

The First
Presbyterian Church
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Pastor

Jim Roberts
Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care

Claire Butler
Associate Pastor for Youth

A. D. Ellison

Richard Lamb
Parish Associates

Jim Buckalew
Fellowship, Recreation
and Property

Robin Harlow
Visitors/New Members

Barbara Hopta
Children's Ministry

Jackie Lilly
Business Administrator

Mary Odin
Music Director

Sarah Lynch
Youth Choir

Debbie Eads
Children's Choir

Rob Peterson
College Campus Ministry

Ginna Taylor
Preschool Director

Amber Panetta
Assistant Preschool Director

Kathy Bruner
Child Care Coordinator

Tom Daugherty
Librarian

Fred Gaul
Organist

FACILITY STAFF
Lee Richardson, Supervisor
Sherry Ball
Claude Churchwell
Kim Moles

SUPPORT STAFF
Ina Armstrong
June Mills
Jenny Pitchford
Marilyn Walbe

MISSION WORKERS
Bill Soldwisch-Mexico
Art & Sue Kinsler-Korea
Jolana & Stefan Nather
Slovak Republic
Matthew & Simone McKinnon
in Brazil
Presbyterian Fair Trade Project

**MINISTERIAL
CANDIDATES/INQUIRERS**

Leslie Clay
Kate Hopta

PASTORS EMERITI
Thornton W. Tucker
P. Douglas Heidt
A. D. Ellison

FEBRUARY 2009

First Presby News

Volume XLII, Issue 2

First Presbyterian Church will strive to be a welcoming home, a beacon of Christ's light arising from inspiring worship and loving discipleship.

Sunday Worship 8:45 and 11:00

11:00 Radio Broadcast: 580 AM WCHS

Phone: (304) 343-8961 Fax: (304) 343-8970



Photo credit: Bob Schacht

From the Pastor:

As we turn the pages of our calendars to February, we enter the “dead of winter” or “the winter doldrums” as some would have it. But winter has about it a certain stark beauty and an opportunity for a certain reflection. The beauty of a winter snow; the unexpected interruption of hectic schedules by a sudden snow or ice storm; the crystalline splendor of midwinter... all reminders that each season of the year, as each season of life, has its glory, its opportunities and its potential to nourish the soul.

Many great Christian thinkers have pointed to the winter times of life as opportunity for growth and renewed vision.... times of renewal and strengthening and a chance provide, and be warmth and nurture and light when all seems cold, bleak, and dark.

Our times are like that today. We feel the cold and dark of an uncertain economy; the anxiety and fear of a bleak period in our lives... It is a time when we are encouraged to re examine what is important in life – what is essential – what really makes life worthwhile. But this is also a time when we can stand for, and in, our faith in Christ and be light in darkness, warmth in the cold, a source of encouragement and hope in dauntingly anxious times. When others draw back Christ calls us to “step up.” When others despair Christ calls us to live in sure and certain hope. When others seek to take and acquire and accumulate and even hoard, Christ calls us to give. In all of this we have a great opportunity to live and love and stand as witnesses for Christ. It is my hope and prayer that we all find His way to rise to this occasion in His strength, and in the strength of our fellowship together “live out our creed.” God bless you.



Bill McCoy
Pastor

See you in Church!

Bill

Bill

CHILI LUNCH

Don't miss a great wintertime lunch
Sunday, Feb. 1!

The entire congregation is invited for a chili lunch after 11:00 worship on Sunday, Feb. 1. We'll have both regular and vegetarian chili.

Suggested donation: \$5 a bowl.

Take-out orders will be available.

All proceeds will go towards Youth Mission activities.

MEMBERSHIP DAY FEBRUARY 1, 2009

First Presbyterian Church is a family that waits with expectant hearts and welcoming spirits for those in search of a place to be nourished and grow in faithfulness to Jesus Christ.

If you have been thinking of joining First Presby, let February 1st be the day that you affirm or reaffirm your commitment to Christ by becoming a part of this wonderful fellowship of believers.

Although new members may be received any Sunday, we are emphasizing February 1st, as a time for visitors to take that important step of church membership. Following the joining reception, new members and their families are invited to a chili lunch in the dining room.

What are the membership requirements?

- To trust in Jesus Christ as Son of God, putting your faith in him as Savior, Friend and Guide.
- To be faithful member of this congregation and share in its ministry through your presence, prayers, giving, talents, study and service.

Simply meet a pastor at the Communion Table following either morning service on February 1 for the brief service where you may affirm or reaffirm your faith through the statements above. If you want to transfer your church letter, our church secretary will gladly handle that for you.

For additional information contact Robin at 343-8961, or email robin@firstpresby.com.

ORDINATION OF THOMAS JOSEPH MARCHIO II

Thomas Joseph Marchio II will be ordained here at First Presby on Sunday, February 1, at 4:00 p.m. Joe has been called as a temporary associate pastor of the First Congregational Church in Chatham, Massachusetts, where he also serves as Director of Music.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS ENGAGING!

