

The First
Presbyterian Church
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Bill McCoy

Pastor

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

Frankie McCain

Community Ministry

Mary Odin

Music Director

Rob Peterson

College Campus Ministry

Ginna Taylor

Preschool Director

Amber Panetta

Assistant Preschool Director

Sally King

Child Care Coordinator

Tom Daugherty

Librarian

Fred Gaul

Organist

FACILITY STAFF

Lee Richardson, Supervisor

Sherry Ball

Claude Churchwell

Kim Moles

SUPPORT STAFF

Ina Armstrong

Jo Burdette

Jenny Pitchford

Marilyn Walbe

MISSION WORKERS

Bill Soldwisch-Mexico

Art & Sue Kinsler-Korea

Jolana & Stefan Nather

Slovak Republic

Matthew & Simone McKinnon

Brazil

MINISTERIAL

CANDIDATES/INQUIRERS

Greg Bolt

Leslie Clay

Kate Hopta

Joe Marchio

PASTORS EMERITI

Thornton W. Tucker

P. Douglas Heidt

A. D. Ellison

March 2008

First Presby News

Volume XXXIII, Issue 3

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 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

11:00 Radio Broadcast: 580 AM WCHS

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



Dear Friends,

Since this congregation has called a new Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, it is time for me to retire as Interim Associate Pastor. During this time of transition, let me share three important ideas with you.

First, some thanks are in order. I thank former Pastor Dean Thompson, the Personnel Division and the Session for their confidence and trust that brought me here almost four years ago. This opportunity to serve has blessed me more than I can ever express.

As the English Divine John Donne puts it, "No man is an island." And so I thank all of my colleagues on the Program Leadership Staff—Associate Pastor Mark Lampley, Interim Pastor Dick Neely, new Pastor Bill McCoy, Associate Pastor Claire Butler, and ever other member, those who have left and those who remain, because your faithful collegiality has enabled me to share the pastoral presence of the Holy Spirit on behalf of this congregation we serve together.

Likewise, I thank A. D. Ellison and Dick Lamb, Parish Associates, and all of the members of the Support Staff, again those who have left and those who remain. We can do our work effectively only because each and all of you are so dedicated to making sure this family of God is truly a home where God's Spirit lives and loves and works daily within and among God's people. Keep up all your good work! I thank Nancy Potter and all the members of our weekly prayer chain for your faithful devotion.

I thank each and every member and friend of this wonderful congregation for your love and support. You have prayed for me, shared your wisdom and visions with me, motivated and guided me, and "put your shoulders to the grindstone," because you know the strength of our Presbyterian system always lies first and foremost in God's work through the membership and the Elders and Deacons you elect to serve God as officers.

Second, I thank above all our great Lord God whose inspiration makes all these blessing possible. And now God's blessings arrive afresh in your call to the Rev. James Roberts who will soon begin to serve as Associate Pastor for Congregational Care. He joins this staff bringing years of experience, plus a long list of outstanding qualifications, and I have every confidence that through God's Holy Spirit you will welcome him with your prayers and work as your track record shows you always do.

Third, know and trust that in future years, "the best is yet to be" for this congregation. With the pastoral leadership of Bill McCoy, the service of such strong staff and officers, and most of all your faithful response to God's Holy Spirit, our God will continue to work here so that you become "a welcoming home, a beacon of Christ's light arising from inspiring worship and loving discipleship."

In Christ's Love,

Bob Newman

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have.”

Hebrews 13:16



This year, while many congregations receive “One Great Hour of Sharing” for the sixtieth time, the offering remains a vital and evolving part of Presbyterian mission. All three programs our gifts support are exploring new patterns of ministry. The Presbyterian Hunger Program’s “**Joining Hands Against Hunger**” links congregations and presbyteries in the U.S with overseas networks of churches and community groups to work for peaceful social change. Internationally, “**Self-Development of People**” is focusing on fewer countries, but in a deeper way, in order to develop a critical mass for positive change. “**Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**” is focusing on the long-term spiritual and emotional toll disasters can take on communities and finding new ways to help those communities draw on the resources of the whole church. Yet the mission of One Great Hour of Sharing remains the same:

We walk toward recovery and wholeness with those whose lives have been shattered by disaster; we stand with communities facing the slower crises of hunger, disease, unemployment, and environmental degradation that make them vulnerable even before disasters strike. In sharing resources with people in need around the world, we witness God’s love in action in their lives, and feel it moving in our own.

Can you see the people in the new logo above?

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

Get your blood pressure checked by a nurse, Sunday, March 9, in the Cablish Room off the main church hallway.

ALZHEIMERS SUPPORT GROUP

You are welcome to join this group meeting once a month, the third Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. in Room E-310.

Lent and Easter Schedule

- Palm Sunday, March 16.....Worship 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Church school at 9:45 a.m. for all ages
Easter Egg Hunt, March 16 In the Activities Building at 2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday Connections, March 19.. Supper at 5:45 p.m.
- Maundy Thursday, March 20Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- Good Friday, March 21Worship at 12:10 p.m.
- Easter Sunday, March 23Worship 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Easter Breads in the church dining room at 9:45 a.m.



