

**The First
Presbyterian Church**
16 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV
25301-2487

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www.firstpresby.com

Bill McCoy
Pastor

Jim Roberts
Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care
Claire Butler
Associate Pastor for Youth

Richard Lamb
Parish Associate

Jim Buckalew
Fellowship, Recreation
and Property

Robin Harlow
Visitors/New Members

Barbara Hopta
Director of Child/Family
Ministry

Jackie Lilly
Business Administrator

Mary Odin
Director of Music Ministries

Debbie Eads
Children's Choir

Ginna Taylor
Preschool Director

Sue Webster
Community Ministry

Kathy Bruner
Child Care Coordinator

Tom Daugherty
Librarian

Fred Gaul
Organist

FACILITY STAFF

Lee Richardson, Supervisor
Sherry Ball
Claude Churchwell
Howard Johnson
Kim Moles

SUPPORT STAFF

Ina Armstrong
June Mills
Jenny Pitchford
Marilyn Walbe

MISSION WORKERS

Carl Agsten & Leslie Clay-
Nicaragua
Art & Sue Kinsler-Korea
Jolana & Stefan Nather
-Slovak Republic
Presbyterian Fair Trade Project

MINISTERIAL CANDIDATES/INQUIRERS

Kate Hopta
Robert Peterson

PASTORS EMERITI

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

First Presby News

March 2010 • Volume XLIII, 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 at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Radio Broadcast at 11:00 a.m. on 580 AM WCHS



From the Pastor:

As we move through this season of Lent, our Lenten Sermon series is on the Twenty Third psalm. One obvious emphasis is that of God shepherding us through life and we, the church, seeking to shepherd each other through the various challenges of life. In our media culture, in this time in history when we are consistently in the midst of an explosion of information, it is crucial that we find clarity of purpose, direction, and commitment for day to day living.

We find that clarity day to day in taking the time to allow God to recalibrate our hearts and minds to His plan and purpose for our lives. Once again, I want to urge you to take time each day to shut out the "noise" of the 24/7 information flow to listen for God's Word for you, for us, in scripture and to listen for the "still small voice of God" within, through reflection on that Word if only for a few minutes each day. Martin Luther is quoted as having said, "I have so much to do today that I should spend the first three hours in prayer," and "If I fail to spend two hours in prayer each morning, the Devil gets the victory through the day... I have so much business, I cannot get on without spending three hours daily in prayer."

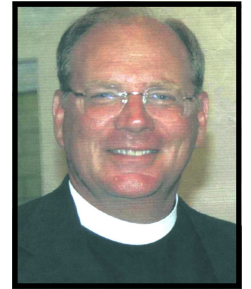
As we seek and find God's clarity of vision, purpose and commitment, we are able to be something of a cultural catalyst to clarity in a time wherein there is such an abundance of distraction and sociological "noise." I was recently reminded of a high school wrestling tournament and a match I had with a particularly tough opponent. I remember the sound of the crowd there, amplified in that large gymnasium. There were cheers of encouragement from our side, derision from theirs, helpful (and not so helpful) instruction from the crowd, blended in a wall of noise. Through it all I could clearly hear the voice of our coach calling instructions and encouragement from the side of the mat; a voice of clarity and encouragement in a challenging situation.

In Lent we are called to seek to hear that clear and calm voice of clarity, encouragement and wisdom through the din of the prevailing voices of our diverse society. Finally that is the only Voice that counts, the only Voice that will direct us faithfully and lovingly in right and effective living. **As Jesus said "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of My hand." Let's listen for His voice together this Lenten Season.**

‘ See you in church!

Bill

Bill



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Passion / Palm Sunday - March 28

Worship 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Maundy Thursday - April 1

Worship 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday - April 2

Worship 12:10 p.m.

Easter Sunday - April 4

Worship 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Agape Love Feast 9:45 a.m.
in the church dining room

INQUIRER'S CLASS

If you are interested in learning more about First Presby, please join with other newcomers for the first of a three-week orientation series on Sunday, March 7 at 9:45 a.m. in the Ruffner Room.

- Learn more about *WHAT PRESBYTERIANS BELIEVE*.
- Find out about the *CLASSES, ACTIVITIES, AND PROGRAMS* offered at First Presby.
- Discover meaningful ways to *GET INVOLVED*.
- Explore the benefits and procedures of *MEMBERSHIP*.
- *ASK QUESTIONS* that are on your mind, and take a *CHURCH TOUR*.

Gather in the Ruffner Room at 9:45 a.m. on March 7 for a walking tour of the church buildings. On March 14, Bill McCoy teaches and, to complete the three-week series, Jim Roberts will lead our class on March 21.

