

# The First Presbyterian Church

Ann Arbor, Michigan

1432 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104

(734) 662-4466 [www.firstpresbyterian.org](http://www.firstpresbyterian.org)

*Our mission is to grow spiritually as disciples of Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, mission, learning, and prayer.  
We commit ourselves, in all we say and do, to demonstrate God's grace and love.*

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**January 24, 2010**

## **Sermon Series: Close Encounters - Engaging Jesus As He Engages Others**

Sermon: Late Night Encounter

Scripture: John 3:1-10

Preaching: Rev. Sarah Wiles

Sermon Notes:

### **Questions for Further Reflection:**

- 1) How do you identify or not identify with Nicodemus?
- 2) What do you take for granted as being true about God? How might those assumptions limit your ability to see God's grace at work in the world?
- 3) Our conversion to Christianity is a life-long, Spirit-led process.  
How is the Spirit working to renew your life? Where do you seek new birth?

Thank you for worshipping with us! The 545 Planning Team welcomes your feedback.

The planning team members are Daniel Scott Hefferan, Dody Blackstone, Rev. Jim Monnett, Rev. Matthew Nickel, Rev. Jenny McDevitt, Thomas Trevethan, Scott Ellis, Rev. Sarah Wiles, Jonathan Smith, Carol Muehlig, Kaitlin Brenna Terpstra-Sweeney, and Joe Sandman.

The congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor, Michigan  
is called to its annual meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, January 31, 2010, to hear reports of its ministry  
and mission and approve the terms of call for its installed pastors.  
An all-church potluck follows the annual meeting.

## Announcements

**STEPHEN MINISTRY CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASSES:** The Stephen Ministry would like to invite the congregation to a continuing education class on Monday, January 25, from 7:10 to 7:45 p.m., in the Youth Room. The session topic is "The Role of the Parish Nurse," presented by Martine Blogin.

**YOUTH NEWS: High School** – Tonight Keystones is going to 5:45 p.m. worship, then heading home for A2 School's midterm week. Next Sunday: no Sunday School for high schoolers so they can go to the Congregational meeting and the brunch. Keystones will go to 5:45 worship followed by youth group until 7:30 p.m. The Presbyterian Youth Triennium, July 20-24, has eight spots left. Active high schoolers can request leadership scholarships. See RJ to get connected. **MIDS** meets during Wednesday 2:42 this week from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. and may stay for dinner in the Social Hall. Youth Choir meets from 7:00 to 7:45 p.m. Come for some, come for all.

**H1N1 VACCINES AVAILABLE:** Washtenaw County Public Health is offering free H1N1 flu vaccinations during January. Public Health is located at 555 Towner Street, Ypsilanti. Please call 544-6700 and schedule an appointment. Vaccination dates are Monday, January 25, and Wednesday, January 27. Appointments are available between 4:00 and 6:30 p.m. People who walk in without an appointment will be served as time allows.

**KITCHEN HELPERS NEEDED FOR WEDNESDAY 2:42:** Our next semester of Wednesday 2:42 begins January 27, which means it's time to round up another batch of kitchen helpers to assist our cook, Christine Miller, in preparing those delicious dinners. All are welcome, seasoned 2:42 veterans or "newbies." Come and be part of a great team, just once or several times. To sign up, contact Jennifer Sansbury at [jsansbury@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:jsansbury@firstpresbyterian.org) or 662-4466, ext. 16. The 2:42 dates are: January 27, February 3, 10, 17, March 3, 10, 17 and 24. The normal shift is 4:00 to 6:15 p.m. We need you ... to be a part of the 2:42 Kitchen Crew!

**CAMPUS MINISTRY UPDATE:** Welcome back students! Midweek worship is held every Tuesday on campus at the Student Union in the Anderson room at 9:00 p.m. Be sure to order your sub sandwiches for Superbowl Sunday! The Sub Sale is happening February 7, so order your sub sandwiches today! Look out for order forms in the church bulletin. All of the funds raised go toward the Spring Break mission trips. There is a mission trip meeting February 9 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the Lewis room for students traveling to Costa Rica or New Orleans. We will be commissioning the students going on a mission trip Sunday, February 21 at the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

**THE NEXT MATURE MINISTRIES' MOVIE MORNING** is January 28, at 11:00 a.m. Meet at the church to watch and discuss the spiritual and theological significance of the movie *The Aviator*. Hope you can join us! Sign up by January 25. Watch for our February movie morning, which will include going to a theater together. Interested? Contact the "Fellowship and Fun" subcommittee of Mature Ministries: Malcolm Powers ([mmpowers@umich.edu](mailto:mmpowers@umich.edu), 761-9859) or Melissa Anne Rogers ([mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org), 662-4466, ext. 12).

