

*COME ONE, COME ALL...  
 have dessert first,  
 then have dinner or vice versa*

**PEACH FESTIVAL**  
**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14**  
**6:00-8:00PM**

\$4.50 for adults,  
 \$2.50 for children 12 and under  
 Mark your calendars for Peach Festival  
 sponsored by Deacons and Presbyterian Women  
 featuring delicious peach desserts.  
 Weather permitting we will gather on the church lawn,  
 inside in the Social Room, if inclement weather.



**July & August 2013**

**LOVE GOD  
 LOVE EACH OTHER  
 OUR NEIGHBORS**

Believing we are called together by **God's love through Jesus Christ**, our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to **love God**, to **love each other**, and to **love our neighbors**.

**SUMMER WORSHIP**

Sunday Mornings  
**10:00AM**  
 in the  
**Sanctuary**

[www.fpcedgewood.org](http://www.fpcedgewood.org)

**news** from the **EDGE**  
 Monthly Sponsors  
 are Needed

Sponsorship is available for \$40 per month

Hello brothers and sisters of the FPCE family,  
**A DREAM TEAM IS WAITING FOR YOU!**

Only requirement for admission: your dreams for FPCE. A letter with more details is coming soon.

It is summertime, and as I write these words, the season is living up to its billing. Of course, over the next few weeks many of you will be taking a well-deserved rest from your day-to-day lives. Two words of encouragement.

1. Take some time for recreation (as in re-creation.) In the Book of Proverbs, wisdom is personified as God's co-creator.

*"I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, Rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race."*

Rejoice, give thanks, delight in these days we have in this world. Love those people God has placed in your life.

2. Find a way to rest. (And that is a challenge for some of us!)

*"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."*

Sweet. All of us carry burdens of some sort. Put them down for awhile this summer. Pray. Breathe in the Spirit of God - breath in new life. A blessed summer to all!  
*Pastor Michael*



**July/August Worship Schedule**

**Remember, worship begins at 10:00AM through Sunday, September 1.**

A few dates to keep in mind:

JULY 7:  
 We will celebrate Holy Communion.

JULY 14:  
 Emerging Worship.

JULY 21:  
 Christmas in July.  
 (A first for Pastor Michael!)

JULY 28:  
 Sanctuary Choir "family reunion" – sings anthem during worship.

AUGUST 4:  
 Holy Communion

AUGUST 18:  
 Emerging Worship.

When weather permits (and enough people are around to move equipment outside), we will worship outside.

**SEE YOU IN CHURCH!!**



**First Presbyterian Church of  
 EDGEWOOD**  
 The Community Church



## STAFF DIRECTORY

120 East Swissvale Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15218  
Phone: 412-241-4613  
www.fpcedgewood.org

**Interim Pastor..... The Rev. Michael P. Rucker**  
mprucker@fpcedgewood.org

**Pastor Emeritus..... Dr. Gerald Hollingsworth**

**FROGS Program Director..... Debbie Pike**  
frogs@fpcedgewood.org

**Minister of Music..... Shaun Cloonan**  
music@fpcedgewood.org

**Organist & Pianist ..... Sunny Sakai**  
sunnysakai4@gmail.com

**Choir Section Leaders ..... Tyler McGuigan**  
**Mandy Rineer**

**Office Manager..... Judy Mysels**  
office@fpcedgewood.org

**Building Manager..... Rob Mysels**

**Nursery Attendant ..... Kristi Cloonan**  
LittleK815@aol.com

**Summer Office Hours:**  
**Monday-Friday**  
**9:00AM-1:00PM**



News from the Edge  
is the monthly newsletter of the  
First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood.  
If you have information you would like  
to include in the next issue, email Judy Mysels  
at office@fpcedgewood.org by  
the 15th of the prior month.  
Sponsorship is available for \$40 per month.

## MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP...

Stewardship is a spiritual matter; it is more than looking at dollars and cents. As Christians, we are asked to be good stewards of what is in our realm. While finances may be tabulated, how do we measure stewardship? The answer may not be simple; let me start by giving a summary of how FPCE has done over the first half of the year. Our donations (excluding Special Offerings) through May 2013 have totaled \$66,658.55. This represents 96% of the amount we had expected to collect (as per our budget). Even better, we contributed \$1917.86 toward Special Offerings such as One Great Hour of Sharing, Thank Offering, and Tools of Hope. This amount exceeds the budget expectation of \$1458.31. These numbers are encouraging and show that we care about God and about each other.

At our recent meeting reviewing the results of the Church Survey (Church Assessment Tool), Rev. Doug Portz from the Pittsburgh Presbytery estimated that the FPCE congregation gave approximately 4% of its income to the church. This figure is above the national average of 2-3% and underscores our spirit. Also, these figures remind me of what our previous Rev. Mike Wilson had taught us - that we are in the "between time": between the already and not yet. Our giving is on the right track and yet we have a road ahead to reach tithing (10%).

How have we been using our resources? The majority goes toward running the church and providing spirit-filled worship services with excellent music - thanks be to God! In addition, FPCE assists the Wilkinsburg Community Ministry and offers a number of community activities including FROGS, Vacation Bible School, Thanksgiving meal, and the recent Wednesday Evening Community Dinner, which was a great success! All of these activities help bring the Kingdom closer to us - we are on the right track.

Lastly, I would like to close with a quote from the Didache (early Christian teaching on morality and practices). "Let your alms sweat in your hands until you know to whom to give them" (1:6). How would you interpret this statement? The early church was small and had many struggles and yet it grew to what it is today. When we give, the Lord does not short-change us. "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house ... and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so many blessings that you will not have room enough for it". (Malachi 3:10) Let us pray, increase our faith, grow in Spirit, and become better stewards.

Paul Ohori  
Stewardship Team



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
					8:00 AA (SR)	8:30 AA (SR)
4 10:00 Communion Worship (S) 	5 7:00 Scouts (SC)	6 10:00 Tue Group (L)	7 6:00-7:30 Community Meal (Lawn)	8	9 8:00 AA (SR)	10 8:30 AA (SR)
11 10:00 Worship (S) 11:15 PW Quarterly Mtg. (GP)	12 7:00 Scouts (SC)	13 10:00 Tue Group (L)	14 6:00-8:00 Peach Festival	15 7:00 Worship Ensemble Rehearsal (S)	16 8:00 AA (SR)	17 8:30 AA (SR)
18 8:00 Set-up 8:30 Worship Ens Practice 10:00 Emerging Worship Outside (weather permitting)	19 7:00 Scouts (SC)	20 10:00 Tue Group (L)	21	22	23 8:00 AA (SR)	24 Edgewood Community Day 8:30 AA (SR)
25 9:00 Choir (C) 10:00 Worship (S)	26 7:00 Scouts (SC)	27 10:00 Tue Group (L)	28	29	30 8:00 AA (SR)	31 8:30 AA (SR)



## FROM OUR YOUNGEST MEMBERS: I DREAM A CHURCH...



This church is going to do something special the next couple of months - dream together. The church is to be placed into small groups called dream teams. Do you ever have dreams? Have you ever been helped by a dream?

In the Bible a man named Abraham had a dream. God spoke to him and told him to move away from the place where he grew up... That dream probably scared him - but he did it. He move - Abraham fulfilled his mission in life.

Here's another dream to think about... Not long after Jesus was born, while Jesus was still a baby boy, his father Joseph had a dream. In the dream an angel appeared to him and said: "Your family is in danger, Joseph! Because there is an angry and jealous king trying to find Jesus and hurt him. Joseph, take your family, especially your baby son, Jesus, out of Israel!" That dream probably scared him. But there was more to the angel's message: The angel said, "Go to Egypt." (a land Joseph had never been to in his life) "In Egypt, your family will be safe." Joseph paid attention to his dream. He took his family to Egypt. That kept his family safe, and Jesus fulfilled his mission in life.

