

Presby Press



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RAMBLINGS FROM THE REVEREND

Our third and final Focusing Ministry Summit will be on Thursday, February 9th from 6:30-8:30pm and Sunday, February 12th from 1:00-5:00pm. This process has proven to be a very healthy endeavor for our church as we look towards the future and has been spiritually transforming for many of the people who have participated - especially during our prayer time on Sunday afternoon. On behalf of the implementation team, I would like to once again invite you to join us for this spiritual journey as we discern God's plan for our church. Each of us who calls upon Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior has been gifted with the presence of the Holy Spirit deep within us and the Focusing Ministry process brings us together to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit together.

It is obvious that God has been working in the church for 152 years and has been a mighty and powerful leader in our Focusing Ministry Summits. In the first summit, we gathered together for many reasons, but the chief reasons were tri-fold: remember the past, discover our actual values, and surrender ourselves and our church to God. We listed our actual values (those values that have been demonstrated in past or current behavior) as: *community outreach, youth ministry, biblically-based worship, history/tradition, and fellowship*. In the second summit, we gathered together to start dreaming about the future of this church and discern our preferred values (those values we would like to see lived out in the future). The values that we discerned together are **evangelism, discipleship, open communication, and hospitality**. These are powerful, holistic values which will require each of us to conform our hearts and minds to the Lord.

We will begin the process of implementing these values in our lives, in our ministries, and throughout the whole of the church starting with our third summit. After the summit, the implementation team will begin the most daunting part of its work; fleshing out our plans for vision and implementation. They will then present these plans to Session. The implementation team and the Session will then present the results to the whole congregation by the middle of May.

Please join us in prayer for this process and for Summit Three!

In Christ's service,



SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS MONTH

COFFEE HOUR

9:00 Service: Gayle Wagner

10:30 Service: Bethany Riggs

If you are interested in assisting with one of our coffee hours, please contact the office or Gayle or Bethany, they would enjoy serving with you this month!

LITURGISTS

	9:00	10:30
2/5	Nathan Wagner	Melissa Dugan
2/12	Jim Mars	Kathy Selden
2/19	Liz Knuth	Susan Malinowski
2/26	Dennis Manner	Don or Nancy Robare

USHERS

	9:00	10:30
2/5	Boy Scouts	Chapin Family
2/12	Rich & Sue Eaton Mary & Jeff Sweet	Deb Wasylyshyn Harrison Riggs/Olivia Riggs
2/19	Liz Knuth Jan Miller Felicia/Karrisa Shoen	David & Susan Malinowski Ray & Fonda Middleton
2/26	Dennis & Lola Manner Bill & Joy Thompson	Gayle, Alex, and Nathan Wagner

Are you interested in serving during our worship services as a liturgist or an usher? Please contact the office, Susan Malinowski, or ask one of the ushers how you can help that Sunday.

HOSPITALITY

Do you see someone in our worship services who might be new or returning after a long absence? Here are some easy things you can do to show the love of Christ to them in a personal way on a Sunday morning:

1. Introduce yourself
2. Invite them to join you for coffee and a donut after the service
3. Offer to answer any questions they may have
4. Make sure no person or family is sitting alone at coffee hour
5. Invite someone over for dinner or out for coffee. Give them your phone number.
6. Don't hunker down at one table every week-mill about and meet new people and get to know more people even better!

Christ calls each of us ministers and a vital part of that ministry is to welcome people into our lives and into our community. Take a risk and reach out!



A BIRTHDAY PRAYER

ST THERESA'S PRAYER

May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one. Amen.

2	Morgan Dugan	15	Helene Czajka Susie Tester
3	Benjamin Billings Josephine Billings	16	Mary Leitkam
4	Stan Brower	17	Jane Ward
5	Bruce Walker	19	David Brownlee
6	Barbara Blackmer Michael Wells	21	Joel Harden
9	James Ingamells	22	Jordan Dingo
10	Lisa Morningstar	24	Sarah Sweet
11	Audrey Flynn Jim Schmidt Tisha Wells	26	Steven Brownlee Conner Everhart
13	Jason Wasylshyn	27	Loretta Buck
14	Marilyn Fisher	28	Sharon Donaldson
		29	Sue Chapel

CONTACTS

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GROWING AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Warm winter wishes from Christian Ed!

Sunday school (1st Service) - Welcome to "Books of the Bible" zone. We are in full force of learning the order of the Old Testament. The children are now earning "Bible Bucks for Bible Books". For every book they learn they receive \$1.00 Bible Buck to spend at the Bible Buck Store. Dates to remember: **Feb. 5th** - children begin service in the sanctuary and then dismissed to classroom; **Feb. 12th** - bring a friend day.

