

“Christ is all and in all.” Colossians 3:11

# Pres-Bits Newsletter

## The Presbyterian Church of Washington

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“And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” –  
Micah 6:8

Dear Friends,

The ministry of the Church of Jesus Christ does not revolve around numbers. The ministry of the Church of Jesus Christ revolves around action (mission, service, furthering the Kingdom of God). A good friend and colleague reminded me about this recently. This reminder kindled in me a little bit of shame, but a lot of excitement as well.

We were discussing the health of our respective congregations. I informed him, with an over-zealous amount of pride I must admit, that our congregation had again grown in membership for the third straight year, saw a spike (14%) in average worship attendance, and adopted a balanced budget for the first time in many years. He then asked me, “What else?” At first I was taken aback by his question. “What do you mean, ‘What else?’”, I thought. Isn’t that enough?

But, I knew he was right. All those numbers (what we in the “biz” call “Bucks and Butts” – bucks in the offering plate, butts in the pew), are fine and dandy, but they only tell part of the story. The health of a church is not measured in members, finances or attendance. All those things are important to monitor, but the data is incomplete. The true health of a congregation is measured in “engagement.”

If a bunch of people choose to join our church, but do little other than attend worship on an occasional Sunday morning, is that a sign of health? If our worship attendance continues to increase, but the members are generally not carrying their faith into the community, is that a sign of health? If our budget is balanced, but our members and attendees are generally not engaged in our mission, is that a sign of health? The answer to all three questions is the same: probably not.

I certainly am not trying to imply that PCW is an “unhealthy church.” Far from it! I think we are alive and thriving. And, we have come so very far. And, I’m not implying that we don’t need to continue tracking data such as membership, attendance and finances. This can all be valuable information.

However, now that we have reached a place of relative financial stability, now that we have reached a place where our worship space feels more “full,” now that we are continuing to experience God’s grace in God bringing others into our midst, the time is right to switch our energy to engaging our participation outside of the worship hour.

So, I would like the leadership of the church (committee chairs and members, The Session and other ministry leaders) to prayerfully focus on two questions: “What can we do to promote engagement in our existing ministries?” and much like it, “What ministries, mission projects, service opportunities would inspire greater engagement from our members/attendees?”

And, whether you are a leader in the congregation or not, I would like to encourage you to prayerfully ask yourself the question, “What ministry at the church can I increase my engagement?” And, if you are not sure where you can get engaged, read through this newsletter, we have opportunities that you may find inspiring. And, if you don’t see

something that sparks your enthusiasm, but you have an idea of something that might, please come and talk to me. Little excites me more than helping someone discern their call.

Blessings in the name of Jesus Christ to all of you!  
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.



## Office Hours

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

## Current Elders

<b>Mary Ellenberger</b>	314-330-0726	<a href="mailto:maryvet01@yahoo.com">maryvet01@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Kathy Froning</b>	636-239-7995	<a href="mailto:kathyfroning@yahoo.com">kathyfroning@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Lois Kempf</b>	314-488-8165	<a href="mailto:loiskempf@hotmail.com">loiskempf@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Karen Ladd</b>	636-239-5271	<a href="mailto:jladd001@charter.net">jladd001@charter.net</a>
<b>David Brunworth</b>	636-239-4102	<a href="mailto:dbrunworth@hotmail.com">dbrunworth@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Tim Urban</b>	636-239-2082	<a href="mailto:tim.urban22@yahoo.com">tim.urban22@yahoo.com</a>
<b>John Anglin</b>	636-239-6031	<a href="mailto:johneanglin@gmail.com">johneanglin@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vivian Marshall</b>	636-667-0013	<a href="mailto:vmarsh1849@gmail.com">vmarsh1849@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ian McCracken</b>	636-667-2014	<a href="mailto:ismccracken408@gmail.com">ismccracken408@gmail.com</a>
<b>Jamie Tucker</b>	314-814-2780	<a href="mailto:jmtsrvir09@gmail.com">jmtsrvir09@gmail.com</a>
<b>Jean Weekley</b>	636-667-4624	<a href="mailto:possumhawhill@aol.com">possumhawhill@aol.com</a>
<b>Bruce Wiese</b>	636-432-1057	<a href="mailto:ssswbw@charter.net">ssswbw@charter.net</a>

## Worship Assignments for February:

### Sound Tech:

2/5/2017	Allen Vogt
2/12/2017	Miles McCracken
2/19/2017	Joe Hagan
2/26/2017	Tom Ellenberger



Worship Leader: Ian McCracken

### Ushers

Feb. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Weekly & Kay Hucke
Feb. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Roland Schwarzen & June Gellhausen
Feb. 19 <sup>th</sup>	Luther Bierbaum & Barb Hagan
Feb. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Open

### Greeters

Struckhoff's & Nancy Klingert
Tim & Gerry Urban
Don & Jenny Scheibe
Allen Vogt & Karla Becker

## The Lord's Supper

The sacrament of Communion will be served on Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Thank You

Thank you for the Christmas gift. It was deeply appreciated. Anna and I went out to dinner on New Year's Eve with it. Again, thank you and Happy New Year to you and your families.