Find the Ruffner Room through the left-hand double wooden doors at the front of the sanctuary, up a few steps and the Ruffner Room is straight ahead. Please contact Robin at robin@firstpresby.com for more information. Children and teens are welcome in child care or Sunday School.

More than ever, there is a meaningful place for you at First Presby!
Come see!

THE GIFT OF WATER

We consider clean water to be one of our basic needs and while our households use about 150 gallons a day, more than one billion people around the world have no access to clean water. Let us be thankful for the clean water we have; and let us be mindful of the needs of others. The following prayer comes from the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy of the General Assembly of the PC (USA).

We thank you, sustainer God, for the water we used today to brush our teeth, shower, drink and cook. Help us to view the water you give us as a precious gift, remembering that though there is enough of it, we tend to order our world so that some are left without it. Help us to recognize our role in the delicate balance of your ecology by having the courage and vision to change our lifestyle habits and be more attuned to your world. These things we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

FINANCE DIVISION REPORT FOR JANUARY 2010

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Pledge Offerings:	\$ 195,000	\$ 194,698	\$ (302)
Trustee Funds:	7,470	7,470	-
Other Revenue:	57,825	58,061	236
Total Income:	260,295	260,229	(66)
Expenses:	122,674	122,250	(424)
Net Income (loss):	\$ 137,621	\$ 137,979	\$ 358

What is a "Cash Flow" Budget?

Each month, we project what our cash flow in (revenues) and our cash flow out (expenses) will be. At certain times of the year, we expect our revenues to be greater than or less than our expenses. Early in the year, we should have a surplus. Pledge offerings actually received in January 2010 totaled \$89,490. But at the beginning of the year, all of the pledges that people pre-paid in 2009 (\$105,208) are transferred into Pledge Offerings for the current year, giving us the \$194,698 above. Due to these pre-payments, we expect have a positive net income in January, which will decrease as the year progresses. By summer, we expect that the surplus will have been used up and that we will have a negative cash flow until year-end. A number of members fulfill their pledge at year-end in December, and we hope that those offerings bring us even for the year.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

If you haven't had your blood pressure checked recently, please stop by the church library on Sunday, March 14. A parish nurse will be ready to assist you.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

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

Mary Prudich	March 16
Carol Stiles	March 27

THE GUYS' WEEKEND

Join men from all over the Presbytery of West Virginia for an incredible weekend for "the guys" April 23-25 at Bluestone Camp.

On Saturday, we'll drive a few nails making improvements for Bluestone Camp. Sunday will be a day to relax, get outdoors and worship together. Throughout the weekend, we'll hear insightful teaching, eat lots of great food, and enjoy visits from Burl and Earl. Bob Sylvester will be on hand. He is a former FBI agent, serves as a spiritual director and counselor, and has a passion for helping men grow spiritually.

To get a brochure to sign-up, visit www.bluestonecamp.com/TheGuysWeekend/ or contact Rob Laukoter at 304-610-3054 or covenantchurch@yahoo.com.

PARTNERS IN PRAYER

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

March 7: Teays Valley Presbyterian Church, Scott Depot; First PC, Welch; Edgewood PC; Kagwathi PC, Kenya.

March 14: Anderson Memorial PC, Welch; Beulah Humble PC, Elizabeth; First PC, Buckhannon; Kariguini PC, Kenya.

March 21: Clear Creek PC; Eleanor PC; Gilbert PC; Kihora PC, Kenya.

March 28: Second PC, Oak Hill; Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, Hurricane; Rome PC, Proctorville, Ohio; Gura Parish, Kenya.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Recently, the Weekday Preschool students began collecting change for the relief efforts in Haiti. I want to report the success that we've had with the "Pennies for the People" program that is going on here at the Preschool. So far, we've collected \$255.00 in the change jug for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

The PDA website reports that PDA continues to respond to the Haiti earthquake and continues to provide basic humanitarian aid for those most impacted by this disaster. The assistance being provided by PDA and other members of the ACT Alliance includes tents, water, hygiene kits and baby kits. This, they report, is only a first step toward recovery.

In addition, they are providing psycho-social support in an effort to provide a process by which those who have been traumatized begin to resume normal life. One of the psycho-social programs for children involves the practice of capoeira, an Afro-Brazilian martial art taught by Viva Rio staff that is used as therapy for young people recovering from trauma. Drawing is another form of trauma therapy.

Please feel free to donate toward "Pennies for the People" by bringing in loose change. We have a change jug outside the Preschool Office where it is collected. There is a visual chart hanging on the Preschool Office door so that the children can see their contributions grow. **Stop by and watch the chart grow, too.** You are always welcome!

Ginna Taylor, Preschool Director

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE CLASS OF 2013

Your Congregational Nominating Committee is preparing for the election of Elders, Deacons and Trustees for the Class of 2013 and would like to have your suggestions in that process.

