



Come home
to God's love

Our Vision

The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn

October 2013 Newsletter



Oct. 6th

RUMMAGE SALE & SILENT AUCTION



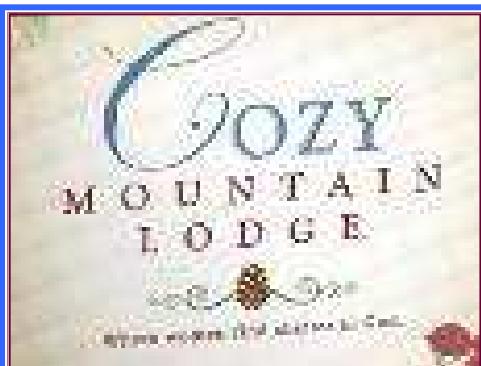
Wed, Oct 2nd, 10am-6pm

Thurs, Oct 3rd, 10am-2pm

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Women's Retreat

Saturday, Oct. 19th from 9am- 4pm

For a day of

Faith, Fellowship, Food, & Fun

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See Page 2

Pray for God to provide for our financial needs.

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School

Our adult Sunday School class for this year is

“To Be or Not to Be....a Disciple of Jesus Christ”.

Using the Sermon on the Mount as our text, we are focusing on what Jesus said about being a believer, what does one look like and what does one do. The Beatitudes, the first part of the Sermon on the Mount, cover the 8 attitudes that all Christians need to possess and live out. Join us Sunday mornings at 9am in the North Parlor for this discussion class.

FISH

We are offering 2 classes for adults this fall at FISH:

“Who Do You Think You Are” – a video discussion class focused on finding your identity in Christ. This class is led by Mike Hoffman in the North Parlor at 6:45pm on Wednesdays.

“Grief Share” – a small group gathering for those who have lost a loved one and desire a safe place to share their feelings, their frustrations, their sorrow, etc. Led by Chris Mayer, this group meets in the South Parlor at 6:45pm on Wednesdays.

Women’s Retreat

Ladies! Do you want to have some fun and laughter as we fellowship and study God’s Word together? Join us on Sat. Oct. 19 from 9am – 4pm at the church for this great gathering of women of all ages. We will explore the relationship between Naomi and Ruth at our **Cozy Mountain Lodge**. Sign up in the narthex or call the church office. Cost will be \$10 to cover food and supplies. If you can not afford it, there are scholarships available. Contact Ann Phillips, Jane Dearth or Ann Bleivik.



Small Groups

Would you like to be part of a group that cares for you no matter what is going on and is there to support you in your daily walk with the Lord? That is what small groups do – they care for each other and support each other. Jesus developed a small group with his disciples that enabled them to carry out their daily tasks. You can have that kind of love and support. Let me know if you are interested in being part of a group.

~Ann Bleivik, Educational Coordinator

Flu Shots!

Flu Shot Clinic: Sunday October 6th after worship. Cost of vaccine is covered by most insurances, so bring insurance card and photo ID.

Out of pocket cost: \$25-Flu and \$35-Pneumonia.



Children's Ministry

Hey, Kids, welcome to Sunday School! This year, we'll be studying Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. You can jump in any time for fun, friends, music, activity, and most importantly, the chance to study what's in the Bible. Think about it! Jesus left instructions for the whole world, and we get to read them! Don't miss it! Parents, no registration is required. Just have your kids come and check it out.



What are you doing on Wednesday evenings? Think about coming to FISH. This year, we continue our voyage through the books of Narnia. In *The Silver Chair*, Eustace and our new friend, Jill Pole, help to rescue Prince Rilian, Caspian's son from the evil "lady." Not only do we get to bury ourselves in a great adventure together, but we'll also explore some profound truths about the Christian life: redemption, transformation, calling, grace, water of life, and more.

~Beckie Dicks- Children's Ministries Coordinator



Touch of Hope Back to School Offering Thank You!

