



First Press

A NEWSLETTER OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR
April 2011

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Join Us for Worship During Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 17

Worship services are at 8:00 a.m. in Monteith Hall and at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Children will join us for the Palm Procession at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be received at all services.

"Stabat Mater" will be performed at 4:00 p.m. (see page 3)

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 21

An Intergenerational Communion Service will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 22

A Service of Tenebrae will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 24

Family Worship services are at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Our New Pastor/Head of Staff, The Reverend Dr. Fairfax F. Fair

At its special meeting of March 20, 2011, the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor called the Rev. Dr. Fairfax F. Fair to be its next Pastor/Head of Staff. Fairfax will start work on Monday, May 30, 2011 and her first Sunday in the pulpit will be Sunday, June 5, 2011.

Born in Warren, Arkansas, Fairfax was raised a lifelong Presbyterian. Widowed young, she has a son and daughter-in-law and is very recently a grandmother.

Fairfax earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia and a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas.

She is the Pastor/Head of Staff at Highland Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky. Previously she served as Pastor/Head of Staff at Saint Luke's Presbyterian Church in

Houston, Texas and as Associate Pastor at churches in Texas and Tennessee.

She believes her church should serve the local community and the larger Presbyterian Church. She has participated in both the local Presbytery and the General Assembly, and serves on several boards. Maintaining a special connection to Union Presbyterian Seminary, she serves on the Board of Trustees and is Chairperson of the Bicentennial Committee. She has published numerous articles and sermons and is asked often to speak, delivering several keynote addresses at Presbyterian conferences.

On a more personal note, Fairfax has an admitted weakness for chocolate and dogs. Anxious to experience all that Michigan has to offer, she looks forward to long walks in the fall and cross country skiing. "I'm eager to work the concession stand for a game at the Big House and explore a new home state."



SATURDAY & SUNDAY
MARCH 19 & 20, 2011 –
scenes of welcome, worship and celebration
as we welcome Dr. Fair



Fairfax F. Fair



Rick Boothman and Lois Jelneck



Bill Keesor



Jenny McDevitt and Jane Hayes



Paul Smith, Larry Farris, Bill Keesor



Paul and
Erin Tichenor



Breakfast on
Saturday

Let us
go forward,
trusting God



Worship & Music

Glacier Lenten Gathering

Our Presbyterian residents and deacons will gather for Lenten worship on Maunday Thursday, April 21 at 10:30 a.m. at Glacier Hills in the Hanson Room. Staff members from First Pres, deacons, and volunteers will be on hand to share communion and worship, as well as fellowship following the service. All members are welcome! Can you come and help, provide some cookies, or provide your presence in our worshipping community? Let Dick Rigterink know if you can be with us, dr@thecampusstudio.com.

"Stabat Mater" to Be Performed With Orchestra on Palm Sunday

The Chancel Choir, mezzo-soprano soloist Wendy Bloom, and orchestra with indigenous Middle-Eastern instruments will present Karl Jenkins' 2008 "Stabat Mater" on April 17 at 4:00 p.m. This 13th century text was a devotional remembering the sorrows of Mary at the cross. It is one of the tenderest of the hymns of the Middle Ages, with its simple and vivid language; the Mother of Jesus is plunged into grief and weeping beneath the Cross on which He was suffering. In this contemporary setting, Welsh composer Karl Jenkins takes us to Jesus' Middle East by using ethnic instruments (darabuca, def, doholla, and riq,) various languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek, Latin) and Arabic chant.

Mezzo-soprano Wendy Bloom's diverse artistic background includes opera, oratorio, early music, chamber music, choral music, recitals, cabaret and musical theatre. She recently played Maddy in a new opera, "Two Candles Burning", by Stephen Rush and Michael Rodemer. Her solo appearances have included concerts with symphonies in Ann Arbor, Flint, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Baltimore and Toledo. Recently she performed as alto soloist in Prokofiev's "Alexander Nevsky", Bach's "B Minor Mass" and "St. Matthew Passion, Handel's "Messiah", Mozart's "Requiem" and Mahler's "Third Symphony". She is the artistic director for a popular cabaret in Ann Arbor, Michigan called "Wine, Women and Song", now in its eighth year, and has created a solo recital, "The New American Songbook." 2007 marked her first appearances with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale as well as with Conspirare in Austin, Texas.



Easter Lilies

Donate Easter Lilies for Sunday, April 24 to decorate the chancel on Easter Sunday in memory or in honor of a loved one. Sign up in the Church Office or at the Welcome Center on the clipboard provided. Clearly print the name of the person for whom the flowers are given. Lilies are \$17 and the deadline for donating is Monday, April 18 at noon. After Easter services, our deacons will deliver the lilies to members and friends in our congregation who are ill, grieving, or shut-in.

Church Life

Farewell Reception for Reverend Lawrence W. Farris

On Sunday, May 1, following the 9:30 a.m. worship service, a reception will be held in honor of interim pastor, the Reverend Lawrence W. Farris and his wife, Pat Farris, in thanksgiving for their service to First Presbyterian Church. The reception and time of fellowship will take place in the Social Hall where we hope all members and friends of First Pres will come to share time with Larry and Pat.

This will be Larry's and Pat's last Sunday with us, and we want to send them back to Three Rivers filled with our love, thanks and mementoes of their time with us. Cards and expressions of thanks can be sent to the attention of John Sampselle by April 21.