Please use this form for the purpose of listing your recommendations for the 15 Elders, 3 Deacons and 2 Trustees in the Class of 2013. **Bring or mail your suggestions to the Church office no later than Sunday, March 21.** You may also drop them in the marked boxes in the hallway near the Church office and in the narthex.

Those eligible for reelection, from the Class of 2010, are:

ELDERS: Morgan Griffith, Larry Kerr, Okey Moffatt, Ann Orders,
Lynda Strickland

DEACONS: Jackie Berthold, Mark Holmes, Nancy Martin, Tom Morgan,
Jim Scherr

TRUSTEES: Pat Moyers, Eric Nelson

15 NOMINATIONS FOR ELDERS, Class of 2013

3 NOMINATIONS FOR DEACONS

2 NOMINATIONS FOR TRUSTEES

CHOCOLATE GRAVY!

For those who were enticed by Jim Robert's reference to Chocolate Gravy in his sermon, "If We Don't Have Love...", the recipe is below. Enjoy!

Grandma Johnson's
Chocolate Gravy

- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/4 cup cocoa
- 1 cup sugar
- *1 tbsp. flour
- 2 tbsp. butter
- **1/2 tsp. Vanilla

*The flour is optional, depending on how quickly you want the gravy to thicken.

**The vanilla is optional. You may add other favorite flavors, combined with or instead of vanilla, to your taste, such as cinnamon, nutmeg, bourbon, rum, etc. If you're a chocolate purist, you may not even want to add vanilla. Variations are limited only to your imagination and taste.

Cook the first four ingredients on the stove (medium heat), stirring constantly until thick like gravy. Remove from heat and add vanilla (or other flavorings) and butter. Serve hot over buttered biscuits, pancakes, etc.

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.

Rev. Jim Roberts maintains the "pray for" list. Please keep him informed by calling 304-343-8961, ext. 118.

Turn your
clocks ahead
Saturday
evening,
March 13.





You're invited to join the Presbyterian Women
on Thursday, March 18

Prayer Group at 11:30

Lunch at Noon

Hats With Stories

Everyone, please wear a hat - one with a story!

Make a lunch reservation-call the church office at 304-343-8961 by March 15.

SCHEDULE OF PW BIBLE STUDIES

DATE	NAME	CIRCLE CHAIR	PLACE	TIME
March 11	Leah	Sally Slicer 346-1873	A-201. Hostess: Hae Won Chun	9:30 a.m.
March 11	Mary	Betty Damewood 346-4417	Edgewood Summit	10:00 a.m.
March 11	Miriam	Sarah McGriff 744-3751	Mary Parsons 913 Alynwood Circle	9:45 a.m.
March 11	Martha	Betsy Gorrell 727-7813 Jackie Taylor 346-6147	A-201, Bring a "brown bag" lunch.	Noon
March 10	Rebecca (Dinner)	Jarve Currence 746-0615 Beth Ann Surber 342-7988	A-204. Call to make a dinner reservation.	5:30 p.m.
March 18	Hannah	Janice Lessley 342-6846	A-204	10:30 a.m.
March 18	Ruth	Betty Ann Morton 344-4507 Ruth Pitchford 346-8494	A-201	10:30 a.m.

Changing Time Changing Church CONSTANT GOD

is the theme for
Presbytery's Festival of Faith, March 27.



Open to all ages, this annual event keynotes the Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow, our current Moderator of the PC(USA) General Assembly. Chow is beloved by many and is known as a young pastor with a vision for the church today while realizing that changes in our culture affect the church of the future. His keynote address is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, March 27, in our sanctuary. He will also offer two workshops where lively idea-sharing and discussion will be the norm.

In all, nineteen workshops on a variety of topics, including Generations Theory, Praying in Color, Church Transformation, 2010-2011 Horizons Bible Study, Beyond Calvin: Reformed Education for the Next 500 Years, A Trip to the Holy Land, and Joyful Singing! Joyful Noise! will be offered from 11-12:30 and 1:30-3:00.

Child care is available. In addition, all-day workshops for children grades K-5 and youth grades 6-12 are planned.

