



First Presbyterian News

May 2010

LET THE JOURNEY BEGIN!!

Missional: a special task or purpose for which a person (or church) is destined in life; a calling.*

Journey: any course or passage from one stage or experience to another.*

*Webster's New World College Dictionary, Third Edition 1997

The congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Mishawaka will be embarking on a journey. It will not be the same as most journeys that are taken. Usually guidebooks are consulted, reservations made, starting and ending times determined, too many clothes packed, etc. But this journey will be different, but not totally so. There will be no motels to book, no visa to carry, no VISA to pay, no special arrangements for house or pets.

There is, though, one similarity. There is a "Guide" book to lead the way. A program developed by the Chicago based Center for Parish Development will be followed. A coach trained by them will be providing assistance, primarily to the Missional Journey Co-ordinating Team (MJCT) – see names below. But most importantly there will be guidance from the Holy Spirit as we seek and receive it through prayer, bible study, and discussion groups.

This journey is seen as a "missional" one because the church at large, and ours in particular, exists in order to fulfill God's mission for the world. It is our calling to bring God's hope, healing, and harmony to our little corner of God's world.

Even though there are 26 other congregations in the presbytery engaged in the process, each journey will be unique. That's the way the Holy Spirit works. (But you know that.)

Here is a brief overview of the journey. We will first look at ourselves and **Discover** who we are. Not through a survey which results in a handy listing, but by involving the whole congregation in studying, discussing, and praying together. Next comes the **Discerning** part. What does God want us to do? How can God use who we are to fulfill God's mission? Finally, and logically, how do we go about **Doing** it?

Each of these will take months to accomplish. Possibly totally up to three years. The results? Other churches throughout the U.S. have become more God centered, vibrant, active, mission oriented. There is no reason to think that we cannot do the same. And that is what most people are looking for in a church.

Information about the journey will be shared through the newsletter, announcements, and small group meetings. Please know that the involvement of the total congregation is vital for this experience to be meaningful. If there are questions, comments, or concerns, talk with one of the MJCT.

Yours in Christ,

Janet Freeman Greg Phillips Susan May Alan Camren Mary Ann Banning

Date	Ushers			Acolyte
May 2	Ethan DeMaegd	Jack Bruner	Andy Wiseman	Shayna Frick
May 5	Carole Polk	Bill Bellairs	Roger Krafft	Roger Delouf
May 16	Michael Green	Bob Sloan	Esther Morrison	Mikey Green
May 23	Dan Bruner	Dave Tschida	Justin Tschida	Communion
May 30	Nora Wiseman	Jim Bonham	Betty Barrick	Chris Krafft

**Lectionary for
May 2010**

Lectionary for Sundays

May 2 (5th Sunday of Easter)

Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

May 9 (6th Sunday of Easter)

Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 21:22—22:5
John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9

May 13 (Ascension of the Lord)

Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47 or 93
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53

May 16 (7th Sunday of Easter)

Acts 16:16-34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17:20-26

May 23 (Pentecost)

Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21
John 14:8-17 (25-27)

May 30 (Trinity Sunday)

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
Psalm 8
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

Book Group: the next meeting will be **May 16th at 4:30**. This month's book will be The Reader by Bernard Schlink. Judy Green will be the discussion leader. Meeting will be at Beth's home. This will be the last meeting till September. Keep your eyes open this summer for great reads next year.

First Presbyterian News



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Luke Davis 1st
Breanna Dominiak 5th
Mikey Green 20th

Prayer Chain

The Presbyterian Women's Prayer Chain is open to anyone who wishes to be a part of a prayer ministry. It's purpose is to call upon God on behalf of those around us who are suffering physically, emotionally, or financially; to ask for God's comfort, strength, healing presence, and will in their lives; or to rejoice with those who are rejoicing.

To be added those receiving prayer messages is simple; email Darlene Seufert at dseufert1@aol.com or call her. You can be part of the email list or phone list.

To request prayers for yourself, your family or friends is simple too. Call Betty Favorite, Pam Camren, or Lynett Heritz, or you may call Kathy at the church office.

Bible through the Year Readers, December readings for May. This class meets at 10:45 on Sundays. Betty Favorite leads the class. Any one wishing to join us, please do.

Presbyterian Weekday Nursery School is coming to a close for this school year. There will be graduations for the 4/5 year olds and Ice Cream Social for the 3/4 year olds. Spending time outside and discussions of summer plans, pictures and hugs will fill this last month. Next year's enrollment is in full swing. Please share this news with friends who may be looking for a wonderful pre-school. The church office has brochures with more information.
PWNS Board

Next Newsletter deadline: is May 17 at noon. The next issue will be the summer double issue. You can send information to Sue Rice at Suce@aol.com or mail to Kathy at the church.

M I S S I O N N O T E S F R O M :


 R e v . M a r y A n n B a n n i n g M a r y A n n D e n t i n o C l a u d i a R i g g s
 J a n e t F r e e m a n B e t t y J o h n s o n A n n a B o w e r s

" I WILL SING PRAISES TO MY GOD ALL MY LIFE LONG"

Do you remember how it felt to be a child, a teenager or a young adult just starting out on your lifelong journey? Everything was fresh and new -- a wonderful adventure! If only we could tap once more into that seemingly endless supply of vitality, faith and joy that young people possess. Well, we can! We can spend time with children. We can mentor and support youth and young adults in their endeavors. Their energy lights a corresponding flame within us. It is truly God's Spirit at work!

