



news from the **EDGE**

120 East Swissvale Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15218

412-241-4613

office@fpcedgewood.org

MAY 2014

**LOVE GOD
LOVE EACH OTHER
LOVE 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**.

WORSHIP

Sunday Mornings
11:00AM
in the
Sanctuary

www.fpcedgewood.org

This month's news from the **EDGE** is sponsored by

**CONNIE
BLACK**

PASTOR'S POINT OF VIEW

**From the bottom of my heart:
THANK YOU!!!**

YOU PEOPLE ARE AMAZING!!!

The outpouring of love, concern, words of encouragement and heartfelt prayers are healing me! *(see pg. 5 related article)*

IS IT TIME FOR A TALENT SHOW? I BELIEVE IT IS!

A year ago we were dreaming dreams for the future of the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood. Some of those dreams are unfolding, some are waiting but not forgotten. This summer, I'd like the dreaming to get personal. What are your dreams FOR YOU? Or, better stated, WHAT ARE GOD'S DREAMS FOR YOU? And yes, most assuredly, God has a dream for you!

*"...no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him."
(1 Cor 2:9)*

Think of a dream not yet fulfilled. Dig into your heart and mine the hope that has lain still and quiet for too long. Or, as an insurance company ad puts it, what do



May Worship Schedule

SUNDAY, MAY 4

On this 3rd Sunday of Easter, our celebration of the new life offered by God through his Risen Son will overflow through the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. We will enter into an awe-inspiring encounter with a mysterious fellow traveler on the road to Emmaus.

SUNDAY, MAY 11

We will worship God and give thanks to all the mothers who have "shepherded" us through our years. The ever-powerful Psalm 23 will help us find reasons to be thankful and grateful sheep of God's flock. The service will be followed by the Deacons serving Muffins for Moms!

SUNDAY, MAY 18

Month after month, I find our Emerging Worship experience lifts me up, lightens my spirit and puts a smile on my face. I like the songs that the Praise Ensemble is preparing.

SUNDAY, MAY 25

We will pause in the middle of this Memorial Day weekend to praise the God of life and to remember those who gave their lives for us.



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 EmeritusDr. Gerald Hollingsworth

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

Organist/Pianist Sunny Sakai
sunnysakai4@gmail.com

Section LeadersTyler McGuigan
Mandy Rineer

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

Building ManagerRob Mysels

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

Office Hours:
Monday–Friday
9:00AM–2:00PM



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.

Pastor's Point of View (cont. from page 1)

you want to do with your life? God can transform that dream into a talent! A gift to be shared with the world! A gift that can be shared with the surrounding community, even the world, through the FPCE fellowship.

Is the gift of music (vocally or instrumentally) waiting to be born and nurtured? It can happen. Have you always wanted to act....or teach...or visit the elderly or homebound? Have you wanted to watch a child or children for a couple of hours a week to help out a busy mom or dad? Would you like to write? A short story? A poem? A cartoon strip? A blog? A Bible lesson? Do you want to hang out with youth? Just play with them: Skate. Go to movies. Eat pizza and ice cream. Play Frisbee or kickball. Do you want to give a few hours a month or week to reach out to some of the poor or needy or forgotten in our community? Do you like to send cards, offer words of hope and encouragement? Would you lead a group of hopeful, novice anglers on an afternoon fishing expedition? Could you give a few hours a month to the ministry of our food bank? Would you help a group of people set up a round of golf - nine holes is fine...just one time this summer. You could even have a cup of tea and cookies while you watch your favorite TV with friends.

I am convinced there is a lot of untapped talent in this congregation. The talent you share doesn't have to change the world or our congregation. But the talent you share will change you. It will gladden your heart. And if it simply touches the life of one person perfect! Some say that's the way the world changes: *one person at a time*.

If you have a talent to share, I believe it is *SHOW TIME!* And my, what fun it will be to discover what lies within the hearts of the people here at FPCE!!

Just give me a call, or write me a note or send me an email. Talk to an elder, or a deacon, or Shaun or Judy or Sunny....we'll figure out how to get the talent that lies within you out into the community. We will be sharing our talent in the gentle, joyful, humble spirit of Jesus Christ. And all of us will share in your dream!

I look forward to hearing from you...

Pastor Michael

Hello from the Board of Deacons!

