



March 2011  
Volume 22, Issue 3

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**The Presbyterian Church of  
Plum Creek**

**550 Center-New Texas Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15239**  
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[www.plumcreekchurch.com](http://www.plumcreekchurch.com)

# The Caller

## March 2011 Worship Schedule

**March 6, 2011 – 10 a.m.**  
"Discipline = Encouragement"  
Rev. Brenda Barnes

**March 9, 2011 – 7:30 p.m.**  
**Ash Wednesday**  
Community Lenten Service  
Poke Run Presbyterian Church

**March 13, 2011 – 10 a.m.**  
"Sad, You See"  
Rev. Brenda Barnes

**March 16, 2011 – 7:30 p.m.**  
Community Lenten Service  
Presbyterian Church of Plum Creek

**March 20, 2011 – 10 a.m.**  
"Refuge in Rome"  
Rev. Brenda Barnes

**March 23, 2011 – 7:30 p.m.**  
Community Lenten Service  
Pine Run Presbyterian Church  
(Plum Creek Praise Choir sings)

**March 27, 2011 – 10 a.m.**  
"Hope Twice Removed"  
Rev. Brenda Barnes

**March 30, 2011 – 7:30 p.m.**  
Community Lenten Service  
Union Presbyterian Church  
(Rev. Brenda Barnes preaches)

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 **15<sup>th</sup> of the month**. **Please provide submissions in computer-ready (WORD 2002 or text) format when possible.** Thanks!

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**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.

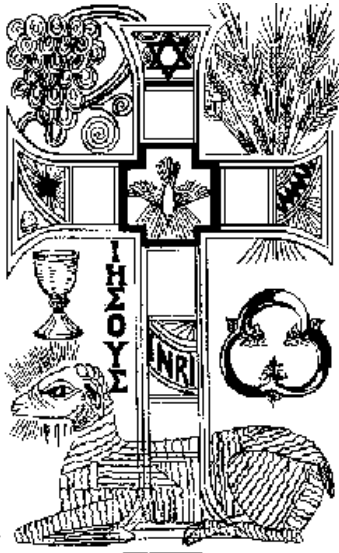
**Minister** Reverend Brenda Barnes

**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.



March, 2011

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Happy March!

There is the old wives' story about March – if it comes in “like a lion”, it will go out “like a lamb” – and vice versa. Here, in mid-February, I can say come like a lamb! But according to the Farmers' Almanac, March will start with more snow. Here, in mid-February, that doesn't sound good! As I write this, I hear from the weather forecasters that we are due for yet more snow and ice next week. I am being completely and humanly honest here when I say, “Yuck!” I am really tired of shoveling, cleaning off the car, clearing the yard for the dog, driving in very difficult icy situations...in short...I'm tired of winter. Today, as I reflect on this, trying to adjust my attitude, the sun is out and the sky is blue. I see a glimpse of the spring to come and this helps me “adjust” to the newest forecast. This short glimpse of spring has allowed me to build up a resolve for what is to come...again! So I say, “Come Spring! Come soon!”

Isn't this just like our Christian lives? We toil and get tired of living here on earth but along the way, we catch glimpses of what our heavenly lives will be. Just when we are “tired” of life, going through the difficulties of day to day “stuff,” God, in grace and mercy, allows us a glimpse of eternal life causing us to be buoyed and rejuvenated so we can go on. Just as spring helps us be rejuvenated into new life, so do our glimpses of our Lord throughout our lives. Those short glimpses of God's grace, God's mercy, God's love, help us to realize what awaits us beyond these days. When we catch those shimmers of hope, we have no other response than “Come, Lord Jesus. Come soon!”

Friends, spring is coming and so is our Lord – but until that time, we find our strength and our resolve in those glimpses of Jesus in one another. Let's help each other through these next few weeks of poor weather with friendly smiles, written notes, and phone calls. And let's do the same until our Lord comes again!

