



April 2011
Volume 22, Issue 4

Inside this issue

- 3 Letter from Pastor Brenda
- 4 Birthdays & memorial gifts;
Church Board/Committee
Members
- 5 Christian Education events;
Graduate information; Family
Christian Stores
- 6 Rummage Sale
- 7 Rummage Sale Sign-Up
- 8 Vacation Bible School
- 9 Vacation Bible School (con't);
Communion Workshop
- 10 Adult Retreat; Pictorial
Directory
- 11 Believe Lenten Musical
- 12 Session Snip-its; Spring
Helping Hands; Stewardship
- 13 Your Mission Dollars
- 14 Calendar

**The Presbyterian Church of
Plum Creek**

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

The Caller

April 2011 Worship Schedule

April 3, 2011 – 10 a.m.
Fourth Sunday of Lent
"Curses to Glory"
Rev. Brenda Barnes

April 6, 2011 – 7:30 p.m.
Community Lenten Service
Delmont Presbyterian Church

April 10, 2011 – 10 a.m.
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Gideons will be speaking

April 13, 2011 – 7:30 p.m.
Community Lenten Service
Excerpts from Lenten Musical, BELIEVE
Presbyterian Church of Plum Creek

April 17, 2011 – 10 a.m.
Palm Sunday
"Triumph!"
Rev. Brenda Barnes

April 20, 2011 – 7:30 p.m.
Community Lenten Service
Lenten Drama: Into Your Hands I Commend My Spirit
Pine Run Presbyterian Church

April 21, 2011 – 6 p.m.
Mauddy Thursday
Dinner
Communion

April 22, 2011 – 7 p.m.
Good Friday
Rev. Brenda Barnes

April 24, 2011 – 10 a.m.
Easter
"He's Not Done Yet"
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
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.



"Now let the heavens be joyful,
Let earth her song begin:
Let the round world keep triumph,
And all that is therein;
Invisible and visible,
Their notes let all things blend,
For Christ the Lord is risen
Our joy that hath no end."

-- John of Damascus

Easter is coming! Happy Resurrection! Christ is Risen! He is risen, indeed!

These words are meant to resound around the earth not just one Sunday each year, but every day...Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, etc... We have come out of the darkness of the winter season only to see the promise of springtime as we do each year. This is no surprise – spring always follows winter. But for some reason, this spring has much more meaning to me. There are many reasons for this, especially because this past winter was so active, but each of us has praises God in our own way for God's grace demonstrated to us in the bright sunshine, warm temperatures, blue skies, singing birds and budding trees.

This is what the church father, John of Damascus, said: the heavens are joyful; the earth begins her song...and we should have joy that **never** ends. That's why our traditional Easter greeting (and response) are in the present tense...Christ IS risen! He IS risen, indeed! Our joy in the resurrection of Jesus Christ should never end because in this resurrection is the hope and promise for our future.

The great golfer, Bernhard Langer, says it this way: "To a Christian, Easter Sunday means everything...when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ." Sir Langer has many reasons to celebrate life. As the first number one ranked golfer in the world (1986), he has been very successful with 79 career tournament wins. Yet, his earthly success is marred because of something known as the "yips" – a tendency to flinch when putting. One particularly bad yip episode resulted in the loss of the Ryder Cup to the European team. Yet, regardless of his golfing success and lost successes due to his yip-flaw, Langer's greatest achievement and greatest joy is his faith in Jesus Christ. As a devout Christian, he recognizes that our hope for the future lies not in getting the little white ball into a relatively small hole. Rather, our hope lies in the resurrection of Christ. This is what we celebrate and this is what means everything to us.

Friends, enjoy this beautiful spring season – get out in the sun and warm weather, maybe even hit the links – but whatever you do to celebrate the season, do it with the joy and eagerness of the promise of eternal life!

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! And so shall we!

-Pastor Brenda

BIRTHDAYS

Gale Shreffler April 29

If you know anyone who is 70 or older,
please let the church office know.

We don't want to miss anyone.

BAPTISM

Ivy Grace Hedeem March 6, 2011

MEMORIAL GIFTS

For Ruth Holmes
Mrs. Lois Holmes

Church Board/Committee Members

Session

Dave Anderson
Don Campbell
Laura Campbell
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
Carolyn Nonnenberg
Dave Plance
Al Tresco
Elaine 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 Szitas
Larry Wood

Personnel

Beth Kist
John Thompson
Al Tresco
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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

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

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

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
- *VBS & PCPC Potluck Picnic* – evening of Friday, June 17

Graduating soon?

