be featured in a weekly video preceding the discussion. The program is divided into 10 week segments which will take us through the first week in December. Each session is complete in itself so feel free to attend as many as you are able.

Session is also hard at work. A vision and reflection retreat is scheduled for Session, Staff, Deacons, and Coordinating Council members for Saturday, October 3rd. A guest leader will assist us in setting short term and longer term goals and objectives as God's called disciples at First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn.

Among the future needs we can always depend upon the facility to offer us opportunity. We are currently in study on the costs for redoing the roof of the main facility and the repair of the Copper Roof on the Sanctuary. Program wise we are concerned for the 20 year old van we use to transport our members. While it is in great shape - time takes its toll. We have also been advised that our doorways to Mitchell Hall need replacement - sometimes 50 years calls for renewal...especially with buildings.

We are all called to renewal - daily - as servants of our Lord. I encourage you to pray for your church, our devoted leaders, the members of the PNC, and that God will continue to provide for our every need.

Peace and Blessings, ~Pastor Don

Thank You and Congratulations!

Thank you to all who attended the Girl Scout Troop 41520 Internet Safety and Cyber Bullying Seminar in May. Congratulations to Leah, Catherine, Elizabeth and Zoe who have been awarded their Girl Scout Silver Award, which is the highest award a Cadette Scout can earn. The support of their church family is greatly appreciated.

~ Nancy Setterlun
Troop 41520 - Leader



Children's Ministry



I hope everyone has had a long and relaxing summer! We look forward to starting up our kids' programming in September at First Presbyterian.

Our first day back at Sunday School is September 13. We'll meet in Mitchell hall for a light breakfast at 9:00, and then head up to our classes. If your kids haven't tried out Sunday School, you should check it out. It's a little like Children's Church, but with smaller groups and a longer class time. That means more time for music, stories, discussions, and projects. Remember, it's not just a Sunday morning activity. It's nourishment for a lifetime!

Our FISH class each Wednesday begins on September 16. Our kids class will be reading the last book of the Narnia Series (chronologically speaking, that is), *The Last Battle*. We read a chapter, discuss, do some art, and overall, have a really nice time. All ages are welcome.

See you in church!

~Beckie Dicks- Children's Ministries Coordinator



Touch of Hope Back to School Offering

Thank you to all who made the Touch of Hope Back to school offering a success. Twenty school age children went back to school ready and in style.

We made a change in the Back to School Offering this year. College aged children did not receive a backpack and supplies, but did receive a \$30 Staples gift card and a student planner.

Many people enjoyed donating to the school-aged children in the ministry. The offering was coordinated by Margie Johnston-Maurer and Charlene Reid with many loyal and efficient volunteers. Those who supported the offering with time and energy include Nancy De Hamer, Sue Ingram, Margie and Mike Maurer, Charlene Reid, Jan Snider, Tracie Szczechura, Jan Witkowski and Lori Wyatt. Jan Cobb created charming identification tags and cards for the completed backpacks and gift cards. When families and sponsors arrived for their backpacks, they were greeted and assisted by Mike and Margie Maurer. Wendy Palmer and Vicki Davidson were helpful throughout the process. We thank everyone who donated time, backpacks, supplies and donations to the Back to School Offering. We also thank the loyal sponsors who delivered the donations before the first day of school. The families are all very appreciative of the help they receive through Touch of Hope. Thank you for being such a giving congregation. ~ Margie Johnston-Maurer

'Outreach & Mission Committee' members Needed



Our Outreach & Mission committee could use some new members. This committee helps connect our church with issues and needs, and allocate funds to match needs in the surrounding community, nation and world. Opportunities arise to make connections with missionaries from around the world and to help support them in their ministry. Please consider becoming a part of this important group that helps us focus on mission and ministry locally and around the world. If interested, please contact the church office at (313) 274-1313.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Pastor Mike Hoffman, CRE, Adult and Young Adult Education Director,
- Beckie Dicks, Children's Ed Coordinator, and Jane Dearth, Adult Ed. Chairperson



Rally Day – Our new programmatic year begins on Sunday, **September 13th**. Come join us as we begin the day in Mitchell Hall at **9 AM** with a light breakfast. The teachers and leaders for the fall classes and groups will be introduced and will share a brief description of their offerings for autumn 2015 into the spring of 2016. **Children and adults of all ages are urged to attend.**