Thank you to all who made the Touch of Hope Back to school offering a success. Nineteen school age children went back to school ready and in style. Many people enjoyed donating to the school-aged children in the ministry. The offering was coordinated by Margie Johnston-Maurer and many loyal and efficient volunteers. Charlene Reid and Mailan Reid created the supply list and the labels. The following people helped in the pre-adoption phase- Bonnie Andrew, Nancy DeHamer, Lynn Hoffman, Sue Ingram, Chris Mayer, Charlene Reid, and Tracie Szczechura. Jan Cobb created charming identification tags for the completed backpacks. Incoming supplies were sorted by Nancy DeHamer, Sue Ingram, Charlene Reid and Tracie Szczechura. Back-pack assembly was completed by Carolyn Buell, Nancy DeHamer, Charlene Reid, Tracie Szczechura , Jan Witkowski and Lori Wyatt. When families and sponsors arrived for their backpacks, they were greeted and assisted by Mike and Margie Maurer, Tracie Szczechura, and Anne Witkowski. 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 generous congregation.

~Margery Johnston-Maurer

Listening Sessions

Some of you have asked, "What is the purpose of the Listening Sessions?" We are in the process of constructing a new 5-year plan for the future of this church. As always, we begin our planning by listening to God and His people.



~Pastor Dave

The Beatitudes and The Sermon on the Mount

Join us in Sunday School and Sunday morning worship this fall as we study The Beatitudes and The Sermon on the Mount.

The Beatitudes, found in Matthew and Luke, are a central part of Jesus's teachings:

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

10/6 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

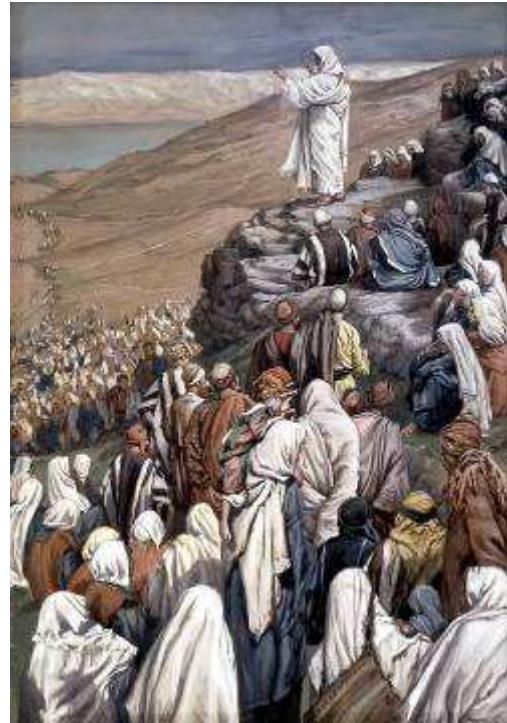
10/13 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

10/20 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

10/27 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

11/3 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called children of God.

11/10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.



James Tissot, *The Beatitudes Sermon*,
Brooklyn Museum, c. 1890



My sincere thanks to all of you who joined in celebrating my "almost 90" years—and to all who attended and all who helped in any way. It demonstrated to me again that we are truly a family of faith.

~Betty Brown

Notes from our Parish Nurse

Posture is Important to Good Health

Your Mother Was Right - Posture is Important! "Sit up straight!" "Don't slouch!" I'm sure we've all heard those admonishing words more than once from our mother when we were growing up. And most of us begrudgingly complied with her command having no concept of the anatomical and biomechanical rationale behind her persistent prodding. In fact she probably wasn't aware of all the implications of poor posture herself! But somehow, some way your mother always seemed to know best.

What is good posture anyway and why is it so important? Basically posture refers to the body's alignment and positioning with respect to the ever-present force of gravity. Whether we are standing, sitting or lying down gravity exerts a force on our joints, ligaments and muscles. Good posture entails distributing the force of gravity through our body so no one structure is overstressed.

An architect has to take these same laws of gravity and weight distribution into account when he or she designs a building. And like a building with a poor foundation a body with poor posture is less resistant to the strains and stresses we experience over the months, years and decades of life.

