

Pres-Bits Newsletter

The Presbyterian Church of Washington

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“The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher.” – Luke 6:40 (New International Version)

Dear Friends,

The new school year is upon us! And, so is the new program year of PCW! Sunday school, youth group and even a new class of confirmation begins THIS month! In celebration of these programs launching, I want to take a moment to thank God for teachers.

Let me begin with a story:

In 1947, a professor at the University of Chicago, Dr. Chandrasekhar, was scheduled to teach a seminar on astrophysics. He was living in Wisconsin at the time, planning on commuting twice a week during the harsh winter months.

Only two students, unfortunately signed up for the class. After contemplating cancelling the class, he decided go ahead with the class for the sake of those two students. So, he wound up commuting 100 miles round trip, twice a week, in the dead of winter...for two students.

His students, Chen Ning Yang and Tsung-Dao Lee, did their homework. Ten years later, in 1957, they both won the Nobel prize for physics. So did Dr. Chandrasekhar in 1983.

For effective teachers, there is no such thing as a small class. We are blessed here at PCW to have so many wonderful teachers in our ranks. Some are retired, some are currently serving in classrooms, some serve in non-traditional classrooms, some teach the youngest toddler, some teach the elderly, some are professionals, and many are volunteers.

Teachers are blessings. Teachers share a bit of who they are in the prayer that their students will benefit from their presence in their lives. The teachers in our classrooms here at PCW believe that teaching is their calling.

Please be in prayer for our students this fall as they begin a new school year, and also remember the teachers and faculty of our schools. But also remember to keep in your prayers the students and teachers in our own hallways. Here is a list of our teachers (my apologies if I overlook anyone):

Sunday school: Laura Conley, Jamie Tucker, Gerry Urban and Jocelyn Van Buskirk
Youth Group: Laura Conley, Gretchen Farrell and Ian McCracken
Confirmation: Myself (I always covet your prayers).

No matter how small or big a class we have. We can never underestimate what God can accomplish through our teachers!

Blessings,
Pastor Pat

Our Church Mission Statement

Jesus Christ calls us to:

- *Enliven our spiritual lives by experiencing God among us,*
- *Grow in love for one another as children of God,*
- *Invite all to share in our fellowship,*
- *Demonstrate God's love through service to others.*



September Office Hours

The church office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. except Monday, September 7 when the office will be closed in observance of Labor Day.

Current Elders

Karla Becker	636-239-5370	twotales@gmail.com
Luther Bierbaum	636-432-1293	emmettis@yahoo.com
David Brunworth	636-239-4102	dbrunworth@hotmail.com
Bill Kellermann	636-239-7958	wckellermann@gmail.com
Joy Kopp	636-432-1800	joykopp54@gmail.com
Vivian Marshall	636-667-0013	marshv1849@att.net
Jenny Scheibe	636-239-3765	dandjscheibe@att.net
Barbara Schofield	636-390-4123	barbara.schofield2003@gmail.com
Sid Thayer	636-239-7617	sidneythayer@yahoo.com
Paula Obermark	636-239-5308	paulaobermark@gmail.com
Bruce Wiese	636-432-1057	ssswwb@charter.net

Boiler Fund

It isn't too late to donate! Can we keep the meter moving? (on the bulletin board) As of the end of August, \$31,991.74 has been donated toward our new boiler. Thank you for your generosity. All contributions for the boiler fund are deposited into the savings account.

Worship Assignments for September:

Sound Tech:

9/6/2015 Tom Ellenberger
9/13/2015 David Brunworth
9/20/2015 Joe Hagan
9/27/2015 Allen Vogt

Worship Leader: Nancy Thater

Greeters

Whip Schultz & Karla Becker
Richard & Barbara Duemler
Luther Bierbaum & Barb Hagan
Allen Vogt & Nancy Klingert

Ushers

Shirley Coulter & Mauri Truesdell
Tim & Gerry Urban
Don & Jenny Scheibe
Laura Evans & Jane Bugele

The Lord's Supper

The sacrament of Communion will be served on Sunday, September 6.