Children's Church (2nd Service) - We have exciting news to share. As we continue to grow second service we are blessed that we are able to grow Children's Church. *Beginning March 4th we will have 2 classrooms - Pre-K through 2nd grade and 3rd through 5th grades.* The children will continue to begin worship in the sanctuary and be dismissed to their classroom for lessons after the children's sermon. For youth 6th grade and older we are happy that you will remain in the sanctuary to lift up our worship to God.

4th/5th Grade Fellowship - if you are in these grades please join us at the church on Friday, February 10th from 6:00 - 7:30 PM. We'll be baking treats for those that are homebound and having game night - come hungry, we'll be dishing out pizza.

"Church Challenge" - throughout the year CE will have "Church Challenges" to help encourage both the youth and adults to continue your spiritual growth. February's challenge if you choose to accept is the following: **Replace 5 hours weekly of television with 5 hours of Bible study.** You can do this on an individual basis, use the buddy system or together as a family activity. The Bible is a library filled with 66 books to choose from so your choices are limitless. Example - pick a different person from the Bible each week that you would like to learn more about and see what you can discover. There will be a sign up sheet in Whitney Hall so that we can track participation and help provide encouragement.

Are you looking for a way to serve within the church? Tammy and I would like to invite you to join the CE committee - we meet the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm to plan for both youth and adults. If your unable to attend the meetings but would still like to help out we have various activities that we would love your help with. Please contact me with your interest or questions.

Blessings,

Kim Herbert
Sunday School Superintendent

Newsletter

The deadline for items to be included in the March newsletter is 9:00am on Monday, February 20. Please send all submissions via email to pastorseth@lindenpres.com. If you need assistance with your article, please contact the church office.

Middle School
Sundays 5:30-6:30pm

Senior High
Sundays 7:00-8:15pm

- February 5** **SUPER BOWL PARTY!** We will be at the Chapin's home (12184 Woodline Dr., Fenton) from 6:30 until the end of the game (or anytime parents want to pick up their child(ren) *before* the end of the game). Join us for food and fun!
- February 12** **MISSION TRIP PLANNING MEETING** will be from 6:00-7:00. Parents and students. Senior High will meet at the typical time after the meeting, middle school will not meet.
- February 19** **BACK TO THE REGULAR SCHEDULE**
- February 26** **WE'LL KEEP ON TRUCKIN'**

questions? comments? something else?
 pastorseth@lindenpres.com

DEACONS CORNER

January is a planning month for the Deacons. The Deacons are key participants in the officer's retreat that occurred at the end of January. We took this opportunity to do a great deal of planning for the year and look forward to being in ministry with you this year.

We are starting a new commitment with the quilting group that meets in the church basement on Wednesdays. We are going to be delivering prayer shawls to our homebound members plus anyone else that needs or wants one to be reminded of Christ's and the church's love. We will need knitters and yarn for this new ministry. I personally think it would be nice if we could have some children's shawls made in case of illness; it would be like giving them a hug. The pattern consists of size 10 1/2 knitting needles, cast on 60 stitches, then garter stitch or anything you want to compile until the piece reaches 60 inches. I will also leave a printed pattern for you on the table in Whitney Hall. They can also be croqueted. There is a basket in Whitney Hall to collect the yarn and the shawls.

Before working on shawl please think good thoughts and say a prayer. This is one I have been given: O God, who has included all commandments in the one commandment of love, we humbly pray that you will create in our hearts such a sincere love on one another, that we may be children of our Father in heaven, and true disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please contact Sharon Foster at fostersalleycats@yahoo.com or call 810.629.1899 if you have any questions.

DEACON ON DUTY
CINDY BRANDT - 810.655.6449

IN THE EVENT YOU HAVE A PASTORAL CARE CONCERN AFTER OFFICE HOURS, THE DEACON ON DUTY IS AVAILABLE TO TAKE YOUR CALL AT ANY HOUR, ASSIST YOU, AND INFORM THE PROPER PEOPLE.

LADIES, PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

GET CONNECTED BREAKFAST

On Saturday March 3rd we will be gathering with women from three other churches in the area for breakfast and a truly amazing program.

Speaker Rosemary Lutz will be bringing her collection of her own hand made quilts. Each quilt has its own biblical story. Rosemary will be describing and speaking about her design called "Isaiah's Dream; a new heaven and a new earth".



We hope you will join us for this event and bring your friends. Breakfast will begin at 8:30 am and program will follow.

Tickets will be on sale beginning February 1, 2012.

Pre-purchased tickets: \$4.00 each

Tickets at the door: \$5.00 each

You can purchase your ticket by calling Pat Drumm (810-338-1334) or during coffee hour after church on February 5, 12 and 19.

Deadline for pre-purchased tickets is February 25, 2012.



CATECHISM CORNER

Continuing in our journey in the Presbyterian Study Catechism of 1998.

Question 13. When you confess the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, are you elevating men over women and endorsing male domination?