**JOIN THE RESIDENT MINISTERS ON A PILGRIMAGE TO IONA**, Scotland, September 16 - 26. Iona is a tiny island off the west coast of Scotland, where monastic communities have lived since 563. Today, the Iona Community welcomes pilgrims from all over the world to worship together. There is space for twenty on the pilgrimage. **The deadline to sign up and give a \$300 deposit is Wednesday, January 27.** To learn more, contact Revs. Jenny McDevitt, Matthew Nickel, or Sarah Wiles.

**ARCHBISHOP ELIAS CHACOUR WILL VISIT FIRST PRES** on January 26. The Archbishop is the founder of the Mar Elias Educational Institutions in Ibillin, North Galilee, Israel, a small impoverished Muslim and Christian village. The schools welcome all religious faiths and ethnic groups as students, staff and teachers, and now serve 3,500 students within a 25 to 30 mile radius. On Tuesday, January 26, at 7:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary, Father Chacour and national Pilgrims of Ibillin Executive Director Rev. Dr. Robert Sawyer will give presentations on the schools' recent scholastic achievements, and the outcome of the Pilgrims of Ibillin's recent donations. Father Chacour will discuss some of the problems facing the schools, the importance of academic studies, and of learning how to "love all neighbors as yourself." After the presentations, all are invited to the Social Hall for coffee, tea, and cookies. Archbishop Chacour will also hold a book signing.

**ANNUAL ALL CHURCH MEETING AND POTLUCK BRUNCH** will be held **Sunday, January 31.** The annual meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary, immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. **There will be no 11:00 a.m. worship service that day.** Childcare will be provided until the conclusion of the annual meeting.

A potluck brunch will be held in the Social Hall after the annual meeting. Those whose last names begin with A

through F are asked to bring a salad; G through R, a main dish; and S through Z, a dessert. Please call the Church Office (662-4466) if you are planning to attend, so that an appropriate number of tables can be set up.

**OUR CHURCH WEEPS WITH THOSE WHO WEEP.** Many of you have lost loved ones in the last few months or experienced other kinds of troubling loss. Grief can be an overwhelming, isolating experience. Most people find it helpful to learn more about grief, and explore and share their personal, emotional, and spiritual response to it. First Presbyterian Church will host a grief group on three consecutive Tuesday nights, February 2, 9, and 16, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. It is free, and open to members of our church and our community. Please let us know if you are coming by calling the church office, 662-4466, or emailing [mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org).

#### **SEVERAL WAYS TO HELP WITH HAITI EARTHQUAKE RELIEF:**

**Donate Money** - Checks can be made out to First Presbyterian Church with "Haiti Earthquake Relief" in the memo line. Donations will be sent directly to our medical and nursing colleagues in Leogane, Haiti to assist with purchasing supplies for disaster relief. You may also contribute to the relief effort through our online gifts/ payment page. Enter the amount in the "other" field and specify "Haiti Earthquake Relief."

**Prepare and Donate Disaster Assistance Kits:** PCUSA is suggesting that those with a desire to do some stateside "hands on" work assemble Disaster Assistance Kits that can be forwarded through PCUSA to Haiti. Two kinds of kits are needed. Please place the kits in the box outside the Church Office.

##### **Hygiene Kit**

- 1 - hand towel (approx 16 x 28 - no fingertip or bath towels)
- 1 - washcloth
- 1- wide tooth comb
- 1 - nail clipper ( no metal files or emery boards)
- 1 - Bar of Soap (bath size in wrapper)
- 1 - toothbrush (in original packaging)
- 6 - Band-Aids or other adhesive strips

Please do not add toothpaste. Toothpaste which has an extended expiration date will be added just prior to shipment. Seal all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure.

##### **Baby Kit**

- 6 - cloth diapers
- 2- t-shirts or undershirts (no onesies)
- 2- washcloths
- 2-gowns or sleepers
- 2- diaper pins
- 1 - sweater or sweatshirt
- 2- receiving blankets

All items should be new and under 12 months of age in size. Wrap items inside one of the receiving blankets and secure with diaper pins.

**Get Involved** - You are invited to attend the next meeting of the Haiti Mission Task Force on Tuesday, February 2, at 5:30 p.m. in the Curtis Room. Everyone is welcome, including those with no medical experience or knowledge, and those who do not want to travel but would like to support our mission in Haiti.

**Questions?** Contact Deb Hutton, chair of the Haiti Mission Task Force ( 216-598-5140 or [debghutton@aol.com](mailto:debghutton@aol.com)).

**DO YOU HAVE GENTLY USED SNEAKERS?** The Philippines Task Force is sponsoring a sneaker shoe drive during January and February. Please drop off your gently used shoes (up to men's size 10, as well as women's and children's regular shoes up to size 7), in the box at the Welcome Center. The donated shoes will be cleaned up and mailed to the Dumaguete Community Center in the Philippines, where they will be sold at a very low price as an incentive to families that are current with their house payments.