The new Winter/Spring Christian Education brochure is in the pews and on the information tables. Find a class for yourself and your children. Choose from a variety of classes on Sunday mornings!

LIBRARY NEWS

Many thanks to the congregation for recent gifts that will enable us to purchase new books. Note the children's bookracks that are located at the sanctuary entrances. Librarian **Tom Daugherty** fills these with books that can help children remain in the sanctuary for worship with their families.

Come and see the new rug in the children's section of the library! Its design is a labyrinth.

PARTNERS IN PRAYER

We pray for churches in our presbytery, and in the Presbytery of Nyeri in Kenya, Africa.

Feb. 1: Summerville PC; First PC, Waverly; Winfield PC; Kiawaitanji Church; Gaaki Parish, Kenya.

Feb. 8: Alexander Memorial PC, Stony Bottom; Bethlehem PC, Shinnston; First Presby, Clarksburg; the presbytery's mission trip to New Orleans; Mutathini Church, Kenya.

Feb. 15: First Presby, Huntington; Cabwaylingo Chapel; Giakanja Parish, Kenya.

Feb. 22: Lakeview PC, Lakebottom; Melrose PC, Princeton; Oak Grove PC, Hillsboro; Giaichamwenge Church, Kenya.



SOUP - SOUPER SOUPER BOWL - FEB. 1

Bring a can of soup, chili, or a box of crackers to church on Sunday, Feb 1. Grocery carts will be at the sanctuary entrances.

Or deposit dollars in the soup pots the youth will be holding as you leave worship.

All gifts will be counted and reported. Watch for the national totals to be announced during the game. Please realize that 100 percent of the money and food stays in our community. Thank you.



WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS TO

Sallie Daugherty and Byron Goodew who were married January 2, 2009.

NEW GRANDCHILD

Molly Cotto-Thorner Poffenbarger and her husband, John, had a baby girl, Margaret Gidley Poffenbarger, on January 8. She joins her brother Jack at home in Wheeling. The baby's grandmother is Susan Poffenbarger, and the great-grandfather is Sam McCorkle.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

Get your blood pressure checked by a nurse, Sunday, Feb. 8, in the **CHURCH LIBRARY**.

ALZHEIMER'S FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

The Alzheimer's group will meet at First Presby on Tuesday, Feb. 17, 7:00 p.m., in Room E-310. For more information call 744-7634.

COST INCREASE FOR WEDNESDAY CONNECTIONS SUPPER

Starting Feb. 4, there will be a one dollar increase for supper on Wednesday nights. This will take the cost of a meal for adults to \$6.00; children to \$3.00; and the maximum for a family to \$20.00.



VALENTINE GIFTS

Consider Fairly Traded Chocolate (coffee and more) for your valentine this year. Your purchases allow growers in third-world countries to earn a fair wage. Have you tried the orange flavored chocolate bars? Gifts baskets can be ordered. Speak to Linda Elliott or Pam Kuyk. Thank you.

THE GUYS' WEEKEND

Join men from all over the Presbytery of WV at Bluestone Camp and Retreat for a weekend of living into the strength God has given each of us. Work on a project for Bluestone Camp. Go fishing. Take it easy. Hike. Pray. Praise. Engage in a little "friendly competition." Learn. As men. Cost is \$65. Friday-Sunday, April 24-26. Registration brochures are available from the Information Table in the main church hallway, or contact Rob Laukoter, 304-610-3054.

SCOTLAND'S HERITAGE, LAND AND SPIRITUALITY

Peter Vial, from Cowan, WV, is a Presbyterian minister and an experienced travel leader of trips to Scotland, England and other international destinations.

He and his wife, Tina, will take a group to Scotland 12 day adventure to Scotland September 5 - 17, 2010. For information contact Rev. Vial, pvial@inbox.com, or 304-226-0893.

SESSION ADOPTS BUDGET FOR 2009

The Session takes its role as stewards of the church's finances very seriously. In these difficult economic times the 2009 budget passed by Session is \$29,000 more than our expenses in 2008. This reflects a \$21,215 increase in utilities alone, and other increases in property maintenance, contracted services, and child care costs. While cuts were made in as many areas as possible, First Presbyterian Church is committed to its mission to serve others. No reductions were made in benevolences or mission support that benefits those most impacted by the downturn in the economy. The staff will not receive an increase in salary this year to help make this possible. You can help in small ways in keeping our expenses down. Turn off unused lights when leaving rooms, offer your services in the kitchen during special events, volunteer for property maintenance projects. If you have any additional suggestions or questions about the 2009 budget please speak with a member of the Finance Division, Session or Jackie Lilly in the office.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN FOR 2009

As the newsletter goes to print our stewardship total for 2009 stands at \$990,046. Our pledges last year totaled \$1,131,000. We are in prayer that those who have not yet committed a portion of God's material blessings upon them to his work here will be able to do so this month.

