



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
plumcreek

October 2012
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**The Presbyterian Church of
Plum Creek**

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Pittsburgh, PA 15239
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The Caller

October 2012 Worship Schedule

October 7, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.
World Communion Sunday
Rev. Brenda Barnes

October 14, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.
Greg Steible, Student Pastor

October 21, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.
Job 38:1-7, 34-41; Mark 10:35-45
“Greatness”
Rev. Brenda Barnes

October 28, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.
Reformation Sunday
Stewardship Commitment Sunday
Bible Sunday
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
Student Pastor	Greg Steible
Director of Educational and Congregational Ministries	Patrick Van Horn
Director of Youth Ministries	Tori Campbell
Director of Music Ministries	Michelle Horsley
Worship Services	Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School Classes	Sundays 8:45 a.m.



Grace and peace in the name of Jesus Christ!

A modern day prophet, Donny Iris, sings a song about human relationships. The chorus of the song, in part, says "the more things change, the more they stay the same." These words outline the difficulty in our own ability to evolve in thought process and thus, into spiritual and relational maturity.

In this season of change, when the trees lighten from deep green to yellows and golden browns, we are reminded that creation must change for new growth to occur. The tree changes – it grows, the leaves die and drop off, the bare tree has extra limbs that we don't remember seeing last fall – but it is still a tree. The more it changes, the more it stays the same – it becomes more of a tree!

Friends, we now have a full staff each equipped with specific and special gifts and wisdom to serve the greater Church body particularly here at PCPC. The Apostle Paul talks about this in his first letter to the Corinthians. Each of these gifts will change us but we will still have the same Spirit of Christ dwelling in and among us. Each of the services we all perform (especially the staff) will look different, but it is still the same Lord Jesus Christ we serve. There is much work to be done and that work will be done in a changed way, but it is still the same God who works all of it, in all of us (paraphrase of 1 Corinthians 12:4-6). The more things change, the more they stay the same, even as the Church is transformed into His likeness!

Paul continues with these thoughts and says that each person manifests the Spirit for the good of all of us (v 7). This is difficult to fathom when we are in the midst of our human evolution into the spiritual beings God is making us. God determines who will get which gifts and abilities and how they are to be used (v 11). This should bring us great comfort and great hope for the future of our congregation (and not just our congregation, but for the Church as a whole). Again, the more things change, the more God stays the same, even as He transforms us!

Let these new eyes see new vision. Let these new folks lead you outside of your comfort zone in new ways. Let your staff – whom the Lord has gifted to you – do what the Lord wants done. Trust in Him and His ways through new eyes, wisdom, and with the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor Brenda

BIRTHDAY

October 21 – Andy Hrivnak

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

MEMORIAL GIFT

For Carolyn Nonnenberg:
Mrs. Lois Holmes

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: THE POWER OF A SIMPLE GIFT

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through simple, gift-filled shoe boxes and evangelistic materials that tell the Good News of God's love. On Sunday, October 14, 2012, Plum Creek will begin its Operation Christmas Child campaign. Shoe

boxes, gift suggestions and packing instructions will be available for church members to take home and begin filling. This year, the Deacon's have set a goal of collecting 100 shoe boxes from the congregation! The boxes will be collected and dedicated during the Sunday, November 11, 2012 service. Please prayerfully consider packing a shoe box and meeting the 100 box challenge. Remember this simple gift can make an eternal impact on a needy child. Any questions, call Nancy Slater at 412-913-5010.



Youth Group Update

Corn Maze

Sunday October 28th – 6:30 to 9:00pm

Have fun this fall getting lost in a maze of corn.

Bring a flashlight to find your way to the end (if you can!).

We will have a bonfire and snacks afterward. Hope to see you there!



Youth Sunday

Come experience worship led by our youth group.

November 11th, 2011 10:00am

We will honor veterans that day and would like you to bring pictures of those who have served in the armed forces. Please provide them to Tori Campbell in an envelope well marked with your name, and the name of the honored veteran by November 4th.