Sunday Morning Adult, Teen, and Kid's Offerings - Sundays at 9 AM – Beckie Dicks and her band of Elementary CE Teachers have some educational fun and facts ready for the kids. Interactive and multi-sensed, look out for some exciting times in Sunday Offerings! The Senior Highs (grades 9-12) will once again have the pleasure of working with Kevin Watts in the stage balcony above Mitchell Hall. “Exciting and relevant” are the two words that many of you used when you described his class while we had a discussion in Peru on our mission trip. Can’t wait! We are exploring the idea of having a separate middle school class as well...stay tuned! For the adults, Pastor Mike’s Sunday Morning class will be based on the book ***Counter Culture*** by David Platt. When we engage the culture as Christians, we can react in one of 4 ways: conform, check-out, combat or counter. This is a call for our church family to faithfully follow Jesus. There is a cost. There is a reward. Are you ready to counter the culture? Books (optional) available to purchase on Rally Day for a \$15 donation.



Women's Retreat – The annual Woman's retreat will be held on **Friday, October 23rd (7-9 PM)** and **Saturday, October 24th (9 AM-Noon)**. Come for wonderful snack, laughs, learning, and fellowship. Jane “M” is encouraging ALL women, single, married, widowed, young, mature, introverts and extroverts, members as well as friends of members to be a part of this wonderful gathering. Call the church office by Sunday, October 18th to register: 313.274.1313.

Men's Retreat – Yes men, we will do it again on a Friday evening and Saturday morning early in 2016. This year our video/discussion series will be based on German pastor/theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Confessing Church during the reign of Nazi Germany, and how this is a call to us to apply this knowledge in our church today. Men, you won't want to miss this one!

FISH  – **Wednesday Evenings from 6-8:15pm~ Starts Sept. 16th (runs through Dec. 2nd)**

Get ready for something new: a catered meal each week! The donation to cover the cost of the meals is \$8 per person or \$25 max per family of four or more. Our class will be taught by Pastor Don based on the book ***Believe*** by Randy Frazee. Listen on Sunday mornings during announcements for details on his great educational offering! Come just for class at 6:45 PM or make it an entire evening with the optional meal at 6 PM!

4:12 and CREW Youth Groups – Sundays at 3-4:30 PM. Did you get your postcard yet? If not, see Pastor Mike Hoffman, Youth Groups Leader or Chris Masouredis, Youth Groups Assistant. A perfect combination of food, faith and fun, and a great activity to BRING FRIENDS to!

F.I.S.H.~ADULT STUDY PROGRAM

As a congregation we are familiar with the work of Rev Randy Frazee, the Senior Minister of Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas. For a year the worship and study of the church was focused upon the theme: "The Story." The classes were held on Wednesday evening at FISH and the sermons were coordinated as well.



This September 16th we will begin a new study entitled: "Believe." For 10 weeks through December 2nd we will join Randy Frazee via video and have transformative discussions on 10 themes: God, Personal God, Salvation, The Bible, Identity in Christ, Church, Humanity, Compassion, Stewardship, and Eternity.

The goal of every follower of Jesus Christ is to become more like him, but where do we start? What does it really mean to be a disciple of Jesus in today's post Christian era. Our group meetings will be Bible based study on each of the topics. Participants will be given an opportunity to rate themselves on belief statements taken from the Christian Life Profile and will be provided with key verses and key ideas. There will be notes and a discussion guide for each topic.

I will be providing a Study Bible for each participant in addition to the study materials. See you on the 16th!

~ Faithfully, Pastor Don



A huge "Thank-You" from GrouPeru!

Thanks church family for your overwhelming support and attendance at the August 16th Corn and Brat Roast. A special thank-you to Bob and Carol Brinton for donating all the delicious corn and watermelon. Clapping hands to Bob and Diane Missler for the use of their grill. Woo-who to Lynn, Elissa Hoffman, and Chris Masouredis for all the Saturday Prep work. Muchas gracias to the GrouPeru! Team, parents and Wendy for all the serving & clean-up efforts. All of the above mentioned folks have shared their time, talents, and treasures numerous times over the past few years! The extra food was taken to the Detroit Rescue Missions Soup Kitchen so that the less fortunate were able to share a great meal. God blesses us abundantly and so we bless others! – Amen!