EXPLORING FIRST PRESBY

An orientation class (Inquirer’s Class) for visitors and new members is offered quarterly and the next three-week session begins with a light brunch on Sunday, March 2, at 9:45 a.m., and continues on March 9 and 16.

This class covers topics such as Christian faith, what it means to be a member, the history and beliefs of the Presbyterian Church, and the activities and programs at First Presby. There will be an opportunity to meet the pastors and some members, take a church tour, and also to ask any questions you might have.

Please join us in the Ruffner Room, which is located straight through the left-hand double doors at the front of the Sanctuary. There is child care for little ones and Sunday church school for bigger ones. To find out more, call Robin at 343-8961, or email robin@firstpresby.com.

EASTER BREADS

Bread holds much significance for most cultures. The Bible stories include the sharing of bread. In celebration of the resurrection of Jesus, everyone is invited to participate in the Easter Breads event on Easter Sunday at 9:45 a.m. You are invited to bring a bread to share with others. Coffee and juice will be provided. Perhaps you will share a family favorite or traditional bread. If you need a recipe, the Christian Education Office, 343-8961 ext. 122.



MARCH BIRTHDAY!

Congratulations to Mary Prudich who will be celebrating a “90 and over” birthday on March 16.

FINANCE DIVISION REPORT FOR JANUARY 2008

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Pledge Offerings:	\$ 240,000	\$ 237,791	\$ (2,209)
Trustee Funds:	11,519	11,519	-
Other Revenue:	39,610	56,578	16,968
Total Income:	291,129	305,888	14,759
Expenses:	123,055	117,451	(5,604)
Net Income:	\$ 168,074	\$ 188,437	\$ 20,363

(*Approx. \$45K of 2007 pledge balances were received in 2008.)

2008 Stewardship Goal: \$ 1,198,875

Pledged-to-Date: \$ 1,032,487

Short of Goal: \$ 166,388

Prayerfully consider in what capacity you are able to support the ministry of First Presbyterian Church in 2008.

SYNOD CONFERENCE

The Synod of the Trinity summer conference is June 4-6 at Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA.

Featured speaker: The Rev. Dr. Patrick Keifert on "Jesus Sent Them . . . Why Are We Here Now?"

Bible Study will be led by The Rev. Dr. Ken Bailey and The Rev. Dr. Kang-Yup Na.

Visit their web site [www/syntrinity.org](http://www.syntrinity.org) for information or call 1-800-242-0534.

PRESCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS

Saturday, March 1, is "Tom Sawyer Day" when we rely on help from everyone!



Come and help clean and spruce up the Preschool. Just a few hours once a year makes a huge difference: 9:00 a.m.—noon.

Register now for fall classes. Open enrollment for church members starts Sunday, March 2, Re-enrolling children and siblings begins March 5.

CPR Class offered on Wednesday, March 5 starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Susie Early Room (near the playground in the Sanctuary Building.)

Spring Break: The preschool will not meet the week March 24-28.

CORRECTION

The Joy Offering total was \$5,875.

COFFEE HOUSE Saturday, March 15

7:30-10:00 p.m.

Live Music! Great Fun!

Open Mic! Coffee!

Friends are welcome!



PYC YOUTH NEWS

Ninth grade confirmation students are reminded to keep attending Sunday church school at 9:45. We're working towards completing in April!

Middle School Youth have the opportunity to spend a week at Massanetta Springs!

The Bluestone schedule is posted. Visit their web site (www.bluestonecamp.com) for lots of information and registration.

The Montreat Worship and Music Conferences happen in June. We already have some folks planning to attend and you can go with them. Visit www.montreat.org or contact Mary Odin for more information.

Bible School will be **Jerusalem Marketplace**, June 8-12; plan to join the fun—you can sing, dance, role play, leader, and/or become part of a Tribe of Israel.

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULES

HIGH SCHOOL

Sunday, March 2—6:30-8:00 p.m., meet at the home of Emma Moredock, 2307 Clairidge Circle, South Charleston; 343-0865.

Sunday, March 9—6:30-8:00 p.m., meet at the home of Jarrett Walker, 11 Norwood Rd., 546-4446.

Saturday, March 15—7:30-10:00 p.m., COFFEE HOUSE in the Recreation Room

Sunday, March 16—22:00-3:30, Help with the Easter Egg Hunt, Activities Building

Saturday, April 5 — Festival of Faith Youth Track—We'll start in the Activities Building and go from there.

We won't meet on Sunday night, March 16 due to Saturday's Coffee House. Plan to attend Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday worship with your family! Have a wonderful spring break from school. See you back in Sunday church school and Youth Group on April 6.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Wednesday, March 5—6:30 p.m., Youth Lounge, Activities Building

March 7-9—weekend retreat at Cedar Lakes Conference Center

Wednesday, March 12—6:30 p.m., Youth Lounge

Saturday, March 15—7:30-10:00 p.m., COFFEE HOUSE in the Recreation Room

Sunday, March 16—22:00-3:30, Help with the Easter Egg Hunt, Activities Building

Wednesday, March 19,—6:30 p.m., Youth Lounge

Saturday, April 5 — Festival of Faith Youth Track—We'll start in the Activities Building and go from there.

