



Orange Presbyterian Church

Presbyterian Perspectives

February 2013

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Community Lenten Services



At St. Thomas' Episcopal Church
Wednesdays at 12:15 pm
(with light lunch after the service)

Theme: The Miracles of Jesus

- February 13 Preacher: Dr. Lin Hutton, St. Thomas (Ash Wednesday)
- February 20 Preacher: Dr. Denise Hall, Orange Presbyterian
- February 27 Preacher: Rev. Pat Nabers, Good Shepherd Lutheran
- March 6 Preacher: Rev. Jim Beavers, Christ Anglican
- March 13 Preacher: Rev. Rick Clore, Orange Baptist
- March 20 Preacher: Rev. Tom Barnard, Trinity United Methodist

The offering will go to the work of the Christian Emergency Council.

Ash Wednesday Service at Orange Presbyterian

Wednesday, February 15, at 7:00 pm. Imposition of ashes as we begin Lent.

Souper Bowl of Caring

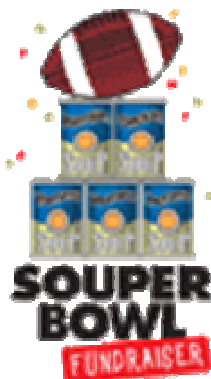
Sunday, February 3, 2013

Youth Connections is collecting soup for the
Love Outreach Food Pantry

Goal: 300 cans of soup

Bring your soup to the narthex
at church. Help us fight hunger
in our community!

Thanks for your donations!



**Orange Presbyterian
Church**

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Pastor's Ponderings

Why Observe Lent?

Not that long ago the practice of observing Lent was something new for Presbyterians. Many of us will recall folks with a dark smudge on their foreheads and figure it must be Ash Wednesday and they must be Roman Catholics or Episcopalians. And then, we, along with many, started having Ash Wednesday services and observing Lent.

So, why have we taken on this observance? Here are a few observations and thoughts.

Lent has been the practice of many Christians for centuries. Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent, which begins forty days prior to Easter. (Sundays are not included in the count).

Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline. In the early Church, this was the time when those seeking to be baptized (*catechumens*) would enter into preparation for receiving the sacrament of Baptism. Today, the church regards Lent as a time of looking inward, examining our lives and remembering our mortality. The purpose is to set aside time for reflection on Christ - his life, death, burial and resurrection.

There's something to be said for joining with other Christians around the world and down through the centuries. What better way to feel connected as

we move through the weeks of Lent knowing others are going along this journey as well.

It is noteworthy that things come full circle. The palm branches from Palm Sunday are burned and the ashes used for the Ash Wednesday service.

My appreciation for the Lord's Supper has deepened as I realized the significance of that meal. It is during Holy Week, Jesus' last days on earth, that he shares that meal with his disciples. On Maundy Thursday evening as we gather for worship, I am always struck as we prepare to receive the bread and the cup. I often have a lump in my throat as I say those time-honored words, "On the night before our Lord Jesus was betrayed...." We are following Jesus' command as we share together communion.

And any occasion that compels us to examine our life and faith is a good thing. By engaging in times of prayer and reading the scriptures, we come face-to-face with our Lord.

For all these reasons and more, I encourage you to observe a holy Lent. Ponder these two scriptures:

· *Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in the faith.* (2 Corinthians 13:5)

· *Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.* (James 4:8)

Looking forward to Lent,

Denise
#



Preschool Corner

It's always difficult to return to work after the long holiday, but not so much when you are greeted by 38 little people who are thrilled to see you! What a wonderful way to begin the new year.

The older children have focused on the calendar, weather, and hibernation. They made snow letters out of sugar cubes, a clock calendar for the months, and made bear caves. On January 11, National Thank You Day, they wrote letters to the post office, the fire department, and the police department thanking them for their service to the community. They also wrote thank you cards to Pastor Denise

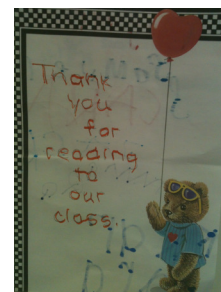
and Miss Melanie in the office.

The younger class has learned about penguins and have also just begun letter sound program we have called Zoophonics. They've made bird feeders, polar bears, and penguin snow globes.

Both classes had Pajama Day. We had piles of pillows where we snuggled with the bears they brought and read lots of books.

We'd love for anyone to read to either class. Any day at 11:30 am would be great! Thank you for your constant support!

