



March 2008
Volume 19, Issue 3

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**The Presbyterian Church of
Plum Creek**

550 Center-New Texas Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15239
secretary@plumcreekchurch.com
www.plumcreekchurch.com

The Caller

March 2008 Worship Schedule

Finding Hope in His Word

Text: John 5:39

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Dr. Lolla preaching

March 2, 2008

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Believe!

Lenten Musical Mission

7:30 p.m.

March 7 and 8, 2008

Be Careful for what You Want!

Text: Ps. 131:1-2

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Dr. Lolla, preaching

March 9, 2008

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Believe!

2 p.m.

Recognizing the Kingdom when it Comes

Text: John 18:36

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Dr. Lolla, preaching

March 16, 2008

Palm Sunday

Sacrament of Communion Observed

Creating a Servant's Heart

Text: John 13:16

7:30 p.m.

Dr. Lolla, preaching

March 20, 2007

Maundy Thursday

Sacrament of Communion Observed

Schedule continued on page 4

The Presbyterian Church of Plum Creek publishes *The Caller* monthly (with the exception of July and August). If you have an item to contribute, please email it to secretary@plumcreekchurch.com or place it in *The Caller* mailbox in the church office. To submit a newspaper or magazine article to be reprinted in *The Caller*, include the name and date of the newspaper or magazine where the article was originally published. To submit an editorial be sure to include your name. The deadline for all articles is the 15th of the month. **Please provide submissions in computer-ready (WORD 2002 or text) format when possible.** Thanks!

Church Address: Presbyterian Church of Plum Creek
550 Center-New Texas Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15239

Office Phone Number: (412) 793-4525

E-mail Address: secretary@plumcreekchurch.com

Office Hours: Monday – Friday,
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Minister: Dr. John J. Lolla

**Praise & Worship Team Leader/
Children's Choir Director:** Kathy Grabigel

Youth Ministry Director: Jonathan Curry

Worship Services: Sundays at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Church School Classes: Sundays 9:40 to 10:50 a.m.

Letter from Reverend Lolla- March 2008

Dear Friends in Christ,

Tony Campolo came to Pittsburgh Presbytery and spoke during the February Presbytery meeting. For many of us, Tony Campolo is unknown. For others familiar with his evangelical preaching, Tony has been a light shining in the darkness. I first met Tony during his association with Wayne Alderson and Pittsburgh's Value of the Person program which promoted reconciliation among labor and management. Tony's fiery message stirred the hearts of corporate executives and labor union leaders, calling each to mutual respect in the name of Jesus Christ - reminding both that they need each other to be successful. Tony has also been a preacher of racial reconciliation at Promise Keepers Events. Founding the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education, he has inspired Christians in the inner city to take leadership for their communities in the name of Jesus Christ.

Tony is has just published a new book, *Red Letter Christians*, focusing on the statements of Jesus and their imperative for our daily living. When he arrived at Pittsburgh to address racial reconciliation, he had just addressed the New Baptist Covenant Convocation in Atlanta, Georgia. He is the professor emeritus at Eastern University and has authored 35 books on Christianity, society, and political life. Tony is an ordained American Baptist minister and serves as an associate pastor of the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in West Philadelphia.

He brought to the presbytery the power and rhetorical polish that has endeared him to many listeners for several years. He is a man who believes all things are possible through Jesus Christ! And so when he began to reflect upon Presbyterians from his position from outside our communion, it was interesting to hear his insights about us. His message at the presbytery meeting was to confront racism that exists within the Church. On other occasions I have heard him more strongly state that reconciliation precedes justice – imploring Christians to be reconciled with one another. But Tony's message to Pittsburgh Presbytery was limited to the subtle manner in which prejudice operates. He could have been talking about gender, economic, or nationality differences that separate our community. But his explicit illustrations came from his experience in the inner city, as a Christian, living among Christ's colony of believers.

It lead me to reflect upon the greatness of Easter – how the hope generated by a Palestinian Jew two thousand years ago has spanned the survival of the fittest to draw people together in a community that recognizes no national creed, no economic condition, no physical attributes, as a means by which to measure ones standing in the body of Christ. The gift of Easter does not use law to legislate the free will of men, women, and children whose hearts are compelled by divine intervention to celebrate their liberation from death.

For many the inner city evokes the specter of shadows and crime. Prejudice clandestinely moves about its streets. But for people living in the City of God through Easter's victory, there are no places of darkness or misery that afflict the human heart – either here on earth or in the world beyond!

