

Pres-Bits Newsletter

The Presbyterian Church of Washington

Washington, Missouri
(636) 239-3178

e-mail: presby@yhti.net
www.presbywashmo.org

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The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. – Mark 6:30-31

Dear Friends,

I once had a parishioner in Minnesota who was passionate about composting. He maintained a modest fenced in area behind his backyard shed to contain his heap. The heap would at times reach a height of four feet, with a diameter of at least eight feet wide. It was to say an impressive pile of muck; yard clippings, leaves, food scraps and of course, the large "donations" of his two St Bernards. Ironically, the heap wasn't nearly as smelly as you would think. Then, in the fall, his compost pile would complete its transformation into rich black dirt. Dirt that he would use for his large flower beds and garden. In order for the compost pile to complete its transformation from trash and "doggie donations" to rich, fertile soil, it only needs to sit and rest.

After the full schedule of Lent, Holy Week and Easter Sunday, I am relieved to glance at my April calendar and see far less writing and much more "white space." I am sure you have been at a place in your routine where you feel ready to do nothing for a while...ready to just sit...ready to rest. However, and it is a shame, we often times feel guilty for taking time to rest in our current culture. We almost feel this impulse to apologize for choosing to take a day for ourselves, as if resting was a selfish decision.

Take heart, you who are feeling overwhelmed and needing to rest. Not only does God understand when we need to rest, he strongly urges us to do it. You could even say the fourth commandment to keep the Sabbath dictates that we take time to rest.

Rest is a healthy spiritual practice. When we rest, we become much like that compost heap that grows rich and fertile as it sits. Our lives can feel like used up trash, unwanted scraps, and even like dog-droppings when we are worn out. However, the good news is, that as we rest, we also become transformed into something rich and fertile: a healthy resource that God can use for his garden, his creation, the mission field into which we have been placed.

Please remember to take time for yourself, to rest, to rejuvenate and to allow yourself to be transformed into a rich resource for ministry.

*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.*



April Office Hours

The church office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Current Elders

David Brunworth	636-239-4102	dbrunworth@hotmail.com
Joy Kopp	636-432-1800	joykopp54@gmail.com
Vivian Marshall	636-667-0013	marshv1849@att.net
Barbara Schofield	636-390-4123	barbara.schofield2003@gmail.com
Sid Thayer	636-239-7617	sidneythayer@yahoo.com
Bruce Wiese	636-432-1057	ssswbw@charter.net
Jamie Tucker	314-814-2780	jmtsrvir09@gmail.com
Mary Ellenberger	636-742-4591	maryvet01@yahoo.com
Kathy Froning	636-239-7995	kathyfroning@yahoo.com
Lois Kempf	314-630-8379	loiskempf@hotmail.com
Karen Ladd	636-239-5271	jladd001@charter.net
Tim Urban	636-239-2082	tim.urban22@yahoo.com

The Lord's Supper

The sacrament of Communion will be served on Sunday, April 3.

A HUGE Thanks!

Thank you to all for the thoughts and prayers, cards, visits, calls, food and working in the office while I was out for my hip surgery. I greatly appreciate everything! I'm doing extremely well thanks to the Great Physician. Carol Ramsey

Easter Egg Hunt Thanks!

WOW! We had another record crowd for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 26th, with 160 children hunting on a PERFECT day for egg hunting! Many thanks to all the bunnies that helped fill OVER 4000 eggs, which was no small feat! Thank you to all that donated candy, to everyone that helped that day in any way with the hunt, hiding the eggs, face painting, the coloring table, manning the registration table, helping with the cookies and punch, and the prize table! We also raffled off a Family Movie Basket and the winner was extremely excited. See you next year! Laura Conley and Gretchen Farrell

Communion Assignments for April:

Preparer: Jamie Tucker

Servers: David Brunworth, Kathy Froning, Bruce Wiese, Tim Urban

Worship Assignments for April:

Sound Tech:

4/3/2016 Allen Vogt
4/10/2016 Ian McCracken
4/17/2016 Joe Hagan
4/24/2016 Tom Ellenberger

Worship Leader: John Anglin

Ushers

Jean Weekley & Kay Hucke
Roland Schwarzen & June Gellhausen
Luther Bierbaum & Barb Hagan
Laura Evans & Jane Bugele

Greeters

Whip Schultz & Nancy Klingert
Tim & Gerry Urban
Don & Jenny Scheibe
Allen Vogt & Karla Becker



All-Church Potluck

The March pot luck was held March 9. The next pot luck will be April 13 at 5:30 p.m. with meat loaf as meat dish. The special speaker will be Karen Dawson of Harvest Table. Please sign up! Come for the meal! Stay for the mission!

