



news from the **EDGE**

120 East Swissvale Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15218

412-241-4613

office@fpcedgewood.org

**September
2013**

**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**.

SERVICES

Sunday Mornings
10:00AM/11:00AM
in the
Sanctuary

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 fellowship!

A summer to remember, that is what my family and I just experienced. We moved (correction, continue to move) into a new home. We drove my daughter, Micaiah, across the state to begin her freshman year at Temple. Desmond entered the artsy CAPA school in downtown Pittsburgh. As I told Jeff Nine at lunch today, the center of gravity in my life has shifted and I haven't found my balance yet! But God is faithful, all of you are very supportive and life is good.

Have you ever had an experience that seemed commonplace at the time, but, for some reason, is etched into your memory? A long, long time ago - 38 years to be exact - I was sitting in a Bible study led by one of my mentors, Tom Witzel, pastor of the church I attended while in college. I was not the only one in the group about to graduate, so he led a brief study on discerning God's guidance. I do not remember 95% of what he said. But the one verse I do recall still stirs my soul whenever I read it. It is from I Corinthians 2:9:

*What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him.*



**THINK BIG
DREAM
BIGGER**

September Worship Schedule

WORSHIP ALERT!

Sunday morning morning's at FPCE will become an important, meaningful, spirited and (yes) fun part of your week. Join us - bring a friend!

10:00 A.M. SEPTEMBER 1

We will be united in Holy Communion and pray for those who stayed true work God gave to them.

11:00 A.M. SEPTEMBER 8

A return to regular Christian Education and worship hours.

SEPTEMBER 15

A new, emerging way of worship. The theme: a return to the true you.

SEPTEMBER 22

What are your dreams? Come and find out.

SEPTEMBER 29

Be lifted up on eagle's wings!

**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..... **Mia Hotkowski**
Tyler McGuigan
Mandy Rineer

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

Building Manager..... **Rob 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.

PASTOR'S POINT OF VIEW (continued)

Your dreams are pouring in, thank you for dreaming out loud. From those dreams and the powerful breath of God's Spirit - what God has prepared for those who love him will emerge... to be continued. Pray for one another. Thank you.

Pastor Michael



WORSHIP BEGINS AT 11:00
STARTING SEPTEMBER 8

JOINT BOARD MEETING
Saturday, September 21
9:00AM - 2:00PM

Session Deacons and Staff
are to attend this meeting.



AGENDA:

- Pastor Michael will present the hopes/dreams/visions that came from the congregation this past summer. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide and direct.
- Update from PNC.
- Begin to look at the calendar....through Christmas is the goal. This meeting will be aware of but not driven by the calendars of previous years.



Sausage, Etc. Fest

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

6:00-7:30PM, SIDE LAWN

(weather permitting)

featuring

Kielbasi, Pierogi, Brats, Pulled Pork & Fixin's

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. For more information, contact Jim Segedy or Tyler McGuigan to help prepare the meal, serve, set up and clean up. Donations of food are also needed.

KICK-OFF SUNDAY: September 8

Join us as we kick off the fall program year!

9:45 Adult Education class will meet in the Lounge to pick this fall's study

11:00 Worship in the sanctuary (Note time change!) Children and youth are encouraged to come to Gathering Place during sermon for our Welcome Back Celebration.

POLLYANNA CLUB

begins September 15 on Sundays, 9:45AM, in the Gathering Place Kids come join the fun! At the Pollyanna Club, we sing songs, create crafts, and talk about the good things we are glad about. Please speak with Lorraine Douthett if you have any questions.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH REGISTRATION

Parents/Grandparents please complete a 2013-14 registration form for each of your children connected with the church. This includes all kids birth through high school senior (even if he/she is not currently using the nursery or participating in programming). The Christian Education Team would like to have up-to-date information on all our young people and their interests. Registration forms will be available at church or may be downloaded from fpcedgewood.org. Thank you!

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Sunday School is starting on Sept 8 with a couple of lessons on how to lead a Bible study, then will be studying The Psalms.

FALL BIBLE STUDY: GENESIS

Wednesdays beginning September 11, 7:00 - 8:15pm in the Lounge. Please speak with Sallie Monk if you have any questions. Contact the church office if you have a need for babysitting or children's activities during this time.

Fall F.R.O.G.S.

(Friends, Reading, and Other Great Stuff)

Fall FROGS begins Tuesday, September 10, 2013.

Our after-school program operates Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:45-6:00pm in the lower level of the church building. Students are walked over from Edgewood Elementary School or may be brought to the church by family. The program includes homework time, reading, crafts, outdoor play or games, and dinner. Participation is limited to twenty students in kindergarten through sixth grade. The cost for fall term is \$100 per student (\$25/month), with some scholarship help available.

Volunteers find participation a rewarding experience and really make this program possible. If you are interested in volunteering or visiting to share a craft or special interest, we'd love to have you join us. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 3:00pm September 10 and by 3:30 other days.

For information on registering or volunteering, please contact Debbie at frogs@fpcedgewood.org or speak with her at church.