No. Human power and authority are trustworthy only as they reflect God's mercy and kindness, not abusive patterns of domination. As Jesus taught his disciples, "The greatest among you will be your servant" (Matt. 23:11). God the Father sets the standard by which all misuses of power are exposed and condemned. "Call no one your father on earth," said Jesus, "for you have one Father—the one in heaven" (Matt. 23:9). In fact God calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

Galatians 3:28 "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."

Ephesians 5:21 "Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ."

MUSIC UPDATE

We are very blessed at this church to be able to lift up God's name and sing his praises in a variety of ways; with more traditional overtones with hymns, organ, piano, and a dedicated choir at our 9:00 worship and with a more contemporary flair with praise songs, a joyful band, and a wider use of visual technologies at our 10:30 worship. Many churches our size are not blessed with these gifts and we should continually be praising God for showering us with such talent and diversity. The Session and I share a commitment to enhancing both of these styles of worship and connecting worshippers with the best we have to offer - knowing that true worship comes from each person's heart as it is directed to God, not by who or what is at the front of the sanctuary on a Sunday morning.

At the Session meeting of January 25, the Session voted to end the church's employment relationship with Rob Sopo. We thank Rob for his efforts and ministry with us and wish him nothing but Christ's abundant blessings. We feel that at this juncture in the life of the church that it is time to explore other avenues of leadership for our music ministries with special attention to the 9:00 service. Please pray for Rob and the church as we go through this time of transition.

A search for a new leader for our music ministries will begin soon. In the interim, the Worship Committee will do its utmost to find individuals who can fill the role from week to week, as it has done in the past when substitutes have been necessary. Please pray for the Worship Committee as they seek to give us the best leadership possible during this period.

The choir is dedicated to being a continuing presence in the life of our worship during this transition and we are diligently working to give them the tools they need for their ongoing ministry. We have many choir members who have made this a part of their ministry for decades and we continue to celebrate with them as they share their gifts with us. We are also so blessed by those who have more recently joined the choir and share their talents with us so generously. We are thankful for the many hours the choir puts in to enhance our worship. Please pray for the choir as they seek the best ways to continue glorifying our Triune God in our 9:00 worship.

I would also like to take a moment to lift up the praise band. They dedicate several hours each week, without thought of pay, to providing leadership for our 10:30 worship. Without their ongoing commitment to this ministry, we would literally not have a more contemporary worship service. We are very thankful for their ministry amongst us and send Christ's blessings their way as they continue in their service to God. Please pray for the praise team as they lift up God's praises in our 10:30 worship.

There will be updates along the way during this journey. If you have any questions or comments, please feel encouraged to contact me (810.735.5755/pastorseth@lindenpres.com).

As you can see, there are many people committed to the worship heritage of this congregation in its diverse forms. The Session and I are excited for the future of this congregation and we hope that you are, as well. Let us continue to lift up God's praises on Sunday mornings and every waking moment. Praise be to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.



FEBRUARY CALENDAR*WEEKLY EVENTS***SUNDAYS**

9:00AM TRADITIONAL-STYLE WORSHIP
10:30AM CONTEMPORARY-STYLE WORSHIP

WEDNESDAYS

9:30AM QUILTERS

MONDAYS

10:30AM PRAYER TEAM
8:00PM AA IN FIRESIDE ROOM

THURSDAYS

6:30PM CHOIR PRACTICE
8:00PM AA IN FIRESIDE ROOM
8:00PM AL-ANON IN FAMILY ROOM

THIS MONTH

2ND AT 6:30PM FOCUSING MINISTRY IMPLEMENTATION TEAM MEETING

4TH AT 8:30AM MEN'S CLUB IN FAMILY ROOM
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN FIRESIDE ROOM

8TH AT 6:00PM COMMITTEES (OR OTHER TIME, CONTACT APPROPRIATE ELDER)

9TH AT 6:30 FOCUSING MINISTRY SUMMIT THREE, PART ONE

10TH AT 6:00 4TH AND 5TH GRADE FELLOWSHIP MEETING IN THE KITCHEN
6:30 CRAFT NIGHT IN WHITNEY HALL

12TH AT 1:00 FOCUSING MINISTRY SUMMIT THREE, PART TWO

20TH OFFICE CLOSED (PRESIDENT'S DAY)

22ND AT 7:00PM ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

26TH FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

29TH AT 7:00PM SESSION MEETING

CUB SCOUT PACK 111 MEETS THE SECOND AND FOURTH TUESDAYS AT 7:00 IN THE FIRESIDE ROOM AND ALSO THE SECOND AND FOURTH WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30 IN THE FIRESIDE ROOM.

THE YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR CAN BE FOUND ELSEWHERE IN THIS NEWSLETTER.

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(See Isaiah 11:6-8)

11-14-2011

SERIOUSLY WOLF, HOW IS IT THAT WE NEVER GOT ALONG BEFORE?

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