Circle of Friends

The Circle of Friends will continue its study of "Come to the Waters" with 2 meetings - Thursday, April 7th and Thursday, April 21 - on Lesson 5: "Stormy Water - Faith." We meet in the Church Library at 10:00 a.m.- Jocelyn VanBuskirk

Stephen Ministries Workshop

The idea of becoming a Stephen Ministries congregation began at last year's Hospitality Dinner. Stephen Ministry is the one-to-one lay caring ministry that takes place in congregations that enroll in the Stephen Ministry program. Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. If you are interested in learning more about this program and how the Presbyterian Church of Washington could become a Stephen Ministry congregation, contact Pastor Pat or Rev. Jocelyn.

Adult Sunday School

The Adult Sunday School class will begin a new study on Sunday, April 17th. We shall look at Resurrection Appearances in the New Testament that give clues about what the new Christian communities should be like, and we shall study about the Dead Sea Scrolls and what they tell us about actual early Christian community life and convictions. This study will continue through May. The class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the Session Room. - Jocelyn VanBuskirk

7th Annual Book Sale

Our HUGE Annual Community Book Sale will be held in our Fellowship Hall on Friday, April 15th, and Saturday, April 16th, both days from 8am – 6pm, with a special time for any church members and friends to see the last of the books after worship on Sunday, April 17th, before we pack them away. We would love to have help organizing all the books from Monday, April 11th – Thursday, April 14th, 9am-3pm. Please look for a sign-up on the bulletin boards. Got any book donations? Please drop them off those four days OR call Gretchen Farrell. Thank you! Gretchen Farrell, Kathy Froning and Karen Ladd, Co-Chairpersons

2016 Presbyterian Youth Triennium

This summer, a handful of our youth will be travelling to Purdue University in Indiana, along with nearly 100 other Presbyterian youth from the St Louis area, for the 2016 Presbyterian Youth Triennium! Every three years, our denomination hosts a gathering of thousands of Presbyterian high school youth from around the nation, Canada and beyond for worship, small groups, leadership training, and healthy recreation. Triennium will be held this year from July 19th to 23rd. There will be some upcoming fundraisers to help our youth afford the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, so please be on the lookout.

Food Pantry Items of Month

The shelves at Loving Hearts Outreach are still running low. In an effort to revitalize our sense of mission to this organization, we will be collecting specific items for the food pantry each month. April's items are **Canned Fruits, Salad Dressings and Dry Pastas**. All through the month of April, you are encouraged to bring these items and place them in the donation box for Loving Hearts. 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!

Hand Bell Choir?

With the dramatically increased worship attendance since Advent, and the amount of new faces on Sunday morning over the past two years, the Worship Committee of PCW would like to “resurrect” the Hand Bell Choir. If you are interested in playing in the Hand Bell Choir, keep your eyes open. There will be a sign-up sheet posted soon. And, even more vitally important, if you feel called to DIRECT the Hand Bell Choir, contact Pastor Pat or someone from the Worship Committee.

2016

Friends of Emmaus

A DAY OF SPECIAL TRIBUTE & CELEBRATION OF 45 YEARS

5th Annual Spring Festival

Sun., May 15th 12:00 – 5:00

“Ole Time Country Family Picnic”

**QUILT AUCTION - 3:00 P.M.
BEAUTIFUL HANDMADE QUILTS**

Featuring: Residents' Crafts – Homemade Ice Cream

Green Thumb/Plants – Fresh Squeezed Lemonade – Books

Outdoor Picnic Food – Entertainment – Big Flea Market

Roasted Chicken, ¼ lb Chuckburger, Homemade German Potato Salad, Homemade Pie & More

**Accessible Parking
Shuttle Service**

**Held on campus of
Emmaus Homes, Inc.
11900 Emmaus Dr. (Hwy D)
Marthasville, MO 63357
For more information – 636-561-7747**

**For Quilt info go to:
breheauction.com**

**Plan on attending the Friends of Emmaus SPRING FESTIVAL PICNIC
after our church's Confirmation Sunday, May 15.**

Picnic food inside/outside until 5:00 p.m.