SICK, HOSPITALIZED, OR IN NEED OF PRAYER?

Let your church family know of any needs you have. The church has a telephone/e-mail prayer chain, a "pray for" list in the newsletter, and prayers during worship. Tell us your concerns or ask a friend to inform us.

If you want to tell us about someone else, a friend or family member, be sure to respectfully ask their permission first.

You can also confide in one of the pastors and request it be kept confidential.

FINANCE DIVISION REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2008

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Pledge Offerings:	\$ 148,775	\$ 137,637	\$ (11,138)
Trustee Funds:	4,481	7,481	3,000
Other Revenue:	30,070	16,329	(13,741)
Total Income:	183,326	161,447	(21,879)
Expenses:	115,032	121,301	6,269
<i>Net Income:</i>	<i>\$ (68,294)</i>	<i>\$ 40,146</i>	<i>\$ (28,148)</i>

YEAR-END FINANCE REPORT THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Pledge Offerings:	\$ 1,188,775	\$ 1,055,632	\$ (133,143)
Trustee Funds:	241,490	247,8421	6,352
Other Revenue:	142,465	179,044	36,579
Total Income:	1,572,730	1,482,518	(90,212)
Expenses:	1,572,730	1,531,350	(41,380)
<i>Net Income:</i>	<i>\$ -</i>	<i>\$ (48,832)</i>	<i>\$ (48,832)</i>



A SEASON OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

What is Lent? It's the 40-day period of repentance and renewal preceding Easter. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (this year Feb. 25) and ends on Easter (April 12). Holy Week, the week preceding Easter Sunday, commemorates Christ's last week of life on earth. It's the final, most important part of Lent. The Lenten period allows us time to recall the Easter story and absorb its meaning.

We have several events at First Presby to help you prepare for Easter and give you the opportunity to grow in your faith and renew your commitment as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ.

- **Ash Wednesday Service, Feb. 25**

Following our Wednesday Connections Dinner of soup and salad, our Ash Wednesday service will be held in the Chapel from 6:30-7:00. The service will conclude with the imposition of ashes—the placing of a cross of ashes on the forehead, with the words: "You are dust, and to dust you will return." This reminds us of our mortality, calling us to repent (change directions) and follow Christ anew.

- **Lenten Growth Groups**

We provide a variety of Lenten Growth Group experiences on various days and times. We hope you will find at least one group that fits into your schedule. Our groups will offer you opportunities to:

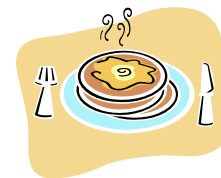
- ✚ study themes and practice disciplines that will facilitate spiritual renewal and living a more balanced, holistic life
- ✚ gain a deeper knowledge of our scriptures and faith
- ✚ experience creative expressions of our faith through music and the arts
- ✚ serve others through community ministries

Most groups will begin the first week in March and will continue through Holy Week. Watch for a Lenten Growth Group brochure in the coming weeks, which will list and describe the groups and will include a registration form.

- **Daily Devotional Guides for Lent**

First Presby is providing a Lenten devotional guide, *Conversations with Jesus*, written by Eugenia Gamble, a Presbyterian pastor, author, and retreat leader. She was the keynote speaker for our presbytery's 2005 Festival of Faith and taught and preached at First Presby the following Sunday. Each day, Eugenia offers a reflection around a question asked by Jesus in the gospels, encouraging us to consider how his questions address our relationship with God. Look for copies of *Conversations with Jesus* around the church.

It is our hope that you will engage in some of these opportunities to discover new ways to strengthen your relationship with our Lord Jesus as you continue your journey of faith with him. We will continue our Lenten schedule, including Holy Week and Easter services, in our March newsletter.



PANCAKE SUPPER TUESDAY, FEB. 24!

Come out for the Shrove Tuesday supper 5:45-7:00 p.m. Menu: pancakes, sausage or bacon and fried apples.

This is a fundraiser for the 2009 MEXICO youth and adult mission trip.

Your cost is only: \$6/adults; \$3/children 12 and under; children under three are free; and the maximum family cost is \$20.

Great food, fellowship, Lenten learning centers, and all for a great cause!

MENUS FOR WEDNESDAY CONNECTION S

- Feb. 4: Baked Spaghetti, rolls and salad
- Feb. 11: Chicken Pot Pie and salad
- Feb. 18: Fish, Macaroni and Cheese, Broccoli, rolls and salad
- Feb. 25: Soup and salad (Ash Wednesday)

SAVE THESE DATES!!

Sunday mornings of March 1, 8, and 15 are the dates for the next series of Inquirer's classes for visitors and new members who would like to learn more about First Presby. Watch for details in the Sunday bulletin announcement sheet. Questions? Contact Robin at 343-8961 or robin@firstpresby.com.

URGENT NEEDS OFFERING REPORT

The total offering received on Jan. 11 was \$1855. Thank you!

