

First Presbyterian Church
721 Church St.
Jefferson City, TN 37760

LECTIONARY

March 6 (Transfiguration of the Lord)

Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2:1-12 or Psalm 99:1-9
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

March 9 (Ash Wednesday)

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

March 13 (1st Sunday of Lent)

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32:1-11
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

March 20 (2nd Sunday of Lent)

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121:1-8
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

March 27 (3rd Sunday of Lent)

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95:1-11
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

Meetings This Month

Worship—March 2nd at 6:30 p.m.
Session—March 16th at 6:30 p.m.
Fellowship & Evangelism—March 16th at 8 p.m.
Christian Education—March 23rd at 6:30 p.m.

SESSION


























Due to our Ash Wednesday Service, the March Session meeting will be on Wednesday, March 16th.

Treasurer's Report February 2011

February 6	\$5,281.00
February 13	\$4,966.00
February 20	\$2,806.00
February 27	\$0,000.00
TOTAL	\$13,053.00

A completed report will be available following collection on Sunday, February 27th.

(We need \$15,387.83 to meet the monthly budget.)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		 Bill Vest, Jr.	 Worship Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	 Gary & Jennifer Bates		 Ben Deaton
COMMUNION 6 Sunday School — 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service — 10:45-11:45 a.m.	 Deborah Scarlett  Kathy Fulweiler	 Chet & Carol Bergman	 Family Night Supper/Ash Wednesday Service 6:30 p.m.	 Matt Gowan	 Dian Wise  Alice Pryor	 Bonnie Young  Samuel Hollingshead
FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY 13 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. DON'T FORGET TO SPRING YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD			 Session — 6:30 p.m. Mission Com. — 8 p.m. Fellowship/Evangelism Mtg. 8 p.m.  Kinney & Glenda Hollingshead			
		 Addison McDaniel  Doug & Carolyn Berryhill	 CE Meeting 6:30 p.m.			 Jim Forney
Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m.  Sandy Jaros			 Sherri Van Bruggen  Ina Hoxha  Tom Sites  Harold & Maureen Hicks	 Roxanne Moser		



The Amen Almanac

First Presbyterian Church, 721 Church St., Jefferson City, TN 37760

Phone/Fax: 865-475-2761 Dial-A-Devotion 865-475-5152 E-mail: fpcjctn@bellsouth.net

Dr. Robert M. Shurden, Interim Pastor

From the Interim Pastor's Desk...

My association with this congregation and the crossing over of denominational lines that it involves has proven to be an advantageous stage in my life of faith. I say that without any hint of criticism toward the tradition with which I have been a part since the inception of my Christian life. However, that tradition, along with other Protestants have often resisted embracing certain liturgical elements of the ecclesiastical calendar that Irene and I have found meaningful and would have preferred to see practiced more. To its credit our home church has made major strides in correcting this shortcoming of other evangelicals. All this to say that we are anticipating with great excitement the observance of the season of Lent as we prepare for and reflect upon the significance of the death/resurrection of Jesus for our lives.

The word, Lent, is derived from a German term and means spring time, something we all are awaiting with joy and delight. But it also has come to refer to a forty day period that begins on Ash Wednesday and leads the believer through a journey to Calvary and on to the empty tomb. It aims at providing us with periods whereby we prepare ourselves through prayer, repentance, charitable giving, and self discipline for the passion that Jesus experienced and the victory of resurrection following the cross. Like Advent that is observed in anticipation of Christmas, Lent magnifies the need for introspection, a time for looking inward. But it is one thing to prepare ourselves for an event like birth and the joy it evokes. The introspection requires refinement when the struggle consists of striving to cope with judgment, punishment, and ultimately death.