Quilts on display: 12:00 p.m.

Quilt Auction: 3:00 p.m. prompt

More info? Sharon Fenner 239-7579

Presby Script Program



Summer is fast approaching and maybe you're thinking about taking a cruise, if so, don't forget about using Script Cards to pay for the initial cost of the trip as well as the on board expenses. It works great and is very easy to use! Celebrity Cruise Line, Carnival Cruise Lines, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines (13%!) & Princess Cruise Lines all offer great rebates to the church. For more information on how it works talk to Becky Vogt.



If you're thinking you'd like to take the kids or grandkids to Disney this summer, the Script Program also offers a rebate to the church. Again, it works great and is very simple to use the gift cards. For more information on how the Disney gift cards work, just talk to Gretchen Farrell.



Since we're on subject of vacations – The Scrip Program also has gift cards for Delta Airlines, Southwest Airlines & Big Cedar Lodge who also offer great rebates.

Don't forget gift cards are available at places such as Bass Pro Shop, Menards, Land's End, Macy's, Amazon, Bed Bath & Beyond, Sears, Toys 'R Us and many, many more businesses.

See the list in this newsletter and on the Scrip Table for many local stores and restaurants that also offer great rebates to the church! All the local business establishments have been wonderful to work with and very supportive of the church! Thank you to all those who have helped to make the Presby Scrip Program successful!



Change for Chickens

Are your pockets jingling with lots of extra change? Is your wallet or change purse too bulky? Then drop a few coins into the collection jar for the Change for Chickens and see how far those pennies, nickels, dimes or quarters will go. This program gives hope and help to underprivileged people and really educates them and their families with life sustaining skills. Any big or little coins will be much appreciated. PLUS, we have collected OVER \$200 so far! That's enough to buy about 300 chicks! Thank you for your help. The Mission Committee

April Birthdays



4-3	Jan Hardin	4-17	Philip Kellermann
4-4	Andrew Greer	4-17	Nancy Thater
4-5	Pastor Pat	4-27	Carl Bounds
4-10	Phillip Henderson	4-30	Beth Saunders

Name Tags

A new name badge 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.



Youth Group

We are having a great time with our Youth Group this year! In March, we had a Triennium meeting with a Ladue Chapel pastor about this summer's national Presbyterian teen event, practiced a lot with the choir for our Easter Worship song, and signed Easter cards for our shut-in members and friends. In April, we will have our meetings on April 6th and April 20th and work a bunch on our Youth Sunday service which will be on April 24th. We continue to meet on our regular schedule of meetings with the first and third Wednesday nights in the Church Youth Group room (Room #10), the first room to the right off of the Fellowship Hall. The first Wednesday of the month we usually do a mission project and on the third Wednesday, we usually have a fun activity(always a surprise!). 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. Any questions? Just ask any of the YG sponsors: Laura Conley, Gretchen Farrell and Ian McCracken.

Camp Peace Returns!

Parents and Grandparents, mark your calendars for a very special week at church this summer! The week of **June 27 – July 1, 2016** Mound Ridge Retreat Center will be bringing "camp" to our backyard! "Camp Peace" is much like Vacation Bible School, only so much more! Camp Peace is a cooperative program between Mound Ridge and PCW. It offers a unique opportunity to nurture the children of our congregation and community in their faith. It also provides for young people the wonderful benefits of a camp experience. In other words, *Bible Camp will be coming to us!* That week, Mound Ridge will bring its summer staff to Washington to run a typical week of Bible camp programming to our facility.

Camp Peace will run from 8am to 2pm each day. The program is for children entering 1st through 5th grades, though older youth will be encouraged to attend to help lead games, music and other programs. Adults will also be needed to provide meals, serve food and refreshments and to have fun alongside the kiddos! If you have younger children, but want them to participate in some fashion at Camp Peace, or if you have any other questions, please contact someone from the Christian Education Committee or Pastor Pat.