~ Pastor Mike Hoffman, CRE

Presbyterian Women's Bible Study

Lamkin PW (Presbyterian Women) Bible Study will be starting the 2015-2016 HORIZONS Bible study, Come to the Waters. Join us on Thursday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. beginning September 17th after Rally Day. Charlie Aronson and Jane Lewy-Mykytenko will lead our discussions. "The rich imagery of water throughout the Bible helps us understand and articulate our faith. Just as water nourishes our bodies, so the scriptures on water nourish our souls."



Music Corner

Welcome to September and the church's program year! All of our choirs are starting back up. Here's the Schedule.

Adult Choir starts on Wednesday, September 9th at 7:00pm in the Choir Loft. Note, this is one week before FISH starts, so plan accordingly. All singers High School Age and above are welcome! No audition needed, just a love of music and singing! Please come and join us!

Youth Choir starts on Sunday, September 13th (Rally Day) at 5:00pm in the Choir Loft. All singers in grades 6 through 12 are welcome! We have some great music planned, including some opportunities to sing with the Adult Choir and with the Praise Band.

Children's Choir starts on Rally Day as well (September 13th) at 3:30pm in the Choir Loft. This choir is open to all singers in grades 2 through 5. We will be looking at some new music to prepare for a possible Chorister's Guild mass choir in the spring, as well as preparing to sing in worship and at the Noel Festival in December.

Handbell Choir starts on Rally Day at 4:30pm in the Handbell Room (Room 3 A & B in the down-stairs hallway. This is currently a combined Children and Youth endeavor. We are hoping to have enough ringers to move beyond our current 2 octaves and bring out some more bells. The church owns 5 octaves of bells, It would be great to ring 3 octaves this year. Come out and try it! It's a lot of fun, and we do some cool music!

If you are interested in presenting a "special music" offering at any time, please let me know! We'd like to include more special music in our service. Solos, either vocal or instrumental, small groups and ensembles are all welcome. See me, and we'll get you scheduled on a Sunday.

We will also be continuing our 50th Anniversary Celebrations this fall with an organ recital in November and our Noel Festival in December. Please come join us for these celebrations!

~ In Christ, Marshall

ChristNet Coordinators Needed

Sue Sullivan and I have thoroughly enjoyed our positions as ChristNet Coordinators at First Presbyterian Church over the past 11 years.

It is time that Sue and I pass along the torch of this very rewarding job to others who can dedicate their time and talents to this very important mission that we have grown to love. It has become a part of us and we have learned so much over the years.

If we do not find another group of individuals to take over, sadly this mission that has become such a loved one will no longer be able to happen.

If you feel you are called to become a coordinator for this mission please contact Jeni Cole (313) 792-8224 jlcole1971@gmail.com or Jim Barber and we can coordinate a meeting to discuss the responsibilities and expectations of this mission.

We are praying we find replacements and that we can take this year to acclimate the new coordinators to how this program works and have a smooth transition to the 2016 ChristNet visit.

~ Jeni Cole & Sue Sullivan



Musings from Pastor Mike, CRE

Young Adult & Adult CE Director and Youth Groups Leader

When Lynn and I occasionally exchange stories about our moms, we sometimes expect some kind of humorous anecdote because the aging mother/mother-in-law caricature has been a standard shtick of comedy in our society forever. In the book of Ruth, recently used as an illustration at Converge, the Young Adult fellowship held each Saturday at Panera Cares in West Dearborn, there weaves a different kind of story. You see, Ruth loved her mother-in-law Naomi so much, that she begged to stay with her when they both became widowed, even when it meant leaving her homeland. "Your people will be my people and your God my God." Not much is said about Naomi except that she loved and cared for Ruth as well as provided a powerful witness to the God Naomi worshiped. God led Ruth to a man named Boaz, a "redeemer", who she eventually married. You see to the Jews, a redeemer was a male member of the family who had the right, the resources, and the resolve to "redeem" a female member of the family who had been widowed. The redeemer would take them as a spouse and would provide them with all of what they needed.

Christians have a "redeemer" as well. Jesus Christ is our Redeemer. Ephesians 3: 1-8 states this so clearly. "Praise be to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will – to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One that he loves. In him we have redemption through the blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding."

