



First Press

A NEWSLETTER OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR
NOVEMBER 2011

Volume 59, Number 10



First Pres kids plant flowers for the 2012 Stewardship Campaign!

Dear Friends,

You are my conversation partners, and there is much on my mind this month I want to share with you. First, I hope you will soon meet the wonderful new members who recently have united with First Pres. We are blessed to have them among us. As still a newcomer myself, I know how friendly this congregation is. Please reach out to this great group of people as you have reached out to me. Name tags, the new pictorial directory, and the photo board by the Welcome Center all help us learn one another's names. Make use of them as we continue to expand our family of faith.

I am so grateful to our fabulous deacons who, between mid-June and mid-October, organized approximately seventy-five "Meet and Greet" Chapel meetings. Many thanks to the deacons, to the gracious people who invited us into their homes, and to all of you who attended one (or more) of these gatherings. I have cherished the opportunity to be with you in small groups as we have begun to get to know one another. Let's be intentional in continuing our efforts in that regard. Hearing your stories is a joy and a privilege.

The newly-elected elders and deacons are meeting each Sunday morning in preparation for taking office in January. They are studying Presbyterian history, beliefs, and polity – as



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Remember to "fall back" on **NOVEMBER 5** before you go to bed. Set your clock back one hour, enjoy some extra sleep, and arrive on time for worship!

Remember the Saints - November 6

On Sunday, November 6, our church will observe All Saints Day, a time we remember with gratitude family members and friends who have died over the last year. The names of our church members and loved ones who have died since last November will be read from the table during the Sacrament of Communion.

Each of us grieves in a unique way. Some have traveled far on the journey of coping with grief. Some have just begun to face the pain of loss and separation. This special service is intended to be a comfort to all those who mourn, as we claim the promise that those who live and believe in the Lord shall never die, and that, in God's timing, we'll have a "glad reunion" with all those who have gone on before us.

To contribute a name, call the church office, 662-4466 by Tuesday, November 1.



well as getting to know one another and learning the duties of their offices. They are a fine group of highly-talented individuals. Continue to keep them in your prayers.

On the publication date of this newsletter, I begin my sixth month as your pastor. Having had the opportunity to meet and chat with over 1,000 of you, I am thinking more and more about our priorities as a congregation. We must grow closer to God, to one another, and to our neighbors.

As people called to be a provisional demonstration of the kingdom of God, we must continue to devote ourselves to worship. God deserves our very best. God deserves our praise, attention, and reverence as we gather each week to sing praise, pray what is on our hearts, and hear God's word to a world in need. Worship is the first step in growing closer to God – and worship includes not only our Sunday services but also the time we spend in reading and studying the scriptures, in prayer, and in showing gratitude for all God's many blessings. In addition to growing closer to God, we must grow closer to one another. We, as a church, are blessed with many opportunities to gather with one another for fellowship, conversation, fun, and service. Among our church family are amazing, interesting people with a great variety of experiences and backgrounds. God calls us to love one another. Let's do that and more. Let's work side by side and enjoy one another's company! Finally, we must grow closer to our neighbors, even those whose names we do not know. The nights are getting longer and colder. There are too, too many in our community and beyond who do not have a warm place to sleep or enough to eat. God has joined us together as part of the human family. The sorrows of one are the sorrows of us all. Our common humanity makes it incumbent upon us to show love to all those whom God loves, and the good news is that nobody is excluded.

Friends, I hold you in my heart and prayers. God has blessed us in many, many ways. Let us reflect God's goodness in our daily interactions and decisions. Just as we are blessed, let us be a blessing.

Grace and peace,



Fairfax F. Fair, pastor



Worship & Music



Welcome to our Interim Director of Music

We celebrate that Gerald Leckone has agreed to be our Interim Director of Music, while continuing to direct our outstanding church orchestra. Gerry, who has served as our bass section leader, is well-known to our choir and beloved. Please thank him for taking on this additional responsibility. A search committee will be formed soon to search for a new full-time Director of Music.