HINTS for Stewardship

God has been so gracious to Plum Creek this year. We now have a full staff with many new and exciting ministries planned. The anticipated coming year is sure to be filled with many opportunities to worship Christ, support mission, enjoy fellowship and learn more about our Lord and Savior.

In order to do those things, we need to provide our support to His mission and our God-given opportunities. Our support (commitment) cards are being sent out by mail this month and we request that you show your support of our mission. What you give for the Lord's work is a spiritual discipline and issue with you, and the Lord. That you give is a spiritual discipline with you, and the congregation. Each one of us needs to support what we are called to do as a congregation known as the Presbyterian Church of Plum Creek. This process is an important part of the calendar year; to put into a tangible statement on how we love Him and trust Him.

This year at Plum Creek, we are doing something different and we are excited about this new opportunity. The Stewardship Committee, with the support of the Session, has decided not to send a full box of envelopes for the whole year. Instead, each giving unit will be sent a packet of envelopes each month. We believe this will be more convenient for all of us and allow us to be more flexible. Let any member of the Stewardship Committee know if you have questions. Thank you for your support to demonstrate Christ's love for our congregation, our community, and the world!



We here at the Presbyterian Church of Plum Creek are living in an exciting time right now. Sunday School has begun, the first Oasis started September 12th. I consider it an honor and a privilege to be here and serve with you and among you.

I was feeling many different thoughts and emotions on my first Sunday as the Director of Educational and Congregational Ministries. The first thought I had was, "How will people respond to me?" The answer is: You welcomed me with open arms and for that I am eternally grateful. I was nervous, happy, excited; but most of all, I was thankful. I walked the halls going from class to class, introducing myself and delivering donuts. I have come to the conclusion most kids love donuts! I saw the smiling faces and innocence in their eyes. I felt the excitement, or more precisely: I *caught* the excitement!

I want to encourage you to look around and 'catch the excitement.' In the coming weeks you will begin to see signs and banners and even new class opportunities. I want to encourage you get involved. No

pressure - maybe it has been awhile for you. But - as new classes appear and you see something you like or that catches your attention, give it a try.

PATRICK VAN HORN



**CURRENT CLASSES AVAILABLE
(BUT LOOK FOR NEW ONES SOON!)**

SUNDAYS 8:45 am

Preschool with Mrs. Deanna Zeek is located downstairs in the middle class room.

3rd and 4th grade with Mrs. Janet Wood located in the upstairs hallway, room #10. the blue room.

5th and 6th grade with Mrs. Alexis Pfeifer located in the upstairs hallway, room #12, the Black and Gold room.

Confirmation Class with Mr. Tim Mayo located in the upstairs hallway, room #9, the green room.

Young Adults/Senior High Class "The Gospel According to the Simpsons" with Tori Campbell located in the upstairs Hallway, room # 7, the Boyce room.

Adult Sunday School "New Testament Epistles" with Dave Anderson, Linda Wilkins, and Pat Croyle located downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR COMING SOON! We will start a children's choir on Wednesday night (as part of Oasis) starting on October 10th at 6:30 p.m. All children are welcome. Contact Michelle Horsley for more details (412-793-4525 - ext. 13).

Day Camp at Plum Creek

We lost a very important member of the Board this summer, Carolyn Nonnenberg. She is going to be terribly missed for many reasons: her level headedness, her sense of humor, and the quality of advice and concern that she had for the Staff and Campers. The Board knows that God has received a "true" angel in Carolyn Nonnenberg.

Our registration for Summer, 2012 was slightly smaller with 145 Campers than it was last summer. Many of the members of this church have had their children or grandchildren become campers over the years. If you want to get their perspectives on the Day Camp, please talk to people, like Larry and Chris Giles, Ed and Lois Ray, Carol and Marty Holmes, Mary Lloyd and George Thompson, and others, too numerous to mention, that have sent someone to the Day Camp. It is so interesting to see when the parents or grandparents come to pick up their children at the end of the day, it is very difficult to get their children to finish playing and go home!!!