If you or a family member who is a member of PCPC is graduating this year from high school, college, or graduate school (including medical or law school, etc.), please let Meredith know. Graduate Sunday will occur on June 5, 2011, and we would like to make sure that everyone who is graduating receives recognition during the worship service that morning and the coffee hour that will follow the service. Thank you!



FAMILY Christian Stores®

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.

THE RUMMAGE SALE IS COMING!!! May 6 and 7, 2011

Yes, the rummage sale is coming!! During the first week of May, our church will be overrun with stuff!! We will have bicycles, Christmas decorations, lots of clothes, books, mugs, toys, hats, antiques, jewelry, furniture, suitcases, and plenty of other things, too. You can help in many ways:

- We really need help with set up and clean up. Set up is Sunday, May 1, at 2:00 pm and cleanup is Saturday, May 7 at 2:00 pm.
- We also need lots of help with sorting and pricing. We will be doing this Monday through Wednesday from 9 am to 4 pm and from 7 pm to 9 pm. On Thursday, set up will be 9 am to 4 pm.
- We need donations of good, useable merchandise to be dropped off during the sorting times listed above.
- We need baked goods for the bake sale on Friday.
- We need cashiers during the sale from 9 am to 7 pm Friday and 9 am to 2 pm Saturday.

Please consider helping with this year's sale. We always have a lot of fun and fund mission outreach projects here at Plum Creek. This year the monies raised will help to fund our mission outreach through the Day Camp at Plum Creek and "Believe". If you have a question or concern, please call Carolyne Ressler, chair at 412-793-9686 or speak to any Day Camp Board member.

When considering what to bring to our sale, we thought you might appreciate a poem written by fellow congregation member, Jean Manzuk:

Things

*My family all tell me my house is an utter disaster
Perhaps they are right and I should clean out
The clutter, bring order to chaos.
But where shall I start?
The small baby spoon kept to feed the babies their pablum
Is really too small to make even a dent
There's Aunt Lillian's mesh flower thank you that she sent.
The picture filled walls though not great works of art
Give a tug to my heart because they were painted for me.
It's true that my rooms are too full of sofas and more
But when they all come home, must they sit on the floor?
My cookware peeks out from all cupboards and shelves.
I really don't need three sets of dishes myself
Though I want to leave each of my children a share
Of my dishes and pans and four sets of flatware.
My books line the walls from the floor to the ceilings
And give me some uneasy feelings,
But I can't give them up because I am aware
That I need to review them to be sure
That the words that I love are still there.
Each day brings more and more seed of things
Of things that I really don't need.
Are my treasures all waste
Since they've outgrown my space?
It's time to put this list away.
Tomorrow is another day.*

~ Jean Manzuk ~

THE RUMMAGE SALE AT THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PLUM CREEK

Everyone is asked to help with this fun fundraising and fellowship event! It is also a wonderful opportunity to reach out to our community and church members! We would like everyone to be a part of it in some way! We look forward to all the regular volunteers in addition to lots of new helpers! Please fill out the form below whether you have helped in the past or if this will be your first time. The Rummage Sale Committee is Carolyne Ressler chair and the members of the Day Camp Board. Please call Carolyne at 412-793-9686 or speak to any member if you have a question or concern.

EVERYONE PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND RETURN IT

RUMMAGE SALE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please check any areas that you will be interested in helping with:

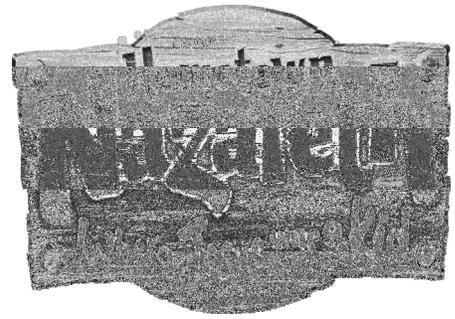
- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> sorting donations | Mon. May 2 – Thur. May 5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cleaning up after sale | Sat. May 7 after 2 pm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> driving leftover items to a charity | Sat. May 7 after 2 pm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> advertising | Before the sale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cashier (to collect money in different areas) | Fri. May 6 and Sat. May 7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cashier supervisor (organize cashier helpers) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> kitchen (prepare and sale of food) | Thrs. May 5, Fri. May 6 & Sat. May 7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> kitchen supervisor (organize kitchen helpers) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> electrical and furnishings (help in this area) | Before and during sale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> electrical and furnishings supervisor (organize helpers) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> housewares and miscellaneous (help in this area) | Before and during sale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> housewares and misc. supervisor | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> something special (help in this area) | Before and during sale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> something special supervisor (organize helpers) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> jewelry helper | Before and during sale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> jewelry supervisor | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> linen helper | Before sale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> linen supervisor | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> toy helper | Before sale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> toy supervisor | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> baked goods (help to sell baked goods) | Fri. May 6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> baked goods supervisor | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> baked goods (donate baked goods) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help where needed | |