SHEPHERD'S CENTER AT FIRST PRESBY



Highlight February 26 on your calendars!

10-30-11:30 a.m.
Bingo

Activities Building, Room 204

11:45-12:30 Luncheon: \$7
Menu: Soup, Hot Ham and Cheese Sandwiches, Desserts

Reservations: Call Diane Clements, 343-0590, by Jan. 19.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

MM2 David A. Kaylor, aboard the aircraft carrier, U.S.S. Dwight D. Eisenhower (grandson of George and Thema Frisch)

2nd Lt. Matthew M. Bruner, US Army, Ft. Benning, GA

Aaron Lloyd, Kuwait/Iraq (step-grandson of Betty Lloyd)

Edwin Anderson, Afghanistan (cousin of Mary Odin)

Airman First Class Caitlin Workman, Omaha, NE (granddaughter of Pat Workman)

Tory Walbe, Iraq (stepson of Marilyn Walbe)

Airman 1st Class Franz S. Workman IV, Moody AFB, GA (grandson of Pat Workman)

Warrant Officer David McDarmont, OH (son of Liz O'Finan)

Owen Brown, Pensacola, FL (son of Earle Brown) in the Navy

David Rucker, Germany (Barbara Brown's nephew)

Donald Boylen, VA (grandson of Dick and Becky Smith)

Please call the church office to keep this information current. Thank you.

LUNCH AND LEARN



Lunch and Learn are free workshops for caregivers hosted by the Alzheimer's Association. Bring a brown bag lunch. Contact April Lewis for more information: 1-800-491-2717, or april.lewis@alz.org

- Feb 18: Caring for the Caregiver
- March 18: Legal and Financial Issues and Alzheimer's



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS!

Congratulations to those who will be celebrating a "90 and over" birthday during February:

Stachia Andrews	Feb. 18
Elizabeth Wise	Feb. 28

PC(USA) MISSION YEARBOOK LAUNCHED IN NEW FORMATS

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) *Mission Yearbook for Prayer and Study*, which dates back to 1892, is now available in formats never dreamed of by our Presbyterian ancestors. In addition to the traditional printed version, the 2009 yearbook is now also available as a podcast, through a Web site, through an RSS feed, or by e-mail.

To access the *Mission Yearbook* in these new ways, go to www.pcusa.org/missionyearbook to see daily readings online, subscribe to receive readings by e-mail, or get information on downloading podcasts or subscribing to an RSS feed (Really Simple Syndication).

Visitors to the web site can view that day's reading or access readings for any other day of the year. The online readings include links to presbyteries and e-mail addresses for individuals appearing on prayer lists.

The PC(USA) serves approximately 2.2 million members in mission and ministry in approximately 10,800 congregations throughout the United States and around the world.

If you would like the printed version, contact the church office.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN LUNCHEON Thursday, February 19, 2009

The PW will extend their appreciation to the Staff in a manner full of fun and surprises.

Church History: A Report by Betty Damewood.

Joan Steven will lead the Prayer Group at 11:30 a.m. in Room A-203
Luncheon begins at 12:00.

Be sure to make your luncheon reservation by Feb. 16 – call 343-8961
Childcare is available if reserved by calling Ina at 343-8961, ext. 122.

SCHEDULE FOR WOMEN'S CIRCLE BIBLE STUDIES

DATE	NAME	CIRCLE CHAIR	PLACE	TIME
Feb. 12	Leah	Sally Slicer 346-1873	A-201; hostess: Ann Patterson	9:30 a.m.
Feb. 12	Mary	Sue Shawkey 342-4233 Betty Damewood 346-4417	Edgewood Summit	10:00 a.m.
Feb. 12	Miriam	Sarah McGriff 744-3751	Jean Mercer, 2306 Winchester Rd., South Charleston	9:45 a.m.
Feb. 12	Martha	Sara Joseph 343-1210 Jackie Taylor 346-6147	A-204, Bring a "brown bag" lunch.	Noon
Feb. 12	Rebecca (Dinner)	Pam Healy 744-6356 Beth Ann Surber 342-7988	Dining Room-Call to make a dinner reservation.	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 19	Hannah	Nancy Martin 744-9456	A-204	10:30 a.m.
Feb. 19	Ruth	Betty Ann Morton 344-4507 Ruth Pitchford 346-8494	A-201	10:30 a.m.

PALS BOOK CLUB



The PALS Book Club, sponsored by the Shepherd's Center and the Kanawha Public Library, will meet Feb. 20. The book is *The Professor and the Madman* by Simon Winchester.

The March book is *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult.

All who have read the books are welcome to join the group for discussion from 2:00-3:30 p.m. on the third Friday of the month.

Book Club Members may pick up books from the Credenza in the Main Office following the first Friday of the month. Please sign your book out.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Dear God, please help me to take good care of my body. Don't let me take things for granted, like having a new toothbrush or clean clothes. Thank you for the people who take care of me. Bless me and help me grow strong so that I can show your love to others. Amen.