Our curriculum this year was entitled, "Encounters". This curriculum discussed Jesus meeting with many people and how each person was changed by this interaction. The Counselors used this to help the Campers understand that they, too, can become helpful, kind, and cooperative when meeting someone that they have never known before.

Many Campers attend all 4 weeks and thoroughly enjoy themselves. We have heard stories from parents about their children wanting to buy their own Bibles or to get one for Christmas or a birthday present. The Mission Committee donated 4 Bibles to children so that they would be able to read the Word, along with the Counselors this year. We have also heard about children asking for their own mountain boards!!

We had children as young as first graders climb the tower and use the zip-line. Parents have talked to Board Members or sent letters to thank us for having this mission project available to them.

Parents have also told Board Members how appreciative they are for the quality staff that we hire and the values of the staff. Numerous times we have been told how the staff really care about the children that come here. You may be thinking ---- how do we know these parents?? Parents tend to talk to those Board members more just because there are some of us that sign the children in every morning and out every evening during the camp.

This year the Staff included:

- **Ashleigh Wasson (Camp Director).**
- **Counselors: Sarah Baldwin, Sarah Kirk, Sarah Hemmerle and Steve Skero.**

Peter Mayo subbed for one week.

- **Adventure Staff:** Brandi Ritenour, Jeff Wasson, and Alex Udanis.
- **Counselors in Training (CIT):** Rachel Adams, Mike Braun, Lauren Casertano, Mike Braun, Matt Geib, Adam Hearn, and Caitlin Wilson.
- **Support Staff:** Kristen Drew, Alex Giles, Andrew Hearn, Gabrielle Briceno.
- **Nurses:** Albert Durante and Tracy Plowman.

There are many other people that work hard for the Day Camp.

We would also like to say a **BIG THANK YOU** to congregation members and the Mission Committee for their continued contributions for camp scholarships, salaries, and camp supplies. Last year we were able to give 13 full or partial scholarships for children throughout the eastern suburbs. That means that these children were given a minimum of one, but usually more than one week of learning about God, his Word and also learning to trust and cooperate with others while they were here.

Of course, a special thank you goes to the Board members that have given their time and efforts year round for the continued development of our camp:

Dave and Mary Jo Nesbit	Rich and Carlyne Ressler
Marty and Carol Holmes	Meredith Hedeem
Ed Smith and Joy Smith	Ed Ray
Pastor Brenda Barnes	

Without their diligent and tireless efforts towards keeping the Day Camp at Plum Creek going in the right direction throughout the year, it would not be such a success with parents, grandparents and neighbors of this community and the surrounding area. We are in need of several people to help us for the Summer, 2013 Camp. We need someone to help once a week for 3 hours a day with crafts (and you don't need to be crafty to do this because we have already lots of crafts ideas and supplies --- we just need someone to volunteer to facilitate them). We are also in need of some Board Members to help us continue to make the Day Camp at Plum Creek so successful. If you are being "called" to help in any of these areas, please contact one of the Board members.

So, to the congregation -- thank you for sending your children, thank you for your donations, thank you for helping to get the camp ready for the campers each year and especially, thank you for your prayers for the Day Camp. Just like the saying goes, it takes a whole village to raise a child and we are doing just that here at The Day Camp at Plum Creek.

Sincerely,

**Joy Smith, President
Board of Directors**

The Deacons would like to thank everyone who helped with our Blood Drive. We especially appreciate those donors who are givers at all our drives and to those who were donors for the first time. This is a special way to serve the Lord, the church and the community. It is comforting to those in need of blood to know that blood will be available because of such kind, giving people.

Thanks, Plum Creek for once again stepping up to serve.

You will have the same opportunity in the spring.

Wilma Elicker and Pat Croyle

To Pastor Brenda + Congregation,
I want to Thank You for
your prayers for myself and
my Baby.
We are both doing well,
all of your prayers blessed us.
God Bless
Samantha Arthur

I always love being a part
of your church services when
I visit. Everyone is so
welcoming and you truly display
Christ's Love.