Make Peace in Tangible Ways on November 20

Peacemaking is central to the gospel of Jesus Christ and the mission of the church. To promote peacemaking through First Presbyterian and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), our annual Peacemaking Offering will be received at all four services of worship on Sunday, November 20. The receipts of the offering fund peacemaking efforts locally through our church, in our community and throughout the world. This year's recipient will be the Israel/Palestine Task Force to support their work at Mars Elias School. Give generously!

Save the Date! Advent Noon Recitals

Come enjoy music of the season! Advent Noon Recitals will be held at 12:15 p.m. in Monteith Hall on three Fridays, December 2, December 9, and December 15.



Church Life

New Member's Class November 2 and 9

Prayerfully consider whether it is time to unite with the First Presbyterian Church as a member, to join this family of faith. Classes will be held on Wednesday nights, November 2 and 9, from 7 - 9 p.m., in the Lewis Room. To register, contact Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers, at mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org or call 662-4466, ext. 390.

Quad B: Come to Your Annual Brunch

Members of Quad B, come to our annual Brunch/Potluck in the Social Hall on November 6, after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Join us for a Fall Harvest celebration, a time to gather with old friends, meet new ones and enjoy a bountiful feast. A postcard will be sent to you by your deacon, who will followup with a phone call. You are a member of Quad B if you reside in one of the chapels numbered 25 to 36. The new photo directory will list your chapel number by your name in the back section. If you have questions, please contact your deacon directly. If you are not sure of your deacon's name, contact the church office, or Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers at mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org.

MATURE MINISTRIES



Hilltoppers in November

Join us on Thursday, November 3, as we welcome Great Lakes Expert Jerry Dennis. His new book is *The Windward Shore: A Winter on the Great Lakes*. He will sign and sell books at our gathering. Lunch is at noon in the Social Hall (\$5), followed by Jerry's presentation. Sign up in the church office – please! 662-4466.

Mature Ministries Study Group Focuses On Autism

Autism is on the rise. Neighbors, children, grandchildren, and church members we know are struggling with this disorder. Come on Thursday, November 10, at 12:30 p.m., for the hour-long discussion, "Understanding Autism." The study is produced by The Thoughtful Christian, and facilitated by the Rev. Gary Oliver, a semi-retired pastor at First Pres. All are welcome. The pre-class reading is available by contacting Rev. Rogers at mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org.

November Mature Singles

November 6, 13 and 20 - Mature Singles joins the Adult Education class in the Lewis Room, 11:00 a.m.
November 24 – Thanksgiving at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Marcy Toon. Call her at 734-995-2519 if you would like to attend.
November 27 - Singles will gather for conversation at 11:00 a.m., Lewis Room.



Turn over Many New Leaves!

On Saturday, November 19, help your fellow churchgoers rake the church grounds. We'll be working from 8:00 a.m. to noon, with doughnuts and cider as our reward. Bring your rakes and your enthusiasm! Many thanks to our Boy Scout troop, who will be there in force as well!

Third Sunday All-Church Potluck on November 20

Please to join us in the Social Hall for the Third Sunday Potluck following the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, November. It is open to everyone! Bring a simple dish to share and enjoy good food and fellowship and maybe meet some new friends. We're saving you a seat!



Church Life (continued)



John Sampselle, Finance Manager, Retires

John Sampselle, our Finance Manager is retiring! Help us to say goodbye by attending a coffee hour reception to honor John on Sunday, November 20. We will celebrate John's wonderful work here at First Pres over the past five years. Gifts for John should be directed to Bill Austin.

Photo Directory Corrections

If you have noticed an error in the church directory, please let us know. We will be printing an addendum to be handed out at church in December that will include new members who have joined, a staff listing with phone extensions, and corrections to contact information. Let the office know by emailing devett@firstpresbyterian.org, or by calling or stopping by the church office, 662-4466.

Stewardship 2012 – Everyone Counts!

Commitment Sunday was Sunday, October 30. At all worship services, we gathered to dedicate our gifts to God. Hopefully you remembered to bring your completed Financial Commitment Card, Commitment to Serve Card(s), and your flower bulb to plant!