BLESSING FOR MEALS

Lord, thank you for this food. Help us to not waste our food by taking more than we can eat. Help us this year to eat what our bodies need to be healthy and strong. In Jesus' name. Amen.

BIBLE VERSE

You, O Lord, have been
a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy
in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm
and a shade from the heat.
(Isaiah 25:4)

Portions from **2009 Children's Mission Yearbook**. Copies are available in the CE Office.

PEANUT BUTTER MUFFINS

Peanuts are a major crop in Africa. Make these healthy muffins for an after-school treat. Be sure to ask an adult to help you.

Ingredients:

2 eggs	1/4 cup nonfat dry milk
1 cup milk	2 1/4 cups flour
1 ripe banana, mashed with a fork	1 1/2 tsp. baking powder
1/4 cup peanut butter	1 tsp. baking soda
1/3 cup vegetable oil	Nonstick spray
1/4 cup frozen apple juice concentrate, thawed	

You will need mixing bowls, a mixing spoon, a fork, measuring cups, muffin tins, and paper muffin liners. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line the muffin tins with the paper liners or spray the tins with a nonstick spray.

Beat the eggs in a small bowl. Combine the milk, banana, peanut butter, vegetable oil, apple juice, dry milk and eggs. Mix well. Add the flour, baking powder, and baking soda, and stir together. Fill the muffin cups 3/4 full of batter. Bake in the oven for about 15 minutes. Allow to cool.

Enjoy this healthy snack!

WORD OF THE MONTH

Shelter: A shelter is something that gives you protection. In Charleston, Sojourners Shelter provides food and lodging for families who need a place to stay. In the Scripture for the month, God is a shelter to people in need.

DID YOU KNOW?

You may have heard of guide dogs, also called seeing eye dogs, that accompany blind people. Did you know there are also hearing dogs? They assist people who are deaf or have problems hearing. These dogs let their owners know when sounds like doorbells, smoke alarms, and ringing telephones occur.

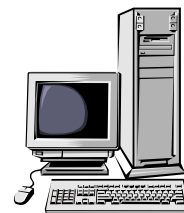
WHAT YOU CAN DO

When you take care of your body, you will be better able to help care for others. Think of five things you can do to take better care of your body. Do you get enough sleep? Do you wash your hands before you eat? Do you eat healthy food like fruits and vegetables? Do you get plenty of exercise? Now try to remember to do these five things every day this week!



COMPUTER LAB

We are in need of someone who will take the lead on setting up a new computer lab on the third floor of the education building. The Computer Workshop has been one of the rotations (in addition to Drama, Music, Art, Temple, Cooking) used to teach Bible stories to our elementary age children. **Funds are available for outfitting the lab; expertise and interest are needed!** Please call Barbara Hopta or the C. E. Office if you are interested or if you know of someone who might enjoy this project. Our plan includes making the lab available to the church family.



DAILY BIBLE VERSES

- 2/1: Galatians 5:1
- 2/2: Galatians 3:26-28
- 2/3: Galatians 5:22-23
- 2/4: Exodus 1:15-17
- 2/5: Exodus 1:21b-2:4
- 2/6: Exodus 2:5-9
- 2/7: Exodus 3:7-8a, 10-12; 4:10
- 2/8: Exodus 5:1, 6-8a
- 2/9: Exodus 6:6-9
- 2/10: Exodus 7:4, 16-17, 20-21a, 22b-23
- 2/11: Exodus 11:9-10
- 2/12: Exodus 12:31-32
- 2/13: Exodus 14:21b-23, 25b-26
- 2/14: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10
- 2/15: Matthew 5:1-3
- 2/16: Matthew 5:6
- 2/17: Matthew 5:9
- 2/18: Matthew 5:10
- 2/19: Matthew 5:14-16
- 2/20: Matthew 5:17-18
- 2/21: Matthew 5:43-45, 48
- 2/22: Matthew 6:3-4
- 2/23: Psalm 8:3-6
- 2/24: Psalm 13:1-3a
- 2/25: Psalm 23:1-6
- 2/26: Begin using your Lenten Devotional Guide today!

YOUTH NEWS

Middle School Youth Group

Sunday nights, 4:30-6:00

- Feb. 1 Chronicles of Narnia
- Feb. 8 Lord of the Rings
- Feb. 15 Harry Potter
- Feb. 22 No meeting

High School Youth Group

Sunday nights, 7:00-8:30

- Feb. 1 Superbowl Party – location to be announced
- Feb. 6 Friday night Lock-In at First Presby
- (No meeting on Feb. 8)
- Feb. 15 Hunger Banquet
- Feb. 20-22 SKI TRIP: We'll be staying at the home of Bob and Ann Orders, Cannan, WV.

Watch for more information and registration forms in your mailbox.

SUNDAY MORNINGS!

