



First Press

A NEWSLETTER OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR
JUNE 2011

Volume 59, Number 6



Summer Worship Schedule

Sunday: June 5

Services of Worship

8:00 Monteith - Dr. Fair preaching

9:30 Sanctuary - Dr. Fair preaching

No 11:00 service - stay for the all-church picnic!
Meet Dr. Fair, our new pastor!

Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy
Communion at both services

Sunday: June 12

PENTECOST
(wear red!)

Services of Worship

8:00 Monteith -
Dr. Fair preaching

9:30 and 11:00 Sanctuary -
Dr. Fair preaching

Sundays:

June 19, 26 and
July 3

8:00 Monteith Hall

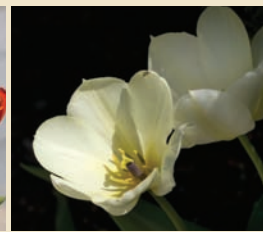
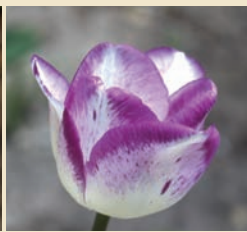
9:30 Sanctuary

Sundays:

July 10, 17, 24,
and 31

8:00 Monteith Hall

9:30 Outside Worship
(bring lawn chairs if
you like!)



All Church Picnic – June 5



This year we will have something extra to be celebrating at our All Church Picnic on Sunday June, 5 – the beginning of Rev. Dr. Fairfax Fair’s ministry with us here at First Pres. Come join us in the celebration! Sunday, June 5 at 10:45 a.m., following the 9:30 a.m. service, is our annual all-church picnic. This is a

traditional picnic with all the food and all the fun. Picnic food and entertainment are provided, for \$3 per person or \$10 for a family of 4 or more. (You can pay in the Social Hall on the day of the picnic.) All you need to bring is a picnic blanket or lawn chairs and your own place settings.

In addition to our usual picnic games, “Sunshine the Clown” will be here to make balloon animals for the children, and a barbershop quartet from our Chancel Choir will be serenading us.

Come for the celebration!

Welcoming Our New Pastor

Dr. Fair has arrived in Ann Arbor! She has moved into her home and will be settling in. Her first day in the office is May 31. Special thanks to helpers from the Deacons, PNC, and Helping Hands group who helped with her unloading, and to the Deacons who provided a special welcome basket. In the coming months, you will hear more about ways the congregation at large can participate in welcoming her and in “getting-to-know” activities.



Church Directory Update

The final Olan Mills photo-taking session was completed on May 24 at First Pres. For those who would like to submit a digital image or a print for submission in place of a formal photo, please send it to Mary Jones, mjones@firstpresbyterian.org by June 5. We hope you’ll participate if you are a member or regular attender. The response has been great! Watch for the First Pres Photo Directory to come out in July or early August.



Worship & Music

5:45 moves to 5:05 in September!

Session voted, upon the request of staff, to move the 5:45 to 5:05 p.m. beginning September 11. It has been noted that an earlier start time will make it easier for families to attend, and will not conflict with the dinner hour. Keep in mind that this service is unique from the morning worship services at First Pres. We hope you'll attend.



Gerard Manley Hopkins

Pied Beauty

GLORY be to God for dappled things—
For skies of couple-colour as a brindled cow;
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;
Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;
Landscape plotted and pieced—fold, fallow, and plough;
And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.

All things counter, original, spare, strange;
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:
Praise him.



Church, Community and World

Passage of Amendment 10-A

On May 10, 2011, Amendment 10-A was passed by the Presbyterian Church (USA). This means that part of our Book of Order will be changed. This amendment deals specifically with ordination standards, or the requirements with which anyone considering serving as a Deacon, Elder, or Minister of Word and Sacrament must comply.

The most well-known and controversial element of this change is that individuals in same-gendered partnerships are no longer excluded from ordination in our denomination. Sessions and Presbyteries, as always, are charged with determining an individual's suitability for service as a Deacon, Elder, or Minister. This change *does not require* that a church or Presbytery ordain individuals in same-gendered relationships, but the change *does remove the barrier* that previously prohibited them from serving in an ordained capacity.

Each Presbytery was required to vote for or against this amendment. The Presbytery of Detroit voted on February 22, 2011. Detroit voted in favor of the amendment by a vote of 113-66.

This change in our Book of Order is effective as of July 10, 2011.

For more information, please visit (you can click on the URL to go to the web site):

A letter from the Office of the General Assembly (just prior to the amendment's passing), which includes the new language for the Book of Order:

<http://www.pcusa.org/news/2011/5/10/churchwide-letter-concerning-amendment-10/>

A statement from the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church (USA), Cynthia Bolbach:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lbZcQa7fME8>

If you have questions or would like to discuss this, please contact one of our pastors.



Church, Community and World (continued)

Israel/Palestine Mission Task Force Study Retreat Planned for Saturday, June 4

The Israel/Palestine Mission Task Force plans to host a study retreat on Saturday, June 4, 2011. This study retreat, including discussion and a Middle Eastern lunch, will continue efforts to inform ourselves about the prospects for peace in Israel and Palestine. The study retreat is scheduled between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm at the home of Joan and Rodney Bentz (1830 Stonebridge Drive North). All members of the congregation are welcome to join us for this event. For further information or to indicate an intent to attend, please contact Margaret McClamroch (mmclamroch@hotmail.com or 734 971-3949).

200 PAIR!!

The Philippine Task Force's very successful mission and livelihood project could not thrive without our congregation's responsiveness and generosity. Thank you.