If you have not yet completed your Commitment Cards don't delay any longer! Read Reverend Fair's letter and review the Stewardship brochure you received in the mail. Pray and discern what is both challenging and reasonable for you to give during 2012, remembering the abundance of God's blessings in your life. We will put every gift, great and small, to amazing use in our church's growing ministries! It is not too late to give!

Our 2012 Stewardship financial goal is \$1,523,000 --- \$141,000 above last year's goal. This 10% increase is ambitious, but needed to fund critical areas of ministry at our church in 2012. Remember every gift counts. You can always go online and make both your financial commitment and commitment to serve in just a matter of a few clicks! Go to:

<http://firstpresbyterian.org/content/stewardship-2012> and

<https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/q7x0z9/>.

If you have questions concerning how to make your financial commitment, please call the church office (662-4466) ask for our Finance Manager, John Sampselle.



Children and Families

ADVENT HAPPENING COMING DECEMBER 3

- * Advent Happening is an arts and crafts event for the whole family!
- * Advent Happening is an extraordinary event that you need to attend - on Saturday, December 3, in the Social Hall from 10:00 a.m. until noon!
- * Advent Happening is an intergenerational event with projects for all – ages 3 to 103!
- * Advent Happening is a grand time for all! It is a morning when children, parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents gather in



Children and Families (continued)



the Social Hall and prepare for the Advent/Christmas season with crafts, art projects and activities!

We'll begin our holiday preparations by making gifts and ornaments, decorating cookies and designing Christmas cards. Friends are always welcome and encouraged. Childcare is provided for infants through age two if older siblings are busy at the Advent Happening. Make a reservation for childcare by calling Deborah MacVey at 662-4466 ext. 342.

Used Cards and Stamps Needed

Do you have used Christmas cards or used decorative Christmas postage stamps from previous years? If you do, the Children's Education program would like to use them for craft projects at Advent Happening! To donate, give them to Deborah MacVey, Director of Children's Education and Family Ministries.



Youth Connection

Upcoming Youth Mission Trips

The Florida Mission Trip has three seats left. Thirteen students are currently signed up to go with Rev. Evans McGowan, Grace Lindvall, and Rev. Dr. Jim Monnett (RJ).

Airline tickets have been purchased, but seats are still available on the same flights on January 1 and January 8, 2012. Trip cost is \$150 plus airfare (today \$304 with luggage free). This is a wonderful way to become integrated into youth ministry as well as serve an important need in rehabbing FEMA trailers in the migrant community of Immokalee, Florida.

The New Mexico Mission Trip is open for sign-up. Keystone Leaders are excited to go to Las Cruces, NM, June 17-25, to rehab homes and do a Vacation Bible School with immigrant children. This is a joint trip with the Boise church. Cost is \$500 plus \$270 in fundraising. The fundraising needs to be completed by April 15. Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and put in RJ's mailbox. Email RJ (jmonnett@firstpresbyterian.org) to be added to the list. Scholarships are available.

A great way to raise your \$270 is to work at the concession stands in the Big House at home football games. Lots of help will be needed for the UM vs. OSU game. Email RJ to get signed up for any remaining home football games.

Those new to mission trips need to apply to go on the trips. Freshman and new friends can apply online at <https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/high-school-mission-trips-application/>. Jamaica veterans do not have to apply. Just email RJ and submit a check for \$500.

Questions? Contact The Rev. Dr. Jim Monnett at jmonnett@firstpresbyterian.org, or 662-4466, ext. 376.





Campus Ministry



It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like Pancakes . . .

The annual **Pancake Supper** for university students is Tuesday, December 13, from 10:00 p.m. to midnight. This is a festive and fun-filled event for members of our congregation as well as for the students. We expect over 300 this year.

Volunteer now to help! There are seven volunteer crews: setting-up, cooking, welcoming, serving, distributing publicity, clean-up, and follow-up. Times vary with the work. Come join us! If you cannot work on one of the crews, consider being a

sponsor for some part of the dinner. To volunteer for one of the work crews, or make a financial donation please contact Susan Cares (scares734@comcast.net, 663-8342) or Bill Wolters (william.wolters@gd-ais.com, 604-8062).