There are several things going on in the near future in the life of a Deacon...

On **May 11, we will host fellowship on Mother's Day**—so bring your mom, grandmother, aunt or sister to church, then to “Muffins for Mom’s” in the Lounge. **We will also host Father's Day on June 15, so again, bring your dad, grandfather, brother and join us.**

Applications for the Melfard Douglass Scholarship will be available at the church office. (If you need any information, contact one of the Deacons). The Melfard Douglass Scholarship was started 19 years ago in memory of Melfard, who was tragically killed in a plane accident; he was a longtime member of our church, a deacon and a volunteer fireman. This is a scholarship awarded to church members who are enrolling in secondary education/college. We was a man that always gave and loved his family and friends.

Let's not forget to mark your calendars for June 18th—the Strawberry Festival is just around the corner. Hope to see everyone there rain or shine—bring your family, a friend, oh heck, bring the whole neighborhood!

We are very grateful for the continued support from our church family and the Boy Scouts who help us supply the food pantry so we can help those who have fallen on hard times. Please continue to support our need to help others.

Congregational members are encouraged to help support the Melfard Douglass fund, the food pantry and bring a friend or two to church to join our church family—what a wonderful family we have!



Remember—smile and laugh more
it's actually good for your health

God's Blessings to you and yours -

Mary Ann Hartman
Moderator of the Board of Deacons

EDGEWOOD

**COMMUNITY DINNER SET FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11
5:30-7:30PM, SIDE LAWN (weather permitting)**

We'll be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers and will appreciate any side dishes and dessert donations. A sign up sheet will be posted in the church two weeks before the dinner for the donations as well as volunteer times for set-up and break-down. Please join us to have fun with our church family and the community along with some musical entertainment. Call Chris Baldwin for any questions 412-963-9860.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

FAMILY FUN NIGHT RETURNS MAY 18, 4-6PM

We had such a great time at our last Family Fun Night that we're going to do it again! Please join us on Sunday, May 18, 2014 from 4:00 to 6:00ish for more fun and fellowship. Once again we will have a covered dish pot luck dinner and times of games and fellowship. Our theme this time is "Weird Animals" which is the theme of this year's Vacation Bible School. We will introduce the VBS at this Fun Night. And Lisa Segedy, our Story Lady, will once again share a tale or two with us. Please watch for sign-up sheets for our Family Fun Night, May 18. Invite your friends, family, grandkids, nieces, nephews or whoever. Let's make FPCE the place to be.

V.B.S.

Vacation Bible School will be here before you know it! Save the dates: June 23-27 FPCE offers an evening VBS. Please spread the word to those with children and considering volunteering. VBS Volunteer meeting, June 9, following worship. We have a lot of fun!



**"The Presence of God in Exodus
and Deuteronomy: Abiding Hope"**
Wednesday Nights
7:00-8:15 PM
Continues through May 28

UPDATE FROM THE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

In February, our MIF, the Ministry Information Form which is the "snapshot" of our church and is logged online to be matched with potential candidates, was approved by Pittsburgh Presbytery. Since that time, we have reviewed 27 PIFs—the information forms which represent the potential pastors. Some of these have come from the Presbyterian computer match, and some are self-referred by the individual pastors. We have received these PIFs from here in Pittsburgh and as far away as Colorado and Nevada. As you can imagine, there are pros and cons with each candidate, and we have been prayerfully reviewing each one.

Please keep us in your prayers as we discern the search process for our next Called Pastor. You too are able to make recommendations to the PNC regarding our choices. If you know of a candidate, please let us know, but also please have them submit their PIF to us. That is the only way in which they can be considered.

Again, please keep us in your prayers—as well as all of FPCE and the entire Search process.



SECOND ANNUAL EAST BRANCH DINNER **THURSDAY, MAY 22, 5:30-7:30 PM**

All pastors, CREs, elders, members, and friends of the East Branch in Pittsburgh Presbytery are invited to our Second Annual East Branch dinner at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary on Thursday, May 22, from 5:30-7:30 PM. In order to help plan for this dinner, please RSVP the number of those attending from your congregation by Friday, May 16. There is no charge for the dinner. Please be our guest!