Mature Ministries' Fun and Fellowship Sub-Committee announces "Special Events" for April and May

Butterflies Are Free!

Church folks are invited to join with us as we travel to Grand Rapids on Monday, April 11, at 8:00 a.m. to see the butterfly exhibit at the Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids. Thousands of beautiful butterflies will land on your nose! Cost is \$15 per person for tickets and travel. Bring money for your lunch there or a brown-bag. There is a special exhibit by Jim Dine, American sculptor. Sign up by April 3.

Church Life (continued)

Ernie

See this Mitch Albom play about the legendary Ernie Harwell. The performance in Detroit, is on Sunday, May 22, at 2 p.m. Your tickets must be reserved by April 7. We have 14 tickets left. They cost \$15. To reserve your ticket, call Melissa Anne Rogers at 355-2351 or mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org.

Mature Ministries Movie Morning Is Thursday, April 28

Join us as we journey together for lunch and a local theater showing of *Water for Elephants*. This movie, based on the New York Times bestseller of the same name, stars Reese Witherspoon and Robert Pattinson. Time to be announced! If you'd like to be on the email list to attend, let Melissa Anne Rogers know, 662-4466, ext. 390, or mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org.

First Couples in April

First Couples meets at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays in Monteith Hall for fellowship and a program. Their program offerings for this month are:

- April 3 New Testament. DVD. "Luke—Jesus the Savior of the World."
- April 10 New Testament. DVD. "John—Jesus the Man from Heaven."
- April 17 "What's Your Color?" Personality grouping. (Redding)
- April 24 Easter. NO CLASS.

Team First Pres Running by You on Sunday, June 5!

Are you planning to run the Dexter-Ann Arbor 5K, 10K, or Half-Marathon on June 5? Although we are not planning a formal Team First Pres, nor fundraising for a particular cause, lots of Presbyterians will be running from Dexter to Ann Arbor that day, or on one of the shorter courses. We'd love to know if you'll be there and love to hold you in prayer that day. Contact Melissa Anne Rogers at mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org, or 662-4466, ext. 390, if you'll be running, so we can look for you!

Don't miss the Spring 2010 First Pres Photo Show!

The Spring First Presbyterian photo show, sponsored by our Adult Education Committee, will be on display Sunday, May 8 through Sunday, May 29 in the Social Hall. You are invited to come and meet the exhibitors on Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to noon while the exhibit is up.

The photographers are church members or associates. Some are professionals, but most are amateurs. They all have a desire to share their favorite photographic visions and to meet others in the church. If you are interested in being an exhibitor, please contact Marion Powers (761-9859 or mmpowrs@umich.edu). Space is very limited. If there is no room for your work in this show, we would like to get you on the list for our fall exhibition.

Permanent Name Tags:

You will notice members and friends wearing permanent name tags. We'd love for you to have one! 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.

Spring Intermediate Bridge playing, a drop-in group for anyone who has played bridge at the intermediate level, will be held Thursdays, March 31 through April 28, from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m., in the Lewis Room. Are you interested? Contact Don Deatrick at ddeatrick@live.com.

Tigers and Diamondbacks and First Pres...Oh My!

Save the date! On Sunday, June 26, First Pres is going to watch the Detroit Tigers take on the Arizona Diamondbacks! More information about tickets and bus transportation will be available soon.

Adult Education Opportunities

Adult Education Sunday Morning Opportunities:

9:30 a.m. – Classes in the French Room/Library

Basic Bible (through May 22)

This class looks at the Bible as history, as literature, as the source of our faith, as revelation, as the basic authority for the church. This is an open class which can be joined at any time for as long as a member desires. The class is continuing an in-depth discussion of the book of Jeremiah.

Presenter: The Reverend Ed Koster

There will be no Basic Bible class on Easter, April 24.

11:00 a.m. – Classes in the Lewis Room

April 6 *News from the Philippines Mission Task Force*

Presenter: Joe Schmidt

April 10 *Christianity for the Rest of Us*

A discussion of the book *Christianity for the Rest of Us* by Diana Butler Bass. Dr. Bass will be preaching at the 9:30 a.m. worship service on April 10.

Discussion Leaders: The Reverends Brewster Gere and Sarah Wiles

There will be no 11:00 a.m. class on Palm Sunday, April 17, or Easter, April 24

Looking Ahead to the May 2011 Health and Wellness Series:

May 1 *Your Family's Dental Health*

Trends and current treatments in dentistry for adults and children.

Presenter: Craig Blogin, DDS

May 8 *Learning about Prostate Diseases and Urology Conditions*

Presenters: Kathleen Cooney, MD, Professor, Department of Urology and Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan Medical School; Gary Faerber, MD, Department of Urology, University of Michigan Medical School

May 15 *Insights into Nursing Home/Retirement Community Living*

As the Chaplain at Glacier Hills, Rev. Ruthanne Bourlier has a unique perspective on living in a retirement community and aging. She will offer suggestions for family members and friends.

Presenter: The Rev. Ruthanne Bourlier, Chaplain, Glacier Hills Retirement Community

May 22 *Grownups Need Vaccines Too!*

Learn about current immunization recommendations for adults.

Presenter: Donna Nussdorfer, RN-C, recently retired Communicable Disease Program Coordinator, Washtenaw County Public Health Department and church member

Business of the Church: Pledge Update

There have been 549 pledges at an average of \$2,657.

Our pledge total is now \$1,458,865. This is \$2,865 over our goal of \$1,456,000.