Plan to attend Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday worship with your family! Have a wonderful spring break from school. See you back in Sunday church school March 30.



Pictured above: Suburban Graffiti during the Coffee House in February. That is Dave Percy on the guitar.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

MORNING PRAYER

Lord, sometimes we forget to thank you for the "every day" things. Thank you for air to breathe, water to drink, people to love. Thank you, God for everything! Amen.

BLESSING FOR MEALS

*For health and strength
and daily food,
We praise thy name, O God!*

EVENING PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for always being with us. Help us to be aware of the many ways you are present in our lives. You have given us so much. Help us know how to use our gifts wisely so that people around us may know your love and care. In Jesus' name. Amen.

WORD OF THE MONTH

Sharing: Sometimes sharing means giving other people something we have. Sometimes it's just the opposite – letting them share what they have. Sometimes what is shared is something you can hold in your hands, like food or money. Sometimes it is something you can't hold, like a smile, a thank-you, or friendship.

(Portions from **2008 Children's Mission Yearbook**. Copies are available in the CE Office.)

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

**Suzanne V. Moses and
Courtney Persinger**
were married on Feb. 23, 2008.

**Charlie Wilson and
June McIntyre**
were married on Dec. 30, 2007.

NEW BABIES!

Barbara Warren announces the birth of grandson, Jacob Warren Kaplan Smith, born Jan. 29. Parents are Anne Warren Kaplan and Edward Smith of Wilmington, DE.

Emily Hopta and Jack Hoblitzell announce the birth of Eleanor Suzanne Hoblitzell Feb. 19. Grandparents are Sara and John Hoblitzell, and Barbara and Steve Hopta.



SPIRITUALITY CENTER

If you have not yet visited the Spirituality Center, you're in for a treat. Located in Room E-306, the soft music, water fountains and soft lighting create a peaceful space that encourages a slower pace.

Five centers are located in the room. Reading and Meditation has books for all age groups and comfortable seating. The Gazing Station includes pictures and objects that encourage reflection. Make a cross from nails and wire or express yourself through art media in the Art Corner. The Prayer Station offers resources and models for prayer. A twelve by twelve foot labyrinth is the centerpiece of this room. Instructions for walking the labyrinth are posted.

Come and see how E-306 has been transformed into a space that calls you to reflect, refresh, meditate, create, and pray.

BIBLE VERSE

Do not neglect to do good
and to share what you have.

(Hebrews 13:16a)

CHICKEN SOUP MINISTRY

Thank you so much for an amazing start to our chicken Soup Ministry. What a WONDERFUL evening we had last night of soup making, card creating and fellowship! We have already been able to take soup to five families; what a blessing! Everyone enjoyed the process so much that plans are under way to continue this ministry. In you are interested, contact Sue Webster, 347-9858.

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:10



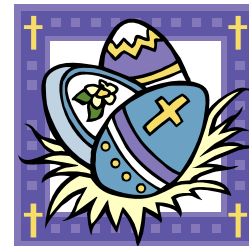
EASTER EGG HUNT

First Presby's Easter Egg Hunt is a fun way to introduce your friends to our church family.

Plan to come on Sunday, March 16, 2:00-3:30 to the Activities Building. MANY eggs are being filled and will be hidden in various places, according to age groups. Egg dyeing and games are also planned. This family event is sponsored by the Children and Family Committee, which encourages parents and grandparents to be a part of the fun!

CENTS-ABILITY

On January 20 the congregation generously gave \$512.67 to Cents-Ability, a Presbyterian Hunger Program which supports food pantries throughout the United States and Africa. We hope you are enjoying remembering the needs of others as you pray at mealtimes with your families. Our next opportunity to receive the Cents-Ability Offering is April 13.



DAILY BIBLE VERSES

- 3/1:** Esther 4:12-16
3/2: Esther 9:26-27
3/3: Exodus 16:2-3, 6-7
3/4: Exodus 16:14-16, 19-21
3/5: Exodus 17:1b-2, 4-7
3/6: Exodus 19:2-6
3/7: Colossians 2:16-18
3/8: Colossians 3:-2
3/9: Colossians 3:9b, 12-14
3/10: Ruth 1:15-17
3/11: Ruth 2:8-10
3/12: Mark 11:22-24
3/13: Mark 11:7-10
3/14: Mark 14:3-9
3/15: Mark 14:32-36
3/16: Mark 14:43-46, 50
3/17: Mark 14:55-59
3/18: Mark 14:60-64
3/19: Mark 14:65
3/20: Mark 14:66-72
3/21: Mark 15:9-15
3/22: Mark 15:27-34
3/23: Mark 16:1-8
3/24: Habbakkuk 1:2-3
3/25: Job 4:1, 7-8
3/26: Job 7:11-16
3/27: Job 8:1, 5-6
3/28: Job 16:1-3
3/29: Job 21:7-13
3/30: Job 38:1, 34-38
3/31: Judges 4:4-9

