



February 2011
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**The Presbyterian Church of
Plum Creek**

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Pittsburgh, PA 15239
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The Caller

February 2011 Worship Schedule

February 6, 2011 – 10 a.m.
Scout Sunday
Elder Tim Mayo, preaching

February 13, 2011 – 10 a.m.
"Priestly Work"
Rev. Brenda Barnes

February 20, 2011 – 10 a.m.
"Prayer Offerings"
Rev. Brenda Barnes

February 27, 2011 – 10 a.m.
"The Great Escape"
Rev. Brenda Barnes

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. 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
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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 Reverend Brenda Barnes

Director of Educational Ministries Meredith Hedeem

Director of Youth Ministries Tori Campbell

Worship Services Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School Classes Sundays 8:45 a.m.

FEBRUARY



February - It is the shortest month but is packed with “stuff”!

February, named from the Latin term *februum*, which means ‘purification,’ allows for the discussion of all the activities of the Church and how they are to be viewed in the Light of Jesus Christ and our preparation going into the season of Lent (which starts on March 9th).

This month, as Americans, we observe National Freedom Day (2/1). This day commemorates the date – February 1, 1865 – when Abraham Lincoln, who was the nation's president at the time, signed a joint resolution that proposed the 13th amendment to the United States Constitution. The amendment was ratified to outlaw slavery on December 18, 1865. When President Lincoln signed the resolution, he paved the way to rectify an American failure, the sin of slavery. This observance encourages us to remember that our nation needs to be purified from our sin. This day kicks off the celebration of Black History Month, remembering that all people are created (by God!) equal and we ARE equal in the eyes of the Lord! And, we celebrate Lincoln's (as well as other presidents') influence on the growth of our nation in its infancy (2/21).

As Americans, we also celebrate the coming of the renewal and purifying cleansing of the earth with spring rains by watching what the groundhog has to say (2/2). February also celebrates National Heart Month, National Chocolate Lovers' Month (yeah!), National Dental Month (purification of our teeth and gums!); and National Bird Feeding Month. And, of course, we must remember that special person in our lives on February 14th.

We each have those activities and events and celebrations that help us remember our love found in the blood of Jesus. Jesus said, “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.” (John 13:34) Such love can only be realized when we show forth the love that Christ has shown us. Jesus in this text is setting an absolute standard for how his disciples are to relate to one another. If believers will practice this teaching in all their relationships with each other then we shall be walking in His will and in His way. As disciples of the Lord Jesus the selfless, redemptive, up-building agape love of Jesus ought to be seen in all our relationships with one another as members of the New Covenant in Christ. The loving spirit of our Lord is not an option but it will be the way of all who love Him and are walking with Him. Only through the loving spirit can we truly find freedom, purification from sin, realization we are made equal with Christ in his death and resurrection, and that we are constantly renewed like the earth.

Friends, think and pray on His Word!

Pastor Brenda Barnes

BIRTHDAYS

February 28 Virginia Johnson

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

MEMORIAL GIFTS

For Dorothy Hopperstead
Bruce W. and Susan L. Knott
Bernice Jenkins
P.T.O.
Dave and Mary Ellen Zik
Tom Leonard

DEATHS

Naomi Rybar Gibson December 24, 2010
Sara Miller December 27, 2010



Confirmation Work Retreat

The Confirmation Class took their annual work weekend retreat with Hosanna Industries during the weekend of January 28-30. Thank you to those who chaperoned, participated, and worked! It is truly a blessing to be able to serve the Lord in such a visible way as His hands and feet.



ADULT RETREAT - Please mark your calendars for this year's Adult Retreat at Camp Crestfield - March 4 - 6. Details will follow shortly.

Family Movie Night is returning! We had such a wonderful turn-out for our last pizza party and movie night that we are inviting you to another one.

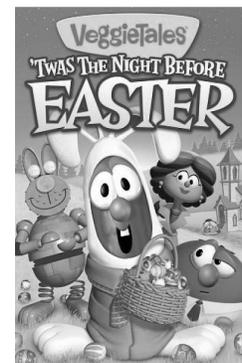
Who: Anyone of any age is welcome to attend - bring your friends & families

What: Veggie Tales: 'Twas the Night Before Easter pizza party & movie night

Where: Plum Creek Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary

When: Friday, March 25 from 5:30-7:30P.M.

Why: To enjoy an evening of fun, fellowship, and food!



Year of the Bible has begun!