To all our members and friends who have taken the step to support the work and ministry of First Presbyterian, we thank you. If you have not turned in a pledge card this year, information is available from the church office. Thanks be to God!

Congregational Care

Why Not Join First Pres?

If you've been attending for many years, or even just a few weeks, perhaps you've had thoughts like these:

I just want come to worship and meet a few friends from time to time. I want to avoid being asked to do more, to be known, to have my picture in the directory

I just put a few dollars in the offering plate. Isn't that enough?

I want to participate in aspects of this ministry that meet my needs and interests without giving my whole heart to the church .

If I join, something more might be asked of me from church members who are here to walk a journey of faith. And from God.

What if the pastor I am closest to on staff leaves? My heart would be broken.

What if the preacher for the day offends me? I'll be mad.

Or perhaps it's this, "Nobody has ever asked me to join."

But maybe it's time for you to join. Maybe you've thought about it, but haven't been ready to make the commitment. Until now.

This is our invitation to you to join the First Pres family! First Pres is a church family, and that's the best reason to join. We are not a perfect family, not always without error or fault, not always fully faithful to our call to love and tend to all the saints here and afar with our whole heart, mind, soul, and strength. We are made up of sinners. But like all saints and sinners, we are trying hard to live as God would have us live. We want to live the call to be Christ's Body of Christ well, and with all the gifts God has given to us.

(If you are already a member and know someone who might be interested in joining, tell them about the upcoming new member classes. Tell them about what membership in this church has meant to you.)

Church membership is one step in your journey of faith. The Book of Order, which is part of the Presbyterian Church (USA) constitution, lists the following duties of members:

- proclaiming the good news,
- taking part in the common life and worship of a particular church,
- praying and studying Scripture and the faith of the Christian Church,
- supporting the work of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents,
- participating in the governing responsibilities of the church,
- demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church,
- responding to God's activity in the world through service to others,
- living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life,
- working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment.

But don't let this list of duties scare you, let it inspire you! Through the fellowship of First Presbyterian, we support each other in living up to these obligations as individuals and as a congregation.

Not all our members fulfill these duties perfectly. In fact, none of them do. Not all probably even remember this list of hopes and expectations from when they joined. But we should try. We should be inspired to focus ourselves in meeting the promises of membership. Christ has led you, and us, together. We believe that we are here for a reason, that we have a purpose and a common calling to love, serve and proclaim Christ Jesus. Come and join us as saints who, with the grace of God upholding us, are trying hard.

Because joining a church might seem like big step, a commitment of heart, soul, spirit, gifts, in order that you can make an informed decision, we ask you to attend a two part new member class here at First Pres. The next new member classes take place on two Sundays, May 15 and 22, 11 am - 1 pm. New members from these classes will be received on Sunday, June 19, Pentecost. To join in the fun, contact The Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers at 662-4466.

The Congregational Life Committee

Congregational Care (continued)

Memorial Service for Aristide Jude Gardette

A Memorial Service for Aristide Jude Gardette, the son of David and Maxine Larrouy, will be held Sunday, April 10 at 3:00 p.m., in the sanctuary. All are welcome to the service and reception following. Jude tragically died in Florida earlier this year. Please keep the Larrouy and Gardette families in your prayers.

Senior Living Week

The 13th annual **Senior Living Week**, organized by the Housing Bureau for Seniors of the University of Michigan Health System, will be Friday, May 6 through Sunday, May 15. Activities are for older adults ranging from baby boomers, pre-retirees, and recent retirees to the very elderly and their adult children.

The kick off is the Senior Living Week Expo on Friday, May 6 at Washtenaw Community College, Morris Lawrence Conference Center. There will be over 60 exhibits by providers of senior housing, care, services and products to enhance quality of life and independence. Free gifts, health screenings, and a variety of assessments will also be offered at the Expo.

Starting at the Expo and continuing through the week will be workshops in Ann Arbor, Chelsea, Saline and Ypsilanti. Workshop topics include health, memory loss, home technologies & assistive devices, intergenerational communications, long term care, financial & legal issues, moving & downsizing and more. Also, open houses will be hosted at senior housing communities throughout Washtenaw County. Because of the generous support of sponsors and supporters, all events are offered at no cost to the public.

Registration is required for all workshops. Registration deadline is Friday, April 22. NO registration is required to attend the Expo or the Open Houses.

To view a Senior Living Week flyer, registration form, and detailed program brochure, visit <http://www.med.umich.edu/seniors/events/shaw.htm>. Contact Laura Nathan, lnathan@umich.edu, if you would like a PDF of the program brochure emailed to you.

Church, Community and World

Spring Football Fever Is Here, and So Is Mission Fever!

We need 20 volunteers to sign up by April 10 to help with the concession stands at the University of Michigan spring football game on April 16. This is a huge way to raise mission dollars and a wonderful way to build fellowship. It is very important that we get enough volunteers for this event. If we do not, it will impact whether or not we will be able to work the concession stands this fall and raise money for mission. Please help! Contact Frank Bongiorno at fbong99@yahoo.com to sign up.

Deacon's April 11 Blood Drive

Our next blood drive will take place on Monday, April 11 in Monteith Hall from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. To schedule an appointment online, go to www.redcrossblood.org, click on the blue "Make a Blood Donation Appointment" box in the upper right-hand corner, and enter "First" in the "Enter the Sponsor Code" box. This will bring up the First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor Blood Drive screen. Follow the instructions to schedule an appointment. If you have trouble scheduling online, please call Linda Koopmann at (734) 972-3828. You may also sign up by calling the Red Cross directly at (800) 733-2767, and choose option 2. They will ask for the drive date and place.