First Presbyterian donated 200 pairs of children and adult shoes. The Dumaguette Habitat Community cleans, refurbishes and polishes these shoes, and then sells them at the community center. Year after year this project has provided a small livelihood and necessary shoes to many. It's success (in no small part) is due to your donations, so thank you!



Heavenly Hosta Sale

The Haiti Medical Mission Task Force will host the eighth annual Heavenly Hosta Sale on Saturday, June 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and Sunday, June 5, from noon to 2:00 p.m. in the Monteith Hall courtyard. Back by popular demand, and thanks to this community's generosity, we will once again feature the number one-selling perennial, hosta and various other plants.

At the sale you will find:

- The Hosta 2010 plant of the year, "First Frost," last year's blue-green center with distinct yellow margin that changes to white.
- The Hosta 2011 plant of the year, "Praying hands," a lovely, upright plant that will be easy to recognize as the leaves fold into themselves enough to resemble ... praying hands! The leaves are dark green with a thin creamy-colored margin.
- The Hosta 2012 plant of the year, "Liberty," a favorite with eye-catching lime and dark green leaves.

In addition, there will be variegated, blue, green, red stemmed, and yellow/gold hosta in many sizes, from dwarf to giant and a range of prices. Other plants of the year, easy to grow and picked for their general appeal will be on hand as well. Also, a limited amount of select inexpensive hosta "sleeves" will be introduced. A dedicated group of master gardeners will be on site to answer questions.

We are very grateful to all who have supported our healing work in Haiti through the past 11 years. Please spread the word to family, friends, neighbors, gardeners, and hosta aficionados! Don't forget to stop by on Saturday, June 4 and Sunday, June 5, and pick out some of these magnificent hosta for loved ones, friends, and don't forget to treat yourself to some Heavenly Hosta, our specialty! Also – whether or not you have a green thumb – you can volunteer to help at the sale by calling Cynthia Calhoun at 429-9145.



Church, Community and World (continued)

Church members headed to Haiti for FSIL nursing school graduation

FSIL board and church members Ruth Barnard and Margie Van Meter were among a contingent that traveled to Haiti for the commencement ceremonies of the FSIL Nursing School, in Les Cayes, Haiti, on May 22.

After attending the ceremonies, the FSIL board members traveled to Léogâne to visit the nursing school and get a first-hand look at the wonderful van purchased for the school by Jeane Seeley Mission Fund monies. They also helped mount the plaques in the nursing school honoring the school's major donors, which include many names of stalwart supporters from the First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor. The FSIL community extends a very warm thanks to all who continue to help the school with thoughtful donations.

June will be a busy time for church members and Haiti Nursing Foundation members. FSIL Dean Hilda Alcindor will be the special guest at the church Coffee Hour June 19th, which is being sponsored by the Haiti Nursing Foundation. Then the dean will head to Harvard University for the Institute for Management and Leadership in Education (MLE). Harvard is providing her with a full scholarship to attend. It is a great honor for Dean Alcindor to be selected as a participant in this leadership event.

Haiti Nursing Foundation board members look forward to seeing many of you at the Coffee Hour June 19, so you can talk to Dean Alcindor about all the current events at the school.



Congregational Life

Church Life

Cheers and Tears

On Sunday, May 1, and again on Sunday, May 8, members and friends of First Pres said their heartfelt good byes and thanks at receptions for two short-term but well-loved pastors – on May 1 to Interim Pastor Larry Farris and his wife, Pat, and on May 8 to Lilly Resident minister Sarah Wiles.

Amid laughter and tears, both received accolades and gentle teasing from those who know them well and who served with them. Both Larry and Sarah added so much to the worship, education, fellowship and pastoral care of our church. By their loving example, they witnessed to the love of Jesus Christ in our midst.

We will miss them and have been enriched by them. We wish them and their families Godspeed – and an invitation to visit us whenever they return to the area.

Go forward into your next callings, trusting God!



Welcoming New Pastors at First Pres

Theologian and author Brian MacLaren, a leader in the emerging church movement, authored this informative piece, worthy of consideration. Thank you for praying for Dr. Fairfax Fair, our new Senior Pastor, for our three new Resident Ministers coming in August (Evans McGowan, Mary Elizabeth Prentice-Hyers, and Brennan Pearson), and for our new campus minister (yet to be chosen.)

TOP TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR WELCOMING A NEW PASTOR

- I. Thou shalt not compare the old Pastor and the new Pastor, for the Lord thy God has made each person unique and wishes you to appreciate each original creation.



Congregational Life (continued)

- II. Thou shalt not expect everything to stay the same when the new Pastor arrives. Nor shalt thou resist change, nor assume that change is bad, but thou shalt trust that the Lord thy God isn't finished with your church yet and is bringing change for your good and the good of your mission.
- III. Thou shalt not make graven images of thine old grudges, nor shalt thou keep stale disappointments in the temple of thine heart, but thou shalt forgive and move on in the grace of the Lord thy God, for how can thou ask God for mercy unless thou give mercy from thine heart?
- IV. Thou shalt not commit gossip, nor shalt thou fearfully complain, nor shalt thou listen to those who do, but instead thou shalt entreat them to adjust their attitudes and lighten up, for everything shall be allright, and in fact, shall turn out very well indeed – better than you can even imagine.
- V. Thou shalt not commit nostalgia or say that the old days were better, for in so doing thou shalt make thy judgment come true. Be assured that the Lord thy God is not falling asleep at the wheel, but will be with thee and surprise thee with abundant blessings, more than thou canst contain or count.
- VI. Thou shalt not factionalize nor create “us-them” divisions, but thou shalt unify with thy brothers and sisters even when they annoy or confuse you.
- VII. Thou shalt not come to the new pastor with your demands, pressure, complaints, bad reports, manipulations, threats, agendas, unsolicited advice, or snide comments. But thou shalt say, “Welcome! How can we help you? We love you! We would like to increase our giving significantly. We're praying for you and your family. Welcome to our community! We baked you some cookies!” And each week, thou shalt do so again and again until the new pastor begs you to stop.
- VIII. Thou shalt increase thy giving, and not withhold thy tithe, but invest thy money and thine heart in the future of thy community of faith and mission.
- IX. Thou shalt not come to thine old and former pastor with anything but praise for the new pastor, but thou mayest bring thy concerns to God in humble prayer, and if thou must, thou may also share concerns with the duly appointed leaders of the church.
- X. Most important, thou shalt trust God, and stay connected to God, and draw strength from God, staying deeply rooted in the message of God's grace. For God is good, and God will never leave you nor forsake you. You can count on that for sure!