**** donate items for the sale (clothes, housewares, furniture, toys, etc) – Drop off between 9 am to 4 pm & 7 pm to 9 pm Mon May 2 thru Wed May 4; and 9 am to 4 pm Thurs May 5.

ALL DONATED ITEMS should be in good condition, working appliances only. Thank you but we are not accepting computers or undergarments or mattresses.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!!!

NAME _____ PHONE# _____



Two months and counting to VBS!

Vacation Bible School is a month closer, and we're still looking for a lot of volunteers and donations. VBS will occur from 9:00-noon, during the week of June 13-17.

Toddler/preschool-aged children through 6th 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):

- 10 EZ-Up tents/canopies
- 20 Solid color sheets, blankets or fabric (appropriate for "Nazareth" setting)
- Artificial plants, flowers, food
- Pots and urns (clay or clay-look-alike)
- 50-60 baby food jars and lids, cleaned and without labels
- 50-60 small peat pots and/or small terra cotta pots
- 10 Plastic measuring spoons
- 5 Brooms
- 10-12 large tubs/buckets
- 10 kid-friendly hammers
- Different types of nails (for hammering in "carpentry shop")
- Small boards of wood
- 10 small chisels
- 10 kid-size safety goggles
- Different types of stone, i.e. granite, marble, etc. (to be chiseled in "rock quarry")
- 10 mortar and pestle sets (for grinding spices)



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—preschool, kindergarten, 1st&2nd, 3rd&4th, 5th&6th (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

Communion Workshop

The Christian Education committee is pleased to offer a communion workshop for children on Saturday, April 9th. The point of the workshop is to instruct children of all ages about worship and what the sacrament means. We have scheduled this time purposely before Easter so children are prepared to receive the sacrament on that very important celebration of the Lord’s Resurrection.

We have not set an age limit as we believe that the sacrament is a means to receive God’s grace, open to all. As such, we suggest that parents decide whether their child is capable of understanding the important concepts. Pastor Brenda has done this workshop many times with children as young as 3. Our only requirement is that at least one adult be present for each family throughout the workshop. Also, we suggest that you notify me of your intent to be part of the workshop and how many from your family will be in attendance so that we can plan appropriately.

We will begin at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall and have a two hour session that will include information about worship services in general and the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper specifically. The time together will conclude with a brief worship service in the sanctuary, where the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper will be observed. A pizza lunch will be available afterwards in the Fellowship Hall.

Please join us for this very important and fun event!



ADULT RETREAT

Twenty-four adults traveled to Camp Crestfield for our Annual Retreat, March 4 - 6, 2011. Our leader was Jana Hall (otherwise known as Andrea's mother-in-law). Our theme was "Change" – in all facets of our lives. We worked from the Scripture, "*Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.*" *Isaiah 43:18-19*

Lots of good food, hugs (especially Clyde!), laughs, and tears abound as we studied and fellowshiped throughout the weekend. We were thankful for Jana's leadership, the Worship DVD's she introduced us to, and the many new faces that were part of the weekend.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW February 17 – 19, 2012
PLUM CREEK'S 18TH ADULT RETREAT!



Dear Friends,

We are excited to announce that we are going to create a new pictorial directory of our church family. The directory will help us to connect names with faces. It will be an ideal outreach tool and will capture the history of our church congregation.

Please participate! All we ask is that you have your picture taken by the professional photographer and meet with a Portrait Consultant at the church. For the next several weeks, we will be making appointments before and after services and meetings at the church. Please sign up as soon as possible to get the best appointment to fit your schedule.