Ruth was a Moabitess. The Moabites were a pagan tribe descended from Moab, the son of Lot, born of an incestuous relationship with his oldest daughter (Genesis 19:37). Boaz was a descendant of Rehab, a former prostitute from Jericho. Nevertheless, their offspring continued the family line through which the Messiah Jesus came into our world. You see, God will use anyone who is open to him to achieve his purposes. No one is too sinful or broken.

God is at work in the world and he wants to use aging mothers, mother-in-laws, you, and even me as a means to bring our neighbors, friends, co-workers, family and classmates to Christ. There is a cost. There is a reward. Are you ready to counter the culture? – Amen!

ChristNet Returns Sunday November 1st, 2015

First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn will be hosting guests of the ChristNet program beginning Sunday November 1st and ending Sunday November 8th 2015. ChristNet provides temporary emergency shelter for men, women, and children from the downriver area.

This is the thirteenth year First Presbyterian has participated by providing shelter, meals and fellowship for a one-week period. Our guests arrive nightly for a warm meal, showers, fellowship, and rest. Our guests depart each morning with a sack lunch after having a nutritional breakfast. Many hands are needed to serve in this exciting Outreach program.

Sign ups to serve will begin in the Narthex early October following the service. If you feel like you are called to this outreach whether you are first time volunteer or one who just can't stay away from this amazing experience talents of all kinds are much appreciated and welcomed.

For more information or to get your "spot" early, call or email
Jeni Cole at 313-792-8224/248-470-7875/jlcole1971@gmail.com
Sue Sullivan at 313-274-6756/srsullivan8845@wowway.com

Septeml

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDI
		9am Men's Fellowship Work 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- YC 4:30-5:30pm Sewing Class 7-8pm Deacons- NP 7-9pm Worship & Arts- SP 7:30-9pm AA- MH	1 10am Stephens-Currie- I 10am-4pm Treasure Ch 10:30am-12pm ALL Sta
Communion 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir 10am Worship Service- Sanctuary 11:30am Property- Library 7pm Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	6 Labor Day CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN	9am Men's Fellowship Work 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- YC 4:30-5:30pm Sewing Class 5:30pm Outreach & Missions- SP 7:30-9pm AA- MH	8 10am-4pm Treasure Ch 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanc
Rally Day 9am Rally Day Breakfast- MK, K 9:25am Adult Choir 10am Worship Service- Sanctuary 3:4-30pm Youth Groups- YL, YC, 2A 3:30-4:30pm Children's Choir- Sanctuary 4:30-5pm Handbell Choir- Bell Room 5-6pm Youth Choir- Sanctuary 7pm Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	13 11am-2pm Garden Club- offsite 6:30pm NAMI- NP DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN	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	15 10am Stephens-Currie- I 10am-4pm Treasure Ch 10:30am-12pm PROGR 6-6:45pm FISH Kickoff- 6:45-8pm Class- MH, NI 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanc
9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir 10am Worship Service- Sanctuary 3:4-30pm Youth Groups- YL, YC, 2A 3:30-4:30pm Children's Choir- Sanctuary 4:30-5pm Handbell Choir- Bell Room 5-6pm Youth Choir- Sanctuary 7pm Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	20 DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN	9am Men's Fellowship Work 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- YC 4:30-5:30pm Sewing Class 7:30-9pm AA- MH <i>Presbytery Meeting at Lake Shore Presby. (St. Clair Shores)</i>	22 11am-1pm Keenagers- I 10am-4pm Treasure Ch 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner)- 6:45-8pm Class- MH, NF 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanc
9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir 10am Worship Service- Sanctuary 3:4-30pm Youth Groups- YL, YC, 2A 3:30-4:30pm Children's Choir- Sanctuary 4:30-5pm Handbell Choir- Bell Room 5-6pm Youth Choir- Sanctuary 7pm Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	27 1-4pm Home School Class- MH, Kit. 6:30pm NAMI- NP DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN	9am Men's Fellowship Work 10am Physical & Spiritual Fitness- YC 4:30-5:30pm Sewing Class 7:30-9pm AA- MH	29 10am-4pm Treasure Ch 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner)- 6:45-8pm Class- MH, NF 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanc

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umber 2015

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 urie- NP tre Chest LL Staff- SP	3 6-8pm PNC- NP	4	Set up Communion 5 5:30-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares
9 tre Chest - Sanct., Turco	10 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 6-8pm PNC- NP DEADLINE FOR VISION	11 12-6pm Set up for Scrapbook Event- MH, K 6:30-9pm Game Night- YC	12 8am-9pm Scrapbook Event- MH, K 9am-11am Rebekah Circle- NP 10am-2pm Treasure Chest 5:30-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares
16 urie- NP tre Chest ROGRAM Staff- SP ickoff- MH, K (dinner) MH, NP - Sanct., Turco	17 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 6-8pm PNC- NP	18	19 9am PW Board- NP 5:30-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares
23 gers- MH (K) tre Chest inner)- MH, K MH, NP - Sanct., Turco	24 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 6-8pm PNC- NP 7-9pm Knitting Grp.- Room 16	25 4pm Mayer/Bass Rehearsal- Sanctuary	26 10am-12pm BEOM Club- NP 5:30-7:30pm Converge at Panera Cares 4pm Mayer/Bass Wedding - Sanctuary Reception following in Mitchell Hall
30 tre Chest inner)- MH, K MH, NP - Sanct., Turco			

“Leaving No Child Inside” Initiative

Last month I introduced you to some cutting-edge studies that are pointing to the fact that direct exposure to nature, is now being seen as an **essential** element for children’s physical and emotional health. And, that a lack of exposure to nature is having some untoward effects that will likely impact the quality of life for our children for years to come. Fortunately, with an awareness of the issues and some small but intentional changes, we can reverse these trends and build stronger families at the same time!

When many of us were young, our parents “forced” us to go outside and play, at least for a little while each day. Some children naturally woke up early and headed outside, but many of us were not as naturally inclined, and had to be coerced. Somehow, our parents intuitively knew that it was “healthy”. But over the years, there have been some key elements (ie. “stranger-danger”, increased electronic use, and disinterest because being outside isn’t very “exciting”) that have led to a cultural shift in activities. And many, no longer spend time outside on a daily basis in unstructured play or relaxation. As a result, we are seeing a rise in obesity, attention disorders and depression. Richard Louv, researcher and author of a book entitled Last Child in the Woods, is concerned that “the child in nature is an endangered species”. This book brought out some important data that has gotten the attention of physicians, the mental health community, conservationists, etc. And as a result, there are some really exciting new initiatives to help bring nature into the lives of children (and adults) in some unique ways. City planners are now including “green spaces” in new developments, schools are starting to have new curriculum that include greater focus on the diverse and exciting elements found in nature, cities are getting on board and offering more extensive programs in the environmental sciences, etc. Last Child in the Woods originally came out in 2005, and was then republished a few years later to reflect some updates in research, and to include “100 actions we can take”, which are fun activities that we can incorporate with our own families/students to begin making a difference in our own spheres of influence. Since this book was published, we are already seeing cultural shifts in values to reflect this new knowledge. And it is my hope that as a church community, we too will be a part of the solution, to encourage greater health, as it relates to this important link between people and the healthful benefits of interacting in greater ways with God’s creation.

Here are a few of the suggestions from the book:

Got dirt? “In South Carolina, a truckload of dirt is the same price as a video game” reports Norman McGee, a father in that state who bought a load of dirt for his daughters, plus plastic buckets and shovels.

Invite native flora and fauna into your life. Maintain a birdbath, plant native plants that attract butterflies and other wildlife, build a bat house, etc. For more backyard suggestions and links to attracting more wildlife, go to the National Audubon Society’s “Invitation to a Healthy Yard”, at www.audubonathome.org/yard. Or make your yard a National Wildlife Federation (NWF) Certified Wildlife Habitat; see www.nwf.org/backyard.

View nature as an “antidote to stress”. All the health benefits that come to a child come to the adult who takes that child into nature. We all feel better after spending time in nature—even if it’s just the backyard!

Tell your children/grandchildren stories about your special childhood places in nature. Then help them find some of their own, in the yard or close by.

Revive old traditions. Collect lightning bugs at dusk, release them at dawn. Make leaf collections and label them. Keep a terrarium or aquarium.

Prepare a list and go on a scavenger hunt. Afterward, compare each person’s items and see the diversity.

Engage grandparents. They often have more free time, or at least more flexibility than parents do. And most grandparents can remember playing outside in nature. This is a great way to pass on their heritage to their descendants!

