

news from the EDGE



First Presbyterian Church of
EDGEWOOD
The Community Church

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.

The monthly newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood

November 2014

PASTOR'S POINT OF VIEW



Michael P. Rucker
Interim Pastor

Hello members and friends of FPCE!

We (reluctantly in my case) turn the clocks back one hour on November 2, a sure sign that the season of autumn is upon us. The changing of the seasons reminds us of the powerful and profound observation of "The Teacher", author of Ecclesiastes: **"For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven."** That insight, in turn, reminds me of a line from a Call to Worship we sometimes read on Sunday morning. *"All rhythms of time beat in God's great heart..."*

Since ancient times, the season of autumn has been a time to harvest (**"to pluck up what has been planted."**) The harvest season then led into a celebration or service of thanksgiving to the God in whose heart beat all rhythms of time.

We Presbyterians enter the autumn season of harvest and thanksgiving as an opportunity for stewardship. For stewardship is not only about fundraising, stewardship is our way of saying: "Thank you God for the rich harvest of grace, blessing, peace, community, beauty and joy we are able to harvest when we sow seeds of faith in you. Thank you God for not only becoming

like us in Jesus, but literally burying your heart in this earth that people of faith and the entire creation will be raised and harvested into a new life!"

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Brothers and sisters, thank you for treasuring this fellowship. Thank you for giving a generous thanks to God through the ministry and mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood!

Pastor Michael



**Daylight Saving
Time Ends
November 2**

Be sure to adjust your clocks
to arrive at church on time!

NOVEMBER 2014 Worship Schedule

NOVEMBER 2

"Remember me.....remember these..." is the theme of our worship. We will remember the Risen One during the Service of the Lord's Supper. We will remember the pioneers of our faith on this All Saints Sunday.

NOVEMBER 9

"Celebrate and Give Thanks" is the focus of this week's service. We will respond gratefully through the financial commitment to all that God has done and will continue to do through us. And...a baptism!

NOVEMBER 16

God's question: are you willing to take a chance on me? Are you a risk-taker? Even taking a little risk can lead to surprising results. Truth be told, when Jesus says, "Follow me." And we do—we are taking a chance on God.

NOVEMBER 23

The last Sunday on the Christian calendar. Christ the King Sunday. Great music....sheep....prayers of praise....goats. What??? Come and find out.

NOVEMBER 30

The first Sunday of Advent. Will the Spirit of Christ be born again among us?

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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.

Women's Choir Festival at FPCE Sunday, November 9 3:00PM, Sanctuary



FPCE will host a Women's Choral Festival on Sunday, November 9, 2014. There is no charge for the concert, which will take place at 3:00PM in the Sanctuary. Groups participating in this year's festival include 2 high schools, 2 universities, and a community choir. They are: North Hills High School, Pine-Richland High School, University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne University, and the Carica Milica Serbian Women's Choir.



Good friends of FPCE,

As chair of the *Stewardship Committee* I have the opportunity to challenge us to prayerfully consider our ways of demonstrating gratitude toward God. You will be receiving a letter from me (and Pastor Michael) soon that talks about this subject. Please look for it. And thank you for your faithfulness.

Blessings,
Paul Oori
Stewardship Committee

FROGS Update

The environment is as important to the animal frogs as it is to the students in the FROGS program. October 23, Emily Lilly and PACES brought the perfect program to FROGS. The children worked with "sci-tectives" (science detectives) and participated in 3 hands-on activities to help clean up the environment near a pond. The FROGS enjoyed the program and are looking forward to November 13 when PACES will return the "" sci-tectives".

Thank you to members of the congregation who have given us snacks. The snacks are a big part of the social time after school. We can always use more!

Flo Raisig, Interim Director

Project Manger Tree

Beginning Sunday, Nov. 2, the Board of Deacons will be working with Action Housing Homeless Service again this year. Action Housing assists families in securing public assistance housing, utilities, furnishings, etc. Gifts are purchased for children, but given to parents, allowing them to provide something for their children on Christmas morning. Serves single parents, teen mothers, etc. in surrounding areas. We have had an overwhelming response from the congregation in the past and would like to continue this wonderful project.

Please select a tag from the tree and buy an age-appropriate gift. Money can also be donated to buy wrapping paper, gift bags and ribbon. See any Deacon for more information about the project, for help in selecting a manger tree tag and for gift ideas. Please sponsor one of God's children.

We would like your UNWRAPPED gifts along with the tag returned to the church **by Dec. 7**. Thank you for your support of this project.

God Bless,
The Board of Deacons



HANGING OF THE GREENS

Sunday, November 23
following worship

Advent, our journey to Christmas, begins in just a few weeks! We'll begin our visible preparations with the Hanging of the Greens after church on **November 23 so the decorations will be up for the first Sunday in Advent (Nov. 30)**. We'll meet in the Lounge for fellowship, then, as usual, we will sing and pray. But we'll set aside a majority of our time for dressing up the sanctuary and hallways for Christmas. Join us for this time of celebration and anticipation.

