

First Press

February 2011

From the Pastor

Have you noticed how our world is becoming increasingly instant? It used to be that there were a few “instant” products in the grocery store (before it was a supermarket). Those instant products were usually a poor substitute for the “real thing.”

With modern technology it seems like almost everything is instant or immediate. This is quite convenient, but there is a downside to the “instant/immediate everything.”

We are losing patience and endurance.

Patience: have you ever found yourself impatient with the microwave? Patience is an attribute of the Fruit of the Spirit. In Gal. 5 among the list of the nine attributes Patience is fourth, right behind Love, Joy, and Peace. The King James

Version of the Bible uses the term “long-suffering.” The Fruit of the Spirit are attributes of God that God grows in us. We are supposed to be growing in these attributes. Do you have any desire to learn how to suffer long?

In our “instant” culture we are losing endurance: the ability to keep going. In I Corinthians 13, the Love chapter, the Apostle Paul tells us “love endures all things.” Have you thought about endurance recently?

Why am I writing about patience and endurance in February? Why not about love? February is the month of Valentine’s Day. Love is all about patience and endurance. Our instant culture promotes an instant love; a love you fall into and out of. God’s love is enduring and patient.

If you really love someone it is going to involve long-suffering. God’s love for us involved His long-suffering. Hebrews 12:2 tells us that Jesus “for the joy set before Him endured the cross.” Real love will endure!

In this increasingly instant world we live in I encourage you to spend some time this month growing patience and endurance in your life.

Jim

“Our Daily Bread” devotionals are available to be picked up in the kiosk in the narthex of the church. The Pittsburgh Seminary Bible reading schedule is also available there. Did you know that at the very bottom of our homepage www.first-presby.org is a daily Bible verse?

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February Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 - Taylor Aikey, Joyce Zellmann
- 2 - Kyle Santorine
- 3 - Charles North, Liz Speake
- 5 - Barbara Stahl, Alex Paulus
- 6 - Wanda Einsig
- 7 - Irene John
- 8 - Larry Fletcher, Kassie McTammany
- 9 - Grace Schwab (106 yrs. old), David Campbell,
Leslie Mutschler
- 10 - Pat Ringkamp
- 13 - Allison Middernacht
- 14 - Mark Davies
- 15 - Emily Fisher
- 16 - Amy Matukaitis
- 17 - Rob Guissanie
- 20 - David Shrom, Justin Sabo
- 21 - Barb Lawton, Heidi Zimmerman, Rob Tarves
- 23 - Marcia Thomas, Mark Speake
- 24 - Kirsten Paulus
- 25 - June Hoyle, Seth Ziegler Jr., Sara Barth
- 26 - Robert Gronlund, Louise McCormick,
Brandon Reid, Maddie Paulus
- 27 - Marian Fletcher, Bryan Speake, Samuel North
- 28 - Tom Morgensen, Chet James, Andrew Fox

- 2 - Roger & Nancy Curran celebrating their 51st wedding anniversary
- 4 - Gene & Bea Heid celebrating their 44th wedding anniversary
- 13 - John & Amy Tirpak celebrating their 12th wedding anniversary
- 14 - Rob & Lisa Black celebrating their 12th wedding anniversary
- 16 - John & Bonnie Troxell celebrating their 37th wedding anniversary
- 20 - Elmer & Shirley Grose celebrating their 57th wedding anniversary
- 28 - Jesse & Liz North celebrating their 13th wedding anniversary

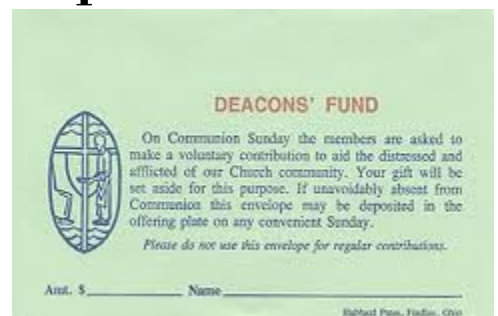


Deacons Fund Envelopes

Last year, giving to the Deacon fund was down significantly. An easy way to remember the Deacons in your regular giving is with the use of the blue envelopes that came with your offering envelopes at the beginning of the year. (Or if you forget, there are greens ones in

the pews.) The Deacons carry out a wide array of services for the congregation and community, one being Dinner by the River, and having consistent funding is helpful.