Mrs. Ski



February 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2  Robin Kendall
3  Allison Norberg 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Communion Souper Bowl	4  Winnie Higgins Ryan Gibson	5  Ted Sherwin 10:30 Morning Circle 12:30 Knitters	6 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	7  Dianne Haberland Committees	8	9  Elsa Haberland
10 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:15 Admin. Mtg.	11	12 12:30 Knitters	13  7:00 Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 Adult Choir	14 6:30 Finance	15  Olivia Ernst 6-10 Free Friday Fun	16 Presbytery of the James meeting (Richmond)
17 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 4:00 & 4:45 Services at Dogwood Village	18	19 12:30 Knitters	20 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	21	22	23  Taylor Gibson
24 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5 Cents-a-Meal	25	26  Lynne Clements 12:30 Knitters	27 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	28 7:00 Evening Circle	1	 Indicates Birthday

Greeters

- 3 Lynn and Lynne Clements
- 10 Ralph and Carol Sue Graves
- 17 Lloyd and Alice Parcell
- 24 Debbie Rexrode

Nursery Helpers

- 3 Ralph Graves and Denise Samuels
- 10 Rachel Gibson and Jim Reid
- 17 Connie and Allison Norberg
- 24 Robert and Ellen Kendall

Acolytes

- 3 Jackson Warmack
- 10 Lyndsey Norberg
- 17 Avery Warmack
- 24 Hannah Frobom

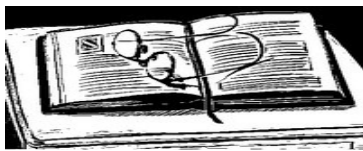
Children's Church

- 3 Dawn Phillips and Melanie Rose
- 10 Ellen and Grace Kendall
- 17 Lynne Clements and Ann Taylor Mohrmann
- 24 Tracy, Rick and Taylor Munger

Lectionary Readings for February

These readings are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) and are often the basis for the sermon and anthem. These readings are offered to help in your preparation for worship on Sunday.

While we don't necessarily have four readings on Sunday, the lectionary provides an Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel reading to prepare for worship on Sunday.



February 3

Jeremiah 1:4-10
 Psalm 71:1-6
 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
 Luke 4:21-30

February 10

Exodus 34:29-35
 Psalm 99
 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
 Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

February 17

Deuteronomy 26:1-11
 Psalm 91:1-2; 9-16
 Romans 10:8b-13
 Luke 4:1-13

February 24

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
 Psalm 27
 Philippians 3:17-4:1
 Luke 13:31-35

Session Meeting Highlights

- Approved minutes from the December 20, 2012 Stated Session meeting, the January 6, 2013 Called Session meeting, and the January 6, 2013 Congregational meeting.
- Approved the Administrative Manual with the separation of the Personnel and Administrative Committees.
- Approved that 16 hours of vacation time be built into each custodian's annual salary.
- Approved that a letter be included in the end-of-the-year contribution statements giving the congregation an update on the 2013 budget and pledges.
- Approved the following offerings: Souper Bowl Sunday, February 3 (previously approved); CROP walk, March 9 (previously approved); One Great Hour of Sharing, March 31 (Easter); Pentecost Offering, May 19 (Pentecost); Peacemaking Offering, October 6 (World Communion Sunday); Christmas Joy Offering, December 22 (Advent/Christmas); 5-cents-a-meal/Cents-ability Offering, last Sunday of the month.
- Approved holding an Ash Wednesday service on February 13 at 7:00 pm
- Approved communion dates: first Sunday of the month, Maundy Thursday, and Christmas Eve.
- Elected Lynne Clements and Cheryl Lewis to serve as commissioners to the Presbytery meeting on February 16 in Richmond.

Respectfully submitted,
 Sandra McLeod Clerk

Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2012

Beginning Balance	\$ 4,955.12	Other Funds:	
Income	\$ 24,033.35	5 Cents-a-Meal	\$ 169.50
Expenses	\$ 24,962.57	Joy Gift Offering	\$ 308.10
Ending Balance	\$ 4,025.90		
Tax Liabilities	\$ 2,301.99		
available Funds	\$ 1,723.91		

Honor Roll



The Honor Roll recipient for the month of January is Alice Parcell. As a long-time member of the Orange Presbyterian Church, Alice has been active in many aspects of our ministry. She has served on the session and on various committees, including the Youth and Christian Education Committee. She has worked in the nursery and served as a greeter welcoming us in the door on Sunday mornings. Alice is very supportive of our Holiday Bazaar, bringing lots of food and jelly to sell. Did you ever wonder where that jelly comes from that we give to our church visitors? Alice provides it! Being such a great cook, Alice willingly provides food for those sick at home, for church funeral receptions, coffee fellowships, and pot luck meals.

If you have ever needed a ride to a doctor's appointment or to church on Sunday, Alice is there to volunteer. One of the big things that Alice does that many of us would not feel comfortable doing is to open their house to host guests of the church when we have guest speakers like for the Presbyterian meeting. Alice is an avid gardener, and if you have ever been in their home you will notice many paintings that Alice has done. She is a wonderful artist. Finally, Lloyd says the biggest thing that Alice does is keep him straight! Alice, thanks for all you do for our church and our community.

Confirmation Class Planned

A Confirmation Class is being planned. If you are a young person and have not made your profession of faith, this is a time to learn about the church and to make your public profession of faith.

Please contact Pastor Denise to let her know if you are interested. We will meet for several weeks and discuss our faith and commitment to our Lord. What does it mean to follow Jesus? Do I have to be perfect to be a Christian? What does it mean to be a church member. These questions and more will be discussed.

Orange/Madison CROP Walk Ending Hunger One Step at a Time

Saturday, March 9, 2013
at 8:30 pm

The walk begins and ends at
Orange Presbyterian Church.