- Every participating family/household that selects a pose for the directory will receive a free directory and a complimentary 8 X 10 Custom Natural Portrait.
- You will come to the church only once for photography and for portrait viewing.
- The program is available at no cost to the church budget.
- You will have the opportunity to order additional portraits during your scheduled appointment time.
- If you wish to purchase extras, the portraits come with a 100% Satisfaction Guarantee.
- Whether you decide to dress formal or casual, you will want to make the most of this opportunity.

The scheduled dates for photography and portrait viewing are:

April 27

April 28

May 13

May 14

We look forward to seeing everyone in the directory. Our new pictorial directory just won't be complete without you!

Experience the Love of God this Easter

*Blessed are those
who have not seen and yet*

Believe

A Dramatic Lenten Musical

Friday, April 15 at 7:00p.m.

Saturday, April 16 at 7:00p.m.

Sunday, April 17 at 2:00p.m.

*The Presbyterian Church
of Plum Creek*

*Free Admission *Call 412.793.4525 to reserve seats *Child Care Provided*



Spring Helping Hands

Spring Helping Hands Fundraiser will be held on Saturday May 21st from 10 a.m. to 4p.m. in the Social Hall and Pavilion. The Deacons are having a Bake Sale and light lunch with proceeds going to Helping Hands. If you would like to donate baked goods, there will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Anyone wishing to participate as a vendor or crafter, please contact any of the deacons. Come join for us for fellowship and fun while we are helping others.

The Stewardship Hint of the Month

It is April! Time to clean up around the yard by removing the debris left by the winter.



Session Snip-its from February 2011

Tri-City Life Fundraiser to be collected on 3/20, 3/27, and 4/3/2011.

Approved the motion to move the Lazarus Fund offering to the Sunday, April 17, 2011 because of the regularly scheduled Change Sunday on March 13th and Tri-City Life fundraiser on dates above.

Vendor and Crafter fundraiser for Deacons approved for May 21st.

Approved the theme for Stewardship for 2011 to involve the stewardship of the mind, body and spirit.

Approved that committee and session define the music director position no later than April 30, 2011.

Approved that church members will volunteer their musical talents for worship, excluding weddings and funerals.

Approved that a love offering be taken for each visiting group who agrees to play for the Praise at the Pavilion events and Praisefest be cancelled this year as we expand Praise in the Pavilion.

YOUR MISSION DOLLARS AT WORK

Y.O.U. (Young Overcomers United), Inc., a not-for-profit organization was founded in 1999 by Joseph Maxim, "Big Joe" as he is called by many young people. Joe had many obstacles in his life, one of which was an addiction to drugs and alcohol. Dabbling into the drug world at the age of 14 culminated at the age of 16 after the death of his father. Leaving Joe with little guidance as his Mother with prayer stained knees was trying to hold things together. With each year came a new drug of choice along with a heavy use of steroids and growing need for alcohol. Ten years later Joe's mother's prayers were answered and his life was drastically changed through divine intervention.

After working with young people in a youth group setting for several years as well as sponsoring many through various programs. Joe could recognize those who were headed down the path he once traveled. After a few years of questioning young people if their is a need and would a young person benefit from a program that was strictly geared to ages 15-25 he learned that need was an understatement. That is when the conception of Y.O.U. was birthed, out of the hurt and helplessness that he saw when he looked into the eyes of today's young people.

Starting with one young person in his home the program offered a safe place for a young person to fall. Over the past years Y.O.U. has seen hundreds of new faces and many that have made a total life change and are now giving back to society. Y.O.U. is unique in reaching ages 15-25 regardless of race, religion, economics and ethnicity.

Young Overcomers United has partnered with a number of churches, school districts, police departments, magistrate, judges and psychologists. Collaborating with in-patient programs and detoxification facilities has allowed Y.O.U. to walk every step of the way with each young addict in the recovery process.

Y.O.U. emphasizes on the personal approach to each individual. Guiding them through each phase of the ten steps and satisfying all the requirements of each step. Creating change in the lives of tomorrow's leaders is our ultimate goal.

Their Vision and Mission is:

To create a pathway, enabling young addicts to take steps toward freedom.

"Vindicate the weak and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and destitute. Rescue the weak and needy; Deliver them out of the hand of the wicked. They do not know nor do they understand; They walk about in darkness." Psalms 82:3-5 (NASB))