Thanksgiving Dinner (Reluctantly) Cancelled

At the joint board meeting in September, it was decided that we could not hold our community Thanksgiving Dinner this year. Our kitchen is not up to code and will be unavailable. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

If you know of friends, families or neighbors who look forward to a Thanksgiving Day meal from us, please extend our regrets. Thank you.

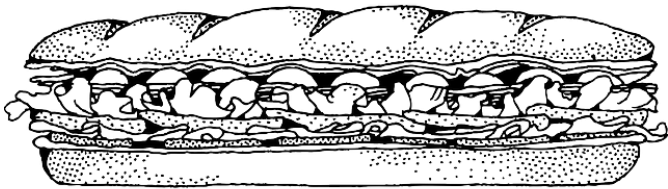
CANCELLED

Youth Sunday School:

We continue to meet each Sunday during worship BUT FOR those Sundays where we join in Emerging Worship. This Fall, we have reviewed lessons on Creation, Cain and Abel, Mission and the Golden Rule. We are pleased to report that we raised \$216.00 with our Bake Sale and much more through the Entire Church's giving to the Stock the School Program. Thank You FPCE!

Deacons to Sell Triangle Hoagies

The Deacons are selling the famous Triangle Hoagies.



8" Italian \$7.00 with/without oil
8" Corned Beef \$8.00 with/without oil
8" Turkey \$8.00 with/without oil
8" Roast Beef \$8.00 with/without oil

Orders are being taken now. Call the Church Office at 412-241-4613 to place order, send in check made payable to FPCE with "hoagie sale" in memo line. Deadline is November 11th by 2PM. Pick up will be at the church on Thursday, November 13th from 11AM-1PM, and 4-6PM. Questions, contact Rick Masten at 412-371-4984.



P.W. Corner

Lori Stutz
Moderator

It is only fitting that we start our November newsletter article in the efforts of thanksgiving. Thanksgiving: for our blessings, for our family, friends, church family and our advantages. The Presbyterian Women have annually something called the THANK OFFERING, they even have their own envelopes for the occasion. This year we will be collecting the THANK OFFERING starting Sunday, November 16 thru the Sunday after Thanksgiving. This year our Pittsburgh Presbyterian Women have decided that these offerings will go to the following items: Free Wheelchair Mission Project of the Synod of the Trinity, a new Mission Budget, and Launching a new Presbyterly-wide Hands on Mission Project; more details will be announced on the 2nd. Also, you may see this past months Horizons magazine for other things the funds go towards.

The past month of October has been rather busy for our Edgewood PWs. Tina Nine, went on a mission trip to Argentina and worked there for about 10 days. If you've been at the church the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the last month, I won't have to tell the amount of laughter and fun that carries from the Gathering Place. We have been having a great time with Tina leading us in devotions, but also with Patti Mielke helping us with devotions and crafts that we all have fun doing and the whole while having fellowship together. We also have had yet another successful planning meeting with many people in attendance, and lots of good ideas. At our planning meeting we came up with several things. First, we now will have both Luella Broe and Evelynne McKee, as our corresponding secretaries. Sallie Monk, has volunteered to be the Chair of this year's Flea Market. She is already seeking to put together a committee, so if you have any ideas or would like to be on that committee, please see or contact, Sallie Monk. Tina Nine has offered to have our annual Christmas Party at her home. It is opened to all women, it is scheduled for **Saturday, December 13**, and is potluck. We have also put together our own sub-committee for our new Mission Fund. This is developed for members of our church to use some funds towards actively working on a mission project near here or away from home. Anyone interested in applying for any funding please contact the head of that committee, Tina Nine.

Please remember to mark your calendars for our quarterly meeting for PW in the Gathering Place, following church on **November 16**. If you have any new ideas for PW and cannot attend please feel free to contact me via email, on the church's web site. Last, and certainly not least, I wish all of you and your families a very Happy and Joyous Thanksgiving.

The Meaning of Advent

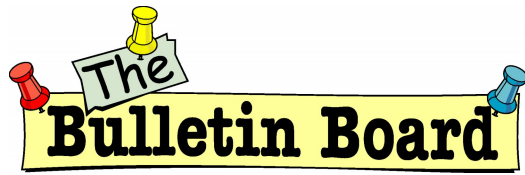
The word ADVENT means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of Christ the King in his Second Advent. In this double focus on past and future, Advent also symbolizes the Spiritual Journey of individuals and congregations, as they affirm that Christ has come, that he is present in the world today, and that he will come again in power. Advent is marked by a spirit of expectation, of anticipation, of preparation, and of longing. We do this in many ways. We prepare our homes for The Holidays. We decorate with trees and lights, and prepare many different types of food. In the church we do much the same, with the Hanging of the Greens, or a Christmas Cantata or a Christmas Pageant. In our Adult Sunday School Class, we are preparing in a different way. So often we get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the Season, or we get blinded by the familiar trappings that we don't see the story of the coming of the baby Jesus for the miracle that it is.