When doctors or therapists look at someone's posture they generally first look at the alignment of the weight bearing joints in standing. Ideally from a back view the spine should have no lateral curvature and the legs should be symmetrical without undue angulation at the knees or ankles. From a side view the spine should form a smooth S-shaped curve, bisected by an imaginary plumb line dropped from the apex of the head through the center of gravity of the body. This same plumb line should pass through the tip of the shoulder, the center of the hip joint and ankle joint and slightly behind the knee joint. With this ideal alignment the body weight is balanced over the spine and lower extremity joints requiring minimum muscular effort. This alignment also evenly distributes pressure on the intervertebral discs and avoids excessive stress on the ligaments.

The sitting position is where most of us get into trouble with poor postural habits. This is especially true when driving or using a computer. As we focus on the activity in front of us we tend to protrude the head and neck forward. Because the body follows the head, the thoracic and lumbar spine tends to round forward as well. When this occurs, the weight of the head and upper body is no longer balanced over the spinal column but instead must be supported by increased muscular energy and placing spinal ligaments on stretch. Over time this leads to fatigue and eventually even pain in the neck and upper back. Shoulders rounded forward which occurs for example when your car seat is too far away from the steering wheel further contributes to this pattern of imbalance. Ideally then, the S-shaped curvature of the spine that is characteristic of good standing posture should be maintained in sitting as well. This is best accomplished by sitting all the way back in a straight-backed chair and placing a folded towel or small pillow in the arch of the low back. Fortunately, many new office chairs and car seats come with built-in lumbar supports and other adjustable features.

Sitting and standing with proper postural alignment will allow one to work more efficiently with less fatigue and strain on your body's ligaments and muscles. Being aware of good posture is the first step to breaking old poor postural habits and reducing stress and strain on your spine. By putting this knowledge into practice one can prevent the structural anatomical changes that can develop if poor posture is left uncorrected for many years. So to repeat an old adage you may also have heard from your mother: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Thanks Mom!

Article taken from: <http://www.scoi.com/posture.php>. If you have concerns about poor posture and would like additional personal instruction, I have a professional Physical Therapist that would be happy to offer suggestions. Please contact Chris at 274-1313 x 16.

Music Corner



What a great month we've had. Thank you to all who helped out and came to support the organ concert by David Wagner of WRCJ radio on September 22nd. A special thank you to our 4:12 youth group and Jonathan Mallard for their help with the reception!

Music
Corner

As we look forward, October is a big month for our Adult and Youth Choirs.

We are joining with the choirs of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, First United Methodist, Sacred Heart and Christ Episcopal to perform *A Festival of Hymns: The Writers Tell their Stories* by Hal Hopson. The performance will be on **Sunday, October 13th at 4:00pm** at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 21915 Beech St., Dearborn.

We hope all of you will make plans to attend. The congregation will have the opportunity to sing some favorite hymns, including "A Mighty Fortress is Our God," "O God Our Help In Ages Past," "Blessed Assurance" and others. The Choirs will sing, Brass will play, and St. Paul's newly expanded organ will accompany as well.

With *A Festival of Hymns* and then the NOËL Festival coming up, **it's not too late to join in any of our musical groups!** Children's Choir, Youth Choir, Handbell Choir, and Adult Choir are all looking for more members. Children's Choir is open to K-5th Grade and meets at 3:30 on Sunday afternoon. Youth Choir is open to 6th-12th Grade and meets at 5:00pm on Sunday afternoon. Handbell Choir is open to all and meets at 4:30 on Sunday afternoon. Adult Choir is open to College age and above and meets at 7:00pm (right after FISH) on Wednesday evenings.

We'd love to see you in any of these ministries!

In Christ, *Marshall Dicks, Director of Music*



A heartfelt thanks to all our church family for your prayers, e-mails, phone calls, cards and expressions of concern for our son Brent during his recent surgery. The love you have extended to Brent for recovery and continued good health have meant a great deal to our entire family. They have lifted Brent's spirits and made all of us aware once again of the many wonderful friends we have at First Church. You have helped to make a difficult situation less so and earned our eternal thanks. In Christian Love, Herb, Lorraine, Brent, Greg, Cecile, Ethan, Gail, Gary, Emma, Kara, Mike and Sam.