To give blood for transfusion to another person, you must be at least 17 years old, must weigh at least 110 pounds, and must not have donated whole blood in the last 8 weeks (56 days) or double red cells in the last 16 weeks (112 days).

This drive happens to fall during National Volunteer Week. If you haven't volunteered in the church or community for a while, this is a great opportunity for you to help out. See you on April 11!

Linda Koopmann, Deacon Blood Drive Coordinator

Church, Community and World (continued)

Detroit Spring Mission Project:

Cass Community Social Service wants our help again in planting a garden and sprucing up the “campus” on Saturday, May 14 (one day only). Also, teams of two to three people are needed to help remove unusable materials from the recently purchased Brady Building. These teams can go anytime (not restricted to May 14). Contact Sue Jeffers as soon as possible if you can help at sjeffers1@me.com.

Time to Refresh Your Spirit in a Third Thursday Mini-Mission:

In April there are two opportunities for you to serve in a mini-mission and enjoy fellowship with other First Pres missionaries. All volunteers need to sign up in the Church Office. Volunteers will meet at First Pres at 12:30 p.m. and carpool to their work site. We will return to church at 4:30 p.m. or earlier if the work is done. The April 21 Third Thursday Mini-Missions include Fixer-Uppers in Individual Homes, and work at "House By the Side of the Road."

"**Fixer-Uppers**", led by Karl Hauser and Paul Goodman, go to individual homes or condos in teams of two, to help with various inside tasks such as changing ceiling light bulbs and fire alarm batteries, installing grab bars, fixing cupboard doors, installing new handles, touch-up painting, etc. To join this team, sign up in the Church Office. If you need a “Fixer-Upper” to help you at home, please contact Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org, 662-4466, ext. 390) to be added to the “Fixer-Upper” list.

"**House By the Side of the Road**" volunteers, led by Marlene and Vic Stoeffler, will sort, put on hangers, organize and hang donated clothing at their new location. This is a relatively new mini-mission, although First Pres has been active with the House by the Side of the Road in its old location, for many years. This organization provides clothing and other items to families in need of assistance, who are referred by local social agencies. Note: Due to a miscommunication, the leadership at the new location was not ready for our missionaries when they arrived in February and they were turned away. However, the communication bugs have been worked out and now, with lots of work to do, volunteers will be welcomed on April 21. To be part of this mini-mission team, please sign up in the Church Office.

Upcoming May Mini-Missions on include working at "Friends In Deed" with Dana Underwood and Ginny Rezmierski, and sorting greeting cards at church for the Delonis Center with Eleanor Shaw

It's Time to Re-enroll Your Kroger Card to Continue to Donate to Mission!

Every year in April, Kroger Card members must re-enroll to continue to participate Kroger's program that donates money for mission at First Pres. To continue earning Kroger rewards from May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012, ALL MEMBERS (not organizations) MUST re-enroll at www.krogercommunityrewards.com beginning April 1, 2011.

Be sure to reference First Presbyterian Church Mission account number 82421 or Youth Mission account number 83548 when you re-enroll. Any member who does not remember the email address they used can call 877-KRO-PLUS. They will remove any email address attached to the card and the customer can then go online to enroll again. Thank you for continuing to raise money for mission in such an easy way!!

Delonis Card Program

Thank you to all who have contributed greeting cards, stamps and calendars! Just recently, we were given some beautiful, hand-made cards. Several others had lovely photographs attached to them. Could these be from one of our talented First Pres photographers? Your generosity is greatly appreciated! Cards are still needed, especially those that are blank or that say “thinking of you.” Please hold onto your holiday greeting cards for now. We have quite a few in stock.

New volunteers are needed to help on Wednesday evenings from 5:15 to 6:45 p.m. you would be asked to help once every two months. This is a great way for husbands and wives, or significant others to volunteer together. Questions? Call Jeannine Buchanan, 971-6589, or Eleanor Shaw, 996-9139, for more information.

A correction to the Delonis Center description in the March issue of First Pres: At Christmas, our church provides the usual cards and stamps plus a special gift of a bag of socks and a winter cap for each person. Another church is responsible for donating the gloves.

Church, Community and World (continued)

Japanese Earthquake/Tsunami Relief

Many members of First Presbyterian have asked how they may provide assistance in the aftermath of the horrendous tragedy in Japan. The Presbyterian Church (USA) will be providing aid through its Disaster Assistance program. Those wishing to help may make checks out to "First Presbyterian Church" with an earmark for "Japan Earthquake," and we will forward funds to the Disaster Assistance program. Let us all be faithful in holding the people of Japan in our prayers.

One Great Hour of Sharing: Sharing Resources, Changing Lives



The One Great Hour of Sharing special offering will be received at all services on Palm Sunday. Special offering envelopes will be available in the pews on Palm Sunday.

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities. Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future.

Where does the money go? The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated One Great Hour of Sharing gifts, while the Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receive 32 percent.

The Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church at Harvard University,

died on Feb. 28 from complications arising from a stroke. He was 68 years old. Gomes, an American Baptist minister, served in the Memorial Church since 1970. He was a member of both the Divinity School faculty and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard. Gomes authored many books, including the best-sellers *The Good Book: Reading the Bible with Mind and Heart* and *Sermons: Biblical Wisdom for Daily Living*, as well as numerous articles and papers.