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus underscored three acts of piety which can enhance our lives whether facing joy or sadness. He also contended that they should be performed without a desire for self acclaim. The three were prayer, invoking God's assistance for the struggle; penitence and fasting, admitting our lives need discipline to transcend the struggle; and almsgiving, action that distracts us from our own hurt by helping to relieve that of others. May our exercises during Lent lead us through the pain suffered by him for us and thrust us to the other side of Calvary where the empty tomb returns us to the joy of new life.

Announcements

WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Our next Women's Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, March 5th at 9 a.m. at Libby Moser's house. We will be continuing our study on "Simplicity". If you have any questions, please see Libby. We hope to see you there!

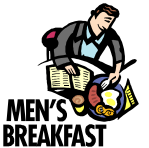


MARCH FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Our March Family Night Supper will be on **Wednesday, March 9th**, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Our Ash Wednesday Service will follow. Please bring a dish and join us for an evening of fellowship! **Please note that our Family Night Supper for March is on the SECOND Wednesday!**

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

The next Men's Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, March 12th at 8 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall.



MARCH GOING-ON GROUP

The Going-on Group will be traveling to Knoxville on Tuesday, March 15th to visit the Museum of East Tennessee History. The paintings & sculptures of Jim Gray are shown in the new exhibit, "Roads I've Traveled: the Life's Work of Jim Gray." Admission is \$4, lunch will be at the Tomato Head on Market Square at 12:30 p.m. If you would like to carpool, please meet at the church by 10:00 a.m. If you have any questions, call Barbara Wilson at 475-8585 or Jama Seahorn at 475-3833.

SIT 'N KNIT GROUP



On Friday, March 18th at 7 p.m. we will be having the Sit 'n Knit gathering at Libby Moser's house. The group will be meeting on the third Friday of each month. If you have any questions, please see Libby.

USHERS, GREETERS and NURSERY ASSISTANTS

Within in the next few weeks, I will be compiling the second quarter schedule of Ushers, Greeters & Nursery Attendants. If you would like to be added/removed from any of these lists, please let me know by no later than Sunday, March 20th. **We especially need nursery assistants!** Thanks, Heather.



SMOKY MOUNTAIN (NONCOMPETITIVE) HIKING CLUB

The Smoky Mountain Hiking Club will meet on Saturday, March 26th at 8 a.m. for our second hike of the season. We will be hiking to Boogerman Loop: This is a 6.6 mile loop trail out of Cataloochee, which has been described as "Cades Cove without the tourists." In addition to the hike, you can see some of the historic sites in the valley, and possibly some elk. Don't forget to pack a lunch and some water and plan to join us!



EASTER EGG HUNT



If you would like to donate candy or make a monetary donation for the Children's Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday April 24th, please have it at the church by Sunday, April 3rd. If you have any questions, contact Kathy Juroff or the Church Office.



YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Plans are being made for the youth to visit Sunset Gap, a non-profit service community affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in late June this year. We need parents/members to chaperone. If you are able to take a week or part of a week to serve our youth & your church in this way, please call Kathy Juroff at 475-8634 or email jkjur@charter.net for more information.

A PARTY FOR OUR NEW GRANDMOTHERS!

Please join us for a drop-in party for Juanita Dykstra and Dianne Reagan, to celebrate their new role as grandmothers. The party will be on March 5, 1-3 pm, at Linda Noonkesser's home (215 Greenbriar Road, Talbott). Instead of gifts, please bring suggestions on how to be a grandparent from a distance – and what activities to have ready when the kiddos come to visit. These can be ideas for crafts, field trips, books, games, DVDs, songs/instruments, etc. Cards will be available at the party to record your ideas, or you can prepare your cards ahead of time. Please sign them and bring two copies for the two Necessary Baskets – one for each granny. If you have questions, please contact hostesses Linda Noonkesser, Teresa Vest, Del Deaton, or Carolyn Berryhill.