ThankYou

HEART-FELT THANKS to everyone who made Don's memorial service on August 1st the celebration of his life that he and I wanted. Your presence and support gave me the strength I needed, not just to get through the occasion – but more importantly – to enjoy it and feel at peace during it. Thanks to the 18 women who donated, prepared and served food for the luncheon after the service. And thanks to those who gave money to the church in Don's memory. He loved and served in this congregation the last few years of his life and, in turn, this congregation has loved and served us well. Thank you all. Jocelyn VanBuskirk, Heather and Derek.

All-Church Potluck

September's pot luck will be Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. The special speaker will be Jon Althausser from Legal Services of Eastern Missouri. Come for the meal! Stay for the mission!

Blessing of the Animals

Attention Pet Lovers! Mark your calendars for this year's "Blessing of the Animals!" This year's service will celebrate the bond of pet and owner on Sunday, October 11th at 4pm. Last year, we blessed over 25 dogs, one cat and even one goat! Please join us for a memorable afternoon!

2015 Per Capita

If you haven't already done so, it isn't too late to pay your portion of the 2015 church per capita tax. The amount this year is \$30.29 per person. Please note "per capita" on your check memo and envelope. There is an envelope in your packet of envelopes marked specifically for the per capita purpose.

Confirmation

This fall, Pastor Pat will be teaching our new class of confirmands. Confirmation is for students 7th grade and up who have not already gone through the confirmation process. Pastor Pat will be using a curriculum called “re:form” that he has wanted to use for years. This curriculum will use videos and discussion to help students discover what they believe about God, formulate their own faith and put their faith into their own words. Classes will run from 6:30-8pm on the second and fourth Wednesday nights of the month in the youth room. The first class will be on September 23rd with the final class coming in late April/early May.

“When the Saints Come Marching In”

The Adult Sunday School class will begin September 13, convening at 9:00 a.m. For eleven Sundays (until Advent) we shall be learning together about, discussing and exploring Christian sainthood, - what it means to be a saint, some specific people designated “saints” by the Roman Catholic Church, and Presbyterian Confessional Statements about the community of saints. You yourself as a Christian are a saint. Wouldn't you like to know what that means for and about you? “When the saints come marching in” to the church on September 13, will you be among them?

Jocelyn VanBuskirk



Food Pantry Item of Month

You may have heard that the shelves at Loving Hearts Outreach are running low. In an effort to revitalize our sense of mission to this organization, we will be collecting a specific item for the food pantry each month. September's food pantry item is **Canned Soups & Canned Fruits**. All through the month of September, you are encouraged to bring canned soups and canned fruits and place them in the donation box for Loving Hearts in the hallway. They can also use canned vegetables, canned meats, cereal and cake mixes – basically anything non-perishable. Empty egg cartons can also be used. Thank you for your generosity!

Faith-Based Support Group – THE REFUGE

This month's meeting will be September 10, 2015. Founded and facilitated by Robbin Thayer, this group was formed in order to provide **refuge** to those experiencing sadness, grief, stress, anger, or any other negative feeling caused by life's endless obstacles. The Refuge is an open door support group. You may come once or as often as you'd like. An oath of confidentiality is expected by all who attend. Facilitator is not a licensed therapist. Group will meet the 2nd Thursday of each month, 7:00 P.M., in room 12 of the fellowship hall. For more information email RefugeWashMo@gmail.com or call the church office 239-3178.

Serving Others

1 Peter 4:10 "Each of us should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's Grace in its various forms."

We will be updating our "I Will Serve" directory this fall. If you are not familiar with this program, please pick up a copy from the table across from the office in the Narthex. It is printed on lavender paper. The volunteer sheets are being revised and will be available soon.