Emergency Contact Forms

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

Musings from Pastor Mike - October 2013

I recently have spent much time and effort reading and re-reading Ephesians, trying to wrestle with each morsel of truth that this letter from Paul shares with us. I have even put together an exegetical sermon on chapter 2, verses 1-10, just to have "in my back pocket", in case I ever get called in an emergency situation to preach on a particular Sunday. In addition, if the young adults express interest in a "full" sermon at Converge, I may also share it there. So what prompted this recent fascination with this particular book of the Bible? It all started when I was preparing to facilitate a Wednesday evening video/discussion class at FISH entitled, *Who Do You Think You Are?*, by Pastor Mark Driscoll. In his book of the same name, Pastor Mark walks us through Paul's letter to the church of Ephesus (and believers everywhere) and helps us to discover our identity in Christ. Just a few weeks ago in September I preached a message entitled *Abide in Christ*, which talked about Jesus being the vine, how we are the branches, and how God is the gardener. One part of being a Christian is discerning one's identity. Not only our personal identity in Christ, but also our identity as a part of the Church, so that each of us are able to use our spiritual gifts to complement each other. We must use these gifts to eradicate all backbiting, gossip, criticism, jealousy, anger, and bitterness, in order to promote unity in the church, as well as to be healthy and whole enough so that we are able to move out into the community to effectively serve others.

Pastor Mark argues that we don't understand who we truly are – children of God made in his image to worship God – and instead define ourselves by worshipping created things, or as Pastor Mark refers to them, "**Identity Idols**". He classifies them in five categories: "**Items, Duties, Others, Longings, and Sufferings**". "**Items**" is an easy one to picture. As Americans, we often define our identity by the vehicle we drive, the clothes we wear, the abode that we live in, the church we worship in, and other "goods" that cultivate and maintain who we think that we are, or who we think that we want to be. "**Duties**" could be defined as our chores, home-work, job requirements, ministry obligations, relational duties, and the roles that we play as we respond in completing or carrying them out and the effect that they have on our various friends or family. Pastor Mark reminds us that "Our duties can rightly be a way we worship God or wrongly be a god that we worship." The truth is that we should not define ourselves by what we do. Next on the list is "**Others**". While God did make us for friendship and community, if we only idolize our "tribe" or individual friendships, we may also be demonizing other tribes, individuals, or denominations. Finding our identity in others can lead to peer-pressure, people pleasing, co-dependency, and even having a phobia of being around others. This identity idol can manifest itself in the forms of dependence upon, or independence of others. "**Longings**" is the fourth idol that Pastor Mark defines, as one that can make our life inordinately governed by our feelings and our future, rather than based on joy in the present. This causes people to live lives with towering highs when their identity soars as well as defeating lows as their identity crashes. "**Sufferings**" is the final idol. This one can allow our hurt to become our identity. An example would be a person who defines themselves as a cancer survivor who is a Christian instead of defining themselves as a Christian who abides in Christ, their Lord and Savior who also defeated their disease.

Many people, when they lose their individual identity idol, rather than turning to Jesus, they turn to yet another idol. My prayer for us all is that we find the answer to who we really are: Our identity in Christ, who is the great, I AM. –Amen!

Presbyterian Women's Bible Study

Presbyterian Women's Bible study continues on Thursdays in the North Parlor (10:00-11:30a.m.). Our Fall-Winter study is based in the Old Testament (Exodus/Deuteronomy). Study guides will be available at the first session (\$8.00). Studying the experiences of the Hebrews can teach us about our own relationship with God. How an ever-present God delivers us during the "difficult" times and brings us to a "new" place in our "journey" of faith..~**Lorraine Lamkin**