Happy Easter!
Pastor Jack

March 2008 Worship Schedule-cont'd

The End of the Kingdom?

Text: John 19:21

7:30 p.m.

Dr. Lolla, preaching

March 21, 2008

Good Friday

Tenebrae Service

Peace in the Kingdom

Text: John 20:21

7:00, 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Dr. Lolla, preaching

March 23, 2007

Easter Day

Sent on Easter's Mission

Text: John 20:22-23

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Dr. Lolla, preaching

March 30, 2008

Second Sunday of Easter

BIRTHDAYS

March 5 Earl Miller
26 Jack Lott
26 Ess Heggie
30 Blanche Miller

If you know anyone who is 70 or older, please let the church office know. We do not want to miss anyone.

DEATHS

Jan Bowser 1/21/08
Randy Redlich 1/21/08

MEMORIALS

For Randy Redlich
Mr. and Mrs. George Manzuk
Paula and James Hall
Shirley K. Habegger
Mr. and Mrs. David Nesbit

For Nelma Parr
C. Sue Rutledg, Liberty Mutual Group
Ruth Jackson and Family
Anne and Gary Rion

Rotary Club to hold Second Pancake Breakfast at Plum Creek

The newly re-formed Plum Rotary Club is holding its second annual pancake breakfast in the Fellowship Hall of Plum Creek on April 19. The breakfast will be held from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with pancakes, sausages, scrambled eggs, orange juice and coffee served. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children 10 and under.

Rotary International is a non-profit organization that is devoted to community service. Assisting with local, national, and international community improvement programs, Rotary Clubs around the world raise millions of dollars for charitable work to help the disadvantaged.

Plum's Rotary Club is in the process of raising funds for a Rotary Scholarship to be granted at the end of the school year for a student or students at Plum Senior High School. The Club is also committed to providing dictionaries for children from the third, fourth, and fifth grades in the Plum Borough School District to aid in their reading comprehension.

The Plum Rotary has also made a commitment to provide one survival box for a family that might be afflicted by a natural disaster around the world. The box would include a tent in which the family might live following a disaster, along with cooking and sanitation equipment that are necessary to live for an extended period of time.

The Plum Rotary is grateful for personal and business donations that will enable it to fulfill this purpose. It meets at noon every Tuesday at Palmieri's Restaurant on Pierson Run Road. Those interested in inquiring about Rotary need only attend. Visitors are welcome.

THANK-YOU NOTES

The prayers, kind words and beautiful sympathy cards from our church "family" upon the recent death of our loving husband and father, Randy Redlich, have helped dry our eyes and lift our spirits. So now we can once again keep our eyes on the prize: our Lord's promise that we shall all be united again with Him in His Kingdom. God bless you all.

Bonnie Redlich and family

I want to thank everyone who took the time to pray for me, call, send flowers or prepare a meal. Your thoughtfulness contributed to my speedy recovery. Denny and I are blessed to always have your love and friendship, especially during my time of recuperation. Thanks again for all you've done for me and continue to do for Christ's glory.

Blessings To All Of You,

Linda Stotler

the Day Camp at Plum Creek

For the past 4 years, God was at work here at Plum Creek. He brought together a group of very dedicated, hard-working, church-going and ungrudging adults that had a vision of bringing more young people, ages 7 – 13, to hear the Word. Many of these adults are your neighbors, people from “down the street”, and people that unselfishly gave of their time, their talents, their strong backs, monetary donations and their determination. These monies came from local donations---NOT from the church’s general funds, as many people assumed and believed. Some monies were contributed by individuals who believed in this ministry, the Mission Committee, the Strawberry Festival, the Rummage Sale, the Pulled Pork dinner and the Deacons.

For 2 weeks this past summer, God was at work here at the Day Camp at Plum Creek. 82 children, boys and girls, from 13 different zip codes from around this area came---34 the first week and 48 the second week. Some children came from nearby—Plum, Monroeville, and Forest Hills, but some from as far away as Gibsonia, Leechburg and Murrysville. Children of different nationalities came to interact--Caucasian, Afro-American, Chinese, and Latinos. Children came from single parent homes and the grandparents brought some children. Children came from homes where religion isn’t a big part of their lives. No one was turned away.

The parents of the children that came here were glad to know that their children were in safe hands, learning about our Lord and Savior and learning how to work together to accomplish tasks.

