



February 2013
Volume 24, Issue 2

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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

February 2013 Worship Schedule

February 3, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.

Jeremiah 1:4-10, Luke 4:21-30

"Got Benefits?"

Rev. Brenda Barnes

February 10, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.

Transfiguration of the Lord

Greg Steible, Student Pastor

February 13, 2013 - 7:30 p.m.

Ash Wednesday

Community Lenten Service

Pine Run Presbyterian Church

February 17, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.

1st Sunday of Lent

Luke 4:1-13, Deuteronomy 26:1-11

"Take the Basket"

Rev. Brenda Barnes

February 20, 2013 - 7:30 p.m.

Community Lenten Service

Poke Run Presbyterian Church

February 24, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.

2nd Sunday of Lent

Luke 13:31-35

Rev. Brenda Barnes

February 27, 2013 - 7:30 p.m.

Community Lenten Service

Presbyterian Church of Plum Creek

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 – Thursday,
7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Minister Reverend Brenda Barnes

Student Minister Greg Steible

Director of Music Ministries Michelle Horsley

Worship Services Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School Classes Sundays 8:45 a.m.



Friends in Our Lord Jesus Christ –

Even as I write this, the temperature is 67 degrees and the air is filled with the fragrance of spring. The lilac bush in the front yard is showing signs of budding and the grass seems a bit greener now that the snow is melted. This is not what January (or February) is supposed to look like. I'm glad for the winter respite, but I'm also confused by it.

God works in ways that are unexpected, illogical, and sometimes, “wrong”...in our opinion. We get confused by the situations. We exclaim to one another that “this is not what this should look like.” But, friends, if we truly trust in the Lord, then we will accept what is happening and search for what He is trying to teach us in our confusion. This is a humbling place to be because we must set aside what we think *should be* happening and what we think is “right” in a situation, and simply trust Him. Recently, I was visiting with someone whose life on earth was coming to an end. His words of wisdom to me were this: Sometimes when things appear to be falling apart, they are actually falling in place. As his body was failing and falling apart, he knew that his eternal life was falling into place. What faith! What trust!

Paul tells the Philippians not to be anxious about anything (Philippians 4:6). Matthew writes that we should not worry about tomorrow because today has enough trouble (Matthew 6:34). Both write that we, as Christians, should not overly concern ourselves and obsess about what is going “wrong” because there is no need to worry when we truly trust Christ is working all things for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28).

Here are some other ways to hear that we need to trust God:

1. Breathe. Have faith. Everything will be fine!
2. My child – you worry too much. I've got this, remember? Love, God
3. Don't worry about tomorrow – Christ has already been there.
4. And, in the words of Bobby McFerrin - Don't worry – be happy! In every life you will have trouble and when you worry you make it double!

Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of England during World War II, said to “Keep calm and trust no one.” I say, “Keep calm and trust God.”

Friends, you may not understand everything that is happening in your life. You may even be very confused by circumstances, but find joy in all that occurs because then we honor the Lord Almighty.

Amen!

Pastor Brenda

BIRTHDAY

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 GIFT

For Rose Nagy From Robert Davis

Opportunity Knocking

Heading into 2012 with our continuing theme of "Mind, Body and Spirit", we find that 80 members have stepped up and have made commitments for the ministries of 2013. We are confident that additional members will feel called to give of their financial blessings to the church.

As we know, stewardship does not only involve your finances, but also your time and your talents. In keeping with our theme, is the "Spirit" leading you to give of yourself in the Church? For example, have you thought of participating in one of the Bible studies offered on Monday nights, Wednesday at 1:00 PM and also at 6:30 PM, or Saturday at 7:30 AM or Sunday at 8:45 AM? Have you considered participating as a Congregational participant on the Mission, Christian Education, Stewardship, Worship & Music, or Evangelism & Fellowship ministries?

Have you ever thought of helping to usher on Sundays or help with the sound board or joining the Praise Group or volunteering as a substitute in Children's Sunday School? Throughout the year there are many opportunities to give of yourself through our many ministries --- the Lenten Drama, Vacation Bible School, Day Camp, the R.E.A.C.H trip, the Living Nativity and there are many others.

As in the title of one of our hymns, "Here Am I Lord," He is presenting you with many opportunities, all YOU need to do is say, "YES"!



Day Camp at Plum Creek

From now until March 30, 2013, the Day Camp at Plum Creek is offering special discounts for early registration and also for multiple week discounts. Please tell your friends, neighbors and relatives about this opportunity for children to experience The Lord during the summer of 2013!

Deacon's Blood Drive

Sunday March 10, 2013 from 8am to 12pm

Please call Pat for an appointment (274) 980—4402.
We will also be making appointments in the Narthex on
Sundays 10, 17 & 24 and March 3.

The Central Blood Bank has asked us to raise the level of our giving.
Will you help?
Thank you





Sick of being stuck inside? Tired of being bundled up?

Winterfest is almost here !

Mark your calendars for *Saturday, February 2nd from 9AM-Noon.*

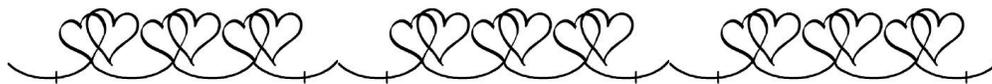
Activities are geared toward toddlers through elementary-aged kids, but kids of all ages are welcome to attend! A parent and/or guardian must accompany the children at Winterfest.

If you are tired of trying to entertain yourself, your kids or grandkids, or you know someone who is, get out of the house for a couple of hours to play games, compete in relay races, make crafts, decorate cookies, eat snacks and drink hot chocolate!