You can walk as an individual or put together a group. Pick up your pledge sheets from Pat Stewart.

We will leave the OPC parking lot, cross over to Peliso Street, then right on Spicers Mill, right on James Madison Highway, and right on Main Street back to OPC.



Thanks for helping to fight hunger!

Adults Wild on Life—AWOL

Driving Miss Daisy
Wednesday, February 20, 2013
Time and Place TBA



Join AWOL on Wednesday, February 20 for lunch and a movie. We will be watching an old favorite: *Driving Miss Daisy*. Bring your lunch; drinks will be provided. Please sign up so we will know how many are going to be there. There is no charge for this AWOL - just come and enjoy some fellowship and a good movie.

Coffee Fellowship Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to host the coffee fellowship on Sundays after worship. The sheet to sign up is posted on the bulletin board in the East Room. Feel free to find someone to host with you and make it a group effort.

Shepherds are encouraged to have your flocks host a coffee fellowship and any other church groups are welcome to host as well.



FREE FRIDAY FUN FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15



**6:00-10:00 PM
WE'RE BACK!!**

This is a great opportunity for parents to have an evening out and for the children to have a fun evening at the church

Crafts, playtime, and special activities are planned.

Dinner will be served to the children.

Call Debbie Rexrode (661-2735) to let her know your children will be attending!

Our Giving

The 2013 Budget has been included in this newsletter as a way of sharing with the congregation what the session anticipates our giving will be in 2013. This budget will guide the committees in their work throughout the year.

Your generosity through your pledges and your giving provide the means by which we do ministry at the Orange Presbyterian Church. We are a generous congregation gave more than \$26,000 to benevolences in 2012 (\$14,400 through our budgeted line items and another \$12,352 through our special Presbyterian offerings, the Christmas bazaar, and the Clean Water Fund).

Even when your pledge is undesignated, your giving is being used to provide many outreach ministries. Think about all the groups who have an opportunity to meet in our facility because we provide heat and light. Think about activities such as Vacation Bible School and our Preschool who reach out to others in the community. We are a presence in the Orange community because of the work and ministry we do.

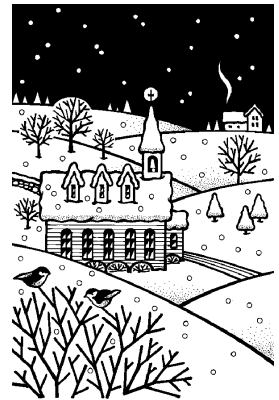
May God continue to bless our gifts!

Winter Weather Schedule Changes

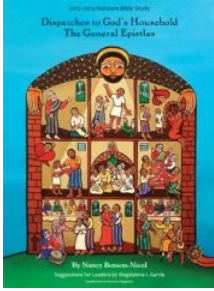
In the event of winter weather affecting our area, Orange Presbyterian Church will make every attempt to hold Sunday School at 9:45am and Worship at 11:00am. We will do our best to clear our parking lot and walkways to ensure the safety of members and visitors.

While we have experienced a rather mild winter, if the weather situation becomes treacherous, we will cancel services and activities at the church. Our practice is that the pastor confers with the clerk of session to make the decision about cancelling the service. If time permits, the Shepherds will make calls to the members of their flock. On those occasions when we have cancelled services, the decision is not made until Sunday morning. We make every effort to contact the local radio and TV stations. You should check these television stations: WVIR TV - Channel 29, NBC; WVAW TV - Channel 16, ABC; WCAV TV - Channel 19, CBS. Radio station: WJMA - 103.1 FM You can also call Pastor Denise: Home: 661-3231 and cell phone number: 661-6377.

In all situations, please use your best judgment. Take into consideration your own safety and well-being. Even though we may be holding services, your own particular circumstances will need to be taken into account. If it is not safe for you to travel to the church, then stay safe and warm at home.



Presbyterian Women



- The Morning Circle meets on Tuesday, February 5 at 10:30 am in the East Room. Join us for worship, fun, food, and fellowship. Please contact Shirley Newman at 672-1023 for more information.

- The Evening Circle will meet on Thursday, February 28 at

7:00 pm in the Prayer Chapel. Please contact Lynne Clements for more information.

Stamps

Many thanks to all who turned in cancelled commemorative stamps recently. Mrs. Reinhold has sent a prompt appreciative letter, as always, stating that the box of stamps had arrived.

This letter will replace former letter from Mrs. Reinhold on the bulletin board near the office, along with a dear picture of a little girl receiving a new hymnal. There are a few rejected stamps, too, explaining why they couldn't be used.

Thank you all again – and keep collecting for the next mailing!

Lavinia Phillips

Prayer Requests

- Ed Marks
- Cynthia Pedersen
- Maruchi Moreth
- Jean Berckman
- Mike Lewis
- Wendell Nix



- Louise Lord at Dogwood Village
- Billy Fitch at Dogwood Village
- Richard and Thelma Sanford at Dogwood Village
- Margaret Chewning at Dogwood Village
- Pat McCauley at America House



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