Men's Group

Come and join the FPCE Men as we continue our journey examining the 'men after God's own heart' in Scripture. So far we have looked at the lives of David, Nehemiah and Daniel (and his friends). We plan to visit some New Testament guys this fall. It's a great time for discussion, sharing of joys and concerns, and examining our own lives in comparison to the great men of the Bible. We meet the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7 pm in the lounge. Bring your Bible and an open heart.

Join Our Sojourn!

The monthly support group Grieving Space for people who have lost a loved one or who have suffered a loss of health/employment will be meeting again starting in September (Thursday Sept 19th at 7pm in the Lounge of FPCE). The group is also sponsoring a sojourn to Kearns Spirituality Center on Saturday October 12th for a day of prayer, 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



PITTSBURGH EAST CROP WALK

Sunday, October 6, 2013

CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by local congregations or groups to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world. With its inception in 1969, CROP Hunger Walks are "viewed by many as the granddaddy of charity walks," notes the Los Angeles Times (Oct. 26, 2009).

On October 17, 1969, a thousand people in Bismarck, ND, walked in what may have been the first -ever CROP Hunger Walk - and raised \$25,000 to help stop hunger. Several other CROP Hunger Walks occurred soon thereafter, and before long there were hundreds of Walks each year in communities nationwide.

Currently, well over 2,000 communities across the U.S. join in more than 1,600 CROP Hunger Walks each year. More than five million CROP Hunger Walkers have participated in more than 36,000 CROP Hunger Walks in the last two decades alone.

The Pittsburgh East CROP Walk will take place on Sunday, October 6, 2013 beginning at South Avenue United Methodist Church and circling through the East End community. FPCE has consistently sent walkers to participate in this event. If interested, contact the church office for registration/sponsorship forms.

PRAYER CHAIN

FPCE has an active PRAYER CHAIN with 16 Prayer Warriors. The Lord tells us " Do not be anxious about anything, but rather bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understandings will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 41:6-7)

That's what we do. We keep asking Jesus about your needs and requests. You're welcome to join us. We also give our joy and praise to God with our thanksgiving. If you have a prayer request(s) contact:

Pastor Michael at 412-241-4613 or mprucker@fpcedgewood.org; Judy Mysels at 412-241-4613 or office@fpcedgewood.org; Sallie Monk at 412-371-4344; Patti Mielke at 412-350-8442 or pgmielke@hotmail.com

You are welcome to send your requests for prayer. We phone or e-mail current requests as we receive them. If you have any questions, please contact one of us (see above).

You are welcome to join us as a Prayer Warrior. We send out a prayer list quarterly and meet twice a year to review our prayer list.

STAFF RECOGNIZED FOR EFFORTS

At the June 9 worship service the Staff members of FPCE were recognized for the fine job they do. Session had reflected on the previous year at FPCE, and was thankful for our good fortune. God indeed had been watching over us and guiding us as we dealt with changes in our midst.

However, from early July to October 2012, and Pastor Michael's arrival, we were at times a ship without a rudder. Session did it's best to keep things running smoothly. But without our dedicated Staff, we know much would have fallen through the cracks. Our loyal Staff saw what needed to be done, and even without a pastor to direct and support them, did their jobs in an exemplary manner.

Rob Mysels, Building Manager, Judy Mysels, Office Manager, Shaun Cloonan, Minister of Music, Sunny Sakai, Organist/Pianist, and Debbie Pike, FROGS Director all performed at maximum efficiency. They fulfilled their responsibilities, and often more, so that we, as a church, could continue to function and to worship our Lord.

After Pastor Michael's arrival, these wonderful folks were helpful and gracious as he adjusted to life at FPCE. They assisted him in learning about the church, and responded in meeting his requests, while learning his expectations and style.

At the June worship service, the Session of FPCE expressed their thanks to these five exceptional people through personal letters and a small token of appreciation. We are so grateful for their positive response to the challenges of change.

*Thank
you*



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

Presbyterian Women's Corner

Peach Festival

Thanks to everyone who supported the Peach Festival by helping, purchasing, or just coming out to visit with our neighbors. It was a lovely evening and a successful event.

Annual Fall Gathering

Saturday September 21, 2013

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

616 N. Highland Avenue, East Liberty 15206

8:30 a.m. Registration/Continental Breakfast, 9:30 Convening, Luncheon at Noon

Program includes: worship, overview of Horizon Bible Study, Jumonville report

Keynote Speaker: Sherie Mershon

Optional Kelso Bible Lands Museum Tour

(Immediately following lunch, lasts approximately one hour)

Registration Deadline: September 16, 2013

Registration Fee: \$10.00 per person -- Please make your check payable to PWPP and send to:

Barbara King, 444 Bower Hill Road, Pittsburgh, PA. 15228 (412-341-5854)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Church _____

of Guests: _____ Total # Attending _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

Special Guided Tour of Museum Following Lunch: Yes _____ No _____

FPCE NEWS...

Missy (Butler) Slaathaug, former Edgewood resident and FPCE member, was named South Dakota Educator of the Year by the South Dakota Association of Lifelong Learning. Missy has lived in Pierre, SD, for fourteen years, and was recognized for outstanding contributions to adult education, especially in the area of English as a Second Language.