Note: These readings follow those listed in **Making Time for God**, a book of daily devotions available from the church library, the C.E. Office or Cokesbury. Scripture, explanation, and daily prayer are included in this resource. It is an excellent devotional book for the whole family, written by Susan R. Garrett & Amy Plantinga Pauw, professors at our seminary in Louisville, KY

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

- Edwin Anderson**, cousin of Mary Odin, in Afghanistan
David McMillan, grandson of Betty Kerns, National Guard Engineers, Iraq
Major Todd Harrell, Iraq, father of Emily and Jonathan
Caitlin Workman, granddaughter of Pat Workman, Airman First Class, Quetar, Saudia Arabia
Franz S. Workman IV, grandson of Pat Workman, Airman 1st Class, Balad, Iraq
Jonathan Seiter, nephew of Carolyn Sturgeon, in Iraq for second tour of duty
David McDarmont, son of Liz O'Finan, in Ohio
Donald Boylen, grandson of Dick and Becky Smith, Virginia
Owen Brown, son of Earle Brown, in Pensacola, FL with the Navy
David Rucker, nephew of Barbara Brown, Germany

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

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN LUNCHEON Thursday, March 20, 12:00 noon



University of Charleston: Zero to Campus Ministry

Robbie Peterson

Judy Keller will lead the Prayer Group at 11:30 a.m. in Room A-203.

The food pantry needs cereal and paper products. Let's bring some to Circle meetings and/or the luncheon.

Bring along a friend and be sure to make your lunch reservation by March 17—call 343-8961.

Childcare is available if reserved by calling Ina, 343-8961 ext. 122 in advance.

SCHEDULE FOR WOMEN'S CIRCLE BIBLE STUDIES

DATE	NAME	CIRCLE CHAIR	PLACE	TIME
March 13	Leah	Sally Slicer 346-1873	A-201; Hostesses: Myra Moody and Jean Welty	9:30 a.m.
March 13	Mary	Sue Shawkey 342-4233 Mary Lou Moore 344-1995	Edgewood Summit	10:00 a.m.
March 13	Miriam	Sarah McGriff 744-3751	Hostess: Darlene Kerr, 4306 Kanawha Ave SE	9:45 a.m.
March 13	Martha	Sara Joseph 343-1210 Jackie Taylor 346-6147	A-204, Bring a "brown bag" lunch.	12:00 p.m.
March 13	Rebecca (Dinner)	Pam Healy 744-6356 Beth Ann Surber 342-7988	Dining Room-Call to make a dinner reservation.	6:00 p.m.
March 20	Hannah	Janice Lessley 342-6846 Nancy Martin 744-9456	A-204	10:30 a.m.
March 20	Ruth	Betty Ann Morton 344-4507 Ruth Pitchford 346-8494	A-201	10:30 a.m.

PARTNERS IN PRAYER

We pray for churches in our presbytery, in the Presbytery of Nyeri in Kenya, Africa, and our ecumenical partners through the West Virginia Council of Churches.

March 2: Point Pleasant Presby; First Presby, Ripley; Richwood Presby; Githunguri New Church Development, Giakanja Parish, Kenya.

March 9: Teays Valley Presby, Scott Depot; First Presby, Welch; Edgewood Presby; Kagwathi, Kenya.

March 16: Anderson Memorial Presby, Welch; Beulah Humble Presby, Elizabeth; First Presby, Buckhannon; Kariguini, Giakanja Parish, Kenya.

March 23: Clear Creek Presby; Eleanor Presby; Gilbert Presby; Kihora, Kenya.

March 30: Second Presby, Huntington; Liberty Presby, Green Bank; Mill Creek Presby; Wamagana Church and Nursery School, Kenya.

LENTEN MEMORIALS

Envelopes can be found in the pews for those who wish to honor or remember a loved one. The deadline for receiving memorials is **Sunday, March 16**, and the list will be inserted in our Easter Sunday worship bulletin.

COVENANT HOUSE NEEDS

DROP-IN CENTER: Spray deodorant, toiletries, diapers (all sizes).

FOOD PANTRY: Boxed cereal, paper products, pasta, grains.

CLOTHING CLOSET (located at St. Mark's United Methodist Church): Men's and women's underwear (all sizes) and socks (all sizes).

AIDS Houses: A bedside table, kitchen and cleaning supplies.

AIDS RESIDENTIAL & RESOURCE PROGRAM: Cleaning supplies, toilet tissue, paper towels, cooking utensils.



MUSIC AND CHOIR NEWS

NOTES FROM
MARY ODIN, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

About a week ago I heard from some friends in Greensboro that one of my former violin students, a nine-year-old little girl, was about to undergo the equivalent of open heart surgery. I was able to reach her mother by telephone in the hospital waiting room, and within minutes of our conversation dozens of people here in West Virginia were praying for her. Late that evening I learned not only that she had survived the roughly six hours of surgery, but that it looked as though she had a good prognosis.