Mature Singles in June

Mature Singles meets Sundays at 11:00 a.m. in the Curtis Room for fellowship and discussion.

Monday May 30 - Memorial Day picnic at Montibeller Park Pavillion at 1:00 p.m., plan to start eating at 1:30 p.m. Montibeller Park is located at 4305 Ellsworth Road, just beyond the Carpenter Road Meijer's and the Fire Station as you head east on Ellsworth. Please bring table service, beverage, dish to pass, and if possible, a folding chair. Call Marcy at 995-2519 for more information.

June 5 - We will join the church community at 10:45 a.m. for the annual All Church Picnic. Picnic food and entertainment will be provided, for \$3 per person or \$10 for a family of 4 or more. (You can pay in the Social Hall on the day of the picnic). Bring a picnic blanket or lawn chairs and your own place settings. Come celebrate with us and join in the fun!

June 12 - Singles will watch the DVD, *Hiding and Seeking*, which was written, directed, and produced by Menachem Daum and Oren Rudavsky. In this compelling documentary, a father takes his grown-up Orthodox Jewish sons to Poland to teach them about the perils of putting up walls to keep those they deem dangerous outside. After he introduces them to the Polish family who helped their grandfather during the Holocaust, they discover the value in building bridges.

June 19 - Marcy Toon will discuss the book *Extraordinary, Ordinary People: A Memoir of Family* by Condoleezza Rice.

June 26 - Laura Berg will play the next DVD in the Teaching Company's series on the Old Testament, titled *The Conquest*.

Monday July 4 - Fourth of July picnic at Marcy's at 1:00 p.m., plan to start eating at 1:30 p.m.. Please bring a dish to pass. Call Marcy at 995-2519 to say if you can come.



Congregational Life (continued)

Run, Walk, then Worship and Eat!

Attention runners and walkers - Join Team First Pres! A reminder that if you are running one of the Dexter-Ann Arbor races on Saturday, June 5, let Melissa Anne Rogers know so we can remember you and your fellow runners that day in prayer. Join us after the race for the all-church picnic on the grounds of First Pres.

Permanent Name Tags

You will notice members and friends wearing permanent name tags. We'd love for you to have a permanent name tag! The cost of a name tag is \$8.00 and can be magnet or clip style. To order one, stop by the Church Office and complete the blue order form. Do be in touch with us, though, if you are intending to join First Pres. The name tags are a gift to you on the day of your joining. If you would like a paper name tag instead, they are available from any usher.

Promises for June

Sunday, June 12 - Promises, our group for specially abled young adults, will meet one week later than usual to worship at 9:30 and then attend brunch at Fox Hills. This is Pentecost! The summer schedule is still being planned. For more information, contact Melissa Anne Rogers, at mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org.

Say "Yes" to Serving God in this Congregation

From mission activities, to committee work, to teaching Sunday school, to supporting the building of a Habitat for Humanity House, to knitting baby blankets, to helping with youth events, our church has something for you! Our service to the Lord and this church is in addition to our regular worship and prayer life. Our staff hopes you are finding ways to deepen your faith and study life of scripture and the Lord here. With a more relevant, life-giving faith, you will want to respond by serving God and the church community. In addition to lending your time and energy to help sustain the joyful ministries of this church, you will get to know people in deeper, more meaningful ways, and find your entire experience of this church family enhanced. In short, you'll find you are seeing God's grace and goodness in the faces and spirits of those you come to know more personally. Volunteers are needed at this time in many congregational life areas - please let us know if you are interested in these, or something else, by contacting Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers, 662-4466, ext. 390.

Coordinate the *cookie-bakers* on Sunday. Requires you to email the list of volunteers three to four times a year and create a schedule. Share the schedule with the office and others. Approximately 3 hours each quarter.

Join a team of people who *call visitors* who come on Sundays. On the assigned Sunday, welcome them and see if they have questions. Approximately two hours each quarter.

Join a team of volunteers who are assigned a few Sundays per year to *sit in the Church Office* for an hour in the morning and help people who have questions. Approximately two hours each quarter. Training offered.

Help us create a *Google database* of groups at the church and the names of participants in those groups. Approximately three hours per quarter. Instructions given.

Join a team of *Greeters* who stand at the door and say "Good Morning!" Your kids can join you. A wonderful way for littler members to help. People of all ages needed.

Help the Congregational Life Committee *organize digital photos* into folders than can be used for particular articles, projects, and photo gallery on the website. Approximately 4 hours per quarter. Requires digital photo and web experience.

Send *hand-written notes* to our regular attenders to invite them to join. Two to three hours each quarter.



Congregational Life (continued)

Come early to the *New Member breakfast*, bring some food, offer smiles and welcome, be a part of leading this special event which occurs about four times a year.

Co-facilitate a *small group bible study* that would meet in a home twice per month. Materials and training given.