Deacons awarded the 2013 Melfard Douglass Scholarship to Shane and Mariah Mysels for their continuing education at Robert Morris and Duquesne Universities.

Church Website

Welcome to Emily Lilly, who is serving as our new webmaster. We really appreciate her taking on this important ministry. Now that things are being updated regularly, be sure to check our site for the latest news! www.fpcedgewood.org

Youth Bake Sales

Thank you to those who supported our bake sales this summer by buying cookies and other goodies. We raised about \$100 for mission.

In Memoriam

Al Hartman passed away June 30, 2013.
Ruth F. Wolf (formerly a member of Mulberry Presbyterian Church) passed away July 15, 2013.
Our hearts go out to the family and friends of these faithful people.

Cub Scouts

Boys in 1st-5th grade are encouraged to participate in Cub Scouts. Sign up night is Sept. 19, at 6:30PM in the Social Room. Boy Scouts also meet in the lower level of the church on Monday evenings at 7PM for those 6th grade through high school.



Presbytery East Branch

The Pittsburgh Presbytery has been divided into a few areas with encouragement for churches in each branch to work together for good in their area. FPCE is in the East Branch. Beulah United Presbyterian Church hosted an East Branch Picnic in August. All are welcome to participate in either of the following:

- Lectionary Bible Study -- Mondays 10:00-11:30am at Second United Presbyterian Church in Wilkesburg (300 Hay St. 15221)
- Life Together - Wednesdays 11:00am-1:00pm at Swissvale Presbyterian Church (1825 Monongahela St. 15218) - The Rev. Dr. John Burgess is leading a discussion of *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer for six weeks beginning September 4, brown bag lunch optional. Please rsvp to Wendy Keys (412-351-0900 or wln9999@aol.com)



What a wonderful summer of worship we had together! We experienced an amazing outdoor emerging service with our worship ensemble, heard the choir twice for their summer family reunion Sundays, got a few solo/duet/quartets with our section leaders, and thoroughly enjoyed Sunny's Dave Brubeck-inspired "We Three Kings" offertory during our Christmas in July worship!

Of course, the highlight was welcoming Mia back into our folds, but also getting to hear her new choral group, the Nouveau Noir Vocal Ensemble. We hope to begin a partnership with this fantastic choir!

We wrapped up the summer by holding a picnic that also doubled as our Dream Team event. The fellowship was full of love, food was excellent, and discussion lively.

Now we turn our attention to the fall and new church year. I'm in full swing back to school with my new teaching schedule (full time high school now with 2 choirs and 2 sections of music theory/technology!) and getting back into the groove.

In the music ministry, that means choir is back...and we can always use a few more voices. Consider joining us for one Sunday morning? We meet at 9:30 (no weeknight practices). Think about it!

See you in church!

Shaun



September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 Worship/ Communion (S)	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 10:00 Tue Group (L) 7:00 AA (SR) 7:00 Deacons (L)	4 6:00-7:30 Community Dinner	5	6 8:00 AA (SR)	7 8:30 AA (SR)
8 9:30 Choir (C) 9:45 Adult Ed (L) 11:00 Worship (S) 12:15 Fellowship (L)	9 7:00 Scouts (SC) 7:00 Men's Group (L)	10 10:00 Tue Group (L) 2:45 FROGS 7:00 AA (SR) 7:00 Session (GP)	11 7:00 Bible Study (L) 7:00 Worship Ensemble (S)	12 2:45 FROGS	13 8:00 AA (SR)	14 8:30 AA (SR)
15 9:00 Worship Ens 9:45 Adult Ed (L) 9:45 Pollyanna (GP) 11:00 Emerging Worship (S) 12:15 Fellowship (L)	16 7:00 Scouts (SC)	17 10:00 Tue Group (L) 2:45 FROGS 7:00 AA (SR)	18 7:00 Bible Study (L)	19 6:30 Pack Mtg. (SC) 7:00 Grief Group (L)	20 8:00 AA (SR)	21 9AM-2PM Joint Board Meeting (GP) 8:30 AA (SR)
22 9:30 Choir (C) 9:45 Adult Ed (L) 9:45 Pollyanna (GP) 11:00 Worship (S) 12:15 Fellowship (L)	23 7:00 Men's Group (L) 7:00 Scouts (SC)	24 10:00 Tue Group (L) 2:45 FROGS 7:00 AA (SR)	25 7:00 Bible Study (L)	26 2:45 FROGS	27 8:00 AA (SR)	28 9AM-3PM Scout Flea Market (lawn) 8:30 AA (SR)
29 9:30 Choir (C) 9:45 Adult Ed (L) 9:45 Pollyanna (GP) 11:00 Worship (S) 12:15 Fellowship (L)	30 7:00 Joy Circle (L) 7:00 Scouts (SC)	<p>C=Choir Room GP=Gathering Place L=Lounge O=Office PS=Pastor's Study S=Sanctuary SC=Scout Room SR=Social Room</p>				



First Presbyterian Church of
EDGEWOOD
The Community Church

120 E. Swissvale Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA 15218

**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