I desperately wanted to be in that hospital waiting room with that little girl's family, but I just couldn't get there in time. It was clear that what I wanted to do, namely to jump in my car and race to the scene, was not my job. My job was to pray and to ask others to pray. I'll be honest: it was frustrating. I didn't like my assignment.

But all afternoon and evening, my prayers were multiplied by my West Virginia community. Ministers emailed me for updates to take to their Bible studies and prayer groups. Choir directors prayed with their musicians. Friends spread the word as far as Texas and Florida and Hawaii. It was amazing, and so much more effective than if I had driven all afternoon to get to that waiting room. Sometimes what we want to do is not what God needs us to do.

As we approach Easter, we're reminded of the great sacrifice Christ made for us on the cross. In the garden, Jesus prayed, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want." (Mark 14:36) Jesus submitted completely to His Father's will, and He did exactly what His Father needed Him to do. In gratitude for Love's greatest Gift at Easter, may we all do the same.

Mary

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS

You have a gift, a talent, an ear for music, or a love of music that gets you going! Whichever it is, please take a moment meet Mary Odin.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Cherub Choir and Cathedral Choir meet on Wednesday evenings from 5:15-6:00 p.m. Debbie Eads leads the Cherubs (grades K-2) in the Susie Early Room and Mary Odin leads the Cathedral Choir members (grades 3-6) in Room E-305. Both choirs will lead singing on March 2. Both choirs welcome new members; come sing with us!

BELL CHOIR

Bell Choir rehearses in the Choir Room on Thursday evenings from 5:30-7:00 p.m. under the direction of Kathy Lynch. Our handbell ringers gave two beautiful musical offerings on February 12 and will ring again this month on Easter Sunday, March 23. If you are interested in ringing bells with a fun group of dedicated musicians, give Kathy Lynch a call or speak with any member of the bell choir.

GENEVA CHOIR

The Geneva Choir welcomes all youth and adults with a sense of humor and a heart for service to sing together in 11:00 a.m. worship each week and occasionally at 8:30 a.m. worship, too. We rehearse in the Choir Room on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:00 p.m. You don't need to read music to sing in our choir, but you're likely to learn if you sing with us long enough. This month, we will participate in the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday worship services in addition to our regular Sunday morning offerings. Come join us!

FPC LYRES CLUB

The Lyres Club continues to work on technique and new tunes Tuesday evenings from 5:30-6:30. **New harps have arrived, and a new Beginning Harp Blast-off is planned for Saturday morning, March 1 from 9-11:30 in the Susie Early Room.** You'll receive your harp and other materials. By the end of the morning we'll be playing real music together! Contact Mary, 343-8961 ext. 137 or modin@firstpresby.com, to confirm your plans to come Saturday. Charter members of the Lyres Club are also invited to attend.



WORSHIP TEAM

The Worship Team provides musical leadership at both early and late worship services each week. This ensemble of vocalists and instrumentalists uses guitar, bass, piano, mandolin, banjo, saw, harmonica, violin, and whatever other instruments are needed to accompany congregational song. We rehearse on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 or 8:00, depending on the schedule of Division meetings each week. Come to worship and speak to any member of the group to offer your musical talents, or email Mary Odin at modin@firstpresby.com to join us.

MONTREAT CONFERENCE ON WORSHIP AND MUSIC!

Join us this summer for a life-changing week of worship, Bible study, music, and the arts in the beautiful mountains of Montreat, North Carolina.

We'll leave Sunday, June 15 and return Saturday, June 21. Our church has reserved Chestnut Lodge for the week, and it promises to be a time of relaxation as well as spiritual renewal.

The conference is open to adults, youth, and children who have completed grade 3; childcare for younger children of registered conferees is free. There is a discount for registering before April 15.

For more information:

- See www.presbysmusic.org/ConfMontreat.htm
- Call Mary Odin, 343-8961 ext. 137.

FIRST PRESBY'S WEB PAGE

Thanks to Barbara Warren, sermons are now posted on the web page along with the Weekly News Updates, monthly newsletter, Youth Event Calendars, and more!

See www.firstpresby.com and discover what is there!

REBUILDING GROUP

The First Presbyterian Church and the Kanawha Pastoral Counseling Center are again sponsoring the Rebuilding Group for those dealing with separation and divorce. The group will start Monday, March 24, 2008 at 6:00 pm in the Ruffner Room. There is no charge. For more information, call Bob Schacht at KPCC, 346-9689.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please notice the pictures of these new members on the bulletin board by the office and welcome them by name when you see them.



David Allara joined FPC on January 27 by reaffirmation of faith. He is an eye physician and surgeon in the Charleston area. David would like to be involved in a Sunday School Class, the recreation and sports programs, singles events and is willing to volunteer where needed. Welcome, David!

Frederick Joseph became a member on January 27 by profession of faith and baptism. He and his wife Sara, who is also a member of FPC, are the parents of two grown sons. Fred is retired, and might enjoy being in one of the many programs or activities here. Welcome, Fred!