APRIL HABITAT FOR HUMANITY FUNDRAISER

The Jefferson County Habitat for Humanity "Dogwoods and Daffodils" Fundraiser will include a Fashion Show by Goody's of Jefferson City, Luncheon and a Petite Items drawing. The fundraiser will take place on Saturday, April 9 at the First Baptist Church, Dandridge. Doors will open at 10:30 am for viewing Drawing Items. Luncheon will be served at 12 noon. Tickets are \$20.00 (\$10 is tax deductible) and are available for purchase from JoAnne Vest or at the Habitat Thrift Store on Hwy 92. If you would like to donate a new item or basket for the drawing call JoAnne at 475-5111 or 608-4416.

Dear Church Family ,

This is a very difficult time for all of us . We are very saddened by the passing of my brother Ivi. He has left a void that as long as we live it will never be filled . It was very thoughtful and kind for all of you to take the time to express your condolences. Your words were not only comforting, but a source of strength for my family and I. You have seen me grow through many stages of life. You introduced me to a whole new world of faith. I will never know the reasons why my parents had to bury a son, and why I had to bury my beloved brother; but I do know that you have taught me to have faith, and to believe that there is a GOD, a loving GOD . You were the beginning of my journey with GOD, and today in the midst of this tragedy, I still have hope, that with you, and God in my corner my pain will ease as we remember Ivi in every sunrise and every sunset.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart,
Ina Hoxha & Family.

MEET OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS

NURSERY ATTENDANT



Name: Carly Kirkpatrick

School: Junior at Jefferson County High School

Interests: art, outdoors, music, hanging out with friends & family, summertime

Sports: JCHS soccer team
JCHS track team (sprints, hurdles, long jump and triple jump)

Hobbies: snowboarding, yoga, gymnastics, texting, "facebooking", drawing and painting, shopping, hiking

Future Plans: wants to attend University of TN or University of TN-Chatanooga — undecided major, but very interested in Fashion or Interior Design.

YOUTH DIRECTOR



Name: Madison Minor

Nickname: Maddie

Favorite Color: Pink

Interests: playing with my dogs Sophie and Peewee, hanging out with family/friends and my boyfriend Josh, singing.

Activities: Golf, working out, skiing, swimming and wakeboarding

Passion: singing solos and just entertaining in general

College: graduated from Carson Newman with a Human Services Degree in Fall of 2010

Hometown: Bradenton, FL currently living in Dandridge

Full-time job: Sales Rep. with Verizon Wireless

JUST A REMINDER OF OFFICE HOURS

Dr. Shurden is in the office on Tuesday and Thursday's from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and is available to meet by appointment. You can reach Bob in the Office at 475-2761, Home 475-4923, or Cell 850-6218.



DON'T FORGET, DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH.



March 2011 Ushers, Greeters, Nursery Schedule

March 6

Ushers — John and Debby Rinehart
Greeters — Pat and Mary Ellen Patton
Nursery — Suzanne Fearnside

March 13

Ushers — Dick Gombert and Ted Folsom
Greeters — Bill and JoAnne Vest
Nursery — Bili Ledgerwood

March 20

Ushers — J Moser and Jake Moser
Greeters — John Zirkle and Phil Williams
Nursery — JoAnne Vest

March 27

Ushers — Johan Koppier and John Zirkle
Greeters — Vivian Gerber and Bili Ledgerwood
Nursery — Dianne Reagan



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO ARE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

LCpl Pryor (Dennis IV), F.D. 1st BN, 23rd MAR WPNS CO 1st PLT Unit 42094 FPO AP 96427-2094	Col. Martha Sanders 99-1440 Aiea Heights Dr. #22 Aiea, HI 93701-2904
Major Michael Stinnett 9 Lost Valley Dr. Huntington, WV 25705	Major Chris Hornburg 25617 Creek Run Terrace South Riding, VA 20152
Major Kevin Hornburg Major Amy Carpenter 111 Grandview Dr. Hampton, VA 23664	Mathew Goodrich SOTF TARIN KOWT APO AE 09380
Spec. Taylor Belton Bravo 3-2, ADA APO, AE 09853	Randy White Stationed in Afghanistan

If you have a family member or friend who is serving in the Armed Forces, please let us know so that we can add them to our list.