Pre-register for this outstanding event by March 15. Complete descriptions of workshops and registration information are available online at www.wvpresbytery.org and on the church information table in the main hallway.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

1st Lt. Matthew M. Bruner, Army,
Iraq
Major Todd Harrell, Afghanistan, father of
Emily & Jonathan
Evan Chaney, Afghanistan, friend of Charlie
Moredock
Edwin Anderson, cousin of Mary Odin
Airman First Class Caitlin Workman,
Omaha, NE, granddaughter of Pat
Workman
Airman 1st Class Franz S. Workman IV,
Moody AFB, GA, grandson of Pat
Workman
Warrant Officer David McDarmont, Iraq,
son of Liz O'Finan
Owen Brown, US Navy, Pensacola, FL, son
of Earle Brown
David Rucker, Germany, nephew of
Barbara Brown
Donald Boylen, VA, grandson of Dick and
Becky Smith
*Please call the church office to keep this
information current. Thank you.*

DAILY BIBLE VERSES

3/1: Luke 6:36
3/2: Isaiah 1:18
3/3: Psalm 31
3/4: Jeremiah 17:5
3/5: Matthew 21:45
3/6: Luke 15:32
3/7: Psalm 19
3/8: Luke 4:28
3/9: Psalm 25:6
3/10: Deuteronomy 4:9
3/11: Psalm 95
3/12: Hosea 14:1
3/13: Luke 18:14
3/14: Ephesians 2:8
3/15: John 15:16
3/16: Psalm 46
3/17: John 14:23
3/18: John 14:21
3/19: John 15:9
3/20: John 15:14
3/21: Hebrews 5:8
3/22: Psalm 23
3/23: 1 John 4:19
3/24: Luke 6:38
3/25: Luke 10:21
3/26: Luke 17:17
3/27: John 11:50
3/28: Mark 15:18-19
3/29: Psalm 27
3/30: John 13:21
3/31: John 17:15

Note: These readings follow those listed in **From Fear to Love, Lenten Reflections on the Parable of the Prodigal Son**, by Henri Nouwen, available on the church information table.

COMMUNITY MINISTRY

MISSION OUTREACH IS ALIVE AND WELL AT FIRST PRESBY!

What an honor to serve in the capacity of Director of Community Outreach at First Presby, a church that is committed to sharing the love of Christ in our own community and throughout the world. Listed below are just a few outreach ministries. Please call me or stop by my office to learn about all of the mission ministry opportunities or to pick up a newly updated copy of the First Presby "Opportunities to Serve" booklet.

In Awe of All You Do,
Sue Webster

WHO SHOULD RECEIVE FIRST PRESBY'S GIFTS?

We need the congregation to tell us! When the First Presby congregation and friends raised money through the Capital Campaign for our roof and building, we set aside 10% of those funds to be given away in Mission Outreach projects. We have a significant amount of mission outreach money available now, and the Mission Task Force is considering to whom to allocate those funds.

The criteria include shelter, food/water, health services and Christian nurture with 50% for West Virginia projects, 25% for national projects and 25% for international activities. We are seeking to support groups who have a significant connection to our congregation. If you currently support or work with a group that fits the criteria above, please consider giving them a grant application. Applications are available in the church office. We will accept applications through April 30. The Mission Task Force is excited about hearing your favorite Mission Outreach ideas!

The Mission Task Force is comprised of representatives from each Division – Betsy Crockett (Chairman), Emily Couch (Christian Ed.), Otis O'Connor (Personnel), David Pitchford (Finance & Stewardship), Terry Potesta (Fellowship and Rec.), Nancy Douglas (Worship), Cheryl Hall (Property), Mendy Stoecklin (Visitors and New Member), Chuck Daugherty, Morgan Griffith, Elizabeth McConnell and Vicky Sporck (Mission), Sue Webster (staff liaison).



MISSION TRIP TO NICARAGUA

JUNE 11 – 18, 2010

Thirty-eight people have signed up and answered God's call to partner with our own Missionary workers, Carl Agsten and Leslie Clay for one week in Managua, Nicaragua.

Our travel team will meet regularly to study the culture, learn a few key Spanish phrases and spiritually prepare our hearts and minds to be in service to God and His people. This will be a congregation-wide journey as we share trip details and updates and ask for individual and group prayer support. We will also be having some fun fundraisers!

Carl Agsten will be in town and have a "Mission Spotlight" during worship service on March 28.

On Monday night March 29, all are invited to a covered dish dinner at 6:30 in the Dining Room where Carl will talk more about our upcoming trip to Nicaragua. Please call Sue Webster if you will attend the dinner.

Give, Act and Pray for Haiti:

A message from Randy Ackley, Coordinator, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

In the aftermath of the terrible earthquake in Haiti, your prayers, gifts and actions are making a difference. In a time when so many symbols of safety and security have been destroyed, your support of the One Great Hour of Sharing and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) have been a tangible witness of God's presence and hope. Working in concert with Action by Churches Together (ACT) Alliance and Church World Service, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has provided assistance toward:

- Food, water and 35,000 hygiene kits and baby kits at 15 distribution sites.
- Temporary shelters for the many people left homeless.
- Supplies and vital infrastructure support including electrical, water, sanitation and security at Hôpital Sainte Croix (Holy Cross Hospital) in Leogane, one of the few operating medical facilities in the region, and the Faculty of Nursing Science of the Episcopal University of Haiti (FSIL).
- Initial assessments and ground work for community psycho-social recovery.