Join the *Congregational Life Committee* and help us focus the general and specialized ministries that relate to our shared fellowship and learning life together.

There are many more ways you can serve and get involved. Call or email me to sign up for any of the above, or to explore more options!

MATURE MINISTRIES

Hilltoppers in June - Give Dr. Fair a Pounding!

Come June 9 for Hilltoppers with the Rev. Eldon Beery speaking on "The Benefits of Genealogy." Eldon will help us think about how to get started, where his interests have taken him, and invite us to share some of our own stories. Meet at noon in the Social Hall for a hot lunch, \$5, and the discussion. When you come, bring one pound (lb.!) of something to welcome Dr. Fairfax F. Fair to our congregation. (Need ideas? Think birdseed, chocolate, good coffee, popcorn, sugar, flower, brown sugar, spices, or a book. Be creative! Gift cards or pairs of tickets to events are also welcome.) In this unique way, we hope to join all those giving Dr. Fair a unique Ann Arbor welcome! Sign up in the Church Office, 662-4466, or mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org.

"Consider the Oyster" in Chelsea

If you are planning to attend the Purple Rose Theater Trip on Wednesday, June 29, at 3 p.m., to see the play, "Consider the Oyster," please sign up by June 5 in the Church Office. The ticket cost is \$21, and will be followed by dinner at the Common Grill for those who wish to stay.

Special Event with Mature Ministries on June 16

Fairfax Fair and Football or Mature in Mission - your choice!



On Thursday, June 16, we have several special events planned. Please join us for lunch and a tour of UM Stadium, lunch and a mini-mission, or any of the three!

Food is first! At noon, we will have a salad potluck in the Social Hall with Dr. Fairfax F. Fair, our new Senior Pastor. After lunch, she will join us for a tour of Michigan Stadium, led by Bill Austin, at 1 p.m.

Sign-up in the Church Office by June 6 to bring a special salad, or call 662-4466.

Those not touring the stadium are invited to the monthly mini-mission that is planned. Everyone is invited (even those less mature!) to participate in one of two mini-missions that day. The "Fixer Upper" team will concentrate on projects at First Pres. Another team will travel to House By the Side of the Road to help with a variety of tasks. To participate meet at the church at 12:30 p.m. (Come for lunch at noon if you can!) Please do sign up in the Church Office - space is limited.

Please note: There is a special Saturday opportunity on June 18 for volunteers to participate in another work day at

House by the Side of the Road. Mark your calendars now for the work day at "Friends In Deed" on Thursday, July 21. Questions? Contact Dana Underwood, DRUnderwood@comcast.net, or Ginny Rezmierski, ver@umich.edu.

We hope you will enjoy the event on June 16 no matter what appeals to you.



Congregational Life (continued)

Congregational Care

Stephen Ministry – Journeying Through Grief

The Stephen Ministry Leader Team mails a series of four books over a year's time to families who are grieving, entitled *Journeying Through Grief*. The books describe the varied and intense feelings that typically surface during grief and suggests healing ways to deal with and express those feelings. Many families who have received this book and other church members have asked to receive extra copies. These copies are available from Stephen Ministries, St. Louis, for a cost. To order copies, call 314-428-2600 or www.grief-books.org.



The Leader Team is deeply indebted to Stephen Leader Bob Harris, who faithfully mails these books, along with personal notes, to our grieving families. For the last four years, over a hundred books series have been sent by Bob. This ministry, while quiet, and unknown to those who have not been in the position of receiving the books, is invaluable. We are grateful for the careful and compassionate way Bob reaches out to those who have lost a loved one, and Bob's detailed record-keeping that allows him to mail these books to families once each quarter, in coordination with the date of death of their loved ones. Thanks Bob, for your gifts in ministry and your dedicated care of our members and friends. God bless you!

Deacons thank Presbyterian Women

The month of May brought an unusual number of memorial services to First Pres. The Deacons, at their May meeting, reflected on the important ministry of the Presbyterian Women. How tremendous a gift it is that the Presbyterian Women offer receptions to follow memorial and funeral services at First Pres.

A reception following a memorial service is a meaningful time for friends and family to share remembrances and stories with those who have lost a loved one. Receptions, in many ways, have come to replace the practice of visitations. Our Presbyterian Women do a beautiful job. From start to finish, they consider every detail - from ironing the table cloths, to keeping the silver polished, to recruiting members of the church to offer home-baked goods that are tasty and lovely. They set up a table for photos of loved ones and make sure boxes of tissue are available for those who are teary. As they are present with the family members and friends and serve up hot tea, coffee, and punch, they also serve up hospitality, compassion, empathy, and a willingness to listen.

The Deacons know that our church is indebted to the Presbyterian Women for providing this ministry of hospitality, service, and care, and we thank them. While the Presbyterian Women as a group recognizes the volunteers who help with receptions following memorial services and funerals, we wanted to take this time to recognize the Presbyterian Women! We are exceedingly fortunate and blessed to have such dedicated Christian women in our congregation who help in this way. You are serving our Lord, our church family, and our grieving families. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Grief Support Workshop

The New Hope Center for Grief Support, which recently sponsored a workshop in our church, will hold a one-day, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. seminar for the grieving on July 16 at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville. For more information, contact the New Hope Center at (248) 348-0115, or visit www.newhopecenter.net. If you've not had time to attend a multi-part series for grief support, this will be a helpful way to learn more about normal grieving and make helpful connections with others going through similar losses.