Sixth and Seventh Grade youth meet in Room E-406 with leader Mary McCoy.

Eighth Grade Confirmation youth meet in Room E-407. In February we will be studying the Trinity and the importance of the cross with Dr. Bill McCoy.

High School youth meet in the Youth Lounge, ground floor of the Activities Building. **How are we effected by things like reality TV, video games, music and movies?** We will look closely at how might these things enrich our understanding of ourselves and our faith. (No class Feb. 22 due to ski trip.)

Friends and visitors are always welcome. Call Associate Pastor, Claire Butler, with any questions or to become involved in youth ministry at First Presby.

YOUTH SCHEDULE FOR SUPERBOWL SUNDAY

- 8:45 a.m. Eight Graders helps with the Souperbowl offering
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Ninth Grade Confirmation Class helps with the Souperbowl offering
- 11:00...help prepare and set up Chili Lunch!
- 12:00...help serve and clean up Chili Lunch!
- 4:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group: Chronicles of Narnia
- 7:00 p.m. High School Superbowl Party-watch your mail for the location.



Saturday night

Coffee House

in the Recreation Room,

February 28

starting at

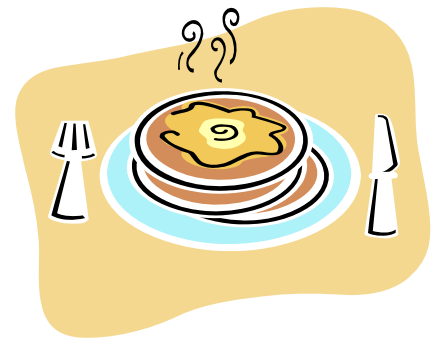
7:00 p.m.!



BAD WEATHER POLICY

Regarding Church Activities

If Kanawha County Schools are closed due to weather, all meetings and activities in the church are cancelled. If public schools close early due to weather, all meetings and activities in the church are cancelled for that evening. If school opening is delayed, activities will not be delayed. Please do not come out if it puts you at risk for injury. Worship Services will always be held!



PANCAKE SUPPER TUESDAY, FEB. 24!

Tuesday, Feb. 24, is called Shrove Tuesday, or "fat" Tuesday.

All youth are asked to help with hosting—cooking, serving and cleaning up—a supper of pancakes, sausage or bacon and fried apples. We need YOUR HELP!

This is a fundraiser for the mission trip and whether or not you plan to go on the trip, you can help. It will be fun and a great way to serve your church community.

Contact Claire to let her know whether you want to set up, serve, cook, or clean up, and bring your family out to eat pancakes!

CHAPERONES NEEDED FOR HIGH SCHOOL LOCK-IN

Please consider being a chaperone for the Feb. 6th (Friday night) high school event. The youth have been asking for this event but it must have plenty of adult helpers. Contact Claire Butler, 343-8961 ext. 119, or youth@firstpresby.com.

HIGH SCHOOL SKI TRIP

Once again Bob and Ann Orders are providing overnight accommodations at Canaan for our ski trip. It is the weekend of Feb. 20 –22. Registration information will be mailed or you can find the mailer on the information tables at the church later this month.





MUSIC AND CHOIR NEWS

FROM MARY ODIN

Our Cathedral Choir members embarked on a significant journey in January. In just a few months, on April 19, we will host the American Boychoir for a concert in our sanctuary. The Boychoir members, in grades 4-8, study music at their boarding school in Princeton, New Jersey. They have concertized all over the world and have made numerous recordings, and they have invited our children to sing with them. It's the opportunity of a lifetime, but it requires a great deal of preparation. We can't throw this together in three rehearsals in April just before the boys arrive, and our children know it.

Fortunately, our Cathedral Choir members are in the habit of rehearsing together regularly. Every Wednesday evening, they develop their skills and offer their best efforts to God in rehearsal. Every few weeks, they offer their developing skills to God on behalf of our whole congregation in worship. These young people already understand their role as servants of God and of one another. They know the group suffers when just one person is missing, and as a result their attendance is, for the most part, excellent.

In 1886, the German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche wrote in his book, Beyond Good and Evil, "The essential thing 'in heaven and earth' is...that there should be long obedience in the same direction; there thereby results, and has always resulted in the long run, something which has made life worth living; for instance, virtue, art, music, dancing, reason, spirituality—anything whatever that is transfiguring, refined, foolish, or divine."

Contrast this great human philosopher's wisdom with God's wisdom: Acts 4:11-12 tells us "This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone. There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved." Virtue won't save us, reason won't save us, and even spirituality won't save us. Only Christ saves us.

Long obedience in the same direction is essential for developing skills in virtue, art, music, etc., but long obedience toward "anything whatever" does not make life worth living. The anthems we are preparing for the American Boychoir visit are beautiful, but their mastery alone will not give any measure of real fulfillment to our children. As with everything else in life, fulfillment only comes when we dedicate our efforts to God, through long obedience in *His* direction.