Young Adults

Welcome to T2A2

First Pres' ministry to people in their 20s and 30s has a new name -- T2A2! All are welcome to join us for our events. Email Pastor Dave at dprentice-hyers@firstpresbyterian.org if you would like to be added to our email list.

November Events for T2A2

Our next event is "Advent at Amer's," beginning Wednesday, November 30, at 7:00 p.m., at Amer's Delicatessen (611 Church Street, Ann Arbor) and continuing each Wednesday in Advent. This is part of the all-church Advent study using the book, *The Uncluttered Heart: Making Room for God During Advent and Christmas* by Beth A. Richardson. Resident Brennan Pearson says "What I like about the book is that it follows the liturgical themes we will be exploring during each week of advent: Hope, Peace, Joy, Love. For each week, there is a daily scripture reading, a reflection, a prayer, a key thought, and an literary parallel from an outside source. The days build together to support the theme of the week." Additionally, there are daily devotions centered on Presence that takes the reader through Christmas to the beginning of Epiphany – so participants have a devotional for continued use after the Advent Study has completed. Pastor Dave will have books available for purchase or you can order your own. Join us each Wednesday in Advent for "Advent at Amer's."



Adult Education Opportunities



Advent Email Devotionals Return!

What better way to embrace the season of waiting than to subscribe to our e-mail daily devotional! Logon to our website and you will find a Subscribe button, just click and each day you will receive a short, thoughtful reflection of the daily lectionary text in your email inbox. We will have a limited number of printed copies available on the first Sunday of Advent as well.

Questions? Contact The Reverend Mel Prentice-Hyers at: mprentice-hyers@firstpresbyterian.org

Adult Education Opportunities (continued)

2011 Fall Adult Education Class Schedule:

SUNDAY MORNINGS IN NOVEMBER:

“Sundays @ 8” class runs through November 20 at 8:00 a.m. Pastors lead this class in the Founder’s Room, discussing *Eat this Book: A Conversation in the Art of Spiritual Reading* by Eugene Peterson. Join anytime! Books available through Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers.

“The Bible @ 9:30” will continue the study of Jeremiah each Sunday in November. The Rev. Ed Koster leads this class in the Library/French Room. Everyone is welcome, join anytime!

“The 11:00 Class” meets through November 20 studying “From Jesus to the Early Church: Clues from the Book of Acts.” Dr. Waldemar Schmeichel leads this class in the Lewis Room. In five weeks, we will examine the steps the early followers of Jesus took, the Spirit-guided decisions they made to transform the structurally loose fellowship of Jesus into an organized entity, the church.

WEDNESDAY 2:42 FALL SEMESTER CLASSES (These classes end November 16)

At 5:00 p.m.:

Bible 101, led by pastors, meets in the Vance Room. Books available at the gathering.

The Prayer 101: The Praying Life will meet at 5:00 p.m. is in the Lewis room during 2:42 weeks. A study book is available for \$15, and is available through Rev. Rogers.

At 7:00 p.m.:

Bible 101, led by pastors, meets in the Vance Room. Books available at the gathering.

Book study of “A More Profound Alleluia”:

Each week we examine a different component of the reformed order of worship (e.g., Confession and Assurance) and illustrate how liturgical dance helps theology, often too deep for words, become more assessable to the worshiper. T

OUR ADVENT JOURNEY BEGINS NOVEMBER 27

Advent is upon us! Sunday, November 27, 2011, is the first Sunday of Advent. That means that the church will transform as we begin four weeks of waiting, of serving, and of preparation to celebrate God’s coming into the world.

Advent Study Returns: First Pres Reads!

As Advent nears, the Adult Education Committee invites you to join our all-church Advent Study as together we read *The Uncluttered Heart: Making Room for God During Advent and Christmas* by Beth A. Richardson. Read on your own, or even better, join an Advent Study Group that will meet each week until Christmas. Groups are held throughout the week at various times.

Why this book? Richardson’s reflections offer a wonderful chance to explore the liturgical themes of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love as we move into this season of wonder and expectancy. Books will be available in the church office for \$13. You can also reserve your copy by emailing Rev. Brennan Pearson at bpearson@firstpresbyterian.org.