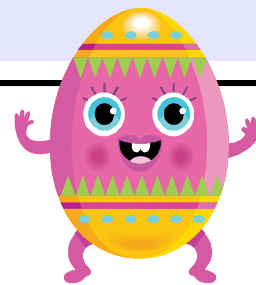
We cannot thank you enough for your compassion and generosity. We have been inspired by so many stories of children, youth groups, and congregations each doing their part in support of the earthquake response. The damage has been devastating, but as Presbyterian mission co-worker and PDA staff member, Carlos Cardenas, reports, despite the devastation, "Hope is alive." Thank you for bringing hope to the people of Haiti. You can find situation updates and information on how you can get involved by visiting the PDA web site at <http://www.pcusa.org/pda/>

CENTS-ABILITY OFFERING



On March 14, we will receive the Cents-Ability offering, which targets food pantries and food programs. At home, you may want to have each family member contribute a few cents at each meal. Bring your offering to worship on March 14 where all of these coins will "make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



Prayer

Dear God, we all seem to be so different on the outside. But inside we are really more alike than different. Help us to know that we are all joined together by your love. Help us to find our own ways to serve you. Amen.

Blessing for Meals

*Thank you for the world so sweet.
Thank you for the food we eat.
Thank you for the birds that sing.
Thank you, God, for everything! Amen.*

Bible Verse

*Make my heart glad!
I serve you, and my prayer is sincere.
(Psalm 86:4)*

What You Can Do

The first Friday in March is the World Day of Prayer. Christian women from more than 170 countries pray for one another every year on that day. They pray that they may serve to make the world a better place.

Pray with them and know that your prayers are always heard. Thank God for the women of the church like Rev. TT Chipeta who make such a difference in our lives.

Word of the Month: Serve/Service

To serve is to do things for another person or group. Service is the action of helping or doing work for someone.

What You Can Give

Find a place where you can be of service and then go and serve. Serve joyfully, with no complaining. Serve in the name of Christ Jesus. Make other people glad that you are there. Your example will make other people want to serve, too.

Portions from **2010 Children's Mission Yearbook**. Copies are available in the CE Office.

SHOEBOXES!

We could use more shoeboxes with matching lids. Please bring them to the box outside the Preschool office.
Thank you.

Wow! Before you know it, it will be time for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

Who: Children - preschool through 5th grade
What: Hunting, egg dyeing plus games and refreshments
Where: Celebration Station
When: Sunday, March 28, 2:00 p.m.
Why: Fun for all as we reach out to the community!
How: Come and bring your friends!

MISSION IN ZAMBIA

Every day, the Rev. TT Chipeta gets up before the sun comes up, opens the church, and prays. She leads the morning prayers for people who are sick or having problems. And she prays, "God, you know I am female, so I trust you for strength to carry on." TT is one of the few women pastors in Zambia. She first decided to become a pastor when she was twelve years old. Even though she studied at school with the men, at first she was not allowed to be a minister or serve a church because she is a woman. It took six long years of waiting before she was given her own church to serve.



Now, TT walks long distances from village to village to preach. It is too expensive to take the bus. Her daughters help at home by cooking, doing the laundry, and carrying the water. TT often visits the sick and helps women in trouble. She helps her husband, who is also a pastor. She understands that she has special gifts to offer, and she wants to serve the church in any way she can.

BOOK REVIEWS



God Bless the Child by Billie Holiday and Arthur Herzog Jr., illustrated by Jerry Pinkney

New to our library, this book is designated for all ages. The illustrations are captivating, and along with the simple but profound text provide much fodder for discussion between adults and children, one-on-one or in a small group setting. An added bonus is a CD of Billie Holiday's timeless recording of "God Bless the Child," included inside the back cover. Be sure to read the Artist's Note on the last page of the book.

God Loves You by Kathleen Long Bostrom, illustrated by Elena Kucharik

The coated cardboard pages of this book can be held by very young hands. The message of God's unconditional love is delightfully told through rhyme and picture. Regardless of your emotions, color, height, shape, speed – the message is continually affirmed: God loves you just as you are.

YOUTH AT FIRST PRESBY: NEWS JUST FOR YOU!

EIGHTH GRADE CONFIRMATION NEWS

Continue your memorization work. Remember to complete least three Worship Evaluation Forms before the end of April!

— Important Upcoming Dates —

March 5-7: Presbytery of WV Middle School Retreat at Cedar Lakes

March 10: Confirmands attend the Session meeting at 6:45 p.m. in the Bud Francis Recreation Room.