Congregational Life (continued)

Remembrance of Ethel Howard Huntwork

Ms. Huntwork, 97, a former interim Director of Christian Education at First Presbyterian Church who immediately preceded Marisa Keeny, died April 1, 2011, in Marshfield, Wisconsin. She was a member of First Presbyterian between 1938 and 1961, and during that time was church school superintendent. An active Presbyterian, she was survived by her five daughters: Barb, Dorothy, Terri, Kathy, and Marge. Cards of condolence can be sent to Marge Huntwork at 1607 W. 7th Street, Marshfield, WI 54449.



The Healthy Church

New Helping Hands Volunteer Opportunity!

Are you interested in helping our older members who are downsizing and in transition to a new home? Do you like to help sort and organize belongings, pack boxes and take items to recycling/reuse centers? If you are interested or if you have questions about this new Helping Hands program, please contact Martine Blogin, parish nurse at 662-4466, ext 350 or mblogin@firstpresbyterian.org

Keeping Eyes Healthy

Protecting your eyes from injury is critical to maintaining good vision. Thousands of sports and recreation-related eye injuries occur each year. Eye injuries occur on the job, as well. Many, however, occur at home and are caused by projects and activities such as home repairs, yard work, cleaning and cooking. Nearly three-quarters of eye injuries happen to men aged 18 to 40.



Ninety percent of serious eye injuries are preventable through the use of proper protective eyewear. Regular eyeglasses and contact lenses do not provide enough eye protection. According to a national survey by the American Academy of Ophthalmology, only 35 percent of respondents said they wear protective eyewear when performing home repairs or maintenance. Even fewer wear protective eyewear while playing sports. The type of eye protection needed will depend on the activity you are involved in.

For most repair projects and activities around the home, standard ANSI-approved protective eyewear, purchased at a hardware store, will provide good protection. Examples of some risky activities include use of hazardous chemicals that could damage your eyes upon contact, repair projects which may result in flying debris, other small airborne particles and projectiles that could fly into the eyes.

Sports-related eye injuries occur most frequently in baseball, basketball and racquet sports. In lacrosse, ice hockey and baseball, a helmet with a polycarbonate (a strong, shatterproof, lightweight plastic) face mask or wire shield should be worn. Eyewear with polycarbonate lenses should be worn for sports such as basketball, racquet sports and field hockey. You should make sure the protective eyewear has been tested to meet industry standards.

If an eye injury occurs, do not touch, rub, or apply pressure to the eye. Do not try to remove the object stuck in the eye and do not apply ointment or medication. Seek medical care as soon as possible. Delaying medical attention could result in increased injury, permanent vision loss or blindness. To learn more about initial treatment recommendations for specific eye injuries, visit <http://www.geteyesmart.org/eyesmart/living/eye-injuries-care-treatment.cfm>. For more information on eye health, visit the American Academy of Ophthalmology website at <http://www.geteyesmart.org> or contact Martine Blogin, parish nurse at 662-4466, ext. 350 or mblogin@firstpresbyterian.org



Opportunities for Women

Synod of the Covenant 2011 Gathering June 24-26

"Blessed Are They . . ." is the theme for the Gathering of Presbyterian Women at First Presbyterian Church, Findlay, Ohio, 2330 South Main (419-423-2113) <http://www.findlayfpc.org>. The keynote speaker at this Gathering is Chris Wolfe of the



Justice and Peace Committee, Churchwide Presbyterian Women. Join others for plenary, devotions, workshops, and worship on this weekend retreat. Women are to arrange for accommodations themselves. Information on hotels is available on the Findlay Presbyterian website above or by checking <http://www.visitfindlay.com/VisitFindlay/Accommodations.aspx>.

Please contact Marolin Bellefleur if you would like to attend (bellecello@peoplepc.com or 769-0269).

Micah 6: 8 *"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."*

W.E.B.S. – Monday, June 6, 6:00 p.m.

The Women's Evening Bible Study will complete the *Horizons Study of Revelation*. Pat Elkington will lead lesson nine as we gather in the Curtis Room. We will celebrate our last session together and the beginning of summer with a salad potluck before Bible Study at 6:00 in the Curtis Room. Please call Jennie Lombard, 734-663-7244 and Sue Dempsey, 734-769-0566, who coordinate the group. They will be happy to suggest a dish for you to bring and share. WEBS will resume on Monday, October 3.

Body and Soul – Monday Mornings at 9:30 a.m. will resume in September

The leaders of these soft-aerobic sessions suggest you keep up your exercise program this summer to be sure you stay flexible and strong. While most of us move to outdoor activities like biking, gardening, and walking, it's good to keep fit through routine stretching and strength training. Good luck! If you have questions about Body and Soul, please call coordinator Lynn Haddan, 665-5105.

PWPD – Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Detroit Gatherings

PWPD will not meet during the summer months. Newly installed PW Moderator Marolin Bellefleur will be in contact with PWPD in case there are Presbytery needs or concerns of interest to all PW. The food drive recently conducted was in response to the Detroit Presbytery needs. The Clean-Up Buckets were sent to Church World Services to be forwarded where needed. Thank you for your donations and support of these missions.

Horizons Circle

Their 2011-2012 schedule will be published in the fall. Contact Marian West or Eleanor Shaw.

Women's Reading Group

The book chosen for next fall is *Love Wins* by Rob Bell. New members are welcome. Call Barbara Black, 734-663-6289, for information.

PW Monthly Gatherings and Lunch

See you in the fall with a full schedule of nine Gatherings for Bible Study and presentations. Thank you for your attendance and support during 2010-2011. Bible Study leaders faithfully prepared and lead the group to new understandings and insights through Bible reading and discussion.

Contact Marolin Bellefleur (769-0269) if questions.



Opportunities for Women (continued)



Presbyterian Women Honor Marlys Schutjer

At its April 20 meeting the Presbyterian Women were pleased to present their Honorary Lifetime Membership Award to Marlys Schutjer.