Heather Peterson joined FPC on January 27 by transfer of her church letter from Fraziers Bottom United Methodist. She is married to Cam Peterson and they are the parents of two small children, Hailey and Maxwell. Heather is a self-described super mom, is a member of the Seneca Class and is interested in young adult events and helping in the pre-school. Welcome, Heather!

Lance and Patty Wolfe joined FPC on January 27 by reaffirmation of faith. They have young adult children who are in college, Brett and Clay. Lance is a self-employed home inspector and Patty is a retired teacher. They are in the looking stages for a Sunday church school class, have an interest in Community Ministry and Patty would enjoy being a part of Presbyterian Women. Welcome, Lance and Patty!

COMMUNITY MINISTRY

SHEPHERD'S CENTER Thursday, March 27



10:00 a.m.

Clean Elections by Carol Warren.

11: 30 Luncheon (\$7) and Program MOUNTAIN LAUREL SINGERS

Conducted by Joann Cordell

Please call for your reservation by noon on Monday, March 24: Diane Clements, 343-0590.

"SOUP"ER BOWL SENSATION!

At a youth led worship service on Feb. 3, \$633 was given to Manna Meal for its daily soup kitchen (breakfast and lunch at St. John's Episcopal Church Dining Hall) and 461 pounds of food valued at \$922 was donated to the Food Pantry, for a total of \$1555. Isn't that awesome! Thank you for your great generosity.

SUCCESS WITH MEALS FOR SOJOURNER'S SHELTER

Thank you! You took up the challenge and so wonderfully prepared meals for Lent! The Sojourners Shelter is most thankful to all of you who helped prepare and serve Sunday night meals to the families who stay there. Several Sunday church school classes participated along with individuals. The Mission Division is so pleased with your response. Thank you for taking up a hands-on working ministry this time of Lent.

COLLEGE MINISTRY NEWS

Something special happens when friends, family and neighbors sit down and share a meal together. Often times, conversations during meals start out casual and progress into something significant, such as people's life stories and dreams. No matter what the topic of conversation, meal times provide the opportunity for people to come together and share in community.

The University of Charleston campus ministers have, as a group, started a meal for the students. The cost of the supper two dollars and is held every Thursday at the campus ministry house. The opportunity for food and fellowship reminds me of the many times that Jesus sat down and ate with his disciples and friends. I am reminded specifically of Paul's words to the Church in Corinth that whenever they share in the communion meal, they proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection until he comes again. *"For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."* I Corinthians 11:26 (NIV)

Thrilled to be supported in this ministry by FPC, Rob Peterson

Holocaust Denial: A New Form of Anti-Semitism

Thursday, May 1,
7:00 p.m. at the
Cultural Center
Free and Open to
the Public



Dr. Deborah E. Lipstadt is the author of Denying the Holocaust: The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory, History on Trial: My Day in Court with David Irving and Beyond Belief: The American Press and the Coming of the Holocaust. She is Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish and Holocaust Studies at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia.

Winner of numerous awards, advisor to Presidents Bush and Clinton, she has appeared on CNN, CBS's Sixty Minutes, NBC's Today Show, ABC's Good Morning America, National Public Radio's Fresh Air and PBS's Charlie Rose Show.

This lecture is sponsored by WV Department of Education and Arts, Temple Israel, B'nai Jacob Synagogue, Federated Jewish Charities of Charleston, and First Presbyterian Church, Charleston, and Kanawha Country Schools. Arrangements for Dr. Lipstadt have been made through the B'nai B'rith Lecture Bureau.



PRESBYTERY MISSION TRIP

One of the participants in recent work trip to Louisiana, Mavis Grant Lilley, agreed to document mission trip through a series of blogs.

Go to: <http://wvpresbymissiontrip.blogspot.com/> to read about her experience.

WHAT COMMUNITIES OF FAITH NEED TO KNOW . . .

The Presbytery of West Virginia, through its share of the Pentecost Offering, is a sponsoring partner of an interfaith event, **WHAT COMMUNITIES OF FAITH NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, designed to focus on community education and awareness to end domestic violence.**

Date: March 7

Location: West Virginia State University Student Union

Time: Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.

Topics include:

- What exactly is domestic violence?
- How faith, religion, and spirituality are used to excuse, ignore, and justify domestic violence
- A survivor's story
- Maintaining Healthy Boundaries
- Working as Partners

Cost: The registration fee of \$20.00 includes continental breakfast, refreshments and lunch!

The Reverend Al Miles will provide leadership for this important day. He is a nationally known and widely respected leader in this topic of growing concern.

Rev. Kathy Weed, chaplain at St. Francis Hospital and Parish Associate at First Presbyterian, St. Albans is a member of DOVE, (Domestic Violence Elimination,) the organization responsible for securing the Reverend Miles and planning for this event.

WEIGHT WATCHERS

First Presby wants to have a Weight Watchers group on Wednesdays 10:00-11:00 a.m. Twelve weeks for \$135. (Or transfer to this group for \$126.)