March 14: Presby What?

March 21: Form of Government

March 28: The Apostles' Creed

Saturday, April 3: 9:00 to noon

We will meet to work on faith statements. Mentors are invited to participate.

THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Souper Bowl of Caring! We received over \$800 which was given to Manna Meal and 309 pounds of soup and crackers for the Covenant House Food Pantry housed at First Presby.



Middle School PYC

March 5-7: Middle school youth will attend the Presbytery's retreat "GUARDIANS OF CREATION" at Cedar Lakes Conference Center. (No PYC meeting on March 7.)

March 14: Photo Scavenger Hunt. Meet in the church parking lot at 5:00 p.m. Bring a digital camera if you have one!

March 21: NO PYC meeting. HAVE A WONDERFUL SPRING BREAK!

March 28: All middle school youth are asked to assist with the Easter Egg Hunt.

Meet at Celebration Station at 1:00 p.m.



High School PYC



March 7 at 2:00 p.m.

Meet at the Clay Center to help de-construct the canned food sculptures, box it up and load it for delivery to First Presby.

March 14: Photo Scavenger Hunt. Meet in the church parking lot at 7:00 p.m.

Bring a digital camera if you have one!

March 21: NO PYC meeting. HAVE A WONDERFUL SPRING BREAK!

March 28: "Youth Sunday" Planning 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge. Interested in YOUTH SUNDAY? We will start by choosing a theme. Bring your ideas.



Pictured are the participants in the High School Ski trip to Canaan. Sixteen youth and six adults had a great weekend.

Many thanks to Bob Orders for housing the group.



MUSIC AND CHOIR NEWS

JOIN A MUSICAL GROUP, BUILD COMMUNITY, AND WORSHIP GOD!

FROM MARY ODIN

By the time you read this, our new Casavant pipe organ should be installed in the front gallery of our sanctuary. This month, it will be tuned and voiced to fit the unique acoustics of our sanctuary, and it should be ready to play in worship on Easter, April 4. This is an exciting time for our congregation.

It is also a good time to remember why we do what we do. There is no question that our sanctuary is well-suited to musical sounds. It can make a beautiful concert hall, as we observed when Peter DuBois presented a beautiful recital on our Fisk organ last fall. But the primary function of our sanctuary is as a worship space: its visual and aural beauty have their highest value when they point our way to God, Whose beauty surpasses anything we can create here on earth.

In the same way, our Fisk and Casavant organs have their greatest value when they focus our attention not on themselves but on God as we worship. Our striving for the highest quality music must be rooted in our love for God and one another. If it is rooted simply in a deep love of music, it is nothing but a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. God's people love beautiful instruments and fine music, but they love each other more.

As we prepare to enjoy the gift of our new organ, we would do well to remember the words of Deuteronomy 8:17-19: "Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, so that He may confirm His covenant that He swore to your ancestors, as He is doing today. If you do forget the Lord your God and follow other gods to serve and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish."

This time, we receive God's abundance through the McGees, the Douglasses, and the Clay Foundation. As we pray our prayers of thanksgiving for God's good gifts, let us also ask Him to use them to bind our community together in love, through fine music that helps us make worship that pleases God.

GENEVA CHOIR

Geneva Choir for youth and adults rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. To join us, come to any rehearsal where a new folder of music will be ready for you. You do not have to be experienced to sing with us, but it helps to have a sense of humor. Come and bring a friend!

CHERUB CHOIR AND MUSIC OF THE ANGELS

Children in grades K-2 and grades 3-5 rehearse each Wednesday from 5:15-6:00 p.m. Cherubs (grades K-2) meet with Debbie Eads in the Susie Early Room; Music of the Angels (grades 3-5) meet with Mary Odin upstairs in room 305 of the Education Building. This month, we will not rehearse on March 24. Watch your mail, email, and the church website for weekly updates, and invite a friend to come sing with you this Wednesday!

PRESBY THESPIES

This group provides offerings of drama in our worship services, along the lines of the Friends of the Groom who visited First Presby last month. This month, our own Carole Carter will lead a Lenten Growth Group to develop unique dramatic offerings for our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. To offer your dramatic gifts to God, call Mary Odin at church or better yet, contact Carole Carter directly.

CAPELLA BELL CHOIR

Capella Bells rehearse on Thursday evenings from 5:30-7:00 in the Choir Room. The group is open to anyone interested in learning to ring handbells. If you would like to join us, contact director Kathy Lynch. Experience with bells is helpful but not required.

FPC LYRES CLUB

Our folk harp players rehearse in the Ruffner Room on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-6:30. This month, we will not meet on March 23. If you would like to play the folk harp with us, contact Mary Odin at modin@firstpresby.com. No previous experience is necessary; instruments and music are available through the church.