PLACE AN ORDER FOR YOUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WASHINGTON SHIRT

We will soon be placing an order for the yellow knit shirts with the Presbyterian Church of Washington logo embroidered on the front. They are great looking, high quality shirts. There is a sample men's collared shirt in size large hanging in the coatroom for you to look at. Whenever we have things like our book sale, rummage sale or other event, it's great to wear the shirt identifying ourselves as part of the PCW team. Order forms are on the bulletin board. Fill one out, attach a check and turn the order in to the office. See Judy Bierbaum with any questions.

Upcoming May Events in Worship

Sunday, May 8th – Presentation of Bibles to 2nd Grade Students

Sunday, May 15th – Confirmation Sunday and Baptism

Sunday, May 29th – Graduation Recognition

Confirmation Update

Matt Benedict, Alex Johnson, Destiny Lafferty, Olivia Tucker, Haylee Struckhoff and Danielle Tucker are nearing the end of their Confirmation Journey. They are currently working on their Statements of Faith. They will be visiting Congregation Temple Israel in St Louis on April 15th. Confirmation Sunday is scheduled for May 15th. Please continue to be in prayer for our Confirmation students!

Youth Sunday coming soon on April 24th

Our church Youth Group will be taking over the worship time on Sunday, April 24th and we'd love to invite everyone to come and join us as we get to know the future of our church NOW. We have so many talented, bright young ladies and gentlemen here in our midst, and, if you haven't met them yet, you will next month! So, get ready for some MORE fun and energy at church, and, just maybe, we can all learn a thing or two that day from their point of view.

The PCW Youth Group Sponsors, Gretchen, Laura and Ian for our Youth Group: Miles, Kaci, Katie, Andrew, Alex J., Olivia, Danielle, Haylee, Destiny, Alex B. and Matt



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.



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

Meetings are normally every Tuesday of the month. The quilt frame is set up and quilting is going strong! For information, please contact Barbara Duemler.



Warblers

The Warblers sing at Cedar Crest the last Wednesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. We would love to have more voices come. The only requirement is to make a "joyful noise." Call Anna Mae Boehmer for more information at 239-3344 or call 314-691-0473



MEMBERS WITH CONTINUING NEEDS

Heather Miller, Barbara Pierce, Whip Schultz, Don & Connie Conrad, Karla Becker, Janet Aaron, Scott McCracken, Laura Fenner, Lisa Conrad, Confirmation Class, Family of Roni Fowler

GRANDVIEW: Christine Lewis

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

CEDAR CREST: June Kleberger, Dorothy Mutert, Beth Saunders

PARK PLACE ASSISTED LIVING (O'Fallon) Boots Bonney

MARYMOUNT (Eureka): Joan Schultz

FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH REQUESTING PRAYERS:

Vicky Vogel (sister of Karla Becker)

Jim Lebreton (friend of Barbara Schofield)

Anna Roetheli (friend of the church)

Laura Leigh Rhoades (daughter of Laura Evans)

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)

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

Mary Bray Wheeler (friend of Barbara Duemler)

Ardis Harnagel (friend of Karen Ladd)

Taylor Bierbaum (grandson of Judy & Luther)

Dottie Shelton (sister of Shirley Coulter)

Holly Stoltz-Smith (friend of the church)

Betty Buerk (relative of Schultz, Vogt, Struckhoff)

Jean Kimme (friend of Barbara Schofield)

Susan Conrad (daughter-in-law to Don & Connie Conrad &
sister-in-law to Paul & Janet Henderson)

Dianne Symansky (friend of the Duemlers)

Marc Houseman (friend of the congregation)

Carol Perkins (friend of Karen Ladd)

Megan Turbeville (cousin of Vivian Marshall)

Rena Middendorf & Family (niece of Kathy Froning)

Pam Evangelist (sister of Sharon Fenner)

Betty Mechem (friend of Joe & Barb Hagan)

Ray Tucker (father-in-law of Jamie Tucker)

Sarah Truesdell Krumpak & twins (great niece and cousins to
Jack, Elsie, Kathy & Mauri Trusdell)

Leon Bierbaum (brother of Luther Bierbaum)

Alexandria Caldwell (friend of Becker family)

Joe Bryant (friend of Lya Struckhoff)