Marlys well deserves the award for the many years she served on the Personnel Committee, both as a member and as the Chair. Those years included a time of transition in the church, including reorganizing aspects of administration, and hiring the Rev. Eldon Beery to be the Interim Associate Executive Pastor, a position later filled by the Rev. Budge Gere. During this period John Sampsele, Jennifer Sansbury, and the Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers (before hers was a called position) were hired. Marlys has also served on Deacons and other Session Committees.

Most of Marlys's career was spent in the Michigan State Bureau of Juvenile Justice. For a while she was responsible for the training facility at Adrian, then other facilities, and ultimately the entire Bureau in Lansing. During this period there was increasing emphasis on restorative justice and Marlys was instrumental in introducing it. Marlys comes from a church family, her father, brother, and brother-in-law all being ministers. In a different role, Marlys has also contributed greatly to the church. Thank you, Marlys!



Children & Families



Still time to register for Summer Vacation Bible School!

This year's theme is "Paul's Travels – 49 A.D."

Join us for a great Bible time experience.

Who : All the children who have completed Kindergarten through fifth grade

What: Summer Vacation Bible School: "Paul's Travels – 49 A. D."

When: June 21, 22, 23 from 9:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Where: First Presbyterian Church

Why: To experience life in the cities that Paul visited as he traveled around the Mediterranean Sea.

How to register: This year for the first time you will be able to register on-line at our church website — <http://www.firstpresbyterian.org>. Go to the Education and Ministries section and then look on the left for Vacation Bible School.

There are many ways that adults, middle schoolers, and high schoolers can volunteer and be a part of this great activity.

To volunteer email or call Debbie MacVey.

For additional information please contact:

Deborah MacVey at 662-4466 ext 342 , e-mail dmacvey@firstpresbyterian.org; or

Mary Jones at 662-4466 ext 349, email mjones@firstpresbyterian.org



Children and Families (continued)

Milestone Ministries for Children and Families

This year the Children's Education department started a new program—The Milestone Ministry for Children and Families. This new ministry recognizes meaningful moments in our children's lives and helps families mark and honor them in their faith journey. We have celebrated Milestones such as our children's baptism, entering the Church School program, and worshipping with our families, receiving Bibles as third graders.

This new ministry is family focused. Recognizing that the home is the primary place for faith formation, each family is given "helps" to guide their children as they journey with God. There have been family celebrations here at church centered on specific milestones. A special gift has been given to the children to mark the milestone. And a guide has been given to each family to use at home.

The idea of celebrating faith milestones is nothing new. God often directed the Israelites to build up stones to remind them of God's place in their lives. In Joshua, when the people of God crossed the Jordan into the Promised Land, God spoke to them: "Take twelve smooth stones from here out of the middle of the Jordan...and lay them down in the place where you camp tonight...when your children ask in time to come, 'What do those stones mean to you?' then you shall tell them..." JOSHUA 4

Pictures from a few of our Milestone events this year.



Youth Connection



All hands on deck for Art Fair Parking!

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year for Youth Mission. We need parents, older adults, twenty-somethings and everyone in between to help. We need at least 30 people for this great event. We direct traffic, take money, serve cold water, keep an eye on the available parking spaces etc.

Email RJ (jmonnett@firstpresbyterian.org) to sign up for one or two shifts (or call 734-662-4466, ext. 346):

Wednesday, July 20 – Saturday, July 24

The shifts are:

Shift 1 – 8:30 a.m. -Noon

Shift 2 – Noon-3:30 p.m.

Shift 3 – 3:30-7:00 p.m.

When you email or call, please tell RJ your name, the day of the week and the shift you will serve.

Genesis Action Camp

All new fall sixth through eight graders (sure, ninth graders are welcome) come out for three days of great activities with the MIDS. The camp runs Monday-Wednesday, July 11-13, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. We will have a Wet Wombat (a furry animal who loves to have extreme fun) one day, go to Rolling Hills Water Park another day and something else a different day. Friends are welcome. Cost is \$30 and everyone needs a new signed Consent Release (one release for the whole summer). We will need a parent for each day to help drive and enjoy the fun with the youth.

Get Ready for Cedar Point

Cedar Point, Monday, July 18, 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. \$60. All incoming 6th graders through high schoolers. We will travel by motor coach to the amusement park. All MIDS will spend the day with an adult leader. High schoolers will be released into the park on their own without an adult. Friends are welcome. Drinks, lunch and a fast food dinner outside the park are extra. If you are interested in going as MIDS leader, please volunteer early so we may do any necessary background checks (the trip is free). Sign up by submitting a check made out to the church for \$60 per person and submit a new signed Consent Release (one release for the whole summer).



Big House Booth fundraisers

We are getting organized for the fall. Youth Mission will be seeking six-eight people to work each home football game to raise money for next year's trips. Sign up with RJ for Sept. 3, 10 (night game – Notre Dame), 17, 24, October 1, 29, November 19 (Nebraska), 26 (Ohio State).

Email the games you want. We need 7th-8th graders with a parent, high schoolers with a parent, or high schoolers on their own.

It is a six hour commitment.

Big Fall Dates for Youth Ministry

Sept. 11 – Sunday School & Youth Ministry Kickoff; 8th grade Confirmation begins

Sept. 23-24 – MIDS/Confirmation Retreat

Oct. 7-9 – Keystone Road Trip

Nov. 18-20 – National Youth Workers Convention, Nashville



Youth Connection (continued)

Jamaica Mission Trip

Twenty-two high schoolers leave on the Jamaica Mission Trip, June 25-July 3. They will be working at the Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf (<http://www.cccdjamaica.org>) in Montego Bay. The high school summer mission trip is a high point end to each school year of youth ministry.