- Sometimes a dream can seem crazy to you... or impossible. Maybe, at first, the dream will scare you. Ask God for dreams that lead you past your fears into an unknown future - sometimes they might lead you to your mission in life. --*Desmond*
- I dream of a church that understands me. That has trust in me so I can have trust in them and most of all, I dream of a church that thinks I am important. --*Abigail*
- I would like hear more about how God created the world. -- *Jake*
- I want a church that is fun and uses new technology to teach us better. I want a church with a lot of kids and adults that listen to the kids. -- *Spencer*
- Good video game that could tell us the path of Jesus and God. --*Jake*
- Turtles -*Will* (Will likes God's animals, especially turtles, and thinks our church would be better if we had turtles.)
- More turtles, a book club, youth group, more comfortable pews, and shorter services... --*Benjamin*
- My idea is to hold a bake sale, maybe every month, to raise money for mission. --*Cassidy*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 30 10:00 Worship (S)	1 7:00 Scouts (SC)	2 10:00 Tue Group (L) 7:00 AA (SR)	3 6:00-7:30 Community Meal (Lawn)	4 OFFICE CLOSED 	5 8:00 AA (SR)	6 8:30 AA (SR)
7 10:00 Communion Worship (S) 	8 7:00 Worship Ens, Practice (S) 7:00 Scouts (SC)	9 10:00 Tue Group (L)	10	11	12 8:00 AA (SR)	13 8:30 AA (SR)
14 8:00 Set-up 8:30 Worship En- semble Practice 10:00 Emerging Worship Outside (weather permitting)	15 7:00 Scouts (SC)	16 10:00 Tue Group (L) 7:00 AA (SR)	17	18	19 8:00 AA (SR)	20 8:30 AA (SR)
21 10:00 Christmas in July Worship (S) 	22 7:00 Scouts (SC)	23 10:00 Tue Group (L) 7:00 AA (SR)	24	25	26 8:00 AA (SR)	27 8:30 AA (SR)
28 9:00 Choir (C) 10:00 Worship (S) 11:15 PW/Deacon Planning Mtg (GP)	29 7:00 Scouts (SC)	30 10:00 Tue Group (L) 7:00 AA (SR)	31			



## COMMUNITY DINNERS, WEDNESDAYS, JULY 3 & AUG. 7 6:00-7:30PM, SIDE LAWN (weather permitting\*)

The Evangelism Ministry Team has begun an outreach effort to help us connect with our community. Our first meal in June was extremely successful thanks to the work of many hands!

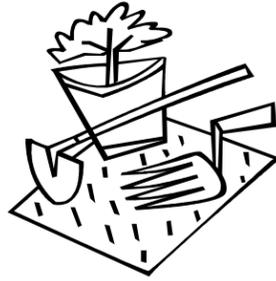
Spread the word that we will be opening our doors for a monthly  
FREE meal that is open to all in our community.

Look for more information as we approach each day in the form of announcements, bulletin inserts, and e-mails, but know that we'll need volunteers to help prepare the meal, serve, set up and clean up, and we'll also need food donations. For more information, contact Jim Segedy or Tyler McGuigan.

*\*if weather is not cooperating, we will move into the social room*

## **GARDEN FRIENDS**

As the Summer progresses, stop in to our side yard now and then to see what is blooming. If you have a gardening yen, spend a half-hour wedding or clipping vines. Pause a moment to take some time in prayer. There are trees for shade, and the garden is especially peaceful as evening approaches and in early morning.



## **SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM**



Many children receive free and reduced-price meals through school lunch programs. However, these programs end when school is not in session. The Summer Food Service Program is designed to fill that gap and make sure children get the nutritious meals they

need. FPCE is offering a free lunch to children (to age 18) this summer. Lunches will be available downstairs Monday, Wednesday and Friday through August 2. Contact Chris Baldwin for more information: 412-963-9860 or gcbaldwin@aol.com

## **BLANKETS**

Thanks to everyone who donated sheets, blankets and pillows in May for MHY Family Services, a community and residential program serving at-risk youth. Your generosity will benefit many young people who are in the residential program at MHY working to get their life back in order.

## **VBS 2013**

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who helped out! We had a tremendous time and learned that trusting God can help us stand strong.