WORSHIP TEAM

These vocalists and instrumentalists lead congregational song at both worship services each week. We normally rehearse on Wednesday evenings. If you'd like to play or sing with us, contact Mary Odin at church at modin@firstpresby.com.

MUSICAL MYSTERIES REVEALED: The Hymn or the Tune?



Several of you have asked me about the word(s) that appear off to the right next to the hymn titles in our worship bulletins. If the words are in italics, they give the name of the composer. If they are in small caps, they are the name of the tune. Because we have such strong associations between words and melodies, many of us use the word "hymn" to refer to a set of words sung to a particular melody. In fact, a hymn is only a set of words, many of which can be sung to more than one tune. The Lyres Club recently played "Away in a Manger" using both familiar tunes associated with that hymn. Technically, it is impossible to hum a hymn—you can only hum the tune associated with a hymn. Think about that...Hmmm....

Montreat Conference on Worship and Music June 20-26, 2010

This week of worship, Bible study, music, and the arts is open to adults, youth, and children who have completed grade 3. Childcare is free. To learn more and to register online, go to their website: <http://www.presbysmusic.org/montreat.html>. Fees will increase on April 15. Let Mary Odin know you're planning to go, and bring a friend along!

March 2010

First Presbyterian Church
16 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301 304-343-8961

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
	1 8:30 Aerobics 10:00 Knitting Lenten Group 12:00 Weight Watchers 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:00 Disciple 7:00 Ballroom Dance 7:00 Drama Lenten Group	2 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lyres Club 6:00 Basketball Banquet 7:15 Boy Scouts	3 8:00 Wednesday Work Crew 8:30 Aerobics 10:30 Scripture Lenten Group 12:00 Your Whole Life Group 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:00 Property Division 5:15 Children's Choirs 5:15 C E Division 5:45 Wednesday Connections 6:45 Worship Division 6:45 Mission Division 6:45 Deacons 6:45 Personnel Division 7:30 Contemplative Prayer 8:00 Worship Music Team	4 7:30 Bible Study, Shoney's 9:30 Women's Bible Study 10:00 PW Coordinating Team 11:30 PW Bible Moderators 5:15 Coordinating Council 5:30 <i>The Mission</i> Lenten Group 5:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Geneva Choir	5 7:00 Men's Breakfast Group 8:30 Aerobics 10:00 SoulCollage Lenten Group 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:00 Middle School Youth leave for retreat at Cedar Lakes	6
7 8:45 Worship 9:45 Inquirers Class 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 1:00 Middle School return From retreat 2:00 High School meet at Clay Center 3:00 Needlework Lenten Group 	8 8:30 Aerobics 10:00 Knitting Lenten Group 12:00 Weight Watchers 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:00 Disciple 7:00 Ballroom Dance 7:00 Drama Lenten Group	9 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lyres Club 7:15 Boy Scouts Presbytery meeting in Parkersburg	10 8:00 Wednesday Work Crew 8:30 Aerobics 10:30 Scripture Lenten Group 12:00 Your Whole Life Group 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:00 Finance Division 5:15 Children's Choirs 5:15 Children & Family Comm. 5:30 Rebecca Dinner Circle 5:45 Wednesday Connections 6:30 Prodigal Son Lenten Group 6:45 Session 7:30 Contemplative Prayer	11 7:30 Bible Study, Shoney's 9:30 Women's Bible Study 9:30 Leah Circle 10:00 Mary Circle –offsite 12:00 Martha Circle 5:30 <i>The Mission</i> Lenten Group 5:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Geneva Choir	12 7:00 Men's Breakfast Group 8:30 Aerobics 10:00 SoulCollage Lenten Group 2:00 Senior Exercise	13 9:00 Nicaragua Team meeting
14 Cents-Ability Offering Blood Pressure Check 8:45 Worship 9:45 Inquirers Class 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Congregational meeting 3:00 Needlework Lenten Group 5:00 Middle School Youth 7:00 High School Youth 	15 Last day to Pre-Register for Festival of Faith 8:30 Aerobics 10:00 Knitting Lenten Group 12:00 Weight Watchers 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:00 Disciple 7:00 Ballroom Dance 7:00 Drama Group	16 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Lyres Club 7:00 Alzheimers Support Group 7:15 Boy Scouts	17 8:00 Wednesday Work Crew 8:30 Aerobics 10:30 Scripture Lenten Group 12:00 Your Whole Life Group 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:00 Visitors/New Members Div. 5:00 Fellowship/Recreation Div. 5:15 Children's Choirs 5:45 Wednesday Connections 6:30 Prodigal Son Lenten Group 7:30 Contemplative Prayer	18 7:30 Bible Study, Shoney's 9:30 Women's Bible Study 10:30 Hannah Circle 10:30 Ruth Circle 11:30 PW Prayer Group 12:00 PW Luncheon 5:30 <i>The Mission</i> Lenten Group 5:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Geneva Choir	19 7:00 Men's Breakfast Group 8:30 Aerobics 10:00 SoulCollage Lenten Group 2:00 SCOC Book Club 2:00 Senior Exercise	20 Spring begins
21 8:45 Worship 9:45 Inquirers Class 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3:00 Needlework Lenten Group	22 No Preschool this week ⇨ 8:30 Aerobics 10:00 Knitting 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:00 Disciple 7:00 Ballroom Dan. 7:00 Drama Group	23 9:30 Bible Study	24 8:00 Wednesday Work Crew 8:30 Aerobics 10:30 Scripture Lenten Group 12:00 Your Whole Life Group 2:00 Senior Exercise No Wednesday Connections Supper	25 7:30 Bible Study, Shoney's 9:30 Women's Bible Study 10:30 Shepherd's Center Activities 11:30 Shepherd's Center Luncheon 5:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Geneva Choir	26 7:00 Men's Breakfast Group 8:30 Aerobics 10:00 SoulCollage Lenten Group 2:00 Senior Exercise	27 Festival of Faith 9:00 - 3:30
28 Palm Sunday 8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 2:00 Easter Egg Hunt 7:00 High School Youth	29 8:30 Aerobics 10:00 Knitting Lenten Group 12:00 Weight Watchers 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:00 Disciple 6:30 Nicaragua info covered dish dinner 7:00 Ballroom Dance 7:00 Drama Lenten Group					



