

The Chimes

of First Presbyterian Church

March 2016

A monthly newsletter for friends and members of our church...

Greeting from Jay Kim



Sorrow and Joy

Psalm 23:4 "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff—they comfort me."

In his book "A Grief Observed," C.S. Lewis expounds his perspective on the countless difficulties and periods of sadness in his life. Among them, he candidly describes the process of grieving for his wife, who died of cancer after three years of marriage. C.S. Lewis married his wife when he was 45 and expected to have a long, happy life with her. However, his wife's death redefined his own characterization of faith and God. In his book, he wrote, "God never answers my prayer. Where is He? Whenever I need Him, He hides himself more deeply and remains in a secret place." However, his anger and bewilderment at God met its turning point when his wife spoke one simple sentence before she died. She said, "I'm more peaceful than ever because of God."

I have met a handful of people who have turned away from their faith because God did not answer their prayers on time, and who even became atheists because they didn't understand the coexistence of pain and joy in their spiritual journey. Is it true that as children of God, our lives should be absent of suffering and sorrow? Doesn't the Scripture prove that many great people of God went through a multitude of unpleasant moments? That is why David confessed in this Psalm that the darkness wasn't removed, but he walked through it with God's strength.

Living a successful life both in the world and on our spiritual journey does not depend on how content we are without our life's difficulties, but on our belief that God's peace and grace are present in the midst of the hardships of our lives. The strength of God's power is maximized when we are determined to be confident in Him during seemingly insurmountable life challenges. Look beneath the surface of your life conflict. Then you will find God's great blessings.

Jay Kim

It Takes a Lot of People

Wk	Flowers For Month	Elders Communion	Deacons	Ushers For Month	Greeters	Liturgist	Prayer Team
3/6	Lenten Flowers	1) J. Butzine 2) J. Green L. Curtiss	G. Redecker S. Kammerer C. Furrow	V. Hughart A. Hughart I. Colerick B. Dobry	Donna Zeller Diane Martinez	Lyllus Dalbey	Kathie Toedtli Pat Dobry
3/7	Communion Highland & Crossroads						
3/13	Lenten Flowers			Same	Misty, Ben and William Nollette	Pat Dobry	Sherri Fry Kim Hielscher
3/20	Lenten Flowers			Same	Dennis and Sandy DeBusk	Marty Jones	Barb Kendle Laona Perrin
3/24	Maundy Thursday	1) S. Fry 2) B. Blakey	N. Green S. Kammerer L. Dalbey				
3/27	Lenten Flowers			Same	Pat Howell	Marty Jones	Sue Kammerer Ray Hielscher

Men's Breakfast

Our next Men's Life Breakfast will be on Saturday, March 12th at 8:00 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall. Men of the church, please come share in our time of fellowship and remember to invite a friend to come too!



Do unto others...with soup! Remember our ministry of soup and take it out into the community. Invite those you bless to church. Tell them we care!



Per Capita for 2016 is \$48.00 per Member.

February Receipts

Offerings	2/7	2/10	2/14	2/21	2/27	Monthly	Bal. Fwd	YTD - 2016
Pledged Offerings	3,754.00		1,773.50	988.50		6,516.00	10,298.87	16,814.87
Un-pledged Offerings	345.00		560.00	130.00		1,035.00	2,145.00	3,180.00
Loose Offerings	42.00		47.00	51.00		140.00	90.00	230.00
Total Offerings	\$4,141.00	\$0.00	\$2,380.50	\$1,169.50	\$0.00	\$7,691.00	\$12,533.87	\$20,224.87

Cookie Corner...

Have you signed up to make and serve cookies for fellowship time after church on Sunday? These people have:



March 6—Open

March 13—Jill Green

March 20—Pat Howell/Pat Dobry

March 27—Open

Thank you for participating and making our after worship time a delicious time together!

Flower Ministry

Our new flower calendar can be found on the bulletin board in the church narthex. Please sign-up to provide flowers for our Sunday services. Please don't forget that there are also seasonal bouquets now that have been provided by the Presbyterian Women for you to use when sponsoring a Sunday for flowers. Thank you for participating in this ministry and making our church beautiful and appealing!



Circle Meetings

Good Morning Circle will be meeting on March 2nd at 9:00 a.m. at the church.

Linda Johannes and Georgia Heckman are Hostesses.

Serendipity Circle will be meeting on February 2nd at 1:30 p.m. with Marcia Boots as Hostess

C.T. Will meet on March 16th with coffee at 9:00 a.m. followed by the meeting at 9:30 a.m. Hostess is Helen McConnell.