We will be recognizing Ordination anniversaries for those with milestone years in 2013 and 2014. We would also like to honor significant terms of service for staff members, Clerks of Session, Sunday school teachers, or anyone else you would like to recognize as faithful servants. This may include those retiring or anyone who has served a significant number of years (more than 5). This will be an evening of joyful celebration!



P.W. CORNER

By Lori Stutz, Presbyterian Women Moderator

April was such a lovely month. Everything was beautiful. Easter service was so beautiful, both the content of the service and the flowers and people. Even before Easter started, our Flea Market team headed up by Connie Black, co-chairs, Sallie Monk and Deb Pike, were working behind the scenes. There are so many thanks to go around. First, to Connie for continuing taking on this project once again and doing it so flawlessly. We are so fortunate to have Connie in our church with all of her things she does for this event, especially! Next, I want to thank Sallie and Debbie for their efforts they have put forth through this whole process. To Judy, for her endless patience and help in putting out the bulletin inserts and fielding every question in the church. To Rob, who this year was able to get our sig up and still find a way to get the cross up as well. To all the ladies, gentlemen and church mice that came to help sort, price and run the day of sale and clean up. To Chris Baldwin for doing our publicity, thank you! To Glen Allen, Elaine Cloonan and Florence who helped in the kitchen. For the ladies and gentlemen who helped on the day by helping to wait on people and collecting the funds, and preparation and clean up. To everyone who donated items and their time, we from PW cannot thank you enough! I know inevitably I will or may forget to say a thank you to someone, please if you worked and helped, please take our sincere thanks and gratitude.

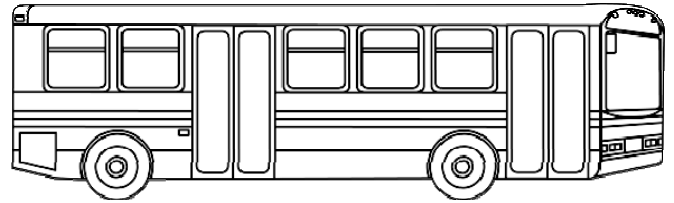
I know that our church-wide Bible Study has taken off in a great way. It's led by Sallie Monk and takes place on Wednesday nights at 7PM in the lounge.

Ladies, we will attempt to have our first business meeting of the year on May 18, 2014, following church in the Gathering Place (as long as it doesn't snow?). This will be the week following Mother's Day.

Happy Mother's Day to all!!! Our mothers are definitely one of God's best blessings to us!

PASTOR MICHAEL MEETS THE P.A.T. BUS

This past Saint Patrick's Day, I picked Desmond up outside CAPA school in downtown Pittsburgh after his soccer practice. Making my way through rush hour traffic, I crossed the Bloomfield Bridge and turned left, planning to head south on Craig Street. At that point, I entered into one of my unnerving and completely unexpected coughing fits. (This has happened to me maybe 6-8 times over 20+ years.) The coughing can become so intense that the vagus nerve is pinched, inducing a vasovagal syncope; meaning - I temporarily pass out. That is exactly what happened as I was negotiating the curve that would have put me on South Craig. I missed the turn but found the front of a PAT bus that was waiting at a red light. When I regained consciousness, I was staring into the grill of the bus, both airbags were deployed.



Desmond and I were helped out of the car immediately. Desmond went to the hospital and was fine, except for some hurtful bruising. After learning that Desmond was OK, I insisted that I would be OK too and was taken home. Like the fool I can be at times, I waited until the following Sunday morning before admitting the pain was not subsiding. After talking with Heather, I had to admit that there was no way I could lead worship. Thankfully, Jeff Nine and Shaun Cloonan conducted a beautiful service. And you folks prepared scores of beautiful cards, shared hopeful, healing words and - you began to pray for me.

The cracked ribs are healing well...a bit too slowly if you ask me! As for my bronchial condition, I'm seeing a specialist who has put me on two strong, steroid-based inhalation therapies. After a couple of weeks of treatment, the doctor said my lungs had noticeably cleared and I could drive again. Yet the therapy will continue. No charges were ever filed. I didn't even get a ticket! The insurance company settlement has arrived allowing me to lease a new car. Though I still struggle with fatigue and can't do my morning stretch routine; every day I hurt less and feel stronger. I must extend my deepest gratitude to all of the people here at the church who have shown phenomenal support over these past five weeks. Shaun managed a myriad of worship details. Judy kept the office running smoothly through a busy time of year. Jeff has assisted in worship leadership. The elders followed up with me regularly and pitched in whenever they needed to.