The last card we received before Christmas is smaller in size than most. Its front is pale blue with a border of delicate silver scroll. A manger scene is depicted in pale blue and white. It is a quiet card until you read the declaration beneath the manger scene.

*He came to pay a debt He didn't owe
Because we owed a debt we couldn't pay*

Many of us have similar debts, debts we can't pay. Some are small. Some loom large. I call mine debts of gratitude. Allow me to share one with you.

Early one January afternoon, a couple and their two young daughters leave home for a nearby park. The nine year old is jumping and running ahead in the snow and the four year old, being pulled on a sled, is bundled up against the cold. At the park, they watch families sledding down and trudging back up the park's only hill. They pass empty swings and slides as they turn southward to see the buildup of ice on the shoreline of Lake Ontario. Their final stop is the outdoor skating rink. Skaters of all ages are at one end of the ice and aspiring hockey players, wielding Christmas hockey sticks, are busy at the other end.

It is a happy outing until an errant hockey puck strikes the young mother with such force it ruptures her spleen. There is prayer, surgery, then more prayer. Finally, in late April, she is able to leave the hospital. A few weeks later another child is expected. She is not fully recovered from the accident and is advised to end the pregnancy. A specialist agrees that to continue can only end in tragedy. The Reverend Mother at the hospital begs her to listen to the doctors for the sake of her family; but they are talking to a mother who can't see beyond her belief that life is scared and a precious gift. She thinks of her two little girls. She prays, she cries, and with immovable faith that God is ultimately in charge, vows to do all she can to give this little one a chance at life. The child is born five weeks early. Three weeks later, after a rough recovery for mother and child, the young family is one again reunited.

Oh yes, it was another girl. They named her Carol.

The Church calendar moves along bringing many opportunities to meditate on a love and grace we can hardly fathom. This month we will observe Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. It is a time of preparation and, for many, a time of fasting and making personal sacrifices. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the depth of our faith, as well as our short-coming. It is a time to think of the love given to us and sacrifice made for us, a debt paid on our behalf. I ask myself, are forty days enough?



SPRING RETREAT—APRIL 29-MAY 1

Now is the time to mark your calendars and make plans to attend our Spring Retreat at Holston Camp & Retreat Center in Banner Elk, North Carolina. Scheduling for the retreat includes hiking, shopping, reading, napping, sight seeing, and other opportunities for Christian fellowship and study. The retreat will begin on Friday evening and go through Sunday worship. Look for sign-up sheets in the Sunday bulletins, starting in mid-March. For more information, talk with our "retreat veterans" or call the church office at (865) 475-2761.





HIKING SCHEDULE-2011

ALL HIKES WILL DEPART FROM BEHIND THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 721 CHURCH STREET, JEFFERSON CITY, AT 8:00 A.M. ON THE DATE NOTED. DON'T FORGET APPROPRIATE FOOTWEAR, RAIN GEAR, LUNCH, AND A CAMERA.

FEBRUARY 19--GROTTO FALLS: For our first hike, we'll do an easy 2.6 mile roundtrip to Grotto Falls, a waterfall which is beautiful at any time of the year. (Those wishing more exertion may continue the additional 1.8 miles to Trillium Gap, then 0.2 miles to Brushy Mountain for some wonderful vistas.

MARCH 26—BOOGERMAN LOOP: This is a 6.6 mile loop trail out of Cataloochee, which has been described as "Cades Cove without the tourists." In addition to the hike, you can see some of the historic sites in the valley, and possibly some elk.

APRIL 16—PORTER'S CREEK: We'll plan on a 3.8 mile round trip to Fern Branch Falls; those who wish may go the additional 1.7 miles from the falls to campsite #31. There should be fabulous wildflowers in late April.