If ever there was a question as to if this kind of ministry was needed, it was very evident. The parents of these children made sure that they were here on time everyday with their bagged lunches. They arrived with smiles on their faces and some were reluctant to leave at day’s end because of the enjoyable day they had experienced at the Day Camp at Plum Creek.

The children met the 6 counselors—some who grew up in this church and some counselors that were led here by God. The counselors led these children to pray with them, led them through Bible songs and crafts, aimed at learning about the environment, led them to become physically active and work together to become a united group and to listen to lessons that God has given to us from his Word.

Many of these children hadn’t known each other prior to this camp experience, but they learned to protect each other and keep each other safe and out of harms way while they were here. If someone got a scraped knee, they worried and were genuinely concerned and asked how they were doing. They memorized Bible verses every day and prayed loudly. They sang enthusiastically and danced with all their inhibitions abandoned. They enjoyed the fellowship and comraderie with children of different ages, nationalities and backgrounds. When their parents told them that they could come back again the next day---they jumped for joy, for you see, some children thought it was a “one” day, Day Camp!

The Board of Directors have been hard at work this Winter, clearing the hillside of trees and bushes, in hopes of enlarging the Day Camp to eventually include a climbing tower and zip-line. We have been awarded \$5,000 by Senator Logan and \$10,000 by Representative Markosek for financial support to help in this effort of setting up a broader scope of activities. The campers can use these activities to apply Christian beliefs to support this effort of more cooperation and teamwork.

We have obtained financial support from several members of the congregation for the 2007 camp and we would like to extend a special thanks to them. Based on the 2007 experience, the 2008 Day Camp will include more weeks, more activities and more staff and most of all, more ministry to children! If you have any questions concerning the Day Camp, please contact Plum Creek Presbyterian Church.

Believe!

Lenten Musical, "Believe" coming soon!!!!!!

TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!!!

****NOTE** – you do not need tickets to come to the Wednesday, March 5th Preview Night at 7:30 pm.

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet...BELIEVE!!!!!!!

Plum Creek's 5th year in dramatic Lenten ministry will be coming March 7th and 8th at 7 p.m. and March 9th at 2 pm in the Plum Creek sanctuary. A reception in the fellowship hall will follow the ministry. If you have not been a part of this beautiful God-given ministry before, now is the time!!!!!!! This year we welcome you to come and celebrate Christ's life as He touched and forever changed the lives of Pilate, Caiphas, Mary, Thomas, and John. If you have been a part of "Resurrection" or "Believe", please come back and support the ministry again this year. We are still in need of some financial help as well as people to help with set building, greeting, ushering, and help with refreshment setup and cleanup. Please prayerfully consider helping in one or more of these areas. Contact Jeff/Kathy Grabigel at (724) 339-0974 if you would like to be a part of this ministry or can help in any way. A financial donation can be made by marking the pew envelopes "Believe". A huge "thank you" to everyone in the congregation for your support in this wonderful God-given ministry!!!!!!



GROVE CITY TOURING CHOIR COMING TO PLUM CREEK

11:00 am
March 2, 2008

The Presbyterian Church of Plum Creek is please to be hosting the

touring choir from Grove City College on **Sunday, March 2nd at our 11:00 am worship service**. The choir has 48 members. Many are music majors at the college, but many are from other disciplines. The students audition to be a member of the choir, which rehearses 4 times each week. They take many short trips throughout the year and go on "tour" over the college's Easter break. In previous years, the choir has toured in virtually every state east of the Mississippi. This year they are heading to Florida. The choir is directed by Dr. Douglas Brown, who has been a faculty member of the music department for 26 years. We are honored that they have agreed to lead our worship here at Plum Creek.



2008 ADULT RETREAT

The adults attending this year's retreat at Camp Crestfield had their expectations met as Brenda Barnes led us in discerning Sin Expectations, Leadership Expectations,

Prayer Expectations and Future Expectations. It was a learning time



fun-filled time, a fellowship time and a relaxing time.



We returned with the expectation that we can all help to make Plum Creek Church a better and more spiritual place to worship.

Mark your calendars **now** for next year's Adult Retreat – March 6, 7, and 8, 2009. Hope to see you there!!!

WOMEN'S THURSDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY CANCELED

The Women's Thursday afternoon Bible study was dropped due to lack of interest. If anyone is interested in starting the study back up, please contact Kathy and we may be able to resume meeting if enough people are interested. Thank you to the women who took time out of their busy schedule to meet in the afternoon- it was a blast while it lasted!