Dear Missions Committee,

Thank you so much
for partnering with me in my
mission to reach college students for
Christ at USF in Tampa. Your monthly
gift of \$100~~0~~ will greatly help
me get to campus that much faster.
Your generous hearts for ministry
are greatly appreciated!

Grace + Peace,
Katie Elicker

Dear saints of Plum Creek,
Thank you for all of your support of
my ministry to grad students w/ Inter-Varsity. Your
financial gifts & prayers have made possible
a flourishing witnessing community within Pittsburgh's
academic communities. I look forward to continuing
to share with you all that God does on
campus!

Grace & Peace

Mike

Greetings from Massachusetts!

Re-Creation's 38th edition is well underway. We are
nearing the end of our first tour together. We have
met veterans from ME, NH, VT, and MA on this two-
day tour. I met a man last night who told me he lost 17
men in his company. He was the only one to
survive. His eyes started to tear up as he told me
about his lost friends. I could see the pain was
still very real to him and it's something he lives
with everyday. I was grateful we were there to
help him smile and enjoy his evening. Thank you
for your support. God bless! Mary Reich

Church Board/Committee Members

Session (Elders - E)

Dave Anderson (a)
Bonnie Caliendo (a)
Don Campbell (a)
Laura Campbell (b)
Jim Delo (a)
Karen Delo (b)
Dave Forrest (b)
Bill Gibson (a)
Rodney Horner (a)
Beth Kist (a)
Gloria Mayo (a)
Jeff Mueller (a)
Sam Shaneyfelt (a)
Ed Smith (a)
Al Tresco (a)
Larry Wood (clerk)

Deacons (D)

Linda Bartley (a)
Laura Burnett (b), Treasurer
Pat Croyle (a)
Keith Donnell (a)
Rebecca Durante (a)
Wilma Elicker (b)
Jeremy Ewing (a)
Barbara Grossi (a)
Doris Hedeem (a)
Lois Holmes (b)
Susan Horner (a)
Mary Jo Nesbit (c), Secretary
Donna Pellegrino(b), Moderator
Dave Plance (a)
Nancy Slater (a)
Larry Sturchio(b), Vice Moderator
Emily Szitas (a)
Sharon VanLemmeren (a)

Financial Review Committee

Jenny Caliendo
David Nesbit
Mary Ann Racki

Building, Grounds and Finance Committee

Tim Arnold
Don Campbell (E)
Jim Delo (E)
Keith Donnell (D)
John Hedeem
Marty Holmes
Al Tresco (chair) (E)

Christian Education

Linda Bartley (D)
Rodney Horner (E)
Gloria Mayo (E)
Lucy Ofstun
Alexis Peifer
Carolyn Ressler
Sam Shaneyfelt(chair) (E)
Janet Wood

Evangelism

Dave Anderson (E)
Bonnie Caliendo(chair) (E)
Joe Delo
Jeremy Ewing (D)
Ed Smith (E)
Larry Sturchio
Marilyn Sturchio

Memorial

Dave Plance (D)
Al Tresco (chair) (E)
Elaine Tresco

Mission

Bonnie Caliendo(co-chair)(E)
Laura Campbell(co-chair) (E)
Sandy Cole
Sheri Gibson
Gaye Mallisee
Donna Pellegrino (D)
Ed Ray
Linda Stotler
Lynn Wolfe

Nominating Committee

Karen Delo (E)
Gaye Mallisee
Tim Mayo
Shelley Shaneyfelt
Joy Smith

Personnel

Beth Kist (chair) (E)
Gloria Mayo (E)
John Thompson
Al Tresco (E)
Ron Wolfe

Stewardship

Laura Burnett (D)
Dave Forest (E)
Bill Gibson (E)
Ed Ray
Ed Smith (E)

Worship and Music

Laura Burnett (D)
Deb Caruso
Karen Delo (E)
Dave Forrest (chair) (E)
Beth Kist (E)
Joy Smith

Pastor Nominating Committee

Laura Campbell
Jamie Donnell
Dave Plance
Tim Mayo
Ed Smith (chair)
Larry Sturchio
Emily Szitas
Larry Wood