We were blessed to have Reverend Gomes preach twice in our sanctuary in the last ten years. He came for the baptism of Alex Kaldjian in 2001, and again in 2009 to preach for Confirmation

Sunday, when Alex was confirmed. Alex's parents, Eric Kaldjian and Cindy Stiles, were dear friends of Reverend Gomes. They, and all who loved him, are in our prayers as we mourn his death and remember the many gifts God gave him, which he freely shared with so many.



The Teaching Church

Diana Butler Bass Lectures at First Pres



Diana Butler Bass, noted author and scholar, will be joining us on April 9 and 10, just a few short days from now! The author of our Lenten study book, *Christianity for the Rest of Us*, Dr. Bass writes, teaches, and lectures widely on the intersection of cultural change, spirituality, and religious practice in mainline congregations. She is a dynamic and engaging speaker. Whether you've read her work or not, all are welcome.

The schedule on April 9 will be:

- 8:45-9:00 Gathering/Reception
- 9:00-10:30 Presentation 1
- 10:30-10:50 Coffee and cell phone break
- 10:50-12:00 Conversation, questions, discussion
- 12:00-12:45 Lunch
- 12:45-2:00 Presentation 2

You're welcome to join us for all or just part of the day. RSVP by calling the church office, 662-4466, or contact Rev. Sarah Wiles (swiles@firstpresbyterian.org, 662-4466, ext. 355) so that we can plan for enough lunch for all.

The Israel/Palestine Mission Task Force:

The Israel/Palestine Mission Task Force, formerly the Pilgrims of Ibillin, invites you a series of upcoming events. The Task Force will host Coffee Hour on Sunday, April 3, from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. Join us for snacks and discussion about Task Force activities including the support of the Mar Elias Educational Institutions in Ibillin, Israel (founded by Father Chacour) and for peaceful coexistence of all religious and ethnic groups in Israel/Palestine.

"Lemon Tree" Movie Night –

You are invited to Movie Night at First Pres on Friday, April 15, starting at 7:00 p.m., in Monteith Hall. We will watch the outstanding film *The Lemon Tree*. Popcorn will be provided. The free event is intended to expose the congregation to the state of Israeli and Palestinian relations within an engaging fictional context. All are welcome.

Social Justice Speaker –

Join us for a lecture by Maxine Kaufman-Lacusta on May 1, at 7:00 p.m., in Monteith Hall. Maxine Kaufman-Lacusta is a Canadian Jewish Quaker author who has written a recently published book *Refusing to be Enemies: Palestinian and Israeli Nonviolent Resistance to the Israeli Occupation*. Please join us to engage this important and timely topic.

Hilltoppers is one week late — come celebrate Earth Day with us!

Sign up today for Hilltoppers (Our 60 and up fellowship and learning lunch group)! For April only, we are moving to the 21st (one week later) to accommodate our speaker's schedule. Sign up to hear Dr. Henry Pollack speak on "A World Without Ice," Thursday April 21 at 12 noon in the Social Hall (note: this is Maundy Thursday). Purchase the book locally at Nicola's bookstore, at Amazon.com or at www.worldwithoutice.com. Read it ahead of time if you would like! At the website, you can learn much more about the topic, the book, the author, and current research. Henry Pollack and his colleagues on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize with former Vice President Al Gore. Pollack has been a professor of geophysics at the University of Michigan for more than forty years, travels regularly to Antarctica, and has conducted scientific research on all seven continents. He now serves as a science adviser to Al Gore's Climate Project. Also the author of *Uncertain Science . . . Uncertain World*, he lives in Ann Arbor and is happy to speak to the First Presbyterian Hilltoppers group. Please sign up in the church office by April 20 at 5:00 p.m. We need to know if you can join us for lunch! For more information, contact Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers at mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org. (Note: Marking its 41st anniversary on Friday, April 22, 2011, Earth Day will be celebrated by millions around the world.)

Opportunities for Women

Monday Mornings in April – BODY and SOUL

Tune up for spring with Body and Soul, which meets Mondays in the Curtis Room from 9:30-11:00 a.m. Even if there are April showers, there is still warm fellowship, warm-up and balance exercises and soft-aerobics (not strenuous). Nancy Heers leads the group in liturgical dance movements set to familiar sacred music. The last half-hour is devoted to prayers and concerns of the church and its members and loved ones. Nancy Heers does a wonderful job leading us as we “move” into spring. New members are welcome; no former experience needed. Questions? Please call coordinator Lynn Haddan, 665-5105.

W.E.B.S. Meets Monday, April 4

The Women’s Evening Bible Study gathers in the Curtis Room at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 4, to study lesson 8 in the Horizons Study, on the *Book of Revelations*. Jane Kinzinger will lead the discussion; study books are available for \$8. Call Jennie Lombard if you need a book. New members are welcome to this warm fellowship. Questions? Jennie Lombard, 663-7244 and Sue Dempsey, 769-0566, coordinate the group.

Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery Gathering On April 6

PWPD will have its monthly meeting at the Fort Street Presbyterian Church, located at 630 West Fort Street, in Detroit, Michigan, 48226. Reservations are appreciated. The Rev. Annemarie Kidder will introduce the 2011-2012 Bible Study on the Beatitudes. There will be a group attending from First Presbyterian. Contact Ruth Barnard (995-0281, rbarnard@umich.edu) if you would like a ride or carpool.