Pictorial Directory

It has been five years since our last directory and Pastor Pat and the Church Life Committee are very excited about seeing our church family in a new directory. The photography company doing the directory is Lifetouch. Photos will be taken Friday, October 9th from 2:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Saturday appointments will be from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Allow about one hour for checking in, photography and choosing your photo for the directory.

Photography appointments can be made in person at the church after worship beginning Sunday, August 30th and every Sunday through September. Appointments may also be made online by logging onto the church website (www.presbywashmo.org) and clicking on a link to the Lifetouch appointment calendar. Changes can be made as necessary. The online appointment scheduling is very simple and straightforward.

- Each family photographed will receive a complimentary 8 X 10 color photograph and a free full color printed directory for participating. You will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits for yourself, family and friends. Receive a \$5.00 coupon towards a purchase for booking your photography session online.
- FEED THE NEED is a program to help Loving Hearts Outreach. Donate a non-perishable food item at your photo session and you will receive \$5.00 off your portrait purchase. All food will be donated to Loving Hearts.
- Pets are family too! You may bring your pet to your photo session.
- You may bring several generations for a family group photo. Two time slots are required for groups of seven or more.
- **The Lifetouch Photography Outreach Program** is an opportunity to have new families visit our church. It's simple. "Every family bring a family" (or person). Invite your family and friends to book a free professional portrait session. All families photographed will receive a free 8 X 10 color portrait. Business card size invitations are available to hand out. Only church member and regular attendees photos will go in the printed directory. Judy Bierbaum, Church Life Committee

Schnucks eScrip Cards

If you are a Schnucks shopper, there is an easy way you can support our youth group. Every time you shop and swipe your card, Schnucks will contribute up to 3% of your purchases to our church for the benefit of the youth group. Cards are available in the church office in a basket on top of the wooden mailboxes. Pick one up today and support the youth!

Hosts needed for Photography Event

We will need two hosts at a table in the Narthex to greet people as they come in to be photographed. The hosts will check families in and fill out a simple computer form with names, addresses, etc. Please sign up at the bulletin board or call Judy Bierbaum 636-432-1293

Friday, October 9th

Two hosts from 1:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.

Two hosts from 5:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 10th

Two hosts from 9:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Two hosts from 1:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.

Parent's Day Out

Our open house will be held on Thursday, September 3. Parents' day out program will resume Tuesday, September 15, 2015. Classes will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-1. Our teachers will be Pamela Kellermann and Mary Ritchey. We are looking forward to another great year!

Youth Group

I hope everyone had a great summer vacation! Our first meeting will be on **September 16th**. After that the group will meet on the first and third Wednesday nights, which means, in October we will meet on **Wednesday, October 7th and October 21st from 6:30pm – 8pm** in the Church Youth Group room, the first room to the right off of the Fellowship Hall. All Youth from 6th – 12th Grades are welcome to come have some fun, snacks, a short Bible Lesson and a great time to be with other Christian Youth. The first Wednesday of the month we usually do a mission project and on the third Wednesday, we usually have a fun activity. Any questions? Ask anyone on the Church Christian Education Committee: Pastor Pat, Laura Conley, Vivian Marshall, Bill Kellermann, Gretchen Farrell, Heather Miller and Karla Becker.

Breakfast at the Riverfront

The Church Life Committee is bringing back our warm weather activity many enjoyed last summer. Bring a breakfast from home or grab a fast food breakfast and join us at the Rennick Riverfront Pavilion to enjoy eating and visiting together. It is a very pleasant, peaceful place to relax with a cup of coffee and enjoy watching the river. Picnic tables with benches are there but you might prefer to bring a lawn chair from home. People mostly arrived between 8:30 and 9:30. We will gather again on Tuesday, September 8th. Arrive any time that works for you.



Halloween Party

Mark your calendar for October 18th 4:00 p.m.

Prayer for Life (PFL) meets Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m.