This Advent season, the Adult Sunday School Class will take some of the familiar Hymns of Christmas, and look at the birth of Jesus through a different set of eyes. We know the songs and carols by heart, but we don't always know the backgrounds of the music or connect it with our lives or the lives of the people of Jesus' time. Come join us, as we study the meaning of Christmas through:

"Rejoice! Reflections on Four Seasonal Hymns"

<u>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</u>	Nov. 30
<u>Silent Night, Holy Night</u>	Dec. 7
<u>O Little Town of Bethlehem</u>	Dec. 14
<u>Hark, the Herald Angels Sing</u>	Dec 21

We will begin our journey on November 30 at 9:45am in the Lounge. Everyone is welcome. If you want a Study Guide, please see Patrick Carrick. There is **no cost** for the Study Guide. If you have thought about attending Adult Church School, but did not want to commit to a long study, this is your chance. Advent is only four weeks long! See you in Bethlehem as we take our own Spiritual Journeys and await the Newborn King.



The Bulletin Board

Sharing in the joys and concerns of our family & friends at FPCE

- **GOD GRANT US THE GRACE TO WALK WITH THEM.** There are a number of in our congregation and community who are hurting right now. To walk with them is offering the gift of community. Please offer prayers and words encouragement to Marcia Haley, Mary Ann Hartman and her sister Diane, Bill Crean's sister, and the family of Colleen Kennedy, our 21 year old friend who died far too young.
- **STANDING UP TO HUNGER.** That is what the CROP WALK is all about. Five members of our congregation, Judy and Mariah Mysels, Paul and Stephanie Otori and Pastor Michael did the walking, many of you contributed to the cause. Thank you!
- **A CHURCH POTLUCK** - you can count on great food and even better fellowship. Our October 19 potluck was no exception. Thanks to all who contributed food, fun and laughter!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:30 Choir (C) 9:45 Pollyanna (GP) 9:45 Adult Class (L) 11:00 Worship (S) Communion 12:15 Fellowship (L) 12:15 Prayer Chain	3	4 10:00 Book Club (L) 3:45 FROGS 7:00 Deacons (L) 7:00 AA (SR)	5	6 NO FROGS	7 8:00 AA (SR)	8 8:30 AA (SR)
9 9:30 Choir (C) 9:45 Pollyanna (GP) 9:45 Adult Class (L) 11:00 Worship (S) 12:15 Stewardship Luncheon (GP) 3:00 Choral Festival	10 7:00 Men's Group 7:00 Scouts (SC)	11 10:00 Book Club (L) 3:45 FROGS 7:00 Session (L) 7:00 AA (SR)	12	13 1:00 PW Circle (GP) 3:45 FROGS	14 8:00 AA (SR)	15 7:00 Guitar Concert (S) 8:30 AA (SR)
16 9:30 Choir (C) 9:45 Pollyanna (GP) 9:45 Adult Class (L) 11:00 Worship (S) 12:15 Fellowship (L) 12:15 P.W. Mtg.	17 7:00 Scouts (SC)	18 10:00 Book Club (L) 3:45 FROGS 7:00 AA (SR)	19 7:00 Worship Ensemble (S)	20 3:45 FROGS 7:00 Grief Group (L)	21 8:00 AA (SR)	22 8:30 AA (SR)
23 9:30 Worship Ens. 9:45 Pollyanna (GP) 9:45 Adult Class (L) 11:00 Emerging 12:15 Hanging of the Greens	24 7:00 Joy Circle 7:00 Men's Group 7:00 Scouts (SC)	25 10:00 Book Club (L) 3:45 FROGS 7:00 AA (SR)	26	27 OFFICE CLOSED - THANKSGIVING DAY	28 OFFICE CLOSED 8:00 AA (SR)	29 8:30 AA (SR)
30 9:30 Choir (C) 9:45 Pollyanna (GP) 9:45 Adult Class (L) 11:00 Worship (S) 12:15 Fellowship (L) 12:15 Staff Mtg (PS) 12:15 Deacon Mtg.?	DEACON MEETING FOR DECEMBER HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FOR MONDAY 12/1 AT 7:00 IN THE LOUNGE	<div>november</div>				C=Choir Room GP=Gathering Place L=Lounge O=Office PS=Pastor's Study S=Sanctuary SC=Scout Room SR=Social Room



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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
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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