This year's trip, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Jim Monnett, Director of Youth Ministry, is a joint trip with First Presbyterian Church, Boise, Idaho. The two churches went to San José, Costa Rica in 2009 together. The team will be working on a classroom building for this live-in school for deaf children. The school will be on break while the team is there, but most of the adults the team meets at the school are deaf. The team is undergoing basic training in sign language so they can speak greetings and be gracious people. They have raised nearly \$7,500 for this trip.

The other members of the Leader Team are Keystone leaders Deb Hutton and Marc Buchanan plus college juniors Laura Blue (a former member of Keystones), Knox College, and Rachel Muelle, MSU. The team includes rookies Kelsey Aaronson, Peter Ehrenberger, Kyle White and veterans Lindsay Balint, Margaret Burns, Amy Chronis, Joe Chronis, Joe Fox, Cory Froning, Jessa Gargan, Marina Geider, Becca Gott, Josh King, Kelsey King, Ryan Lindstrom, Reid McCallister, Kristen Mikhail, Nora Pierson, Stefan Shaffer, Cam Smith, Annie Tamblyn and Margaret Whittier-Ferguson. There are seven students coming from Boise with two adults.

This will be the third high school mission trip for the 2010-11 school year. Thirty-six people went to Pittsburgh in November, and nineteen went to Immokalee, Florida over Christmas break.



Campus Connection

Update on Campus Minister Search

Even though many students are away for the summer, the Campus Ministry Committee is in full swing. The search for a new Campus Minister is the committee's highest priority right now. Since an ordained (or ready to be ordained) candidate is desired, the job description was posted through the Church Leadership Connection of the PC(USA). Committee members also contacted many seminaries to advertise the position with graduating seminarians. So far, over 40 candidates have expressed interest in the position. Prayers are appreciated as the committee continues to discern who will be the newest addition to the staff here at First Presbyterian Church. Hopefully, the new campus minister will begin his or her ministry here in early August.

We also have two new interns coming on board beginning in August. Katie McKeiver and Allison Herbert will both work part-time, joining Jeff Lehman who will return (full-time) for a second year with us. Both Katie and Allison are 2011 graduates of the University of Michigan. Look for more introductions and more information from Katie and Allison in the next First Press!

Though we are in a time of transition, campus ministry still is going strong. A student-led Bible study meets Tuesday evenings at 7 pm at Katie McKeiver's apartment (email jmcdevitt@firstpresbyterian.org for more information), and the Campus Ministry Committee and the Ann Arbor Campus Ministry Foundation continue to make plans for the future of this important outreach and ministry.

Current members of the campus ministry committee are: Karen Barks, John Brent (chair), Meg Brown, Marc Buchanan, and Paul Smith. Rev. Jenny McDevitt is serving as staff liaison to this committee until the new campus minister arrives. Please contact Jenny (jmcdevitt@firstpresbyterian.org) or any committee member for more information on campus ministry.

Campus Bible Study on Book of James

Attention undergrads and graduate students! A campus Bible study meets Tuesday evenings at 7 pm at Katie McKeiver's apartment. We are studying the book of James. All are welcome. Contact Jenny McDevitt at jmcdevitt@firstpresbyterian.org for directions.



Campus Connection (continued)

New York City Mission Trip



Over Spring Break, one of our two groups went to serve the homeless and inner-city populations of New York City. We spent roughly half of our time during the week doing what you could call “behind-the-scenes” work: washing dishes, preparing meals, folding and sorting laundry or serving in a soup kitchen. This of course created a lot of team bonding (we worked with each other a lot!) and allowed me personally to serve in a way that I had rarely done before. The other half was spent either adventuring through the city or doing more relational projects. One of the days, we spent a few hours at an after-school program in Manhattan called Operation Exodus, basically just hanging out with the kids there and helping them with their homework as they went to class. They brought so much energy and life, which made the day most memorable out of the whole week for me. We also had a chance later in the

week to do a city-immersion project, where we split into groups of 4, were only given 8 dollars to buy dinner for all of us and one other person, and find our way back home, certainly a way for us to actually feel first-hand what it might be like to live in the city homeless or with an extremely low income. I really saw the Lord move through the people in the city. The conversations we had with the locals and interactions we had through the week were such a blessing, and it was so easy to see how much God is moving through New York. Thank you so much for your support and your prayers! — Jeff Lehman, Campus Ministry Intern

Dominican Republic Mission Trip



Traveling to the Dominican Republic was not what I expected. It was so much more. Meeting so many wonderful Dominican people in the midst of poverty reshapes my definition of a smile.

We spent seven days serving the people in La Vega and Jarabacoa. For the first half of the week we helped three families continue to build their new homes. And by home I mean 10' by 10' family room with a few small bedrooms and no plumbing. Most of the homes we worked on had been in progress for more than four years. With the help of the families and donation of supplies, our group was able to complete at least a year's-worth of work in three short days. Yet I hardly heard any complaints.

One day we spent almost 12 hours in the blazing sun mixing and laying cement. But the gratification of seeing the families step on their new floors for the first time made all the sweat and back pain worth it.

The second half of the week, our group came together and did a couple of community service projects that included picking up trash in the local streets and visiting an old folks home. We were able to spend time just ‘being’, as the Dominicans tried to teach us. We were able to be with the children in the park, be with the old folks and play music; we were able to just...be. What a difference from our fast-paced lives we live in Michigan, yet what a valuable lesson to take home. I've never seen God so present in my life, through the laughs of the Dominicans with us ‘gringos’ and the tears of the goodbys we had to say at the end of the week. God protected us through our entire trip and we were able to come back as an even stronger community.