Thank you - The Deacons





Mark your calendars for March 7th



The Family Fun Night on March 7th will be a Mardi Gras theme.

"Mardi Gras" means "Fat Tuesday." Traditionally, it is the last day for Catholics to indulge—and often overindulge—before Ash Wednesday starts the sober weeks of fasting that come with Lent. Formally known as Shrove Tuesday, Mardi Gras has long been a time of extravagant fun for European Christians.

In the United States, Mardi Gras draws millions of fun-seekers to New Orleans every year. Mardi Gras has been celebrated in New Orleans on a grand scale, with masked balls and colorful parades, since French settlers arrived in the early 1700s.

Parking



As Bob Kribbs has been visiting our older members, many of them have voiced their concern about parking at the church. We would like to aid those who need close parking. Please reserve the parking spaces in the Mason Lot for those who are not as mobile. If you are able, please park in the overflow Street of Shops lot one block down the back alley from the church, or in Dr. Winan's lot a block and a half from our church. Jim and Pauline's parking spaces directly behind the church will be open for parking. We are going to mark them with handicap parking signs. Obviously they can't be used by people in wheel chairs because of the gravel, but please use it if you have mobility issues and need to park close.

DiscipleMakers is Mission of the Month

Peter and Erin Krol will be our missionaries of the month for Sunday, February 20, 2011. With the growth of full-time missionaries on college campuses, within the region, DiscipleMakers has moved Peter and his family from Danville to State College to help meet this need.

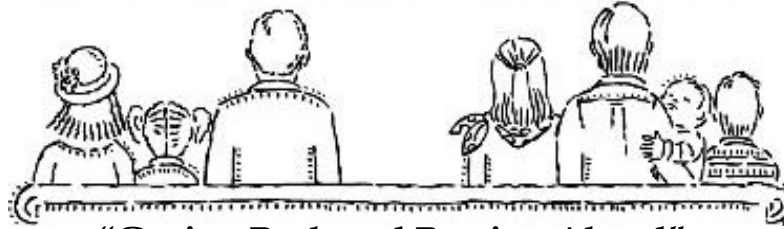
Peter and Erin will continue to lead the Susquehanna Valley Team, working with the staff and students at Bucknell University and Bloomsburg University. Please welcome Peter and Erin on the 20th along with their children, Ethan, Benaiah, Elsa and Charlottee (the new arrival).





The Mustard Seeds are collecting new and gently used kids' coats, snow pants, hats, mittens and gloves to help keep kids warm. Please place your donations in the box in the parlor.

News From the Pews



"Gazing Back and Peering Ahead"

We have just experienced January, that month named after the Roman God Janus, pictured with two faces, one gazing backward toward the past and the other peering forward into the future. As we encounter February, with its vows of love amidst fickle weather, bear with me as I draw together twelve installments of "News from the Pews," a first effort at encouraging you to get to know one another beyond the weekly handshake.

This experiment began in late October with an article featuring our members' volunteer community activities. In November one "Pews" focused on law enforcement, highlighting FBI retirees Molly Mayfield and Howard Stoelting; East Buffalo Township Detective Darryl Fisher, State Policeman Fred Dyroff, and former New York City police officer Bill Bernard. Subsequent bulletins profiled fall athletes and musicians; "Young American" honorees, Emily Lesher and Shannon Wright; and our engaging and expectant new youth directors, Tim and Lauren Robinson Halteman.

December brought news of three community culinary leaders: Scott Mertz (Thanksgiving Dinner), Paul Miller (Christmas Dinner), and Larry Barnhart (Dinner by the River), along with human interest articles on Paul Simington, "The Man Behind the [Christmas] Trees"; and our January Guatemalan Mission Trip, a members-and-friends effort headed up by Randy Storm and assisted by members Anna Storm, Mary Kay Torretti, Pat Ringkamp, Marcia Tarves, Guy Temple, and Molly Mayfield.

January opened with an article on our fall all star sports honorees: the Santorine brothers on the gridiron; Zach Vaji, Christian Gallagher, and Brett Lynch on the soccer field; Shannon Wright and Caroline Graves on the cross-country course; Janice Harley, Samantha Reif and Brooke Zimmerman in field hockey; and "Player of the Year" Sara Graber in tennis. Rounding out the month were portraits of Ragtime piano-tuner Cliff Lesher, "House Spouse" Jerry Westbrook, and Citizens Electric Company Linesman, Steve Foster.