HORIZONS Circle Returns April 12

After a brief respite during the winter months, the Horizons Circle will resume their meetings which touch on ministries of mission and service in the local and wider church. All are invited to their April 12 meeting at 1:30 p.m. at the church. The speaker will discuss Samaritan Counseling. Contact Marian West, 663-5907, for more information.

Women’s Reading Group Meets April 13

The Women’s Reading Group will meet at the home of Pat Price at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13. The group will continue a review of Francis Taylor Gench’s *Faithful Disagreement, Wrestling with Scripture in the Midst of Church Conflict*. Martha Krehbiel will lead the discussion of John 13-17, “Farewell Conversations.” You are welcome to join this group at any time, and women are encouraged to do so. Call Barbara Black, 663-6289, for directions to the meeting.

PW Monthly Gathering and Lunch On Wednesday, April 20

The morning begins at 9:15 a.m. with a study of Revelation 17-18 in the Lewis Room. Judy Slade will lead the discussion of Lesson 8. At 10:45 a.m., Joe Schmidt, Chair of Philippines Task Force, will present “Philippines Mission Visit January 2011”

Birthday Offering

This month the Women of the Presbyterian Church, PC (USA) are collecting the annual Birthday Offering. This special offering was started in 1922 when it was suggested that each woman give at least a penny per year that she had lived. The tradition continues and has grown. Each year recipients are chosen from applicants to receive funds gathered for the Birthday Offering. Over the years these grants have helped educate, treat disease and help promote health and peace worldwide. The goal for 2011 is \$900,000. Please give as you have been blessed. If you would like to make a contribution, you may write a check to Presbyterian Women with Birthday Offering on the memo line. You may place your donation in the offering plate or in the Presbyterian Women’s mailbox in the church office. It is not necessary that you place your check in an envelope, but if you wish to, Birthday Offering envelopes can be found on the Presbyterian Women’s Bulletin Board located on the stair landing near the Social Hall entrance and the Welcome Center. Donations can be made until May 15.

For more information about the Birthday Offering, contact Jean White (663-2351, whitej@umich.edu) or go to www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthdayoffering.

Children and Families

Mothers' Morning will meet next on Tuesday, April 12, in the Youth Room. Check-in is at 9:00 a.m. Lisa Kerr Johnson, will present "Mission Experiences and Opportunities." Lisa, a member of First Pres, has been a part of the FPC Haiti Medical Mission Task Force since it formed in 1999. This past year after the tragic earthquakes, she spent 60 days in Haiti serving on a surgical team in the immediate response and then throughout the year to provide medical care to the Haitian people in crisis. She is both a nurse and pharmacist. Lisa will show slides and photos of their experiences, speak about what they do, and suggest opportunities for Mothers Morning to help with missions.

Children's Education Upcoming Events:

Summer Vacation Bible School

Dates for this year's vacation Bible school have been set for June 21, 22, and 23. This year's theme is "Travels with Paul, Marketplace 49 A.D." Brochures with registration information will be mailed to our families homes at the beginning of April.

Sign Up Now for Camp Westminster!

Camp Westminster "Camp Adventure First" brochures have been mailed to homes of our church families. Camp Westminster is the camp that the children from our church participate in every summer together with children from Northville First Presbyterian Church. The camp dates this year are July 31 through August 6. Children currently in second grade through eighth grade are eligible for this wonderful week on Higgins Lake. This will be our 12th summer experiencing the wonders of God in the great outdoors up north. Rev. Jim Monnett and Debbie MacVey both go with our children to camp for the week and help with the leadership, along with the experienced Camp Westminster staff. A good time is had by all! We encourage you to consider this experience for your children. See the bulletin board on the 400 Level for pictures of the fun we've had in past summers. Questions? Contact Debbie at dmacvey@firstpresbyterian.org or Jim at jmonnett@firstpresbyterian.org

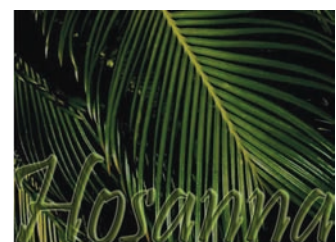
The Hunt is on for Easter Eggs!



Join us for our annual indoor Easter egg hunt, Saturday, April 16, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. There will be separate egg hunts for preschoolers and elementary age children. We'll start out in the Social Hall at 10:00 a.m. for some pre- egg hunt activities. The Easter egg hunt will follow at 10:30 a.m. and then we'll return to the Social Hall for more crafts and activities. It should be a fun morning for all, and a good time to invite a friend. You are welcome to bring your own "gathering" basket, or paper bags will be on hand. Questions? Call or email Debbie MacVey at 662-4466, ext. 342, or dmacvey@firstpresbyterian.org.

Children: Join our Palm Parade!

On Palm Sunday, April 17, children in Kindergarten through fifth grade who are attending the 9:30 or 11:00 a.m. worship service are invited to participate in our Palm Parade. Parents, please take your children to their Sunday school classrooms before the worship service. Each class will go to the Social Hall together to assemble for the palm procession, which takes place about 10 minutes into the service.



Children and Families (continued)

Children's Lenten Project: One Great Hour of Sharing

Each year during the season of Lent the children of our congregation participate in a "giving" project. This year they will again join with the congregation in giving to The One Great Hour of Sharing. Our theme this year is: "Sharing Brings Joy – to Others, to God and to Us."