*He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon."  
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.*

*The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen.*

#### **Revelation 22:20-21**

Pastor Brenda Barnes

## BIRTHDAYS

March 5 Earl Miller  
26 Ess Heggie  
30 Blanche Miller

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 Sara Miller  
Mr. Robert Davis

For Naomi Gibson  
Faith Kerr, Al Nogrudy, Kenwyn  
Theabald and Families

## Church Board/Committee Members

### Session

Dave Anderson  
Don Campbell  
Laura Campbell  
Sandy Cole  
Jim Delo  
Karen Delo  
Dave Forrest  
Bill Gibson  
Beth Kist  
Jim Nesbit  
Rick Ofstun  
Ed Ray  
Ed Smith  
Al Tresco  
Larry Wood (clerk)

### Deacons

Linda Bartley  
Clyde Bradley  
Laura Burnett  
Keith Donnell  
Wilma Elicker  
Jeremy Ewing  
Barbara Grossi  
Doris Hedeem  
Lois Holmes  
Marty Holmes  
Sharon Lasser  
Nancy Mayo  
Mary Jo Nesbit  
Donna Pellegrino  
Dave Plance  
Bonnie Redlich  
Larry Sturchio  
Lorraine Udanis

### Audit

Jenny Caliendo  
David Nesbit  
Mary Ann Racki

### Building, Grounds and Finance Committee

Tim Arnold  
Don Campbell  
Jim Delo  
John Hedeem  
Marty Holmes  
Al Tresco

### Christian Education

Linda Bartley  
Laura Campbell  
Beth Kist  
Lucy Ofstun  
Alexis Peifer  
Janet Wood

### Evangelism

Bonnie Caliendo  
Joe Delo  
Jeremy Ewing  
Bill Gibson  
Ed Smith  
Larry Sturchio  
Marilyn Sturchio

### Memorial

Jim Nesbit  
Dave Plance  
Al Tresco

### Mission

Laura Campbell  
Sandy Cole  
Sheri Gibson  
Gaye Mallisee  
Donna Pellegrino  
Ed Ray  
Linda Stotler

### Nominating Committee

Karen Delo  
Albert Durante  
Gary Lasser  
Carolyn Nonnenberg  
Dave Plance  
Emily Sztas  
Larry Wood

### Personnel

Sandy Cole  
Beth Kist  
John Thompson  
Ron Wolfe

### Stewardship

Laura Burnett  
Dave Forest  
Ed Ray  
Ed Smith

### Worship and Music

Karen Delo  
Ashley Dunn  
Dave Forrest  
Gloria Mayo  
Rick Ofstun  
Joy Smith

## Upcoming Youth Events

March 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> 2011 – Lock in at Plum Creek

April 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> 2011 – 30 Hour Famine

May 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> 2011 – Acquire the Fire

Youth Fellowship Devotional Series February – May

“Obtaining Spiritual, Physical, and Emotional Balance”

See

Youth Bulletin Board for more Information!



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Here are several of the upcoming Christian Education events for the next few months:

### **March**

- *Youth Lock-In* – Friday, March 18 through Saturday morning, March 19
- *Family Movie Night* – Friday, March 25 from 5:30-7:30PM

### **April**

- *Youth 30 Hour Famine* – Friday, April 29 at 6:00PM through Saturday, April 30 at 7:00AM

### **May**

- *Youth trip to “Acquire the Fire”* – Saturday, May 7
- *Teacher Appreciation Sunday* – Sunday, May 22 during 10:00AM worship

### **June**

- *Sunday School Party* – Sunday, June 5 from 8:45-9:45AM
- *Graduate Sunday* – Sunday, June 5 during 10:00 worship, coffee hour afterward
- *Agape Luncheon* – Sunday, June 5 at 11:30AM
- *Summer Sunday School begins* – Sunday, June 12 from 8:45-9:45AM
- *Confirmation Sunday* – Sunday, June 12 during 10:00AM worship
- *VBS Volunteer Commissioning* – Sunday, June 12 during 10:00AM worship
- *Vacation Bible School “Hometown Nazareth”* – June 13-17

## Join us for Family Movie Night!!!

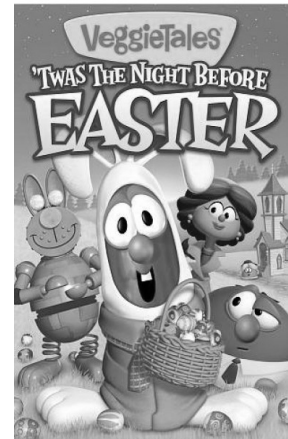
**Who:** Anyone of any age is welcome to attend - bring your friends & families

**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!



## Family Christian Store Ministry Perks Program

Family Christian Stores is partnering with Plum Creek Presbyterian Church in the Ministry Perks program. The program is simple: every time you present a Ministry Perks card at Family Christian Stores, 5% of your purchase will be credited back to PCPC. Our church can use accumulated credits toward merchandise such as Sunday School materials, Bible study guides, and more!