2013

October

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
		<p>9am Men's Fellowship Work 9am Silent Auction setup- 2a&b 9am Y. Adult Bible Study at Panera Cares 7pm Property- Library 7-9pm Worship & Arts- SP 7:30-9pm AA- MH</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10am Stephens-Currie- R12 10am-6pm T. Chest Rummage Sale YC, 4-7a&b 10am-6pm Silent Auction 2a&b 10:30am-12pm ALL Staff- SP 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH (K) 6:45-8pm Classes MH, NP 6:45-8pm Grief Share- SP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco 7-9pm Outreach & Missions- SP</p>
Communion/World Communion CROP WALK- Rosedale Presbyterian 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir 10am Worship Service- Sanctuary 11am Flu Shots- Parlor 3-4:30pm 4:12 Youth Group YL, YC 3:30-4:30pm Children's Choir- Sanctuary 4:30-5pm Handbell Choir- Sanct. 5-6pm Youth Choir - Sanctuary 6-7:30pm Daisy Troop-R16, R12 7pm Men's Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	<p>6</p> <p>7-9pm Greeting Card- R14 7pm Young Adult Bible Study- off site 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop- YC</p> <p>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9am Men's Fellowship Work 9am Y. Adult Bible Study at Panera Cares 5:00pm Practice for Praise Event 7:30-9pm AA- MH</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10am-4pm Treasure Chest 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH (K) 6:45-8pm Classes MH, NP 6:45-8pm Grief Share- SP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco</p>
Pastor Appreciation Day 9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir 9:30am Blood Pressure Screening- Narthex 10am Worship Service- Sanctuary 11am GrouPeru'14 Luncheon- MH, K 3-4:30pm 4:12 Youth Group YL, YC 3:30-4:30pm Children's Choir- Sanctuary 4:30-5pm Handbell Choir- Sanct. 5-6pm Youth Choir - Sanctuary 7pm Men's Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	<p>13</p> <p>11:30am-2pm Garden Club- MH 6:30pm NAMI- NP 7-8pm Deacons- R12 7pm Young Adult Bible Study- off site 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop- YC</p> <p>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9am Men's Fellowship Work 9am Y. Adult Bible Study at Panera Cares 5:30-6:30pm Finance- SP 7pm SESSION –NP 7:30-9pm AA- MH</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10am Stephens-Currie- R12 10am-4pm Treasure Chest 10:30am-12pm PROGRAM Staff- SP 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH (K) 6:45-8pm Classes MH, NP 6:45-8pm Grief Share- SP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco</p>
9am Education Hour 9:25am Adult Choir 10:00am Worship Service- Sanctuary 3-4:30pm 4:12 Youth Group YL, YC 3:30-4:30pm Children's Choir- Sanctuary 4:30-5pm Handbell Choir- Sanct. 5-6pm Youth Choir - Sanctuary 6-7:30pm Daisy Troop-R16, R12 7pm Men's Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	<p>20</p> <p>7pm Young Adult Bible Study- off site 7:30pm-9:00pm Boy Scout Troop- YC</p> <p>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9am Men's Fellowship Work 9am Y. Adult Bible Study at Panera Cares 7-8pm Technology- R12 7:30-9pm AA- MH</p> <p>4pm Presbytery</p>	<p>22</p> <p>11am-1pm Keenagers- MH (K) 10am-4pm Treasure Chest 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH (K) 6:45-8pm Classes MH, NP 6:45-8pm Grief Share- SP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco</p>
Reformation 9am Education Hour 9am-12pm Touch of Hope Angel Adoption- Narthex 9:25am Adult Choir 9:30am Blood Pressure Screening- Narthex 10am Worship Service- Sanctuary No 4:12 Youth Group No Children's Choir 4-6pm Pumpkin Carving- MH (K) No Handbell Choir No Youth Choir No 4:12 Group 7pm Men's Bible Study- Bert Ebi's	<p>27</p> <p>1-4pm Home School Class- MH, Kit. 6:30pm NAMI- NP 7pm Young Adult Bible Study- off site 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop- YC</p> <p>DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9am Men's Fellowship Work 9am Y. Adult Bible Study at Panera Cares 7:30-9pm AA- MH</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10am-4pm Treasure Chest 6-6:45pm FISH (dinner) MH (K) 6:45-8pm Classes MH, NP 6:45-8pm Grief Share- SP 7-9pm Adult Choir- Sanct., Turco</p>