On Sunday, March 20, the children of our congregation received a "fish" bank in their Sunday School classroom. Along with the bank they received a Sharing Calendar. The calendar suggests coins the children can put into their banks. (For example: Not everyone in the world has a place to sleep at night. Give one coin for every bed in your house.) With their Sunday School class they will follow the display on the 400 level to discover more about "Sharing Brings Joy." Then, on Palm Sunday, the children will bring their coin-filled fish banks back to their Sunday School classroom. Their gifts will then be forwarded on to One Great Hour of Sharing.




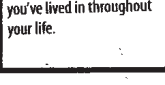



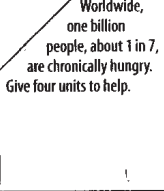
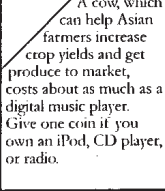

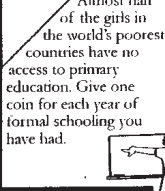
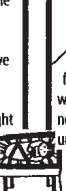




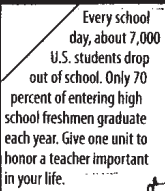
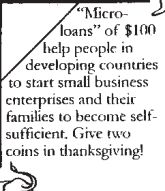
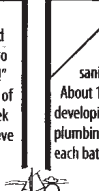
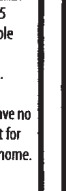
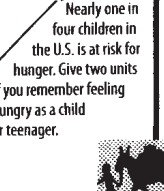
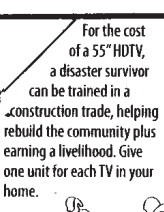
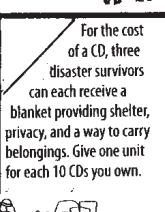
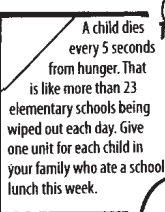
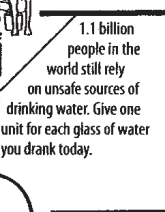
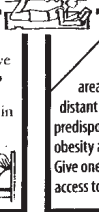

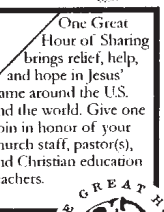
Money contributed to One Great Hour of Sharing is distributed nationally to Presbyterian Programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People. Through these programs, for example, money has been distributed to Hurricane Katrina and Haiti earthquake assistance. This year Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is already directing funds to Japan earthquake and tsunami assistance. Our contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing provide help to these and other needs around the world.

2 Corinthians 9:7-8 "You should each give, then, as you have decided, not with regret or out of a sense of duty; for God loves the one who gives gladly. And God is able to give you more than you need, so that you will always have all you need for yourselves and more than enough for every good cause".


A Sharing Calendar

It's Remarkable What Your Gift Will Do.

One great hour of sharing

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| <p>God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9:7b). Give one unit for each thing that made you laugh today.</p>  | <p>More than a billion people lack access to safe drinking water. Give one coin for each time today you washed your hands with clean water.</p>  | <p>37 million Americans in the United States live in poverty, hunger, and hardship. Give one coin for each meal you have eaten today.</p>  | <p>The 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti left more than 1 million people in need of shelter. Give one unit for each home you've lived in throughout your life.</p>  | <p>After years of civil war, seeds and simple farming tools help families in Sierra Leone and Angola feed themselves. Give one coin for each plant inside your home or church.</p>  | <p>Child labor is a fact of life for children in Cambodia, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Ghana, and Mexico. Give one unit for every unemployed person you know.</p>  | <p>You offer compassion to people in need through One Great Hour of Sharing. Give one coin for each time this week you have been shown compassion.</p>  |
| <p>Worldwide, one billion people, about 1 in 7, are chronically hungry. Give four units to help.</p>  | <p>A cow, which can help Asian farmers increase crop yields and get produce to market, costs about as much as a digital music player. Give one coin if you own an iPod, CD player, or radio.</p>  | <p>The opportunity and ability to work in a safe environment is a blessing. Give one coin for each hour you or an adult in your household worked for pay today.</p>  | <p>Almost half of the girls in the world's poorest countries have no access to primary education. Give one coin for each year of formal schooling you have had.</p>  | <p>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice (Phil. 4:4). Give one unit for each person, experience, thought, or blessing today that brought you joy.</p>  | <p>O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. (Ps. 63:1) Give one unit as an "Amen."</p>  | <p>Not everyone has a place to sleep at night. Give one coin for each bed in your home.</p>  |
| <p>Education can break the cycle of poverty. Yet, 46 million primary school-age children are out of school in sub-Saharan Africa. Give one unit if you have an elementary school education.</p>  | <p>The Haitian earthquake killed at least 230,000 people. Give one unit for each blessing that provides you a strong foundation in times of trouble.</p>  | <p>Every school day, about 7,000 U.S. students drop out of school. Only 70 percent of entering high school freshmen graduate each year. Give one unit to honor a teacher important in your life.</p>  | <p>"Micro-loans" of \$100 help people in developing countries to start small business enterprises and their families to become self-sufficient. Give two coins in thanksgiving!</p>  | <p>I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good (Ps. 122:1, 9). Give two units in honor of your congregation.</p>  | <p>About 2.5 billion people lack adequate sanitation facilities. About 1 in 4 people in developing countries have no plumbing. Give one unit for each bathroom in your home.</p>  | <p>Nearly one in four children in the U.S. is at risk for hunger. Give two units if you remember feeling hungry as a child or teenager.</p>  |
| <p>For the cost of a 55" HDTV, a disaster survivor can be trained in a construction trade, helping rebuild the community plus earning a livelihood. Give one unit for each TV in your home.</p>  | <p>For the cost of a CD, three disaster survivors can each receive a blanket providing shelter, privacy, and a way to carry belongings. Give one unit for each 10 CDs you own.</p>  | <p>A child dies every 5 seconds from hunger. That is like more than 23 elementary schools being wiped out each day. Give one unit for each child in your family who ate a school lunch this week.</p>  | <p>1.1 billion people in the world still rely on unsafe sources of drinking water. Give one unit for each glass of water you drank today.</p>  | <p>Worldwide, about 39.5 million people live with HIV. Give two coins for each person you know who works in health care.</p>  | <p>400,000 Chicago residents live in areas with no or very distant grocery stores, predisposing children to obesity and type 2 diabetes. Give one unit if you have access to a grocery store.</p>  | <p>One Great Hour of Sharing brings relief, help, and hope in Jesus' name around the U.S. and the world. Give one coin in honor of your church staff, pastor(s), and Christian education teachers.</p>  |