We have begun five new Bible studies and Sunday School classes and the sermon series this year in a congregation-wide effort to read the entire Bible from cover-to-cover through the Year of the Bible. God has truly blessed us with the opportunity to know Him more intimately through these study and discussion groups, regardless of the size of the group, the age of the participants, and the time at which each group meets. God continues to call leaders for each discussion group and works through them to share His story with each participant.

We have offered a variety of days and times during the week for these groups to meet so that there is ample opportunity for anyone to participate whose schedule may not allow him/her to attend one YOTB class during the week, but perhaps can attend one on Sunday morning or vice versa. It also allows those who are able to attend both Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings a choice of either the YOTB study or the other classes that are being taught at the same time. Hope you are able to attend at least one of the various programs!

YOTB Sunday Worship implements some of the various Scripture passages from each week into the service through the sermon and the readings. Follow along with the weekly readings that are outlined in the participant's guide that is available in the Narthex!

YOTB Adult Sunday School begins at 8:45A.M. in the large classroom across from the church office with various congregation members leading the study, while the other Adult Sunday School class is remaining in the Fellowship Hall with Joe Marzullo to discuss their current topic of 2 Timothy. We look forward to your participation in either class!

YOTB Daytime Bible Study occurs on Wednesday afternoons at 1:00P.M. Mary Lloyd Thompson and Joy Smith will be leading this small discussion group. Childcare can be available as well. Please let Meredith know if you will need childcare to be provided for your children or grandchildren.

YOTB Oasis occurs on Wednesday night, following the 5:30P.M. fellowship dinner. Larry Wood is leading the YOTB study and discussion while Pastor Brenda is continuing to lead the "Christian Essentials" course. The youth group meets during this time for Jr. and Sr. High students, while elementary-aged children are working on creating a movie depiction of Noah's ark, and childcare is provided for younger children.

YOTB Men's Group will be meeting on Saturday mornings at 7:30A.M. Several members of this group will be leading the YOTB study and discussion.

YOTB Young Adults Bible Study began this morning in the Choir Room at 8:45A.M. with Emily Szitas leading the discussion for this small group. Individuals who are aged 18-30s are welcome to join this class.



YOUR MISSION DOLLARS

Plum Creek is a part of a unique ministry called Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. It is an outreach to college students and faculty in the Oakland area and other college campuses nationwide. Its purpose is to establish and advance witnessing communities of students and faculty on campuses by growing in love for God, God's Word, God's people and God's purpose in the world. We are partnered with a young man named Mike Gehrling who keeps us up to date on the organization.



Session minutes - December 2010 - Snip-its

Buildings and Grounds Committee:

Move money to capital improvement fund from General Fund.
Stove in the kitchen needs replaced, at least fixed.
Sign in the front yard of church needs replaced due to accident.
Location of paper recycle bin is being discussed.

Joint Session and Deacon meeting was held on December 21, 2010.
The Blessing Board was discussed with the Session and Deacons.
College ministries - 8 cards sent out to undergraduates.

Worship and Music Committee -

Motion passed to have a potluck dinner in the fellowship hall on Maundy Thursday, 2011, with communion to follow at the tables.
Motion passed to burn sins in a bowl at the foot of the cross at the Good Friday service, 2011 in the sanctuary.
Proposed communion dates for 2011.
January 2, 2011 - Epiphany Sunday,
April 21, 2011 - Maundy Thursday service (fellowship hall, loaves used)
April 24, 2011 - Easter Sunday
June 12, 2011 - Pentecost
October 2, 2011 - Worldwide Communion Sunday
November 20, 2011 - Christ the King Sunday
December 24, 2011 Both Christmas Eve Services.

Mission -

Upon approval from Worship and Music for the Gideon's to speak, we will allow their folder to be displayed on our bulletin board.
Have a special collection from PCPC taken on March 13, 2011 - Lazarus Fund Sunday and sent to Pittsburgh Presbytery for that fund.
Pay up to \$500.00 for gifts for the children from the Lighthouse in Arnold.
Send \$250 to Plum Food Pantry.
Send \$200 to the Salvation Army.
Send \$200 to East End Co-op.
Send \$200 to Bethlehem Haven.
Send \$300 to Hosanna Industries.

Christian Education -

Approved payment of \$100 to James Burton for donkey in Living Nativity.
Approved payment of \$600 to Mr. Bill's Petting Zoo for animals in the Living Nativity.
Approved payment of \$81 to the Retreat Committee for youth and chaperones to come to the fall festival.