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

16 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301-2487

www.firstpresby.com

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PRAYER CONCERNS

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

IN THE HOSPITAL:

Memorial - Margie Robinson;
Dick Lamb

General - Jodie Hartman

St. Francis - Anna Raab; Pat Workman

SYMPATHY TO:

Betty B. Fields on the death of her husband; John Baldwin and family on the death of his mother; Susan Watkins on the death of her brother-in-law; Leta Brown on the death of her son-in-law; Eric and Bradley Wilson on the death of their grandfather; Sue Morrison on the death of her aunt.

CURRENT PRAYER CONCERNS:

Violet Wyssell; Phyllis Down, friend of Lindsey McCoy; Dan Hobbs, friend of the Odins; Dee Campbell; Olivia Cavender, friend of Sandy Zando; Ann Taylor Bradley, sister-in-law of Jackie Taylor; Eleanor Hemphill, mother of Barbara Hopta; Grey Yetter; Kara Bruning, friend of Barbara Gessner; Clinton Floyd, father of Miranda

Klingler; Bob Orders, Sr.; "Bunky" Barber, cousin of Ruth Pitchford; Tyrone James, friend of Claude Churchill; Bryan Eads; Barbara Schaeffer, sister of Cheryle Hall; Alida Schaeffer, niece of Cheryle Hall; Sylvia Grandall; Michelle Hick, friend of the Harlows.

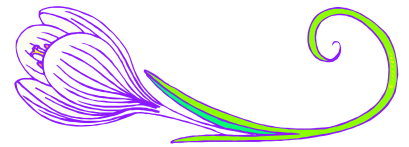
EXTENDED PRAYER CONCERNS:

Wanda Wolfe; George Hamrick; Ben Homan, friend of Betsy Peterson; Bruce and Mary Ellen Mazey, and their sons Zack and Bryan.

LONG-TERM PRAYER CONCERNS:

Aaron Owen, son of Tammy Owen; Art and June Turner, and sons Bain and Jerrod, friends of Bob Welty; Pat Workman; Terry Folse, friend of Marilyn Walbe; Colin Seidler; Tracey McVey, granddaughter of Ruth Gates; Jeanne Persinger, sister of Truman Chafin; Paul Francke, Sr.; Tammy Rhodes, friend of Pat Doumaux; Dr. Audrey Farley, daughter of Elizabeth and John Lambros; Eleanor Scott; Edwin Scherr, father of Jim Scherr; Helen Burkard, wife of Jack Burkard; Laura, daughter of Tom Bulla;

Filomino Alicie; Chuan Rong Tsao, brother-in-law of Howard Doumaux; Ed Vazquez, son-in-law of Ruth Shepherd; Jack Gastineau; Candy Galyean; Ruth Shepherd; Joseph Sprouse; Charles Hendricks; Louise Rosenbaum; Charlie Young.



In Memoriam

Imogene C. Albright

January 31, 2010

Harry W. Mitchell

February 7, 2010

Max S. Kuyk

February 15, 2010

Andrew Kessock Jr.

February 16, 2010