In the end, I can affirm - I am extremely fortunate...I am profoundly blessed...God is still working on me...I am looking forward to serving you! You are an exceptionally wonderful congregation. Thank you.

Pastor Michael Rucker



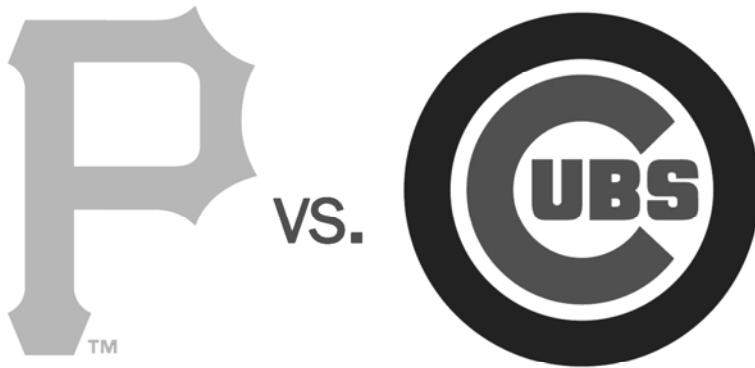
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 9AM-12Noon WCM Bd. Mtg. 8:30 AA
4 12:15 Prayer Chain Mtg./C./E. Mtg.	5 7:00 Scouts	6 10:00 Book Club 7:00 AA 7:00 Deacon Mtg.	7 7:00 Bible Study	8	9 5:00 AA's anniversary party	10 9AM-4PM Scout Flea Market 8:30 AA
11 Blanket Sunday Muffins for Mom	12 7:00 Men's Group 7:00 Scouts	13 10:00 Book Club 7:00 AA 7:00 Session	14 7:00 Bible Study	15 7:00 Grief Group	16 6:00 Rehearsal 8:00 AA	17 Hrebik Wedding 8:30 AA
18 12:15 P.W. Mtg. 4-6PM Family Fun Night	19 7:00 Scouts	20 10:00 Book Club 7:00 AA	21 7:00 Bible Study	22	23 8:00 AA	24 8:30 AA
25 12:15 Memorial Day Observance	26 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 Scouts	27 10:00 Book Club 7:00 AA	28 7:00 Bible Study	29	30 8:00 AA	31 8:30 AA

PIRATES

PITTSBURGH PRESBYTERY NIGHT AT PNC PARK

THURSDAY, JUNE 12TH AT 7:05 PM

PITTSBURGH PIRATES vs. CHICAGO CUBS



Come support the choir as they perform the **NATIONAL ANTHEM** during the Pirates pregame ceremony! If your church is interested in participating, please contact Cathy Nelson at (412)697.9210 or cnelson@pghpresbytery.org.

OUTFIELD RESERVED: \$24
(\$5 donation to Presbytery Missions)
GRANDSTAND: \$20
(\$3 donation to Presbytery Missions)

For Questions:

Call Lauren Farrell at (412)325.4928 or
e-mail lauren.farrell@pirates.com

Orders will be filled on a first come first serve basis, based on availability through advance purchase only. Only orders purchased together will be seated together. Orders must be received by May 13th. No refunds or exchanges. Game time subject to change.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail (required): _____

Day/Eve Phone: _____

Payment: Visa Mastercard AmEx Discover Check

Credit Card #: _____ Expiration: _____

Security Code: _____ Signature: _____

*Please make checks payable to: Pittsburgh Pirates

PITTSBURGH PRESBYTERY NIGHT

Game Date	# Seats	Ticket Price	TOTAL
		\$24	
		\$20	

TOTAL ENCLOSED

Mail or fax this form with payment to:

Pittsburgh Pirates
Attn: Lauren Farrell
115 Federal Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
Fax: 412-325-4410



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If you want to be taken off the mailing list for “News from the Edge,” call the Church Office at 412-241-4613. To receive it via email, leave your email address when calling, or send a message to <office@fpcedgewood.org>.

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



First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood
Rev. Michael Rucker, Interim Pastor
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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