It's still not too late to invite your neighbors, pool pals, soccer buddies, MOPS groups, and anyone else who is itching to enjoy the fellowship of others and the fun of playing and creating together. A sign-up sheet is located on the easel in the Narthex, and you can find invitation postcards to distribute to your friends and neighbors there as well.

Please let us know how many attendees will be coming on the sign-up sheet or RSVP to the church office by Friday, February 1st.

If you have any questions, would like to volunteer, or have items to donate, contact Meredith Hedeem at meredithhedeem@yahoo.com or 412-798-0156. Any and all contributions are very much appreciated!



Have a willing heart for mission ?

Looking for an outlet to express your love for our Lord and for others??

Please consider joining the Mission Committee. We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Presently Laura Campbell (412-793-6068) is the chair and Bonnie Caliendo (412-795-0234) is the co-chair. Give them a call and let them know of your interest. It's always exciting to have fresh, new ideas presented at our meetings.

Please prayerfully consider this challenging opportunity.

**Lenten Musical Rehearsals are every Sunday at 3pm
in the Sanctuary.**

Performances:

**March 20, 7:30pm
March 23, 7:00pm**

**March 22, 7:00pm
March 24, 2:00pm**

Greetings, brothers and sisters in Christ!

It has been a joyous season for our church and we have many things for which to be thankful. During Advent, we performed our Christmas Musical, *Noel, Jesus is Born*, which featured Adult Choir, Worship Team, children soloists, and a small instrumental ensemble. It took a lot of effort from everyone involved, but resulted in a glorious retelling of the story we all cherish in our hearts. The video of the live performance is available for anyone who would like a copy.

As we continue in the liturgical year, we quickly approach the season of Lent. Two weeks ago, we began rehearsals for our Lenten Musical, *The Sacrifice*. This is another huge project for the ministry of our church and we are very lucky to have the opportunity to tackle a production of this size and importance. The story and the melodies are the same, but this year we will have a small orchestra of young musicians. Instruments will include piano, organ, trombone, trumpets, horn, flute, and more. Work has already begun to transcribe these parts for each instrument. We are very excited about this collaboration.

I am very grateful for the many committed people in this congregation, especially Joy and Ed Smith, who have helped tremendously in preparation for large musical productions such as these. If you are not involved already, I encourage everyone to consider being a part of this exciting time. It is a great opportunity for music, costumes, drama, lighting, staging, and especially fellowship with one another as we work together in worship.

As always, I thank you all most sincerely for your love and support of this church's music ministry. We are very blessed.

Michelle

**Operation Christmas Child:
The Power of a simple gift;
Mission accomplished !**

On Sunday, October 14, 2012, Plum Creek begin its Operation Christmas Child campaign with a goal of delivering 100 shoeboxes to Samaritan's Purse. With the help of the Plum Creek Congregation, Sunday School Students, Youth Fellowship and the Plum High School Girl Leaders of America, 109 boxes were collected and dedicated during the Sunday, November 18, 2012 service. The Plum Creek Board of Deacons wants to thank everyone who contributed to make this year's campaign an outstanding success and all involved can rest assured that their simple gift made an eternal impact on a needy child.



PER CAPITA

The 2013 per capita breakdown is as follows:

\$16.93	Pittsburgh Presbytery
\$ 2.20	Synod of the Trinity
\$ 6.87	General Assembly
\$26.00	Total PER MEMBER

Please designate on your per capita envelope if you would like any portion of your per capita to go to the General Assembly.

I would like to thank all of you for the prayers, cards, prayers, food, prayers, visits - and did I mention - Prayers?? God's presence was there and I am thankful for all the prayers from my Plum Creek Family.

I'm just waiting and listening to hear what He has in store for me now- so please keep the prayers coming.

In Love and Thankfulness,
Sandy Cole

**Update:
The Pastoral
Nominating
Committee**

By the end of December the Pastoral Nominating Committee have received well over 70 PIFs (Personal Information Forms/ resumes) from Pastors seeking a new call. After reviewing all PIFs, the committee has chosen approximately 15 individuals that are going through to the next step of a phone interview with the PNC.

We hope to have these interviews completed by the end of January, at which time the committee will continue its discernment process for the next called Pastor at the Presbyterian Church of Plum Creek.

If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Pastoral Nominating Committee.

2013 Church Board/Committee Members

Session (Elders - E)

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

Deacons (D)

Linda Bartley (a)
Pat Croyle (a)
Keith Donnell (a)
Jeremy Ewing (a)
Sheri Gibson (a)
Doris Hedeem (a)
Susan Horner (a)
Nancy Mayo (a)
Lucy Ofstun (a)
Dave Plance (a)
Nathan Polacek (a)
Nancy Slater (a)
Emily Szitas (a)
Sharon VanLemmeren (a)
Open
Open

Financial Review Committee

Jenny Caliendo
David Nesbit
Mary Ann Racki

Building, Grounds and Finance Committee

Don Campbell
Jim Delo
Keith Donnell (D)
Dave Forrest (E)
Bill Gibson (E)
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

Bonnie Caliendo
Joe Delo
Jeremy Ewing (D)
Jeff Mueller (E)
Ed Ray (E)
Ed Smith (E)
Larry Sturchio
Marilyn Sturchio

Memorial

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

Mission

Jeff Burnett (E)
Bonnie Caliendo
Laura Campbell (E)
Sandy Cole
Gaye Mallisee
Lynn Wolfe

Nominating Committee

Karen Delo (E)
Karen Ewing
Nancy Mayo (D)
Rick Ofstun
Stephanie Plance

Personnel

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

Stewardship

Jeff Burnett (E)
Ed Ray (E)

Worship and Music

Laura Burnett
Dave Forrest (chair) (E)
Beth Kist (E)
Rick Ofstun
Joy Smith

Pastor Nominating Committee

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

