

# The Amen Almanac

First Presbyterian Church, 721 Church St., Jefferson City, TN 37760 Phone/Fax: 865-475-2761

E-mail: fpcjctn@bellsouth.net Website: www.fpcjeffcity.org

Rev. Diana Moore, Interim Pastor

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

### From the Interim Pastor's Desk...

During the time I have been working on this newsletter article, my ministers' study group looked at the passage from 1 Corinthians 13 – the chapter on love. We most frequently hear this passage at weddings. What we sometimes forget is that this passage was written to a church community reminding them of how they were to treat each other. This passage comes in the section of First Corinthians where Paul reminds the community of faith in Corinth about spiritual gifts and that we are all part of the same body. The 13<sup>th</sup> chapter reminds us how we are to treat others, that we are to love each other. The chapter gives some illustrative examples of loving behavior. Love cares for others more than for self. Love doesn't keep a record of complaints. Love doesn't seek to take advantage. It is not rude. Too often we'll hear someone just throw out the words "You know I love you" but when we look at their actions it is clear for that individual the word "love" has no real meaning for them because their actions certainly do not demonstrate love.

Children are often have clearer vision on what love is than adults do. Recently, I re-discovered a list entitled "What Kids Say About Love." A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year-olds, "What does love mean?" The answers they got were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined. I love these responses.

## Announcements

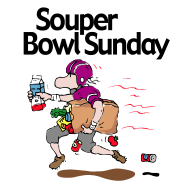
### TAI CHI



On Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. there will be a Tai Chi class in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Shannon Collins.

### GOING-ON GROUP

The Going On group will be meeting in the fellowship hall on Thursday, **February 4<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 a.m.** to eat lunch and watch a movie (one that will make us laugh!) Come join us and bring a sandwich - chips, drinks and a dessert will be furnished. If you have any questions, please feel free to call either Helen Jolley (475-3227) or Alice Pryor (475-7158.)



### SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

We are participating in Souper Bowl of Caring through our Five-Cents-A-Meal Offering on Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. The children/youth will collect the offering & are encouraged to wear their favorite team colors! All money given will be sent to Holston Presbytery, and the total amount collected will be reported to The National Souper Bowl Organization. Please plan to give generously!

### YOUTH MISSION TRIP/GENERAL PLANNING MEETING AND LUNCH



On Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, immediately following Worship, we will be having a meeting for all parents and youth (at least one parent must attend with the interested youth) who are interested in going on the Youth Mission Trip. We will also be planning events for the upcoming months. Lunch will be provided. If you have any questions, please call the church office.



### FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER/ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Our February Family Night Supper will be on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. Our Ash Wednesday Service will be in the Sanctuary immediately following dinner at 7:30 p.m. Please bring a dish or two to share. If you have any questions, please see Roxanne Moser.

### MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

The next breakfast for the men in our church family is scheduled for Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will continue to be viewing and discussing a series of videos by Professor Luke Timothy Johnson of Emory University entitled *The Apostle Paul*. If you enjoy biscuits, bacon, and the Bible, join us for a new year of study and fellowship.



### WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST



The Women's Prayer Breakfast will meet on Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00-11:00 a.m., at the home of Eva Zirkle (1454 Royal Drive, Jefferson City). We will be continuing our study from our book titled "Living each day in Jesus' name". Bring your Bible and join us for our study. Contact Debby Rinehart (581-3135) or Eva Zirkle (475-4329) for more information.

### GRACE NOTES FLUTE CHOIR TO BE PART OF THE MUSIC WORSHIP TEAM AT THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH


The Grace Notes Flute Choir of Maryville, TN will be part of the music worship team at the First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, February 28. The Grace Notes Flute Choir is a not-for-profit organization of professional and amateur flutists that began 18 years ago as a flute quartet. We have grown steadily over the years in membership and expanded the number of instruments used to include the piccolo, concert flute, alto flute, bass flute and contra bass flute. We welcome inquiries from flutists interested in auditioning for membership in the ensemble.


Grace Notes is an ensemble that was inspired by the uniquely ethereal and uplifting sound of multiple flutes to dedicate themselves to enhancing the experience of worship in their churches. We rapidly expanded our mission to include serving the needs of non-profit organizations, school age children and the elderly.


We reach out to all ages and are strongly committed to enriching and expanding the musical education of our youth through performances and teaching. Also, our membership is open to capable young flutists.