Mary

CHERUB AND CATHEDRAL CHOIRS

Cherub and Cathedral Choirs rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 5:15-6:00. Cherub Choir (grades K-2) meets in the Susie Early Room with Debbie Eads and Toni Clendenin; Cathedral Choir (grades 3-6) meets in E-305 with Mary Odin. Cathedral Choir is preparing to sing with the American Boychoir in April; both choirs will offer their musical gifts in worship soon. Invite a friend to come sing with you this month!

YOUTH CHOIR

For details about musical activities for youth, contact Sarah Lynch at sjlynch13@gmail.com.

GENEVA CHOIR

Geneva Choir is back in our Choir Room on Thursday nights. We normally meet on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:00. Geneva Choir leads congregational singing and provides special music for Sunday worship services, primarily at 11:00 a.m. and occasionally at 8:45 a.m. This month, we will sing and celebrate Joe Marchio's ordination at a special worship service on Sunday afternoon, February 1 at 4:00. To join the Geneva Choir, just come to rehearsal on Thursday. You do not have to be a church member or an experienced musician to sing with us, but it helps to have a sense of humor. We have openings in all sections, so bring a friend!

BELL CHOIR

Capella Bell Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings from 5:30-7pm in the Choir Room and gives musical offerings in both worship services. If you'd like to ring with Capella Bells, contact director Sarah Lynch or talk to any member of the group. Experience is helpful but not required.

WORSHIP TEAM

The Worship Team provides musical leadership at early and late worship services each week. This ensemble of vocalists and instrumentalists uses guitar, bass, piano, mandolin, banjo, and other instruments to accompany congregational song. We normally rehearse in the sanctuary on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 or 8:00, depending on the Division meeting schedule. If you'd like to play or sing with us, contact Mary Odin at church at ext. 137 or at modin@firstpresby.com or speak to any member of the group.

FPC LYRES CLUB

The Lyres Club rehearses on Tuesday evenings in the Ruffner Room from 5:30-6:30 and regularly gives musical offerings in worship. If you are interested in learning to play the folk harp with us, contact Mary Odin at church at 343-8961 ext. 137 or at modin@firstpresby.com. No previous musical experience is necessary; instruments and music are available through the church.

Register with Montreat this month for the 2009 Montreat Conference on Worship and Music!

Sunday-Saturday, June 21-27- It's a life-changing week of worship, Bible study, music, and the arts- open to adults, youth, and children who have completed grade 3; childcare for younger children of registered conferees is free. We have room for 29 participants this year, so invite a friend to come with you for the week! To guarantee your housing with the church, just leave your \$100 housing payment with Jackie Lilly or Jenny Pitchford in the church office. Call Mary for more information.