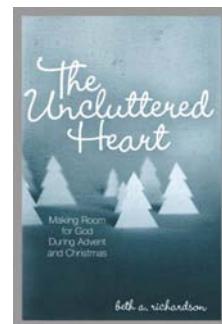
Choose a group to attend - or attend several!

Sundays at 8:00 a.m. - Led by Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers and Rev. Evans McGowan

Mondays at Noon - Led by Rev. Dr. Budge Gere and Rev. Brennan Pearson

Mondays at 7 p.m. - Led by Rev. Kent Palmquist

(continues on next page)



Adult Education Opportunities (continued)

Advent Study Returns, cont'd.

Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. - Led by Rev. Eldon Beery

Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. - Led by Rev. Bill Findlay

Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. - Led by Kathy Wirstrom

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. - Led by Rev. Dave Prentice-Hyers at Amer's Deli – for young adults

To join a group, indicate which group you would like to join from the list above and email your choice to Rev. Brennan Pearson at bpearson@firstpresbyterian.org. Let us share in learning and in loving as we usher in this splendid season!

Church, Community and World



Christmas Care Packages

A reminder that on Saturday, November 12, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., the First Presbyterian Church Military Veterans Group invites all members of the congregation to help prepare care packages to send to military personnel serving overseas. The September First Press had a full article and information on this event, including a list of items appreciated. Internet users visit http://firstpresbyterian.org/files/firstpres/October_2011_First_Press_.pdf, and see page 6.

Christmas Shop at the Mission Marketplace!

Join us in the Social Hall, from 8:30 a.m. to noon, Saturday, November 19, and Sunday, November 20, for Mission Marketplace! Get your Christmas shopping done early or shop for yourself as you browse the unique, wonderful handicrafts from Haiti, the Philippines, Latin America, Israel/Palestine and Russia, all sites of our international missions. All proceeds go to mission programs serving these partner countries.



Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration

The Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County will hold its 17th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration on Sunday evening, November 20, at 7:00 p.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 West Stadium, Ann Arbor. Join us as we give thanks with readings, music, meditations and other unique presentations from a wide variety of faith traditions. Donations accepted of non-perishable food or turkey money to help those in need in our community. 2012 Interfaith Calendars will also be available. For more information, call Rev. George Lambrides at 424-1535.

Volunteer at Alpha House

A warm thank you to the many of you who volunteered to help out at Alpha House (Interfaith Hospitality Network's family shelter on Jackson Road) in September. First Pres looks forward to serving as the congregational host again, November 28 to December 4. New volunteers are welcome! If you would like to donate your time for child care, meal preparation or shopping for items on the pantry list, look for our yellow sign-up poster located near the Welcome Center or in the Social Hall during Coffee Hour on Sundays. Contact one of our coordinators for more information: Nancy Vander Kuyf, (741-1814, nanspan@gmail.com), Wendy Rampson. or Anne Gere.



Church, Community and World (continued)

Latin America Task Force: New Focus, New Mission Trip

The Peru Task Force has officially changed its name and focus to the Latin America Task Force. A mission trip to Nicaragua is planned for 2012. Members of First Pres interested in joining the task force or possibly participating in the trip are invited to contact Marti Wendler at 709-1677.

Family-to-Family Christmas is Coming!

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas — Family-to-Family Christmas, that is! As in years past, First Presbyterian Church has committed to providing assistance to up to 150 needy families in the local community during the holiday season. We encourage you to consider “adopting” a local family in need this year by purchasing gifts of food, toys, clothes, and/or other necessities and delivering them to your family in time for Christmas. Alternatively, you may adopt a family and request that volunteers deliver the gifts for you, or you may make a financial contribution designated to Family-to-Family Christmas, which will enable us to assist families not directly adopted, as well as a number of families at the University of Michigan Hospital during the holidays.

Sign-up for adopting families will take place in the Social Hall between and after morning services on November 27, December 4, and December 11. Volunteers are needed to work the sign-up tables on those days and are especially needed to help deliver gifts on December 18. We're also looking for a volunteer who might be interested in learning the details of the program and serving as a back-up contact person. This year, why not make helping a needy family part of your own family's holiday tradition? Watch the announcements and First Press for more details! To volunteer or receive more information, please contact Julie Morrison at morrisons@comcast.net or 668-0420.