We need a minimum of ten people. Could be you and your friends! Call the church office, 343-8961, to register so we can set a start date.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHURCH SCHOOL begins at 9:45

If you haven't discovered the joy of Church School, come and discover it now! Review the list of classes - there is a lot of variety. Locate the appropriate classroom for your children in the Education Building:

Infant Nursery, E-104

Toddlers, Room E-114

Two-Three Year Olds, Room E-217

Four-Five Year Olds, Room E-112

Elementary children begin in the Chapel

6th-8th grade, Room E-406

9th grade, Room E-405

High School, Youth Lounge in the Activities Building

ADULT CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES

- Seneca Class (young adults)—in the Ruffner Room just off the Chapel (or the Susie Early Room)

Located in the Education Building:

- Covenant Class—Room E-403
- Koinonia Class—Room E-412
- Sojourners Class—Room E-411
- Rainbow Class—Room E-214

Located in the Activities Building:

- Foundations Class—Room A-109
- Discovery Class—Bud Francis Recreation Room
- Ruffner Class—Room A-201
- Trinity Class—Room A-203
- The Class—Room A-204

You can find more information about these classes and their topics in the blue brochures that are in the pew racks and on the information tables.

Get Your Faith in Shape: Practice, Practice, Practice!

Festival of Faith

Saturday, April 5, here at First Presby

**Keynote and Workshop Leader: Dr. Elizabeth Caldwell
Professor of Pastoral Theology, McCormick Theological Seminary**

Dr. Caldwell's talks is "Spiritual Practices for the Christian Life." Discover ways to get your faith in shape! Many simple practices - prayer, reading the Bible, participating in the life of a congregation, and others-can nurture and guide you into your life if faith.

Her workshop topic is "Practices of Faith for Families at Home."

Registration starts at 9:00 a.m. (You'll save by registering in advance.) Information is available from the main hallway literature table.

Morning Worship starts at 9:30. Workshops are held in the morning and in the afternoon. Closing worship starts at 3:00.

Two workshops are geared for Presbyterian Women.

Need to heal? Come to "The Best Medicine: It's a Laughing Matter."

The most extreme form of spiritual abuse is "Spiritual Terrorism." Boyd Purcell is the author and workshop leader.

Adrian Pratt will lead "Spiritual Songs and Stories that Nurture Elementary Age Children."

Youth participate in their own program.

Bring your teens, your children, and yourself for a full day of worship, service, prayer, hospitality and listening.

And MUCH MORE!



March 2008



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
<p>2 4th Sunday of Lent</p> <p>8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship</p> <p>6:30 High School Youth Group at home of Emma Moredock</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 4:00 Quilt group 6:30 Disciple 3 7:00 Stephen Ministry Training</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:30 Bible study 5:00 Basketball Photos 6:00 Basketball Banquet 5:30 Harps 6:30 Karate 6:30 Muscular Dystrophy Support Group</p>	<p>5 8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:00 Volunteer Ministry Division 5:00 Property Division 5:15 C. E. Division 5:15 Cherub and Cathedral Choirs 5:45 Supper 6:30 Middle School Youth Group 6:30 Yoga, Ed. Building 3rd floor 6:30 Deacons 6:30 Personnel Division 6:30 Worship Division 6:45 Mission Division 7:15 Boy Scouts 7:30 Contemplative Prayer</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:30 am Bible Study, 'Shoneys' 9:30 Francke Bible study 9:30 PW Coordinating Team 5:15 Coordinating Council 5:30 Bell choir 6:30 Karate 7:30 Geneva choir</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:30 Aerobics 10:30 PW Bible Moderators 2:00 Senior Exercise</p>	<p>8</p> <p>MOVE YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR when you go to bed Saturday, March 8.</p>
<p>9 5th Sunday of Lent</p> <p>Blood Pressure checkup 8:30 Worship 9:45 Inquirers Class 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship 6:30 High school Youth Group at the home of Jarrett Walker</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 4:00 Quilt group 6:30 Disciple 3 7:00 Stephen Ministry Training</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:30 Bible study 5:30 Harps 6:30 Karate</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:00 High School Committee 5:00 Finance Division 5:15 Child and Family Committee 5:15 Cherub and Cathedral Choirs 5:45 Supper 6:30 Middle School Youth Group 6:30 Yoga, Ed. Building 3rd floor 6:45 Session 7:15 Boy Scouts 7:30 Contemplative Prayer</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:30 am Bible Study, 'Shoneys' 9:30 Leah Circle 9:30 Francke Bible study 12:00 Martha Circle 5:30 Bell choir 6:00 Rebecca Circle 6:30 Karate 7:30 Geneva choir</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:00 PM COFFEE HOUSE (doors open at 7:30)</p>
<p>16 Palm Sunday</p> <p>8:30 Worship 9:45 Inquirers Class 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship</p> <p>2:00 Easter Egg Hunt in the Activities Building</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 4:00 Quilt group 6:30 Disciple 3 7:00 Stephen Ministry Training</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30 Bible study 5:30 Harps 6:30 Karate 7:00 Alzheimers' Support Group</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:00 Middle School Committee 5:00 Fellowship & Recreation Div. 5:00 Visitor/New Members Div. 5:15 Library Committee 5:15 Cherub and Cathedral Choirs 5:45 Supper 6:30 Middle School Youth Group 7:15 Boy Scouts 7:30 Contemplative Prayer</p>	<p>20 Maundy Thursday Worship Communion 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>7:30 am Bible Study, 'Shoneys' 9:30 Francke Bible study 10:30 Hannah Circle 10:30 Ruth Circle 11:30 PW Prayer Group 12:00 PW Luncheon 5:30 Bell choir 6:30 Karate</p>	<p>21 Good Friday Worship 12:10 p.m.</p> <p>(Church office closed.)</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 Easter</p> <p>8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School: Easter Breads in the Dining Room for all ages 11:00 Worship</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 4:00 Quilt group 6:00 Rebuilding 7:00 Stephen Ministry Training</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:30 Bible study 4:30 Knitting Into the Mystery 5:30 Harps 6:30 Karate</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 7:30 Contemplative Prayer</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:30 am Bible Study, 'Shoneys' 9:30 Francke Bible study <i>Shepherd's Center programs and Luncheon</i> 6:30 Karate</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 4:00 Quilt group 6:00 Rebuilding 6:30 Disciple 3 7:00 Stephen Ministry Training</p>	<p>Basketball Banquet Celebration! Tuesday, March 4 Photographs in the Gym at 5:00 Supper in the Dining Room at 6:00</p>				