Family Perks cardholders can continue to shop using both cards – the programs work independently of one another. You will still earn your 25% off shopping spree after 10 visits to the store. If you are not a Family Perks member, you can become one for FREE at any Family Christian Store.

You can find a Ministry Perks card in the PCPC library or see Meredith for more information.

## IT'S COMING!

**Vacation Bible School** and summer will be here before we know it! VBS will be in the mornings, during the week of June 13-17. Toddler/preschool-aged children through 6<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to attend. Junior and senior high-aged kids are encouraged to serve in leadership roles. There will also be a VBS and PCPC Potluck Picnic during the evening of Friday, June 17. Anyone of any age is welcome to attend as part of our PCPC faith family. Our theme this year is "Hometown Nazareth." Join us as we take a trip back to Nazareth to experience a week in Jesus' time, doing and making things like Jesus did, playing games like Jesus might have played, hearing stories about Jesus' life!

As you prepare for spring cleaning and summer plans, please prayerfully consider helping with this vital educational ministry. Here are some ways you can help:

**Donations of supplies** (with your name clearly marked if you want items to be returned):

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EZ-Up tents/canopies</li><li>• Solid color sheets</li><li>• Blankets or fabric (appropriate for "Nazareth" setting)</li><li>• Baskets</li><li>• Artificial plants, flowers, food</li><li>• Pots and urns (clay or clay-look-alike)</li><li>• Baby food jars and lids, cleaned and without labels</li><li>• Small peat pots and/or small terra cotta pots</li><li>• Plastic measuring spoons</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brooms</li><li>• Large tubs/buckets</li><li>• Kid-friendly hammers</li><li>• Different types of nails (for hammering in "carpentry shop")</li><li>• Small boards of wood</li><li>• Small chisels</li><li>• Kid-size safety goggles</li><li>• Different types of stone, ie granite, marble, etc. (to be chiseled in "rock quarry")</li><li>• Mortar and pestle sets (for grinding spices)</li></ul> |
|---|--|

**Volunteer leadership** (for some of the roles you do NOT have to be available for every day, please specify what days you're available):

- Tribe leaders– toddler, preschool, kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> (available daily)
- Celebration music leader (available daily)
- Fun & games leader (available daily)
- Storytellers – Mary and Eunice (available daily)
- Mini-drama storytellers (do NOT have to be available daily, can also help elsewhere)
- Shopkeepers (do NOT have to be available daily)
  - Carpentry Shop - experiential learning, no crafts
  - Rock Quarry – experiential learning, no crafts
  - Farmer's Field – planting seeds activity
  - Jewelry-Making & Beads Shop - molding and painting beads, making jewelry
  - Bakery & Candy Shop – bread-baking and candy-making activities
  - Pottery Shop – molding and painting clay activities
  - Herbs & Spices Shop & Olive Oil Shop – grinding spices and craft activity
  - Synagogue School – craft activity
  - Food Market – Biblical-times snacks
- Toddler Marketplace Shopkeeper & Assistant (do NOT have to be available daily)
  - Will do one activity/craft each day
- Registration – Monday morning
- VBS & PCPC Potluck Picnic set-up/clean-up – Friday evening





**Musical Committee**

Chair	Joy Smith	Publicity	Emily Szitas
Senior Citizen Coffee Hour	Lynn Wolfe	Poster Design	Meredith Hedeem
Babysitter	Colleen Connolly	Greeters/Hosts	Mary Lloyd Thompson
Stage/Technical	Clyde Bradley	Coffee Hour	Meredith Hedeem
Costumes/Make Up	Linda Bartley		
Musical Direction/Choreography	Karen Delo Gloria Mayo Sheri Gibson Bill Gibson Linda Stotler Denny Stotler		

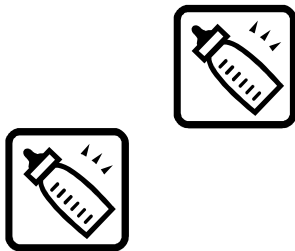
In addition to heads of each category above, we are blessed to have many other people involved in the Lenten Musical. If you would like to help in any way, please talk to one of the folks listed above.

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**MINUTES FOR MISSION**

**Baby Bottle Campaign**

On March 20, Lois Wiedner of Tri City Life will be here to do a minute for mission. This will be a kick off Sunday for our "baby bottle" campaign. For three weeks giant baby bottles will be in the narthex to collect funds for Tri City Life. Our church supports this organization with your mission dollars.



**KILI CLIMB**

On March 27, Dr. Bob Beasley will be her to share his experience on his climb on Mt. Kilimanjaro. The purpose of the climb was to raise funds to drill water wells for African villages. our church helped support his efforts.