A meaningful way we can engage with children and youth is through our gifts to the Pentecost Offering:

Forty percent of this Offering is kept by each congregation to help children at risk in our own community. With this we can make a difference right here at home.

The General Assembly Mission Council divides the remaining sixty percent among: **Ministries with youth and young adults (25%) Young Adult Volunteers (25%) Child Advocacy Ministries (10%)**

Through the Young Adult Volunteer program, young adults go on to serve as elders, mission workers, seminary professors, or pastors -- the people who will shape our church in the future.

The office of Child Advocacy and Networking has been able to launch a children's Web site with a dynamic, interactive design. Going forward, PresbyKids4Kids will serve as the Web presence for the Children's Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study. Opportunities for more exciting partnerships exist across the PC(USA).

Our Offering will be collected on Pentecost Sunday, May 23. Thank you for your help. Mission Committee

The Basement Sale is Over

Don't worry, if you look in your closet and find that you still have a bunch of things that should have gone to the basement sale, you can still donate them to Goodwill. Goodwill is always in need of clothing, books, shoes and household items.

Goodwill earns the majority of its income from the sale of gently used donations that they receive. The revenue from store sales provides funding for Goodwill to pay their employees and also to train and educate the thousands of people that are enrolled in their placement and training programs each year.

Don't worry, there is a purpose for the items you forgot to put in the PW basement sale. Just drop off your items at the nearest Goodwill Donation Drive Thru.

Meals at Hope

Don't miss your chance to prepare or serve a meal at Hope Ministries. Check the dates available on the bulletin board on the landing on your way to the Sanctuary.

Why Go to Iowa June 13-19?

- 1) No need to decide where to go on vacation this year.
- 2) Good Presbyterian fellowship
- 3) A chance to sleep in a church and maybe see a church mouse
- 4) Be a part of a mission team to help others
- 5) Do something you can tell your grandchildren about
- 6) To answer God's call to serve.

See Mary Ann Dentino to sign up today.

Mission Gifts

A thank you was received from the Outreach Foundation of the Presbyterian Church. A thousand dollars was sent in support of Todd and Maria Luke in Xpujil, Mexico. Money collected and sent to Haiti Disaster Relief in the amount of \$256.80.

Mark your calendars now for the next **Scrapbook Club** meeting on May 14th from 6 pm to 11 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Don't scrapbook, but have other crafts that you would like to work on...please join us for fun and fellowship. This month the cost will only be \$5 and includes set-up, drinks, snacks, and clean-up. Please RSVP by the morning of May 14th, so that I can plan space accordingly. I hope to see you there.

Brittany Rice

Memorial Day Parade!

FPC will be marching again in the Memorial Day Parade this year. It was great fun last year! We hope to have a nice group of folks to represent our great congregation. If anyone has a convertible or vintage car they would like to drive in the parade, please let Chris Wukovits know. PWNS is also going to join us. Mark your calendars for May 31. More information to follow.

Mark your calendars and dust off those clubs! The third annual **FPC 9 HOLE GOLF OUTING** will be on **Saturday, June 26 at Eberhart Golf Course**. We will be teeing up at 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$30 per golfer, which covers the green fees, cart, prizes and some food.

If you don't golf, but love to play around...there will be a **PUTT-PUTT OUTING** going on at 3:00 p.m. on Main St. in Mishawaka. The charge will be one donation for the shopping cart, to play as much as you can until...

...afterwards we will fellowship together at Eberhart with a pot luck on the deck and share our stories of success or defeat and award prizes.

Please let John or Lynett Heritz know if you are interested in golfing or see the sign up sheet on Clipboard Corner.

The PRAYER PAGE

“Lord, disbelieve my unbelief.”

~ prepared by Susan May ~

I have a dear friend who has just been diagnosed with cancer, and I have promised and assured her I will pray daily for her. She has prayed for healing for me and mine for more years than I can count. Sometimes it is almost beyond us to believe that God hears, cares, and even comes to our aid when illness or other tragedies knock us down. We pray anyway. This month I offer a hymn (PH 390) written by Fred Pratt Green. His text is a simple, honest prayer, and timeless, though recent (1974).

1

*O Savior, in this quiet place,
Where anyone may kneel,
I also come to ask for grace,
Believing You can heal.*

2

*If pain of body, stress of mind,
Destroys my inward peace,
In prayer for others may I find
The secret of release.*

3

*If self upon its sickness feeds
And turns my life to gall,
Let me not brood upon my needs,
But simply tell You all.*

4

*You never said, “You ask too much,”
To any troubled soul.
I long to feel Your healing touch;
Will You not make me whole?*

5

*But if the thing I most desire
Is not Your way for me,
May faith, when tested in the fire,
Prove its integrity.*

6

*Of all my prayers, may this be chief:
Till faith is fully grown,
Lord, disbelieve my unbelief,
And claim me as Your own.*

Where is your “quiet place”? Do you ever come into our beautiful sanctuary to pray alone? Just you and the Lord are there to hear you cry and “tell all.” Our lovely and intimate Prayer Room, off of Memorial Lounge, is another favorite spot. There you will find a small tablet inviting you to leave a written prayer request for other pray-ers who come after you.