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2013

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 YL,	3 No PW Bible Study due to Rummage Sale 10am-2pm T. Chest Rummage Sale YC, YL, 4-7a&b 10am-2pm Silent Auction 2a&b	4 9am <i>Silent Auction box up and calls</i>	5 Set up Communion 9-11am Rebekah Circle- MH or R12 6-10pm Converge- K.,YL, YC, 2A
9	10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 11am C.O.M. (Pastor) offsite 2-9pm Kenya Meeting- Narthex, Sanctuary, Mitchell Hall (K)	10 11 8:30am-9pm Kenya Mtg.- Sanctuary, Mitchell Hall (K), Parlors, Rooms 16, 14, and 12 6:30-9pm Game Night- YL, YC	12 11 8:30-12pm Kenya Mtg.- MH, K 9-10:30am DNA- R16 2pm Prep for GrouPeru Lunch- MH, K 6-10pm Converge- K.,YL, YC, 2A
16	17 10-11am POD Cong. Life- SP 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 2pm Presbytery Leadership Event Planning- NP	18 Set up for Women's Retreat 5:00pm Practice for Praise Event	19 18 9am-4pm Women's Retreat- MH, K, N&SP, Chapel 4:30pm Contemporary Praise Event 6-10pm Converge- K.,YL, YC, 2A
23	24 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 5:30-9pm Boy Scout Council Ldrshp- MH,K,SP, Lib, YC, YL, R16,14,12, 2A&B	25	26 9-10:30am DNA- R16 6-10pm Converge- K.,YL, YC, 2A
30	31 10-11:30am PW Bible Study- NP 5:30-8pm Trunk or Treat- Outside, Kitchen, MH		

“Dead” Self or “New” Self?

Johathan Mallard, Director of Student Ministries & Converge Discipleship Coordinator



Are we living according to our “old man” or “new self”? Last month, I was unable to fall asleep one night because of confusing emotions of anger and hurt. These came after a conversation and time of prayer with my wife about some struggles I had that day. Not knowing why I was angry, I shuffled out of bed and over to the living room, where my Bible and journal were. I prayed, “God, please show me what in the world is going on!” I felt led by God to read Ephesians 4:20-24:

²⁰ But that is not the way you learned Christ!—²¹ assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, ²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”

The bold words popped out at me as if through a magnifying glass. **“Your old self... is corrupt through deceitful desires.”** When I read those words, I realized that I felt angry because I was not truly repentant of the sin I had confessed to my wife. I had bought into the deception of my sinful desires, and my “old man” was angry about giving up that sin! I urgently prayed for God to forgive my hard-heartedness and

journaled about the eye-opening experience. Afterward, I truly felt the “peace of God that surpasses all understanding,” and went back to bed.

Sin is deceitful, and we must rely on God daily to “put off [our] old self”. As our church goes through the beatitudes, may we listen humbly to God for his voice of truth. He will set us free from the deception of sin, and renew our minds with truth as we ask him for fatherly discipline. How good it is to “put on the new self”!

The middle school, high school, and college students I work with are all longing for an identity that will give them purpose and belonging. Jesus Christ has given us that identity as sons and daughters of God! Please pray for a deep understanding of this identity in every stage of development for the students and young adults.

Pray that the seniors will have a passionate love for God and his Word going into college next year. Pray that all the youth have courage to love their classmates and stand up as Christians in the midst of negative peer pressure. Pray that our students and young adults grow in faith and the power of the Holy Spirit to reach out to peers in evangelism. Pray that the influx of residential students at UM-Dearborn come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Pray that our young adults experience the peace of God and unity of the Church as they search for solid spiritual ground. Pray that I lead with humility and excellence, letting Christ speak through his Word and loving relationships. Thank you for your prayers.

~ Jonathan Mallard



I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt. And now, do not be distressed...because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. *Genesis 45:5*

How do we deal with those who have wronged us? Joseph's hateful brothers sold him into slavery, which led to false accusations and prison. Later, however, Joseph rose up to become the second-in-command of Egypt under Pharaoh. When famine hit, Joseph's brothers came to Egypt for grain, which Joseph now controlled. Here Joseph reveals his identity, terrifying his brothers, fearing revenge. But Joseph had a better plan.