The Day Camp at Plum Creek Announces 2008 Schedule
Discounts Offered for Early Registration

John 1:14 *“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

This scripture is the theme for the 2008 Day Camp at Plum Creek.

“Real”- “Real Friends, Real Bonds, Real Fun, Real Teamwork, Real Victory, Real Adventure, Real Faith”

We are very excited to be planning our second summer for “The Day Camp at Plum Creek,” a Christian summer Day Camp located on the grounds of the Presbyterian Church of Plum Creek.

The Day Camp is a Christian-based challenge camp for elementary children, which features a low-ropes course, a slip and slide, and mountain boarding with additional challenge elements being added in future years. Campers will participate in adventure elements as well as arts and crafts, team sports like volleyball and soccer, Bible study, drama, Praise and Worship, faith stories, nature education, and much more.

Last year, the Day Camp at Plum Creek operated for two one-week sessions in July/August, 2007. During that two-week period, God blessed the Day Camp with good weather, a faithful staff, and 82 girls and boys from 13 different zip codes. Last year’s success was a testament to our mission of community outreach and we are so excited to expand that mission to four consecutive weeks as follows:

July 7-11 July 14-18 July 21-25 July 28-August 1

Just like last year, campers are asked to bring their lunch each day. Snacks will be provided by the Day Camp. Children can register for any or all weeks of the camp. The camp opens at 8:00 a.m. and closes at 4:00 p.m. with a firm pick-up by 4:30 p.m.

The Day Camp is open to any elementary aged child (grades 1-6) who would like to attend. Children must have completed first grade to be eligible to attend and children who have completed grade six are also eligible to attend.

Space is limited to no more than 50 campers per week and early registration is recommended. Early registration incentives are as follows:

<u>Registration Dates</u>	<u>Cost</u>
March 1, 2008 – April 30, 2008	\$90/child per week
May 1, 2008 – June 6, 2008	\$100/child per week

Last day to register is June 6, 2008. Envelopes must be postmarked by corresponding date listed above to receive discount.

Registration forms are also available at www.daycampatplumcreek.org, in the Narthex, or by calling or stopping by the church office. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Jonathan Curry at 412-793-4525 ext. 14.

"The Day Camp at Plum Creek" 2008 Registration Form



"The Day Camp at Plum Creek" is a Christian-based adventure camp for elementary aged children, which features challenge elements like a low-ropes course, a slip and slide, and mountain boarding, as well as arts and crafts, team sports, Bible study, drama, Praise and Worship, faith stories, nature education, and much more. The theme of this year's curriculum is "Real" - "Real friends, real bonds, real fun, real teamwork, real victory, real faith, real adventure." The theme emphasizes the scripture verse John 1:14 "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

Final registration for the camp is due by June 6, 2008. The registration fee must be paid at the time of registration. The day camp is open to any elementary aged child (grade 1 - 6) who would like to attend. Young children must have completed first grade to be eligible to attend the Day Camp and children who have completed grade 6 are eligible to attend as well.

Please use one form per child. Copies of this registration form are acceptable.

Child's Name: _____ **Gender:** M / F

Grade Completed as of June 2008: _____ **Child's Age:** _____

Address: _____

Phone Numbers: _____

Emergency Contact (name & phone number): _____

Parent or Guardian Name: _____

Parent or Guardian's Email Address: _____

Register for one or more weeks:

- July 7 - 11, 2008
- July 14 - 18, 2008
- July 21 - 25, 2008
- July 28 - August 1, 2008

Deadlines and Costs:

- January 1 - February 29, 2008 \$80 / child / week
- March 1 - April 30, 2008 \$90 / child / week
- May 1 - June 6, 2008 \$100 / child / week

Envelope must be postmarked by cut-off date to receive corresponding price.

Registration Fee must accompany this registration form and is due by June 6, 2008.

No "walk-ins" will be accepted the weeks of camp.

Payment Method: (Please make checks payable to: **Day Camp at Plum Creek** and mail to address on bottom of page.)

Check Money Order Total Enclosed: _____

T-shirt Size: Child Small Child Medium Child Large Adult Small Adult Medium

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS

- Cancellations occurring within 28 days of your session will result in forfeiture of 1/2 of the tuition fee.
- Cancellations occurring within 14 days of your session will result in forfeiture of the TOTAL tuition fee.