~Chris Mayer, Parish Nurse



The fool says in his heart, “there is no God.” (Psalm 14:1)

The Bible teaches that God's existence is obvious, “being perceived clearly in the things that have been made” (*Rom. 1:19, 20*). For example, the Creation abounds with the miracle of life, a technology too advanced for our scientists to copy, and far too complex to have evolved mindlessly. The Creator of life must be more remarkably intelligent and powerful than any of us. Do atheist scientists really believe that their gifted minds came from a mindless source?

Additionally, the Creation contains an abundance of everything we need, which we are to “dominate” (*Genesis 1:26-31; James 1:17*) through science. This is a great gift from God because He loves us. The Creation is also beautiful and majestic. Consider Hubble telescope pictures, Yosemite, oceans, flowers, the Alps, fall colors, etc.

Evidence for God also comes from fulfilled prophecy. Consider the Old Testament prophecies of Israel and Christ that have been fulfilled. A recent lawyer's evaluation of fulfilled prophecies compared with archaeology and history can be found in “Jesus on Trial” by David Limbaugh. Consider also the scope of wisdom, history, and power in the Bible, and how God uses His Word to change lives.

What about skeptics? The Bible says that although they knew God, they did not honor or thank Him (*Rom. 1:21*). That suggests that everyone knows God exists -- some reject Him while believers choose to live by the truth. One becomes a fool not because of an intellectual deficiency but due to moral weakness. Since it is impossible to please God without faith, (*Hebr. 11:6*), the atheist is lost.

Seek the truth in all matters (*Jeremiah 29:13, 14*)...

~ John Holden

SEWING CLASS

The sewing class is again in full swing (Tuesdays at 4:30pm) and there are some neat new skills to learn and some projects to consider. Two of our young ladies have succeeded in constructing dresses by using patterns. I am very proud of them and look forward to future successes. We thank all of you who have donated sewing machines. They are being put to good use and we look forward to receiving more when they are no longer useful to you. However, we can only use portables because we do not have room for cabinets in the present room set up. We do have room for more students so join us and have a great experience.



~Yours in Christ, *Olimpia Todor*

**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.

With Sympathy



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

- ~ Josaphine (Joe) Alstetter, former member
- ~ Gary Field, brother of Dana (Debbie) Field
- ~ Jean Jablonski, former member
- ~ Carlann Leutzow, former member
- ~ Bob Marlin, cousin of Nancy Setterlun/nephew of Marion Holowaty
- ~ Mary Setterlun, mother of Dave Setterlun
- ~ Richard (Dick) Smith, husband of Bette Smith

Please keep these families in your prayers.

A Greener Approach to Giving

Churches, because of their heavy weekly check volumes, were among the earliest organizations to embrace electronic giving as a way to automate contributions. Today, electronic giving in all its forms provides convenience for frequent check writers and donation consistency for churches.

A less frequently discussed benefit of electronic giving is its positive impact on the environment. An enormous amount of natural resources are consumed in the production, transportation, processing and disposal of paper checks. That's why paying bills electronically always ranks high on any list of actions an individual can take to improve the environment. The trend toward electronic payments has already produced more than a 50% decline in check use since the year 2000.

As you consider the payment method you use to make your regular offering, we hope that you will think about the unique connection between financial stewardship and environmental stewardship. Please contact Nancy Setterlun in the church office {(313) 274-1313, ext. 15} to set up online giving.



4:12 and CREW Youth Groups...Something Fun for Everyone!

Calling all 6-8th and 9-12th grade students who want to grow in friendship & faith while making food, having fun, and finding answers for your life! Come join us each week as we build on your art, music, drama, or writing talents and we grow in our faith. We meet on **Sundays from 3:00-4:30 PM** , **starting on September 13th**, as middle and high school teens who want to get to know each other and be active in each other's lives. Half-way through our time together each week will we split into separate middle school and high school groups for 10-15 minute mini-discussions which will be applicable and meaningful to our individual age groups. Grow as a church family, but also invite your friends to be a part of the fun!

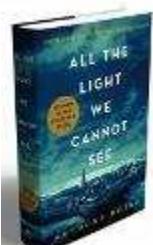
This autumn our leader is Pastor Mike with young adult assistant Chris Masouredis.

Questions? Email me at pastormike929@gmail.com or see me Sunday after worship.