MAY 28—RICH MOUNTAIN LOOP: Originating in Cades Cove, this trail is a 5.5 mile loop, with the option for a drive through the Cove to follow.

JUNE 25—MOUNT CAMMERER: This will be our challenge hike for the year, and will serve as a good warmup for Mount LeConte. It's a 12 mile roundtrip to the restored stone fire lookout at the top, a steep hike, but well worth the exertion when you see the views.

JUNE 30—MOUNT LECONTE: We have spaces reserved at the lodge for those people who signed up last fall; those who wish to do a day hike may do the 11 mile roundtrip up the Alum Cave Bluff trail. (For this hike only, there will probably be no one meeting at the church, so plan to make your own arrangements to get to the trailhead.)

JULY 16—DEVIL'S BACKBONE: For this hike, we'll venture into deepest, darkest Cocke County (4 wheel drive vehicles required) and do a 6-10 mile roundtrip down the backbone and back. Near the trailhead are a firetower and an old family cemetery.

AUGUST 20—BIG CREEK: We'll do an easy 4.4 mile hike up the trail past Mouse Creek Falls and midnight Hole to a bridge which offers easy access to the river and a great spot for lunch.

SEPTEMBER 24—MOUNT STERLING: We'll do a 6 mile roundtrip to the old firetower, through an area where Methodist Bishop Frances Asbury was a circuit rider, and where militias were active during the Civil War.

OCTOBER 29--MAX PATCH: Our most respected hike,

this involves an easy walk to the top of the bald, which should afford beautiful views of the fall colors, with the option a 3-4 mile loop trail as well.

NOVEMBER 19—ELKMONT: Another popular hike. We'll do a 5 mile loop up Little River trail, to Cucumber Gap Trail, then Jakes Creek Trail back to Elkmont and a chance to see some of the cabins now being restored by the Park Service (and some of the ones that will be removed).

DECEMBER 31—OLD SUGARLANDS TRAIL: If the weather co-operates, we'll head down the trail for a 4-8 mile roundtrip, the length depending on weather, trail conditions, and hiker stamina; it should be a good way to end the year.



FAMILY & FRIENDS OF:

Erna Zimmerman, Sandy Jaros' mom, who passed away

SPECIAL CONCERNS:

Dennis Pryor IV, Denny & Alice's grandson, who left for Afghanistan on Friday

Ina Hoxha Carhart

Ryan Wilbanks, Frances Wolf's grandson

Members of the military and their families

The unemployed

ILL AND RECOVERING:

Nancy Johnson, Debby Rinehart's sister-in-law, who is undergoing radiation

Irene Young, friend of Frances Wolf, who undergoing chemotherapy

Sandy Jaros, who is undergoing chemotherapy

Gene Inzer, Judy Finley's brother-in-law

Jan Haney, friend of Martha Sanders, who is undergoing therapy as the result of a stroke

Billy Barner, friend of JoAnne Vest, who has been diagnosed with cancer

Lauren Drees, mother of Whitney Folsom's fiancé, who is undergoing chemotherapy

Freida Hunley, Judy Finley's daughter

Jean Orth, Bili Ledgerwood's sister-in-law, who has been diagnosed with lung cancer

Chris Jarrett, Debby Rinehart's cousin, who is undergoing treatment for cancer

Lennis Williams, Phil Williams' mother

Tim O'Neill, Frances Wolf's brother, who has been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease

Ardelia Evans, Allen Evans' mother

Annette Hall, Deborah Scarlett's mom

THOSE UNABLE TO BE WITH US:

Lucille Tinsley

Bonnie Young

IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES:

DARBY HOUSE: Pam Rutherford, Betty Wolfe

CHANDLER HOUSE: Argie Saylor, Helen Hodges

ELMCROFT (Knoxville): Aileen Wilson

JEFF. COUNTY NURSING HOME: Elizabeth Felknor,

Ruth Lambertson. Frances Woodruff. Isabel Sites