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

16 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301-2487

www.firstpresby.com

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE TO UPDATE THESE PRAYER CONCERNS

Please minister through prayer, cards, calls and visits.

IN THE HOSPITAL . . .

MEMORIAL: Connie Payne
HUBBARD HOSPICE HOUSE:
Ruth Evans

OUR SYMPATHY TO . . .

Bernie McNeely and Marcelle
Bowne on the death of their
brother.

PRAYER CONCERNS . . .

David Taylor; Cooper (foster child of Kathryn and Reuben Ellis); Casey Carson (friend of Mary Odin); Susan Ackerman (friend of Emily Couch); Rick Hoy; Cleo Kennedy (mother of Barbara Brown); Tammy Rhodes (friend of Pat Doumaux) Grey Yetter; Sara Cotto-Thorner Matheney; Amy Cottrell; Harry Drouillard (friend of Mary and Pat Bond); Blair Sprouse; Don Hayes (friend of Dick Golden); Virginia Tatum (mother of Vickie Janney); Matt Copeland.

CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS . . .

Robert H. Badger (brother of Frank Badger); John Beckett (friend of Jo & Roger Kerr & Barbara & Steve Hopta); Curt Davis (Steve Hopta's uncle); Jimmie Welch, Jeanne Fitch and Jamie Hamrick (friends of Claude

Churchwell); Dorcas Keaton (great-aunt of Chick Maddox); Kenya Goard (friend of the Slack family); Deborah Coffman (colleague of Dave Cottrell); Melanie Curry and Noah Lacy (friends of Katha Morris); Eddie Scherr (father of Jim Scherr); Susan Mollenkoph (daughter of Betsy and Clark Thurston); Rachal Saunders; Howard, Alida, and Karla Shaffer, and Monalynn Buckner (children of Barbara Shaffer); Martha Hatcher (mother of Heather Barry); Wini Carter (mother of Carole Carter); Hester Covert; Mike Rosier (family of Kit Reed); Linda and Lew Metcalf, and Ed and Lou Gonzalez (friends of Mary Odin); Terry Folse (friend of Marilyn Walbe); Eugene and Betty Dahmer (parents of Carol); Nan Bolt (John's mother); Clara Thomas; Nancy Peterson; A.D. Ellison; Eric Asbeck; Lillie Saunders (Darlene Kerr's mother); Liz O'Finan; Linda Morris; Julia Sparks (Margaret Bolt's mother); Charlie Young (father of Harriett Hoy); John Hopkins; Grady Riestler (grandson of Tom and Nancy Bulla); Carolyn

Soule (sister of Nancy Bulla); Gini Lucas; Tom Collins (family of Margaret Bolt); Virginia Fizer (Kay Propst's mother); Gracie Meek (Carol Buckalew's grandniece); Mary Catherine Lowder-Bailey; Claire (Judy Keller's family member); Joye Russell (friend of Robin Harlow); Thelma Marcus (mother of Liz O'Finan); Fred Monk; Jennifer Stewart (Ken Stewart's daughter).

REMEMBER TO CALL, or have someone else call, whenever you are ill, hospitalized or have a need. Also call to update to keep us informed: 343-8961. Thank you.

The church has a telephone/e-mail prayer chain, and prayers during worship. If you want to tell us about someone else, a friend or family member, be sure to respectfully ask their permission first and relay that information also.