Sources: Church World Service, Church World Service: Fifty Years of Help and Hope, U.S. Central Intelligence Agency's The 2008 World Factbook, U.S. Census Bureau, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, International Labour Organization of the United Nations, Presbyterian Hunger Program (USA), The Carter Center



Youth Connection

MIDS Believe Youth Conference

Sixth through eighth graders, you are invited to attend the Believe Youth Conference at Hope College, Holland, MI, April 29 through 30! Experience great speakers, illusionist Jared Hall, the Falcon Brothers and the National Tricycle Racing League. This will be a high energy event with over 1,000 students, a live band and more. Join R.J. and Mrs. King for this great Friday/Saturday event. Register by dropping off a check (\$90) and signed Consent Release form by April 12 to Rev. Jim Monnett. Questions? Contact Rev. Jim Monnett at jmonnett@firstpresbyterian.org, or 662-4466, ext. 346.

Campus Connection

This is an exciting time for our church. With a new Head of Staff in place, we begin a new chapter in the life of our church and, likewise, for campus ministry at First Pres. As many of you know, we lost a valuable member of our staff in December when the Reverend Julie Marks took a position with Young Life College back on her home turf of Seattle. Julie's departure presented a challenge, but, with that challenge, also an opportunity to "shop for" a dream candidate to take Julie's place. Beginning in January, the Campus Ministry Committee jumped headlong into its current task of finding Julie's replacement. The Committee has finalized a position description for a new Director of Campus Ministry and will now begin receiving PIFs/resumes from hopeful candidates. This will begin the winnowing process that will ultimately lead to our choice of the ideal candidate for approval by Session in early August. The Committee is hopeful that the new Director will continue Campus Ministry's partnership with Young Life College that has borne much fruit in the year-and-a-half since Julie initiated it and will continue development of the "Ascent Model" of campus ministry that involves members of our congregation in leading weekly "core group" meetings.

An integral part of the campus ministry program at First Pres is the use of interns to assist the Director in coordination of fundraisers, retreats, mission trips, worship services and to act as liaisons between college students and the congregation by meeting with students on campus on behalf of the congregation. We are pleased to announce that Jeff Lehman, one of our two current campus ministry interns, will be returning for another one-year stint as intern. The Committee is currently in the process of finding a replacement for Erin Wilson, Jeff's counterpart, who, regrettably, will be leaving us at the end of the school year. The Committee hopes to have a new intern chosen by May who will start work in August with Jeff and the new Director.

Finally, the Committee wants to make campus ministry an important part of the life of First Pres by keeping you informed throughout the year as to what Campus Ministry is doing to reach out to the sea of college students surrounding our church. We hope that you'll take an interest and contribute to this vital ministry either by volunteering to be a core group leader, host an intern, help out in planning a retreat, or serve on the committee. In fact, an opportunity to contribute is just around the corner. On Saturday, May 22, Campus Ministry will be holding its annual golf outing at Stonebridge Country Club. If you're a golfer, you can contribute and enjoy a round of golf. Or, if golf is not your forte, or if you can't make it to the outing, you or your company can sponsor a hole. Please contact Bill Slade at wslade@comcast.net for details.

– John Brent, Chair, Campus Ministry Committee

The 8th Annual Campus Ministry Golf Outing

is Saturday afternoon, May 21 at Stonebridge Golf Club. Participating in this outing is a great way to support Campus Ministry, a ministry that truly changes the lives of young people. Bring your own foursome or we'll gladly pair you up with Presbyterians!

The day begins at noon with hot dogs and soda. Eighteen hole tee off is at 1:00 p.m., and nine hole tee off is at 3:00 p.m. At 5:30 p.m., a special evening fellowship gathering will be held, with hot hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, awards and prizes. Campus Ministry students will be there to talk with you about how the program has affected their lives.

Register to play online at www.firstpresbyterian.org/content/golf-outing, or pick up a registration brochure at church. The cost to play is \$95 per person for 18 holes, \$60 per person for 9 holes. Can't play golf? Be a hole sponsor for \$95, or a Student Golf Sponsor for \$95. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church with "golf outing" noted on the memo line.

Help young adults mature in their faith and spirituality, and provide financial support for the Campus Ministry mission, mission trips and work! Questions? Contact Susan Cares at 663-8342 or scares734@comcast.net, or call the Church Office at 662-4466.