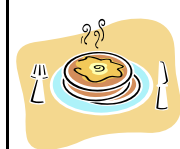


FEBRUARY 2009

First Presbyterian Church 304-343-8961

16 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301-2487

EMAIL: firstpresby@firstpresby.com

www.firstpresby.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
<p>1 Souper Bowl of Caring</p> <p>8:45 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship</p> <p>12:00 Chili Lunch</p> <p>4:30 Middle School Youth 7:00 High School Youth</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:30 Disciple Class</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lyres Club 6:00 Karate 7:00 Ballroom Dance 7:15 Boy Scouts</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:00 Wednesday Work Crew 8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:00 Volunteer Ministry 5:00 Property Division 5:15 CE Division 5:15 Children's Choirs 5:45 Wednesday Connections 6:45 Board of Deacons 6:45 Worship Division 6:45 Personnel Division 6:45 Mission Division 7:30 Contemplative Prayer</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:30 Bible Study, Shoney's 9:30 Francke Bible Study 9:30 PW Coordinating Team 11:30 PW Bible Moderators 5:15 Coordinating Council 5:30 Bell Choir 6:15 Karate 7:30 Geneva Choir</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 Men's Group 8:30 Aerobics 9:00 Dad's Group 2:00 Senior Exercise</p> <p>6:00 p.m. High School Lock-In starts</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Lock-In Ends</p>
<p>8</p> <p><i>Get your blood pressure checked by a Parish Nurse</i></p> <p>8:45 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship</p> <p>4:30 Middle School Youth</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:30 Disciple Class</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lyres Club 6:00 Karate 7:00 Ballroom Dance 7:15 Boy Scouts</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:00 Wednesday Work Crew 8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:00 Finance Division 5:15 Child & Family Comm. 5:15 Children's Choirs 5:45 Wednesday Connections 6:45 Session Meeting 7:30 Contemplative Prayer 7:30 Seneca Basketball</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:30 Bible Study, Shoney's 9:30 Francke Bible Study 9:30 Leah Circle 10:00 Mary Circle (at Edgewood Summit) 12:00 Martha Circle 5:30 Bell Choir 6:00 Rebecca Dinner Circle 6:15 Karate 7:30 Geneva Choir</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 Men's Group 8:30 Aerobics 9:00 Dad's Group 2:00 Senior Exercise</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:45 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship</p> <p>4:30 Middle School Youth 7:00 High School Youth</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:30 Disciple Class</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lyres Club 6:00 Karate 7:00 Alzheimer Support Group 7:00 Ballroom Dance 7:15 Boy Scouts</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:00 Wednesday Work Crew 8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:00 Visitors/New Members Div. 5:00 Fellowship/Recreation Div. 5:15 PYC meeting 5:15 Children's Choirs 5:45 Wednesday Connections 7:00 Mexico Mission meeting 7:30 Contemplative Prayer 7:30 Seneca Basketball</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:30 Bible Study, Shoney's 9:30 Francke Bible Study 10:30 Hannah Circle 10:30 Ruth Circle 11:30 Prayer Group 12:00 Presbyterian Women's Luncheon 5:30 Bell Choir 6:15 Karate 7:30 Geneva Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:00 Men's Group 8:30 Aerobics 9:00 Dad's Group 1:00 PALS Book Club 2:00 Senior Exercise</p> <p>4:00 Senior Highs leave for Canaan Ski Weekend</p>	<p>21</p> 
<p>22</p> <p>8:45 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:30 Disciple Class</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study 4:30 Knitting Into the Mystery</p>  <p>5:45 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:30 Lyres Club 6:00 Karate 7:15 Boy Scouts</p>	<p>25</p> <p>ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>8:00 Wednesday Work Crew 8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:15 Children's Choirs 5:45 Wednesday Connections 6:30 Vespers in the Chapel 7:30 Contemplative Prayer 7:30 Seneca Basketball</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>7:30 Bible Study, Shoney's 9:30 Francke Bible Study 10:30 Shepherd's Center Program and Luncheon 5:30 Bell Choir 6:15 Karate 7:30 Geneva Choir</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:00 Men's Group 8:30 Aerobics 9:00 Dad's Group 2:00 Senior Exercise</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Coffee House</p> 



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Charleston, WV 25301-2487

www.firstpresby.com

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PRAYER CONCERNS

*Please minister through
prayer, cards, calls and
visits.*

OUR SYMPATHY TO . . .

Friends and family of former member Helen S. Ewing; Matt Rugh and family on the death of his brother-in-law; Family and friends of Dr. Robert C. Aliff.

IN THE HOSPITAL . . .

MEMORIAL: Naomi Krieg;

CURRENT PRAYER CONCERNS . . .

Vincent Morris (Steve's father); Nancy Peterson; Joe Holland, Sr.; mother of Kim Percy; Lee Hill; Gary Phillips, husband of Christel (Michaels) Phillips; Heather Mallory (daughter of Ellen Golden); Colleen Kimball (sister of Jackie Lilly); Jeremy Boggess (nephew of co-worker of Ellen Golden); George Hamrick; Kathy Hahn; Helen Liu; Nancy McCoy (Bill's McCoy); Gary Kennamond (friend of Bill McCoy); Nancy Allison (friend of Claude Churchwell); Jackie Taylor; Matt Rugh; Joseph Sprouse; Matt Bruner; Eric Morris (brother of Steve); Elysa Montgomery (sister of Chick Maddox); John Elliot; Robert McDarmont (nephew of Liz O'Finan); Donna Hiens (cousin of Wayne Odin); Valerie Melton (sister of Patti Alexander); Bunk Barber (brother-in-law of Sue and Jim Chase); Linda Morris.

EXTENDED PRAYER CONCERNS . . .

Don Best (friend of the Doumaux's); Michael Kane (Doumaux's son's father-in-law); Bob Turbanic and Rick Flynn (friends of Bill McCoy); Gracie Black; Sarah Burton and Barbara Twekesbury (friends of Jim Buckalew); Paula Bailey (friend of Steve Morris); Vicki and Barry Blizzard (friends of Jim Buckalew); Becky Ceperley; Nancy Struthers.

LONG-TERM PRAYER CONCERNS . . .

Charlie Young; A.D. Ellison; Barbara Brown; Ed Vazquez; Ruth Shepherd's son-in-law; Jack Gastineau; Candy Galyean; David Caruthers, Nancy Brallier's brother-in-law; Ruth Shepherd; Alex Earl, cousin of Chick Maddox; Dr. James Maddox, uncle of Chick Maddox; Charles Hendricks; Louise Rosenbaum.

EXPECTANT MOTHERS. . .

Honor McCain; Amber Panetta.

Call Jim Roberts, 343-8961 ext. 118, to keep him informed, to be remove from the list, or to add yourself or a family member to the list.

In Memoriam

Katherine G. Hamilton
December 28, 2008

Lawrence C. Yeardley
December 30, 2008

Curtis (Burr) Williams
December 31, 2008

Anna E. Harper
January 7, 2009

Virginia Tatum
January 19, 2009