Ken Roetheli



## SOUP-ER Bowl

Let's get ready for some football on SOUP-ER Bowl Sunday, February 5th! We have two exciting events going on, thanks to our Youth Group! First, we have our canned food and cash collection in our giant SOUP pot located in the narthex. This is the 16th year we are doing this and donating the food to Loving Hearts Outreach. The Youth Group is doing it all in remembrance of a former leader, Robyn Greer. We are also having a simple SOUP Luncheon immediately following Worship with a Free Will Offering going to The Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services. Please stop by and enjoy a delicious meal before heading out to the Big Game and support our Youth as they do this ALL by themselves!



## All-Church Potluck

The All-Church Potluck was held Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> with 22 in attendance. The next potluck will be February 8<sup>th</sup> with chicken breast as the main dish. The guest speaker will be Becky Joseph with Faith Community Nursing. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.



## 2017 Valentine's Date Night, SAVE THE DATE!

Ok, all you romantics, please look forward to a wonderful evening on Saturday, February 11, 2017 as we ask any couple to join us for a fabulous Valentine's Date Night complete with a homemade gourmet meal, made by our gentlemen friends, followed by a great movie in our own Fellowship Hall. All the ladies get to sit back, nibble on chocolate fountain goodies, and relax for the night! Any couple interested, please sign up by February 5<sup>th</sup>. The cost is about \$50 which includes a four course meal (appetizers, salad, entrée and dessert) and alcohol. Any questions? Please see Tom Farrell.



## FREE Movie Night: "Finding Dory"

"Funny, poignant, and thought-provoking, *Finding Dory* (2016) delivers a beautifully animated adventure that adds another entertaining chapter to its predecessor's classic story." This is the critics' consensus according to rottentomatoes.com. *Finding Dory* is the wonderful sequel to Pixar's enormously popular *Finding Nemo*. But, if you haven't seen the original, you will still greatly enjoy this charming film. *Finding Dory* will play for FREE on Sunday night, the 12<sup>th</sup> of February at 6pm. We will provide the movie, the popcorn and soda and water. Please bring a comfortable lawn chair, bean bag, etc if you like. And, please invite your whole family, your friends and your neighbors!

## Vacation

Pastor Pat will be taking vacation to attend his father's wedding in Minnesota. He will be out of the office from February 13 to 19. Karen and Alex, while Karen is still recovering from her last surgery, will remain in Missouri. Rev. Jocelyn Van Buskirk will be preaching on February 19. If there are any pastoral emergencies that week, please contact Rev. Jocelyn. Pastor Pat will be back in the office on Monday, the 20<sup>th</sup> of February.



## Harvest Table

Just a reminder to our wonderful volunteers in our church... Our next opportunity to serve at the Harvest Table is February 18<sup>th</sup>. This is such a rewarding experience to extend the hands of God to our neighbors. Be thinking about this date. An announcement will be made in church as the date approaches for volunteers and food preparers. If you have never experienced this wonderful opportunity, please join the gang on the 18<sup>th</sup> at St. Peter's UCC Church. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

## Washington Bridal Extravaganza

This year's event will be February 19<sup>th</sup>. For the last two years we have had a booth at the Bridal Show for the purpose of advertising our church facilities as a venue for weddings and receptions. The event begins at 10:00 am and ends at 3:00 pm. at the KC Hall in Washington. Christy Eckert and Judy Bierbaum will be there representing our church. They could use an extra hand for an hour or so around noon. A picture is posted on the bulletin board from last year's booth. Please see Judy Bierbaum to volunteer or by phone at 432-1293.

## Fundraising Dinner

There will be a fund raising turkey and dressing dinner on February 19<sup>th</sup> after the service of worship. The funds will be going toward the new sign at South Point Road. The meal is being furnished and prepared by Anna Mae Boehmer.



## Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry will continue to meet in February. We will have a brown bag breakfast on Saturday, February 25 at 7:30am. We will discuss ongoing service projects and how we can expand our mission.

## Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday, the first of March, marks the beginning of our Lenten journey. The Lenten journey is a journey of meditation, penitence, and sacrifice. To honor this beginning of our journey together, we will hold a special worship service that evening at 7 pm. This will be a quiet and meditative worship service along with the Lord's Supper and the imposition of ashes.



*Remember man  
that you are  
dust and into  
dust you shall  
return.*

## **Progressive Dinner**

Your Church Life Committee is excited to announce we are planning another Progressive Dinner on Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. The feedback we had from the dinner last August made it obvious attendees really enjoyed it. I guess the secret is out of the bag. Presbyterians love to get together and eat! There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board where you can sign up for hosting, assisting a host, cooking or just attend. The cost of food will be shared by all. More details will be shared mid-February.

## **“Faith in Film” Series**

Pastor Pat will be leading an Adult Education series during Lent on Wednesday nights that he is calling “Faith in Film.” This series will focus on various depictions of Christ in film and how these representations can feed our soul as we approach Easter. Currently, we will plan to watch three films (divided into two sections each) and discuss in the sanctuary. If you miss the first half of a movie, a synopsis will be given before viewing the second half. Here is a tentative schedule of the series (all on Wednesday evenings at 7pm):

- March 8 and 15: “The Last Days in the Desert” – PG-13, 98 minutes, 2016

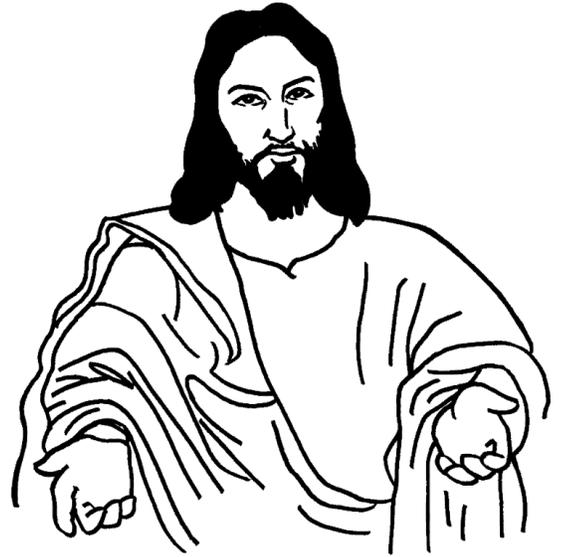
This film follows Jesus (Ewen McGregor) in an imagined chapter from his forty days of fasting and praying in the desert.

- March 22 and 29: “Jesus Christ Superstar” – G, 1hr 48min, 1973

The timeless film version of the Andrew Lloyd Webber-Tim Rice successful stage musical examines the last weeks in the life of Jesus.

- April 5 and 12: “Risen” – PG-13, 1hr 47min, 2016

The first forty days after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ are told through the eyes of an agnostic Roman Centurion (Joseph Fiennes) charged by Pontius Pilate to investigate rumors of a risen Jewish Messiah and locate the missing deceased body of Jesus of Nazareth.



## **Name Badges**

Let's make a renewed commitment to wearing our name badges. It is especially important for our new members and visitors to be able to put a name and face together. You don't need to be a member to request a name badge. There is a new signup sheet posted on the bulletin board to request a name tag.

## **Pictorial Directory Update**

Last month a year had passed since we received our directory that was prepared in the fall of 2015. There is a copy of the directory on a table in the Narthex for you to write in any changes such as phone numbers, email, etc. It is not necessary to be a member to be included. It is especially important that the church office have contact information for death notices, worship cancellations, or any other urgent messages.

## Scrip Program

The Presby Scrip Program has added the following new gift cards/certificates to our inventory. They are available immediately at the Scrip Table in the foyer every Sunday:

\$100 & \$25 gift cards to WalMart;

\$100 & \$25 gift cards to Walgreens;

\$25 gift certificates to The Creek;

\$20 gift cards to Aldo's;

\$25 gift cards to Fazoli's

\$20 gift cards to Imo's



## Cookie Baking for Mercy Cancer Center

If you enjoy baking cookies, join the Church Life Committee Tuesday, February 14th at 11:00 a.m. to bake cookies. The cookies are delivered to the front desk in the Cancer Center where patients and family can enjoy a treat. They require cookies be made in a commercial kitchen and contain no nuts. Bring a cookie mix or your favorite recipe. Flour, sugar, butter and eggs will be available in the kitchen.