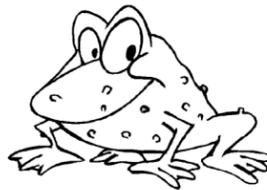
## **FPCE FAMILY UPDATES**

- Micaiah Rucker graduated from Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School (CAPA) this Spring.
- On Sunday, June 9, we welcomed 2 more into our membership: Deb Harris and Paul Breakwell. Welcome to Deb and Paul!
- Saturday, June 22 brought about the joyful marriage of Tyler McGuigan and Stephanie Nihart. Pastor Michael officiated, Sunny played the piano, and many friends and family were a part of the celebration. Congratulations Mr. & Mrs. McGuigan!



## **LOOKING AHEAD TOWARD FALL...**

It seems that summer has barely begun, yet school bells will be ringing before another newsletter comes out. If you have a heart for kids, consider helping out with Sunday School (Sunday mornings), FROGS After-School Program (Tuesday and Thursday afternoons) or youth group. If you know of children or youth not currently participating in our programming, invite them to consider it. Contact Debbie at church or [frogs@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:frogs@fpcedgewood.org) for more information.



## **JUNE 16, TOOLS OF HOPE**

Thank you to everyone who honored a dad or otherwise donated to Tools of Hope and seeds for refugees returning home to replant their fields and supports building wells for clean water.

## **A monthly support group for people surviving the loss of a love**



First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood  
Rev. Michael Rucker, Interim Pastor  
120 East Swissvale Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

412-241-4613  
[office@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:office@fpcedgewood.org)  
[www.fpcedgewood.org](http://www.fpcedgewood.org)

# GRIEVING SPACE

at the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood

Here, we understand that finding the space to grieve can sometimes be every bit as challenging as the loss itself.

Should you need us, our support group is here.

Meetings: every third Thursday of the month, 7pm

Call us to let us know you are coming: 412-241-4613

Individual support with a certified grief counselor is also available through:



**Edgewood Psychological Services**

## **Join Our Sojourn!**

Do you need a quiet escape from the bustle and noise of everyday life? Do you want a place to enjoy solitude and appreciate nature's great beauty? Come join the members of Grieving Space who are sponsoring a sojourn to Kearns Spirituality Center on Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup> for a day of prayer and meditation and solace on the beautiful campus of the Sisters of Divine Providence in the North Hills. Facilities include a Woodland Reflection Trail, a Labyrinth for prayerful walking, a Meditation Garden and a beautiful Visitation Chapel. Plans are to meet at the FPCE for a light breakfast before caravanning to the Center's activities that begin at 10:00 am and conclude at 4pm. A lunch is included in the price of \$21.00 per person. Come join us for a day that holds the promise of deepening and enriching your spirituality. Just let Judy know at the church office (412/241-4613) your intention to join the sojourn or let any of the members of the Grieving Space support group know of your plans. Time apart from the busyness of life can renew the spirit and refresh the soul. You are welcomed to spend time where your cares and worries can be put on hold. All members of the FPCE and of the Edgewood community are most welcome!



Happy Summer! As we settle into our relaxed summer worship routine, I'm thankful for the many talented members we have who are so willing to share themselves with us during our services. The choir is on summer vacation, section leaders are in and out as traveling schedules permit, and as usual, we're experimenting during worship over the summer. We hope to have 2 emerging services outside, we're celebrating Christmas in July, possibly having jazz vespers with Sunny & friends, choir family reunion days, and enjoying regular, classic worship on the Sundays that are left!

Thanks to Chuck Ganster for introducing us to gifted pianist Nathan Carterette, who performed a 70-minute, completely memorized, recital in our Sanctuary on June 17. We'll hope to see him in our sanctuary again some time (and hopefully with more than a week's notice!).

New hymnal update: of course a day after I wrote my last column, I found out that the publisher is running behind and the scheduled delivery is now September. So, we'll start using them as soon as they arrive...whenever that may be! See you in church!

— Shaun

## **EDGEWOOD COMMUNITY DAY: SATURDAY, AUGUST 24**

If you are willing to help support an FPCE presence at Koenig Field passing out balloons, flyers, and candy, please contact the Church Office.