**Your Mission Dollars at Work**

Plum Creek has been a part of Camp Crestfield for over 50 years. Crestfield is the camp and conference center for Pittsburgh Presbytery. It is located near Slippery Rock and serves 155 Presbyterian churches in Allegheny County. Crestfield welcomes user groups of other Presbyteries as well as groups who serve other denominations and organizations. Their mission is "called by God to partner with churches and communities to nurture all people in Christ through discipling, outreach, sanctuary and hospitality so that they may participate more fully in what God is doing in the world."



## **DEACONS CORNER**

\*The Deacons will hold another Blood Drive in the Church Social Hall on Sunday March 27, 2011 from 8 AM to 12 PM. Please mark your calendar for this date so we can continue to help the needs of so many people who need blood. Sign-up sheets will

be in the Narthex several weeks before the drive on March 27th. If you have have any questions, please contact Wilma Elicker.

\*PCPC is hosting the Lenten Service on Wednesday March 16th and the Deacons will have a coffee hour after service that evening.

**THANK YOU**

**THANK YOU**



### **PLUM FOOD PANTRY Office**

**81 Sandune Drive  
Pittsburgh PA 15239-2713  
Phone: (724)327-0367**

The Plum food Pantry would like to thank all who contributed toys for our toy drive at Christmas!

Because of your generosity we were able to make the holidays "brighter" for our clients and their children.

Gracefully.

Doris Schonberhler  
Chairman - Toy Drive

**THANK YOU**

**THANK YOU**

## **The Stewardship Hint of the Month**

Remember to change the batteries on your smoke detectors on March 13, 2011 (Daylight Savings Time) and November 6, 2011(Standard Time) when we change our clocks.





## January 2011 Session Clips

Session Committee assignments:

Buildings, Grounds and Finance - Al Tresco, Don Campbell, and Jim Delo.

Worship and Music - Dave Forrest, Rick Ofstun, Karen Delo.

Christian Education - Beth Kist, Laura Campbell.

Personnel - Beth Kist, Sandy Cole.

Stewardship - Ed Ray, Ed Smith, Dave Forrest.

Mission - Laura Campbell, Ed Ray, Sandy Cole.

Evangelism and Fellowship - Ed Smith, Joe Delo, Bill Gibson.

Memorial Committee - Al Tresco, Jim Nesbit.

Nominating Committee - Karen Delo, Larry Wood.

Day Camp - Ed Ray, Ed Smith

Treasurer's report - for December 31, 2010 was received.

Remaining balance in the General Account as of December 31, 2010 was \$10,965.73. Beth Kist made a motion to transfer to designated funds \$1,000 for CE projects; \$500 to W&M for Advent Candles in Sanctuary; \$500 to B, G & F for parish nursing (medical sofa), and transfer remaining balance to the Capital Improvements fund to produce a \$0 balance for the year-end financial report. Second and Approved.

Session had to approve the Deacon Officers per their minutes.

Moderator - Donna Pellegrino

Vice Moderator -- Larry Sturchio

Secretary - Mary Jo Nesbit

Assistant Secretary - Sharon Lasser

Treasurer - Laura Burnett

Assistant Treasurer - Keith Donnell

Lenten Musical - 2011 - Lenten Musical Expenditures - Joy Smith has agreed to put on the Lenten musical for 2011, with a committee of support people. Worship and Music committee brought the recommendation to have a Lenten musical for 2011. Approved.

Second and approved.



Lent is the 40-day period before Easter that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends the day before Easter. We skip Sundays when we count the 40 days because Sundays commemorate the Resurrection of our Lord.

Lent is a season of soul-searching and repentance. It is a season for reflection and taking stock. Lent originated in the very earliest days of the Church as a preparatory time for Easter, when the faithful rededicated themselves and converts were instructed in the faith and prepared for baptism. By observing the 40 days of Lent, the individual Christian imitates Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness for 40 days. All churches that have a continuous history extending before AD1500 observe Lent.

Lent provides an opportunity to learn what it means to follow Christ. This makes the season an especially fruitful time for exploring spiritual disciplines like reading and studying the Scriptures, fasting, prayer, sacrifice, forgiveness...you name it! This time is not a time of intellectual development but a chance to experience what can become practices for a lifetime of Christian growth.

Make this Lenten time a time special growth. Use these 40 days to re-establish your relationship with the Lord and grow it bigger.

Amen!