## Creative Hands

Creative Hands is taking a hiatus for a bit. Janet Aaron and Barbara Pierce are the only quilters available for February. Anyone interested in helping quilt should call Janet at 636-221-4983.

## *FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS*



2/4	Kevin Carpenter	2/17	Gerry Urban
2/5	Joy Kopp	2/18	Kay Hucke
2/7	Janet Henderson	2/19	Sam Farrell
2/8	Donald Conrad	2/19	Roland Schwarzen
2/8	Laura Conley	2/19	Pamela Kellermann
2/9	Charlene Jackson	2/22	Peggy Otto
2/14	Danielle Tucker	2/24	Olivia Mahon
2/16	Pamela Schwarzen		



## **MEMBERS WITH CONTINUING NEEDS**

Heather Miller, Barbara Pierce, Whip Schultz, Don & Connie Conrad, Janet Aaron, Laura Fenner, Patricia Bagley, Pam Schwarzen, Karen Gruber, Laura Evans, Mike Becker, Jocelyn Van Buskirk, Mary Lais, Boots Bonney

**GRANDVIEW:** Christine Lewis

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

**CEDAR CREST:** June Kleberger, Dorothy Mutert, Beth Saunders,  
Lisa Conrad

## **FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH REQUESTING PRAYERS:**

Vicky Vogel (sister of Karla Becker)

Anna Roetheli (friend of the church)

Laura Leigh Rhoades (daughter of Laura Evans)

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

Eddie & Sarah McGurthy & family (daughter and son-in-law of Ollie & Virginia Whyte)

Holly Stoltz-Smith (friend of the church)

Jean Kimme (friend of Barbara Schofield)

Rena Middendorf & Family (niece of Kathy Froning)

Pam Evangelist (sister of Sharon Fenner)

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

McKenna Kleinheider (granddaughter of June Gellhausen)

Felix Frye (brother-in-law of Trisha Bagley)

Charles Bagley (brother of Trisha Bagley)

Allie Mooney & Patrick Jensen (sister of Jenny Bieg)

Eunice Linda (sister of Jim Watson)

Maxine Lohr (mother of John Bugele)

Linda Tillman (friend of Bob & Jan Eade)

Kathryn Whyte (daughter of Ollie & Virginia Whyte)

Laura Sterlin (friend of the church)

Brian Gordy (brother of Beth Brehe)

Doug McNeil (friend of Vivian Marshall)

Megan Turbeville (daughter of Vivian Marshall's cousin)

Ron Whitebred (father of Gretchen Farrell)

The Family of Kevin Cundiff, Sr.

Kathy Boyles (friend of Jan Hardin)

Helen Smith (friend of Tim Culp)

Michael Buescher family (son of Marybelle Buescher)

# February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Youth 6:0 p	<b>2</b> PDO 9a	<b>3</b> Bridge 7p	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> SoupEr Bowl of Caring Soup Luncheon after service  Scout Sunday	<b>6</b> Session 7p	<b>7</b> PFL 7a PDO 9a  Yoga 5:30p	<b>8</b> Mission Outreach 7p  All-Church Potluck 5:30p	<b>9</b> PDO 9a  Personnel 2p	<b>10</b> Bridge 7p	<b>11</b>  Valentine Date Night  
<b>12</b> Property (after worship)  Movie Night 6p	<b>13</b>  Pastor on Vac.	<b>14</b> PFL 7a PDO a Church Life 9:30 a  Yoga 5:30p  Cookie Baking 11a  Pastor on Vac.	<b>15</b> Youth 6:3p  Pastor on Vac.	<b>16</b> PDO 9a  Worship 7p  Pastor on Vac.	<b>17</b> Bridge 7p  Pastor on Vac.	<b>18</b> Harvest Table  Pastor on Vac.
<b>19</b> Fundraising Dinner (after worship)  Bridal Extravaganza  Pastor on Vac.	<b>20</b> Finance 10a  Christian Education 6p	<b>21</b> PFL7a PDO 9a  Yoga 5:30p	<b>22</b> Warblers 11a	<b>23</b> PDO 9a Circle 10a	<b>24</b> Bridge 7p	<b>25</b> Men' s Ministry 7:30a
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> PFL 7a PDO 9a  Yoga 5:30p	<b>MARCH 1</b> ASH WEDNESDAY  Youth 6:30p	<b>MARCH 2</b> PDO 9a	<b>MARCH 3</b> Bridge 7p	<b>MARCH 4</b> Progressive Dinner 6p