**MANY THANKS TO A VERY GENEROUS CONGREGATION!** When First Pres was asked to help shelter homeless men for two weeks as part of the Rotating Shelter Program, well over 100 of you volunteered with enthusiasm and generosity. Many of you have said that your experience in this local mission gave you a new perspective on the economic realities and put faces and names on the homeless among us. In turn, our guests offered many expressions of gratitude for your kindness and generosity and for the validation you gave them. Many thanks to the church staff and a special thanks to Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers who was the catalyst, the heart and the energy behind this project. Hearts full of grace all around!

**TRIANGLE COOPERATIVE NURSERY SCHOOL** is now accepting applications for three- and four-year-olds for the 2010-2011 school year. First Pres members receive priority enrollment status for applications submitted before February 1. There will be an informational Open House on Saturday, February 6, from 10:00 a.m. to noon, for interested families to

tour the school, meet the teacher and Triangle families, and have questions answered. Light refreshments and children's activities will be offered. For an application or more information, please visit our website: [www.trianglecoop.org](http://www.trianglecoop.org), or contact us at [info@trianglecoop.org](mailto:info@trianglecoop.org) or 761-7688.

**THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT OF 2010** will be presented on February 7 at 12:30 p.m. in Monteith Hall. Musicians ages 8 through 18 are invited to perform. Registration forms are available in the Church Office. Questions? Contact Susan Boggs, Music Director, at 662-4466, ext. 21, or [sboggs@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:sboggs@firstpresbyterian.org).

**ALL-CHURCH DETROIT MISSION PROJECT:** The Mission Committee is sponsoring a churchwide, intergenerational work project in Detroit the weekend of April 23-25, 2010. The following groups have already signed on to participate: First Couples, Youth Ministries, and Mature Ministries. This project is being coordinated by Hands on Mission of the Detroit Presbytery and will offer opportunities for all members of First Pres to participate, regardless of skill set. It is hoped that all members of the church will participate in some manner in this worthwhile effort. Sign-up sheets are posted around the church, or email [detroitmission@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:detroitmission@firstpresbyterian.org) or Sue Jeffers, [sjeffers@mml.org](mailto:sjeffers@mml.org), stating your intention to be a part of this project. Contact Sue Jeffers if you would like to be a part of the leadership team.

**PRAYING THE PSALMS** prayer group meets Wednesday evenings at 5:00 p.m. Pew cards with prayer requests may be completed and put in the offering plate. Members and visitors are welcome to join the group at any time.

## *Calendar for January 25-30*

### **MONDAY**

Body and Soul, 9:30 a.m., Curtis Room  
Liturgical Dance Rehearsal, noon, Monteith Hall  
Mature Ministries Steering Committee, noon, Vance Room  
Stephen Ministry Supervision, 7:00 p.m., Youth Room  
Technology Committee, 7:00 p.m., Vance Room  
Boy Scouts, 7:30 p.m., Social Hall  
Sanctus Ringers, 7:30 p.m., Room 403

### **TUESDAY:**

Prayer Group, 7:30 a.m., Founders Room  
ESL, 1:00 p.m., Rooms 101, 102, 104, Youth Room  
Interfaith Round Table, 1:30 p.m., Vance Room  
Potluck Dinner with Father Chacour, 6:00 p.m., Social Hall  
Father Chacour Presentation, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary  
Congregational Self-study Group, 7:00 p.m., French Room/Library  
Campus Ministry Mid-Week Worship, 9:00 p.m., UM Union, Anderson Room

### **WEDNESDAY:**

Washtenaw Literacy Training, 8:00 a.m., Youth Room and Room 101  
PW Coordinating Team, 9:30 a.m., Vance Room  
Wednesday Night Meal, 3:00-7:15 p.m. (volunteers), 5:30 (meal), Delonis Center  
Delonis Greeting Card Program, 5:00 p.m., Delonis Center

#### **Wednesday 2:42:**

5:00 p.m. - MIDS, Praying the Psalms, Hosanna Choir, Alleluia Choir  
5:45 p.m. - Gathering in the Social Hall  
6:00 p.m. - Dinner in the Social Hall  
7:00 p.m. - Preschool Childcare, Kindergarten - 5th Grade Class, Youth Choir, TnT, Adult Education Class ("I Am")

Communion Training, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

### **THURSDAY:**

Hilltoppers Movie Morning, 11:00 a.m., Lewis Room and Founders Room  
OSHER Class: Big Bang and the History of Nearly Everything, 1:00 p.m., Lewis Room  
Adapted Exercise, 3:00 p.m., Curtis/Founders Room  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m., Russel Room

### **FRIDAY:**

Prayer/Study Group, 9:00 a.m., away  
OSHER Class: Survey of Musical Comedy, 10:00 a.m., Lewis Room  
Mens' Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Founders Room  
MIDS Splash Universe Trip, 4:00 p.m., depart from church

### **SATURDAY:**

No Events Scheduled



*A Stephen Ministry  
Congregation*