March Birthdays

- 2 Steve Blakey
- 6 JoAnn Tolstedt
- 7 Barb Kendle
- 7 John Prella
- 8 Manda Clarke
- 9 Barrett Haller
- 10 Janet Schlattmann
- 17 Floyd Swanson
- 18 Jaelynn Clarke
- 19 Jayden Kim
- 20 Jill Green
- 20 Michael Braga
- 21 Jennifer Sampson
- 22 Jess Clarke
- 22 Douglas G. Thomas
- 23 Cherity Bedient



March Anniversaries

- 5 Jean and Paul Maxwell
- 9 Kevin and Roxanne Foster
- 24 Harold and Insun Colerick
- 25 David and Carmen Minnick
- 31 Dick and Diane Foland

"A wedding anniversary is the celebration of love, trust, partnership, tolerance and tenacity. The order varies for any given year."

Next month Presbyterian Women will be having their annual Spring Rummage Sale. Please keep them in mind when you are doing your spring cleaning. We have a wonderful collection of items but of course we can always use more, so there is still time for you to hit those closets, basements, and garages for items you'll no longer use. Thanks for your donations!



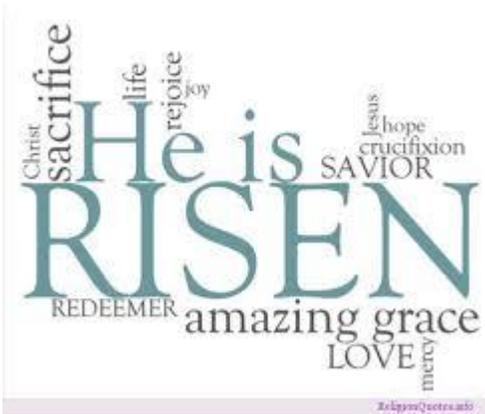


March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads -9:00 Missions Meeting	2 -9:00 Good Morning Circle at the Church L. Johannes/G. Heckman Hostesses -1:30p Serendipity Circle at the Church M. Boots Hostess	3 -9:00 Women of Faith -6:00p Living Stones -12:00 noon—Lenten Luncheon at First Presbyterian	4	5
6 Don't Forget Lenten Pals -8:00 Morning Star Bible Study -9:00 Adult Bible Study -9:50 Choir Practice -10:30 Worship, Communion -11:45 CYM, SPF, Outreach Mtg	7 -12:45p Communion Crossroads and Highland Park	8 -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads -6:30 Trustees Meeting	9 - 7:00p Choir Practice	10 -9:00 Women of Faith -6:00p Living Stones -1:30p Memorial Team Meeting -12:00—Noon-Lenten Luncheon Holy Rosary Church	11 -12:00 Noon Hilltoppers	12 -8:00 Men's Life Breakfast
13 Doves Sunday Don't Forget Lenten Pals -8:00 Morning Star Bible Study -9:00 Adult Bible Study -9:50 Choir Practice -10:30 Worship	14 - 7:00p Session Meeting	15 -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads	16 -9:00 C.T. Meeting H. McConnell Hostess	17 -9:00 Women of Faith -6:00p Living Stones -12:00 Noon—Lenten Luncheon Alliance Methodist Church	18	19
20 -8:00 Morning Star Bible Study -9:00 Adult Bible Study -9:50 Choir Practice -10:30 Worship -11:45 Deacons Meeting -11:45 Lenten Pals Luncheon	21	22 -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads CHIMES DEADLINE	23 -7:00p Choir Practice	24 - 9:00 Women of Faith -7:00p Maundy Thursday Service	25 Good Friday 12:00 noon-3:00p Church Open for Prayer and Meditation	26
27 Resurrection Sunday -7:30 Sunrise Service -8:00-9:30 Easter Breakfast -9:50 Choir Practice -10:30 Worship	28 -11:30 Ladies Lunch at Arbys -6:30p Prayer and Worship Meeting	29 -6:30 Early Morning Study Group -9:00 EWG at Crossroads	30	31 -9:00 Women of Faith -6:00p Living Stones	We live and die; Christ died and lived! ~John Stott	

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Return Service Requested



March 2016

Thoughts for the Journey...

Bless to Be Blessed -Dr. David Jeremiah

I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you.

Genesis 12:3a

NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, is made up of 28 member nations with 37 other nations involved in NATO programs. NATO was formed in 1949 to defend its members against attacks by nonmembers. The basic idea of such a coalition is: Any attack on one is an attack on all.

God's covenant with Israel is similar. God will bless all nations who bless Israel and will curse any nation that curses Israel. The ancient nations that attacked Israel have long since been covered over by the sands of time. It is no coincidence that

America has been the most blessed and prosperous nation on earth while being the chief ally and defender of Israel since her statehood in 1948. The promises of God regarding His relationship with Israel stand as a stark warning to any nation that chooses to be the enemy of Israel. It would behoove America and all nations to stand beside God's chosen people and pray and act for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6).

Israel is the most persecuted nation in human history. Every Christian (who desires God's blessing) should be a blessing to the Jews.

"I am proud of my part in the creation of this new state. Our Government was the first to recognize the State of Israel."

President Harry Truman