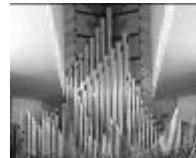
Joseph clarified the issue by identifying himself. He chose forgiveness over vengeance, calmly explaining the situation. He knew God was behind these events for a good purpose. Joseph and Pharaoh then blessed these brothers by giving them food and land so they could bring their families to Goshen. When wronged, we can choose either forgiveness or vengeance. Forgiveness may need clarification, letting go of the right to get even, identifying God's will, and ultimately blessing the one forgiven (*Rom 12:14 – bless those who persecute you*). When we choose vengeance, we presume to judge; God is a much better judge, and it is usually best to leave vengeance to Him. (*Romans 12:17-21*).

The satisfaction and pride we seek from vengeance is worthless, causing animosity and broken relationships. When we realize we need grace, or know that we have been given grace, it becomes easier for us to forgive. Refusing to forgive imprisons us. Corrie Ten Boom wrote: "Forgiveness is to set a prisoner free, and to realize the prisoner was you." See Matthew 5:7; 6:12, 14, 15; 18:21 - 35 for Jesus' teachings on forgiveness.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." ~God bless, John Holden

Greetings to our church family at FPD

On Sunday September 22nd Dr Dave Wagner gave a very fine concert on our Aeolian Skinner pipe organ and a good time was had by all. From Bach to 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow' to Cesar Franck 'Priere' we canvassed many worlds of sound that this magnificent instrument affords. I'm glad to say we had around 175 in attendance and also garnered some funds toward ongoing organ maintenance.



As I told the Ann Arbor American Guild of Organists at our opening meeting recently (I'm currently Dean): Amazing music can happen when people of goodwill, talent and dedication come together. This is also good theology. And indeed this concert was the collaboration of many in our church. I'd like to thank:

- ~ Our Director of Music, Marshall Dicks
- ~ Our youth choirs and adult choir
- ~ Our ushers
- ~ Jonathan Mallard and our young people's ministries
- ~ Our anonymous baker of many fabulous cookies for the reception (I know who you are!)
- ~ Mark Dearth and Brian Mayer on 'tech'
- ~ Worship and Arts commission and Session
- ~ Our Pastor Dave
- ~ DNA representatives, Kim Doverspike and Diane Missler
- ~ Custodial & Office Staff

Many gifts, one Spirit, we are blessed. Amen.

Pax et summum bonum (Peace and all good things) Alleluia!

Timothy Huth A MusD

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

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

Noteworthy

- ◆ We have plenty of photo directories if anyone wants one. They are \$5 each. (That is what Lifetouch charges us). Please see Jim Barber or Ann Bleivik if you would like to purchase one.
- ◆ Ann Bleivik & Jane Mykytenko are interested in building up our costume supply for our upcoming productions. If you are interested in helping, please contact Ann at the church or Jane at 313-657-2776.
- ◆ Jane Lewy-Mykytenko is thinking of starting a music studio. If you are interested in voice or piano lessons for child or adult, please contact Jane @ 313-657-2776.
- ◆ **Wanted: Card tables in good condition.** We would like to have more card tables for our Euchre/Game Night on the 2nd Friday of every month. (We do not need the chairs) If you have some or find some at a garage sale cheap, grab them for us! Thanks, Chris and Lynn
- ◆ With only two custodians, we do not have custodial support on Fridays. If you require custodial support for a Friday event, you must request it.

Treasure Chest

Rummage Sale & Silent Auction

This year's Rummage Sale and Silent Auction will be held Wed. Oct 2nd (10am-6pm) and Thurs. Oct 3rd (10am-2pm). We have bargains galore! Please tell your friends, neighbors, and relatives about our sale.

The Treasure Chest Thanks You!



STEPHEN MINISTRY



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



Make Believe Halloween Extravaganza!



PUMPKIN CARVING

Sunday, October 27 - 4:00-6:00pm

Come help us carve pumpkins to decorate for Trunk or Treat, and take one home! Pizza will be provided! Bring a pumpkin-themed dish or dessert to share!