Prayer can be the glue that holds individuals, couples, ministry teams, families, and churches together and the fuel that makes them soar. It is the means by which we can all engage in ministry to each other. Join us on Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m. We study and learn a variety of prayer methods, both as individuals and as a group, to connect people and their needs to God.

Name Tags

A new namebadge signup sheet has been posted on the bulletin board. Nametags are important to all to all of us, and especially so for new members and visitors. Both lanyard and pin on badges are available. Please sign the sheet or contact Judy Bierbaum at 636-432-1293.



Bridge

Please join us on Fridays from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. to play Bridge. Everyone is welcome to come and play. Bring your friends.



Creative Hands Group – Note New Day!

Beginning in August, our group changed our day of meeting to Tuesday at 9:00. Meetings will be every Tuesday of the month. The quilt frame is set up and quilting is going strong! For information, please contact Barbara Duemler.

September Birthdays



9-3	Aaron Bounds	9-16	Judith Bierbaum
9-5	Mark Thayer	9-17	Karla Becker
9-7	Jeff Thater	9-19	Brooke Tucker
9-7	Sidney Thayer	9-21	Wilbert Schultz
9-8	Glenda Nagel	9-22	Lauren Kellermann
9-10	John Bugele	9-23	Kimberly Taubel
9-15	John Anglin	9-24	Karen Ladd



MEMBERS WITH CONTINUING NEEDS

Heather Miller, Barbara Pierce, Whip Schultz, Don & Connie Conrad, Karla Becker, Janet Aaron, Roni Fowler, Scott McCracken, Laura Fenner, John Anglin, Jenny Scheibe, Lisa Conrad, Jim Watson, Robert Luker.

GRANDVIEW: Christine Lewis

VICTORIAN PLACE: Beth Saunders

SOUTH POINTE: Elsie & Jack Truesdell, Elaine Dodson, George Peters

CEDAR CREST: June Kleberger, Glenda Nagel, Dorothy Mutert

PARK PLACE ASSISTED LIVING (O'Fallon) Sam & Boots Bonney

MARYMOUNT (Eureka): Joan Schultz

FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH REQUESTING PRAYERS:

Vicky Vogel (sister of Karla Becker)

Cindy Demitroff (friend of Paul & Lya Struckhoff)

Jim Lebreton (friend of Barbara Schofield)

Anna Roetheli (friend of the church)

Doug Holtmeier (friend of Karla & Mike Becker)

Laura Leigh Rhoades (daughter of Laura Evans)

Rose Pitman (friend of Elsie Truesdell)

Dixie Kottwitz (friend of the Bierbaums)

Jeff Pierce (son of Barbara Pierce, brother of Janet Aaron)

Phil Colter (friend of Mauri Truesdell)

Rick Kresse (father-in-law of Mauri Truesdell's daughter)

Becky Lunsford (friend of Lya Struckhoff)

Sarah McGurthy & family (daughter of Ollie & Virginia Whyte)

Mary Bray Wheeler (friend of Barbara Duemler)

Larry Bernardoni (friend of Tim Culp)

Ardis Harnagel (friend of Karen Ladd)

Paula Pursley (grandmother of Hailey Joyce)

Patti Mathews (sister-in-law of Joe & Barb Hagan)

Harmon Wright (husband of Helen Wright)

Taylor Bierbaum (grandson of Judy & Luther)

Dottie Shelton (sister of Shirley Coulter)

Debbie Stone (daughter of Jack & Elsie Truesdell)

LeRoy Riechers (cousin of Karla Becker)

Holly Stoltz-Smith (friend of the church)

Kay Hazel (friend of the church)

Betty Buerk (relative of Schultz, Vogt, Struckhoff)

Jean Kimme (friend of Barbara Schofield)

Barbara Lais Shroyer (daughter of Mary Lais)

Jim Eaton (brother of Mary Eleanor Farrell)