None of this would have been possible without the prayers and support from our local communities. Through your donations and constant prayers, the Lord guided and protected us as we were able to do His work in the Dominican Republic. God is so good. — Katie McKeiver, Student Leader, 2011, and Campus Intern for 2011-2012



Stewardship & Endowment

What is Stewardship?

Here at First Presbyterian we use the term “stewardship” a lot. But what does that term really mean?

Wiktionary, an open-content web dictionary, suggests stewardship consists of three core ideas: “duty of service, as recognized and stressed by the Romans; responsibility, stressed especially by the English; and management, an idea the ancient Greeks equated with their own economics.” It’s a helpful start. But how do we Ann Arbor Presbyterians interpret all that in our life together? Read on and learn more!

Our members serve God, our church, and the community in countless ways. Just a few examples include: participating and supporting local and international mission; joining prayer teams, small group studies, or Stephen Ministry; leading worship, reading, and greeting on Sundays; baking cookies, visiting homebound members, and visiting hospitals; teaching Sunday school, leading youth group, and leading campus core groups; praying for our church, caring for the grounds, and worshiping together . . . the list goes on and on.

The funds of the church are well managed by session, the pastoral staff, and the Finance Office staff. All the committees of our church, which coordinate our ministry and mission, are charged with overseeing the budget for their ministry area and making careful and prayerful financial decisions.

Our members understand and, as part of this community, take on responsibility for the financial well-being of the church. Members make a commitment to making sure that our monetary needs are met.

This year, the Stewardship Committee set two goals:

- Increase the number of giving units making a pledge by 10 percent
- Increase the individual financial commitment by 10 percent in order to continue the valuable work of the church and possibly provide a modest increase in staff salaries that have remained unchanged the past three years

As of last month, we have achieved our minimum budget to support church operations and maintenance. However, we have not realized a 10 percent increase in pledge amounts. We celebrate that more than 80 households pledged for the first time this year, but we still fell short of that 10 percent increase, as well.

The financial commitments of our members to the well-being of our church are invaluable and demonstrate our congregation’s devotion to stewardship. The good news is that it is not too late -- it is never too late to make a financial commitment! For information or assistance in making your pledge, contact Lucie Audette, chair of the Stewardship Committee, at 717-8062, or John Sampselle, Finance Administrator, at jsampselle@firstpresbyterian.org, 662-4466.

Stewardship Update

Since our mid-January update, 34 additional members have made a financial commitment to support our church’s ministry and missions for 2011! So far, 554 member households have stepped forward to be part of this important responsibility of church membership. We are grateful to each member who has committed!

We asked for: \$1,456,000

To date members have committed: \$1,459,385

Amount beyond our goal: \$3,385

Remember it’s not too late to make a commitment for 2011! Your pledge done weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually makes a huge difference. Options for making your financial commitment:

- 1) Online: go to <http://www.firstpresbyterian.org>
- 2) Call: Call the church office at 734.662-4466 and ask for John Sampselle
- 3) Direct mail: Request a pledge card from church office which can be mailed or dropped into the offering plate



Stewardship & Endowment (continued)

Endowments and Special Gifts

Endowments and Special Gifts are important in the life of First Presbyterian. Thanks to the generosity of members who have made a provision for the church in their wills, members of future generations benefit.



One recent example of an Endowment Gift that involved many members of the congregation was from a fund designated by Mabel Rugen for adult education. This fund provided money for First Presbyterian to host the well-known church historian, author, speaker and seminar leader Dr. Diana Butler Bass this past April. Not only was Dr. Bass with us April 9 and 10 to lead an all-day Saturday seminar on how churches like ours can transform the Christian faith, she also preached in worship on Sunday, April 10. Her book, *Christianity for the Rest of Us*, was also the basis of the church-wide Lenten study on Signposts of Church Renewal.

The generous woman whose gift provided for Dr. Bass being in our midst, Dr. Mabel Rugen, was herself an educator, one of the foremost public health educators of her generation.

Mabel, who lived from 1902-1998, lived a full and meaningful life. A native of Illinois, she received her bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin and her master's and doctorate from New York University. She joined the faculty of the School of Education of the University of Michigan in 1930 and received a joint appointment in the School of Public Health in 1941. Throughout her 40 year academic career and her 40 year membership at First Presbyterian, she gave frequently and generously of her gifts to her students, to the field of public health through her teaching and publishing and to First Presbyterian in her service as a deacon and an elder.

Along with making provisions for First Presbyterian in her will, Mabel also presented U-M's School of Public Health with a gift that helps fund scholarships for graduate students in health education. Those who knew Mabel in life remember her good humor, presence, loyalty, dignity and energy. We now know her through her generosity and its fruits that have allowed her passion for education to continue benefitting future generations.



TOP: Mabel Rugen, 1992

BOTTOM: Edwina Wilkinson (left) and Mabel Rugen, 1988



Summer Healthy Bean Dip

One of our members undergoing cancer treatment shared this recipe for a healthy appetizer. It's full of good things!

Chop finely the following: 1 c. celery, 1 c. green pepper, 1 c. Vidalia onion

- Drain 1 can black-eyed peas, 1 can black beans, 1 can white corn
- Add 2 small jars of chopped pimentos, not drained. Stir together.
- Bring to a boil: 1/2 c. apple cider vinegar, 1/2 c. vegetable oil, 1/2 c. sugar (or less, if you like), 1/2 t. salt. Boil just until sugar is dissolved.
- Pour over the veggies and beans, marinade overnight.

Serve with "scoops," a kind of corn chip.