Interviewing our members and writing about them has been a delight. We *are* one body with many parts, many intriguing interests, and much to share with one another. Thank you for your encouragement, suggestions, and willingness, when I come your way, to say, "Sure, why not?"

-- Bob Kribbs



February Youth Calendar

Regular Events

"Fuel" (Jr. High): We meet in the "Catacombs" on Tuesday nights from 7:00-8:30 pm. This is a time for Jr. High students to learn about God and develop a relationship with Him! Come hang out with us as we worship, fellowship and hear a relevant teaching from the Bible.

"Refuge" (High School): We meet in the "Catacombs" on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:30 pm. This is a place where High School students can begin to learn what the Lord has done for them and how they can better serve Him. It is a place where teens can come together and feel confident in their choice to serve God. Come hang out with us as we worship, Fellowship, and hear a relevant teaching from the Bible.

Life Group (High School): Student led Bible study, facilitated by Youth Directors. Meet in the Catacombs Sunday evenings 7-8.

Girls Coffee Hour (High School): Meet up with Lauren at Zelda's Coffee Shop right after school every other Thursday to hang out, catch up, get to know each other better and have an hour of girl time!

Guys Coffee Hour (High School) Meet up with Tim at Mya's Café right after school every other Thursday to hang out, catch up and have some guy time!

Dodgeball Thursday (Middle School boys) Hang out with Tim in the Great Hall every other Thursday after school to play dodgeball for an hour!

Girl Talk Thursday (Middle School girls) Hang out with Lauren in the church Parlor every other Thursday after school for an hour!

Wednesday Morning Breakfast: (Jr and Sr High) We meet in the "Great Hall" at 7am. Come and start your morning off right with great food, people, and a brief devotional. We can take you to school too!

Sunday School: We meet in the "Catacombs" on Sunday morning at 9 am. This is a time designed for Jr. High and High School students to come and learn about God and grow into a deeper love for Him and His Word.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Fuel	2 Breakfast Refuge	3 Dodgeball Thursday Girl Talk Thursday	4 Church Retreat	5 Church Retreat
6 Church Retreat No Sunday School No Life Group	7	8 Fuel	9 Breakfast Refuge	10 Girls/Guys Coffee Hour	11 Middle School Movie Night	12 Service Project Day
13 Sunday School Life Group	14	15 Fuel	16 Breakfast Refuge	17 Dodgeball Thursday Girl Talk Thursday	18	19 Middle School Ski Trip
20 Sunday School Life Group	21 High School Bowling	22 Fuel	23 Breakfast Refuge	24 Girls/Guys Coffee Hour	25 30 Hour Famine	26 30 Hour Famine
27 Sunday School Volunteer Appreciation Lunch Life Group	28					

FIRST PRESBY YOUTH



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February Special Events

Feb 4-6: All Church Retreat, at Camp Susque, Events and fellowship available for all ages! Sign up in the church office.

February 11: Middle School Movie Night, Come to the Cave and watch a good movie, while enjoying the company of your friends and eating lots of good snacks! 7-10 Bring your friends, and pillows!!

February 12: Service Project Day, Meet in the church parking lot at 10 am. Bring a bag lunch. We will be working on a local project with the Borough of Lewisburg. We will be finished and back at the church by 3pm. Sign up with us by 2/9. Middle School and High School welcome.

February 19: Middle School Winter Trip, Join us for a full day of skiing, snowboarding or snow tubing at Camelback Mountain Resort in the Poconos! If interested, please see Tim or Lauren for more details.

February 21: High School Bowling Night, Meet at the church at 5:30 pm for a fun night of bowling at Imperial Lanes in Milton!

Feb 25-26: 30 Hour Famine, To close our month of Poverty Awareness, we will hold this special event to raise money to fight world hunger. We will follow the national 30 Hour Famine Program, sleep over at the church and conclude the event Saturday afternoon. See Tim or Lauren for details and to sign up! Middle School and High School welcome!

February 27: Volunteer Appreciation Lunch, Stay after church and help prepare and serve lunch to our fabulous volunteer youth group leaders and Wednesday breakfast kitchen crew...Let's show them how much we appreciate them! We will be cleaned up by 2:30.



February Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:00 Fuel	2 7:00 Youth Breakfast 10:00 Women's Bible Study 5:00 Sparrows/Mustard Seeds 7:00 Refuge 7:30 Choir	3 6:00 Dinner By River	4 6:00 NA 7:00 All Church Susque Winter Retreat Begins	5 All Church Susque Winter Retreat Continues
6 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 2:00 Susque Retreat Ends 7:00 Lifegroup	7 9:15 Trainers 10:00 Staff Mtg.	8 7:00 Fuel 7:30 Missions	9 7:00 Youth Breakfast 10:00 Women's Bible Study 5:00 Mustard Seeds 7:00 Refuge 7:30 Choir	10 6:00 Dinner By River	11 6:00 NA	12 8:00 Men's Breakfast
13 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 7:00 Lifegroup	14 9:15 Trainers 10:00 Staff Mtg.	15 7:00 Fuel	16 7:00 Youth Breakfast 10:00 Women's Bible Study 5:00 Mustard Seeds 7:00 Refuge 7:30 Choir	17 6:00 Dinner By River	18 6:00 NA	19
20 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 7:00 Lifegroup	21 Office Closed 7:00 Session, Deacons, Trustees	22 7:00 Fuel	23 7:00 Youth Breakfast 10:00 Women's Bible Study 5:00 Mustard Seeds 7:00 Refuge 7:30 Choir	24 6:00 Dinner By River	25 6:00 NA	26
27 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 7:00 Lifegroup	28 9:15 Trainers 10:00 Staff Mtg.					



First Presbyterian Church
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(570)524-4419
www.first-presby.org
Rev. James C. King

*“Living fully in Christ, through His Word,
 community and mission.”*

Date	Nursery	Greeters	Coffee Social
Feb 6	Samuelson, Winans, Reif	Mc Tammany	Shaffer
Feb 13	K. Zimmerman, Wright, Walsh	Temple, Sr	Dave Reid
Feb 20	Storm, M. Thomas, Stanton	Van Patter	Samuelson
Feb 27	Robinson, Vaji, Rich	Guissanie	Black

Dinner By the River: Feb. 3-Ziegler, Feb. 10-Scott Mertz, Feb. 17-Shaffer, Feb. 24-Storm



Where is Red Lake?

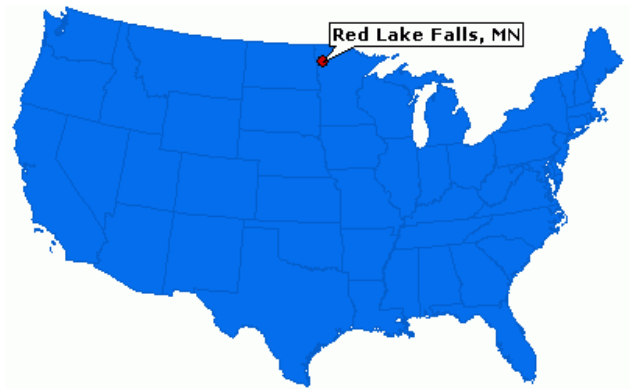
The summer mission trip this year will be to Red Lake Minnesota. Following is some information about it:

Just over 100 miles south of the Canadian border is Red Lake, MN (home of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians). These Chippewa are fiercely proud of their land, and remain one of the few tribes in the country who have refused to sell any of their territory.

Life here is rich in tradition and in appreciation for the Earth. But, there are few jobs and most of those are seasonal, leaving people unemployed throughout the long, hard Northern winter. In the past, industry on the reservation has primarily consisted of logging and commercial fishing of walleye in the lakes that give the community its name. However, walleye produc-

tion dropped significantly in the 1990s, adding to the region's financial strain. As a result, many families go without desperately needed home repairs.

Together, with 400 high school age students and adult leaders, our group of 20 people (15 youth, 5 adult leaders) will join with the people of the Red Lake Chippewa Nation. We will be discovering their culture and their beautiful part of the country. More importantly, we will be extending Christ's love to other's through our service; which are home repairs and evangelism through the relationships we build with the residents. The trip is organized and run by GROUP Workcamps USA. Our group will



be driving the 20 hours to Red Lake and will be there for a week. On the drive out and the drive back, we will be staying over at Presbyterian Churches in the area.

If you would like to donate to the summer mission trip, please attend the fundraisers or write a check out to the First Presbyterian Church, designating "summer mission trip". Two upcoming fundraisers are: a dinner on March 27th at 5:30 and the Strawberry Festival on June 12th.