Congregational Care

Sibling Rivalry While Caregiving: A Stephen Ministry Presentation

Stephen Ministers hold continuing education offerings on Mondays from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. in the Youth Room. The entire congregation is welcome to join us! Come on November 14 for the presentation, "Sibling Rivalry while Caring for Elderly Parents," presented by Kit Fuller, LMSW.

Stephen Ministers in Life and in Death

Stephen Ministry meets people at many of life's most important transitions, including moving from daily life to life eternal. Care receivers may be nearing the end of life, or be caring for a loved one who is. Stephen Ministers are trained to offer comfort, support, and presence to those who are nearing death and to their families. For many Stephen Ministers, walking alongside a care receiver during this transition gives them the opportunity to begin to think about death in a very personal way. A Stephen Minister writes:



“It is truly a blessing to be a caregiver through the Stephen Ministry program. It was a joy to experience a growing, vibrant relationship over a period of two years. Seeing each other about once a week, we became very close and treasured each other's friendship. But as death comes to all, so I had to experience the long illness and eventual death of my care receiver. During this period of time, I was helped because we had developed a pattern of reading the Bible and praying together. Therefore, it became very natural for us to talk about her approaching death and the joy she would experience when she met the Lord face to face. Although it was sad to say good-bye to a friend, it was still a privilege to walk the walk together. I thank the Lord for giving me this blessing.”



Congregational Care (continued)

How grateful we are to have the compassionate, generous, courageous ministry of our Stephen Ministers!
If you would like a Stephen Minister, call the confidential phone line 662-4466, ext. 388 or email sministry@firstpresbyterian.org.



TRANSITIONS - October Edition

We grieve the death of the following members:

Leona Jacobs, September 27
Betty Lou Moon, October 18
Deane Baker, October 19
Barbara Stephenson, October 22

Business of the Congregation

Task Force Report on Church Relations Unanimously Received

Last June, Dr. Fair reported to Session that two church members had individually sent her the copy of a letter, taken from the *Presbyterian Layman*, asking that the session study our church's relationship with the PC(USA). The letter, called, "I Choose this Day!," calls upon the Session of First Presbyterian Church to initiate a prayerful study of PC(USA) policies and programs and the nature of our church's relationship with the PC (USA). Our Session appointed a task force to prayerfully consider the issues raised in the letter and present their findings in a report at the October 19 Session meeting. The report was presented, and begins, "With the passage, in May of this year, of Amendment 10-A to the PC(USA) *Book of Order*, many faithful Presbyterians began to question the direction of the church and its standards for ordination of elders, deacons, and ministers. The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor ("FPC"), like many Sessions in the denomination, has been asked to reflect on the effects of the passage of the Amendment and to reconsider the relationship of FPC to the PC(USA)."

The report, available on the First Presbyterian Church website for you to read, is a thorough examination of the *Book of Order* and the new standard for ordination in light of Essential Tenets of the Reformed Faith. The report's concluding paragraphs articulate this conclusion:

"We do not believe that the Presbyterian Book of Order perfectly reflects the will of God. Nor do we believe that any one confession can perfectly express human faith and obedience. We believe that Christ calls us to affirm, not the perfection of our understanding, but His saving grace. We believe that we, although seeing dimly, may strive always in faithful, joyful obedience to God's Word to follow Christ. We believe that full participation, within the community of believers, in the debate, dialog, and discussion of all aspects of living in faith and obedience, is God's call to us.

Because we find that the amendment of the Book of Order is not a departure from essential tenets of the Reformed faith, and because we believe that a deepened understanding comes through dialog with those of diverse views within the community of believers, we recommend that Session reaffirm its relationship to the Presbyterian Church USA."

Our elders unanimously received the report and the findings presented, with special thanks to Task Force Chair Sarah Stitt and members Mark Goodhart and John Whittier-Ferguson.