TRUNK OR TREAT

Thursday, October 31 - 5:30pm-8:00pm

We need you! On Thursday, October 31st, First Presbyterian is hosting its 6th annual Trunk or Treat. Please consider participating -- we are looking for "trunkers" to pass out candy from their cars. Plan for about 500 children (if you run out of candy we'll provide more). Be creative -- We'll be giving out prizes for best decorated car and best costume. We are also looking for an event photographer -- you will need to provide your own **digital** camera (no film so we can do a quick upload to FPCD's social media sites), and be available from 5:30-8:00pm. It's always a fun night. Please consider joining us! Please email Kim Doverspike for further information:

kim.doverspike1@gmail.com

Middle Eastern Christians in Crisis

Rev. Fouad Antoun, our Mission Partner from Lebanon in 2010, has asked us to pray for Christians in the Middle East. They are increasingly being engulfed by the fog of war and increasingly targeted, both as pawns of established regimes and armed rebels, as well as by the rising presence of al Qaeda-linked and other foreign militants in the conflict.

Please pray for peace and healing in the region.



Rev. Antoun as he ministers to the faithful in Lebanon.



**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.



Emergency Response Plan Task Force

The basic Emergency Response Plan is available in writing in the narthex and Mitchell Hall. Pick up a copy and read through it please. The better informed you are, the better our response will be to any emergency that might arise. We will visit our user groups and share the basics of the plan with them this fall.

The Task Force has been hard at work. We held a training event for the ushers on Sunday, Sept. 8th after worship. We went over the basics of the Emergency Response Plan with them and then planned for the fire drill held Sept. 15th. We are in the process of recruiting more ushers. We need 6 ushers present each Sunday, so probably will look to have 7 or 8 on each team. We will hold another training event for the new ushers and those who weren't able to attend in Sept.

The fire drill on Sept. 15th went well. We have received very helpful feedback and are revising the procedures to address the various issues. We will keep the ushers and various leaders informed so that they will be prepared to respond appropriately.

Pastor Dave, Jim Barber and I attended a seminar sponsored by the city on dealing with potential threats to houses of worship. According to Homeland Security, these types of threats are on the increase and faith communities need to be prepared. Therefore, we will increase our evacuation and emergency plans to cover all possibilities.

Our goal continues to be to provide a safe and secure facility for all of our users and to give everyone the information they need to respond appropriately to any emergency.

~Ann Bleivik

Our Sincere Condolences

We offer our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Donald Swancutt who passed away August 29th. *Please keep the Swancutt family in your prayers.*

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."*



Winter Addresses

Please notify the church office if you would like your VISION Newsletter and other church mail sent to a different address during the winter months.



New Logo Name Tags

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

Physical & Spiritual Fitness, Fellowship & Fun!

Would you be interested in a 45 minute stretching exercising session followed by a 15 minute devotional? I am planning to have a Tuesday morning session and possibly an evening session if there is interest.

If you would be interested, please contact Jane Lewy-Mykytenko for details: 313-657-2776 or janeel39@hotmail.com



October

- 10/01: Beth Romeo, Kristen Samuel, Lois Wightman
- 10/04: Bob Kuhlman, Dorothy Tominac, Herb Lamkin
- 10/08: David Hall, Mary White, Christian Cole
- 10/09: Robert Behrens, Anne Dearth
- 10/10: Trevor Samuel
- 10/12: John Holden, Matthew Nyquist
- 10/13: Lois Riopelle, Karen Fuller, Ian Schwartz
- 10/14: Marion Zimnicki
- 10/15: Isabelle Watts
- 10/17: Alison Drzinski
- 10/18: Alaina McQuillan
- 10/19: Shirley Painter
- 10/20: Addison Johnson, Micah Johnson
- 10/21: Randy Samuel, Emily Milam
- 10/22: Glenn Maggard, Katherine McFadden
- 10/23: Helen Adams, Lynne Blosser, Kelly Nyquist
- 10/25: David Smith, Leah Setterlun
- 10/26: Laurie Gentinne, Tony Saylor, Anne Witkowski
- 10/27: Ken Stivenson
- 10/28: Marshall Dicks, Devin Nagy
- 10/29: Marsha Baumgartner, Lauren DeHamer
- 10/30: Sam Brushaber, Jean Clarkson, Suzanne Smith, Louis Meyers



Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 am

- October 6 / - Communion, Rev. Dave Bleivik**
- October 13 / - Rev. Dave Bleivik**
- October 20 / - Rev. Dave Bleivik**
- October 27 / - 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

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