Book of the Every Other Month Club

Next Meeting: Sat.; Sept. 26th

Our book to be discussed: "All The Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr



... a stunningly ambitious and beautiful novel about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

"Ten years in the writing, *All The Light We Cannot See* is a magnificent, deeply moving novel from a writer whose sentences never fail to thrill." *Los Angeles Times*



Congratulations to Kathleen Planta and Robert James who were married here in our sanctuary on August 1st.

Women's Retreat: Lavender Springs Spa

A Time for Women to Rest in God's faithfulness.

Come join us in October for a relaxing and spiritually nourishing spa-themed event.
Experience the power of connecting with other women.

Through 6 refreshing sessions with 6 of our own dynamic presenters,
women will journey through the psalms of the Bible,
studying the different kinds of songs, poems and prayers
that have inspired people for centuries.

Participants will learn how the psalms help us share our feelings, disappointments,
celebrations, and doubts with a truly great listener; God.

And you will leave with a fresh approach to prayer that will grow your faith
throughout the months to come.

Mark your calendars!

Friday, October 23rd, 7:00-9:00pm & Saturday, October 24th, 9:00am-Noon



All Day Scrapping, Stamping and Crafting Spring Fundraising Event
Saturday, September 12th, 2015
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

Jeni Cole *(Contact Jeni for registration.)*
24631 Carlysle St
Dearborn, MI 48124
Email: jcole1971@gmail.com or call 248-470-7875



When: Saturday September 12th, 2015 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. *(Please feel free to tell others about this event.)*
Cost - \$40 for an 8ft table and 3 delicious meals

We suggest that you bring as many projects with you that you feel you can accomplish in a 13 hour time frame. If you don't scrapbook what about sewing? Catch up on some homework? Read a good book? Learn how to use a new toy you received recently? Sit and do nothing? Enjoy the down time and peace and quiet for 13 hours and have 3 meals prepared for you and enjoy fellowship? Organize your photos you have had in a box for years?

If you would like a registration form, should have any questions, comments, concerns or suggestions, please feel free to contact Jeni Cole by Email: 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 a the ChristNet program that we host at our church every year. ChristNet is a rotating shelter for the homeless in the downriver community. This year proceeds will be donated to ChristNet directly to help them build and prepare their new building for the intake center and daytime shelter.

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

Many blessings, *Jeni Cole*

Sunday Night Bible Discussion Group

The Sunday night Bible study group plans to discuss Dr. Francis Schaeffer's book, "How Shall We Then Live?" (a study of the development of Western Culture from Roman to the present time). It covers the areas of Philosophy, Science, and Religion and explores how our individual world view affects how we act in our times. We will use DVD and a study guide based on the book. Please call Bert Ebi (562-5156) or the Leslie's (336-8238) if you plan to participate.



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



~Nancy Barber, Deacon Moderator.

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

Knitters of all ability levels and knitter "wannabes": Please join the FPC knitters Thursday, September 24 from 7-9pm in the Parlor for a relaxing evening of fellowship and knitting. Bring your own project, come for some knitting tutoring, or just come to see what we are about. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month so if this month doesn't work out, plan on joining us next month.

~ Lynn Hoffman



Noteworthy

- ~ **Labor Day, Monday Sept. 7, Church office closed.**
- ~ **Children/Youth Choir rehearsals begin, Sun. Sept 13.**
- ~ **Session Meeting, Tues., Sept 15.**
- ~ **F.I.S.H. Kickoff, Wed. Sept. 16.**
- ~ **AAUW Book Sale, Dbn. Ice Skating Ctr, - Sept 17-20.**

Meals for the Homebound

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

"Just a little more dirt to the left, please."



Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 am

- September 6 / - Communion, - Rev. Don Wright**
- September 13 / - - Rev. Don Wright**
- September 20 / - - Rev. Don Wright**
- September 27 / - - Rev. Don Wright**

Newsletter of The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
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Dearborn, MI 48124
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Our Vision

16

Sent with a Prayer

Are you praying for a Vision?
Pastor Don

Pastor
Rev. Don Wright

Education & Young Adult Coord.
Mike Hoffman, CLP

Parish Associate & Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Don Wright

Children's Ministries Director
Beckie Dicks

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

Parish Nurse
Chris Mayer, B.S.N.