Opportunities for Women



Meet the New Resident Ministers - November 16

All Presbyterian Women are invited to our next gathering on Wednesday, November 16, when we will meet the new class of Resident Ministers. Come learn more about them -- Rev. Mary Elizabeth (Mel) Prentice-Hyers, Rev. Brennan Pearson and Rev. Evans McGowan. Also on hand will be Sarah Stitt, the Chair of the Residency and Candidates Committee, who will introduce our wonderful new Residents and explain how they were selected to serve at First Pres. Come hear Brennan talk about the Howell Nature Center and his recent trip to Haiti; listen to Mel share her experiences in Belfast, Ireland, and her thoughts on a two-minister family; discover more about Evans' and his year of volunteering in Kenya. Their talk begins at 10:45 a.m. in Monteith Hall.

A Bible Study precedes this discussion at 9:30 a.m. in the Lewis Room on Lesson 3 of Confessing the Beatitudes. Carole Hendrickson will lead the discussion. Following the Bible Study and presentation by the Resident Ministers, stay for lunch in the Social Hall.

Contact Jane Kinzinger, 994-0444 or jjkinzinger@aol.com, with any questions.

Please sign up for lunch. Call or stop by the church office, 662-4466.

Body and Soul

What? Body and soul helps tune the body and keep it working well through gentle movements and warm fellowship.

When? Monday Mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Curtis Room.

Who? Contact Coordinator, Lynn Haddan, 665-5105 for questions or to sign up. Join anytime!

Women's Evening Bible Study (WEBS)

Our next meeting is November 7, at 7:00 p.m. in the Curtis Room, as we study Lesson 2 of the Presbyterian Women Horizons Bible Study, "Greatly Honored are the Mourners." The Scripture Lesson is Matthew 5:4 and Luke 6:21-25. All women of the congregation are welcome. Contact Jennie Lombard, 663-7244 or Sue Dempsey, 769-0566.

Women's Reading Group

Next meeting is November 9th at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Marolin Bellefleur. We will study the chapter on "Hell" as we continue to read *Love Wins* by Rob Bell. All First Pres women are welcome. Contact Barbara Black, 663-6289, for details or to order the book.

Presbyterian Women of Detroit (PWPD)

Join us! November 2, 2011 at 9:45 a.m. at University Presbyterian Church, 1385 S. Adams Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48309. Come hear The Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Coates Jr. who will talk on "Foster Care," a subject of which they can speak from first-hand experience, and Pam Whitaker, leader of a maternal infant health program that seeks to support Medicaid beneficiaries by promoting healthy pregnancies, positive birth outcomes, and infant health and development. Lunch follows at 12:30 p.m. and costs \$7. The program will include mission opportunities, the Sewing Ingathering Report and the Thank Offering dedication. Please make reservations by October 28, 2011 or call Fran Johanson, (248) 656-6785, fsJohanson@comcast.net, or the University Presbyterian Church, (248) 375-0400. For more information, contact Ruth Barnard, rbarnard@umich.edu.

Presbyterian Women (PW)

Special thanks to Barbara McKinley, who has graciously accepted to be the new PW Treasurer. We welcome her! Thank you to Mary Ann Berry for her work as Treasurer during the summer months.



The Healthy Church

Let's Stay Healthy this Cold and Flu Season!

Flu is already here in Washtenaw County! At our annual flu vaccination clinic held at First Pres in September, over 80 people received the vaccine. Flu vaccines are recommended for almost everyone 6 months of age or older. If you haven't received your vaccine, they are available from your health care provider, Washtenaw County Public Health Dept. and many area grocery stores and pharmacies.

Other ways to reduce your chance of getting sick are eating well, exercising and getting enough sleep. Frequent hand washing with soap and water, using hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available, covering your cough and sneeze with your elbow, sleeve or tissue are effective ways to prevent the spread of disease. Staying away from others when you are ill is recommended and appreciated.

During worship, as we participate in passing the peace, you may prefer to greet one another by placing your hands together in an attitude of prayer, rather than shaking hands. Large bottles of alcohol-based hand sanitizer are available in many locations throughout the church for your use.

For more information, questions about the flu or other health related concerns, please contact Martine Blogin, parish nurse at 662-4466, ext. 350 or mblogin@firstpresbyterian.org.



Stewardship 2012 - Everyone counts!