The Choir has a Christmas CD available for sale, and hope to make additional CDs in the future. The Choir, being a non-profit group, is supported by private donations, honorariums, sale of CDs, and fees for private performances. We are available to perform for schools, clubs, churches, weddings, and any other special event. The Coordinator and Director of Grace Notes is Dr. Sue Swilley. Individuals interested in more information or auditioning for the choir should contact Dr. Swilley at 865-397-7263. Dr. Swilley is a Professor Emeritus of Music at Carson-Newman University, teaches flute privately, and is an Adjunct Professor of Flute and Flute Choir at Carson-Newman University. She has been the Grace Notes Director since the Fall of 2003.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Eva Zirkle	2	3 TAI CHI 11:00 A.M.	4 GOING-ON GROUP 11:00 A.M. Mike Van Bruggen	5 Melissa Needs David Skeen	6
7 Communion Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. YOUTH MISSION TRIP/PLANNING MEETING	8	9 CHURCH STREET CAFÉ 5:00-6:30 P.M.	10 TAI CHI 11:00 A.M. FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER 6:30 P.M. ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 7:30 P.M.	11	12 MEN'S BREAKFAST 8:00 A.M. WOMEN'S BREAKFAST 9:00 A.M.	13
14 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m.	15	16 Mike & Pam Kustermann	17 TAI CHI 11:00 A.M. SESSION 6:30 P.M. Lucas Kirkpatrick	18	19 SIT 'N KNIT GROUP 7:00 P.M.	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE HIKING GROUP 8:00 A.M. Wayne King
21 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. Helen Jolley	22 Harry Finley	23 CHURCH STREET CAFÉ 5:00-6:30 P.M.	24 TAI CHI 11:00 A.M. Bill & JoAnne Vest	25	26	27
28 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. GRACE NOTES FLUTE CHOIR	29					

**SIT 'N KNIT GROUP**  

 On Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m. we will be having the Sit 'n Knit gathering at the home of Eva Zirkle (1454 Royal Drive, Jefferson City). If you have any questions, please see Eva.

**SMOKY MOUNTAIN HIKING GROUP**  

 The Smoky Mountain Hiking Group will meet on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 a.m. to hike Twin Creeks Trail: This is a 4 mile round trip, beginning at the Bud Ogle Nature Trail. It's a good children's nature hike. Elevation gain 700 feet. Don't forget to pack a lunch and some water, and plan to join us!

**GRACE NOTES FLUTE CHOIR AND LUNCHEON**  

 On Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, we will have the Grace Notes Flute Choir joining us for Worship. Immediately following the worship service we are inviting everyone down the Fellowship Hall for a lunch of vegetable beef soup and corn bread. Please see Roxanne Moser, if you have any questions.

**TUSCULUM COLLEGE —2016 THEOLOGIAN-IN-RESIDENCE**  
 The nature of scripture at the time of Jesus, as revealed in the Dead Sea Scrolls will be the focus of the 2016 Theologian-in-Residence series. The series, sponsored by Tusculum College with funding from Ron Smith, will be led by Dr. Travis B. Williams, Assistant Professor of Religion at the College. Dr. Williams previously served as Theologian-in-Residence in 2014, when he lectured on the formation of early Christian identity in response to persecution.

As a New Testament scholar, Dr. Williams has published extensively in the area of 1 Peter. More recently, the Dead Sea Scrolls have come to hold an important place in his research. He has written on the pesher commentaries within the scrolls corpus, particularly as they relate to the phenomenon of inspired exegesis, and he is currently exploring the traditions surrounding the Teacher of Righteousness within the Dead Sea communities.

Although a native of East Tennessee, Dr. Williams received his doctorate in New Testament from the University of Exeter in England. After moving back to the U.S., he began his career at Tusculum in 2010. His teaching duties at the college focus primarily on the Jewish and Christian traditions; however, he regularly leads courses that fall within the broader sphere of Religious Studies. He and his wife, Amy have two sons (Bryce and Trent) and are members at First Presbyterian Church in Johnson City, where Dr. Williams serves as an elder.

**SESSIONS**  
 The Dead Sea Scrolls have been described as the most important archaeological find of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Since their initial discovery in 1947, this collection of over 900 manuscripts (written between the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE and the 1<sup>st</sup> century CE) has been the subject of concentrated study and intense debate. After years of excavation, reassembly, and translation, the scrolls have profoundly shaped the modern understanding of ancient Judaism and early Christianity. One of the many benefits of these texts is the new light they shed on the nature of the Bible during the time of Jesus. This corpus has helped to clarify not only which books held a place of authority within ancient Judaism, it has also provided an unprecedented window into the way that the scriptural text was transmitted in antiquity—including the manner in which scribes omitted problematic passages, added their own insights, and rewrote stories to align with their ideology.

**Session 1: Feb. 2 – What are the Dead Sea Scrolls?** This session will introduce the Dead Sea Scrolls, explaining both what they are and what they are not. It will detail the history of their discovery, along with the various conspiracy theories surrounding their publication.

**Session 2: Feb. 9 – Who Wrote the Dead Sea Scrolls?** In this session, we will attempt to identify the group associated with the Dead Sea Scrolls. Various Jewish movements from the Second Temple period will be considered, and we will explore the connection between the caves in which the scrolls were found and the ruins of the nearby settlement at Khirbet Qumran.

**Session 3: Feb. 16 – The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Transmission of Scripture** This session will examine the fluidity of the scriptural text, as revealed in the biblical manuscripts found at Qumran. In addition, we will review the phenomenon of "Rewritten Bible," which is a work that closely reproduces a biblical book (or portion of a book), but modifies the text by means of addition, omission, paraphrase, rearrangement, or other types of changes.

**Session 4: Feb. 23 – The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Limits of Scripture** In this session, we will discuss the view of continuing revelation (especially prophecy and inspired exegesis) which was held by the authors of the scrolls and its impact for understanding the nature of authoritative scripture. The discussion will conclude by considering which books held an authoritative position at Qumran, along with the reasons for their prominence.

*If you are interested in attending any of these Sessions, please call Eugenia Estes at 1-800-729-0256 ext. 5310 or email her at [eeestes@tusculum.edu](mailto:eeestes@tusculum.edu) for reservations.*



## JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

### JOYS:

Doug & Juanita Dykstra have a new grandson, Louis Baxter Dykstra

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

Jane Lester, Tom Kirkpatrick's mother, who passed away on Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>

Marian Heath, Gail Twine's Aunt, who passed away on Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>

Chip Hodgson, friend of Brian and Ashley Williams, who passed away

### SPECIAL CONCERNS:

Arlene Peck

Carly Kirkpatrick

Skylar McMillan, Diana's great-niece

Those who are struggling with addictions

Nathan Williams (job search)

Julie Adams

Family attending Church Street Café with serious health issues

All members of the military and their families, especially those stationed overseas

Alexander Cody, grandson of John and Joy Panella, who is deployed in the Middle East

Seth Beck, Neal's grandson

The Pastor Nominating Committee

Ruth Brown, PCUSA missionary in Congo

Government corruption in Brazil

Jamie Spohn

Joe Yannatter, son of Mary Metcalf

Bob and Irene Shurden

Angela Hart

Terry Jaros

The unemployed

Tiffany Adams

Roderick Dixon

### ILL AND RECOVERING:

Clara Osborne, friend of Arlene Peck, who is hospitalized with serious health problems

Jennifer Gowan's grandmother, who is recovering from knee surgery

Darla Parks, Gail Twine's niece, who will be undergoing surgery

Patricia Vollmer, Katie Lupton's mom, who is recovering from knee surgery

Diana Moore, who is recovering from eye surgery

Justin Lawson, friend of Rachael Williams

Tracy Davis, Joanne Vest's niece, who is undergoing testing to prepare for an intestine transplant

Bill Brown, friend of Debby Rinehart, who has metastatic cancer

Carolyn Armstrong, Arlene Peck's sister

Bill Parker, Arlene Peck's cousin

Jim Patterson, friend of Mike and Pam Kustermann, who is awaiting a prosthetic leg

Linda Raines, friend of the Folsoms and Clousers, who is recovering from surgery

Marva Beck, Neal's daughter, who is recovering from surgery

Charlie May Bozeman, Mary Hodges' mother

Pat Poitier, friend of Arlene Peck, who has a rare tumor

Marion Clark, friend of Gail Twine, who has been diagnosed with liver cancer

Brent McLean, Heather Hill's brother, who is undergoing chemotherapy treatments

Curtis Maples, CSC attendee, who is recovering from surgery

Jayden Dixon's mom and dad

Charles Forester, who has cancer

Hunter Williams, CSC attendee, infant having trouble gaining weight

Carolyn Free, CSC attendee, who is having health issues

JoeLene Yannatter, CSC attendee

Charles Chandler, Ameriah Chandler's paw-paw, who is having health issues

Georganne Guysinger, friend of Nancy Agee, who has breast cancer

### IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES:

CHANDLER HOUSE: Argie Saylor, C.R. Vest

HERITAGE CENTER: Bonnie Young

JEFFERSON COUNTY NURSING HOME: Celeste Reneau, Lucille Tinsley



### WHAT IS LENT?

Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. Traditionally, the season of Lent has been a period of faith formation in the church. It is a time when many Christians observe a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, and spiritual discipline. The purpose is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ and as a way of spiritually "joining" Jesus with the fasting and meditation he did in the wilderness.

Ash Wednesday is the start of the Lenten journey of 40 weekdays (Monday through Saturday) that takes the church to the eve of Easter. Sundays are not included in the count of the 40 days, as they are "little Easter" celebrations. Lent lasts for 40 days because, according to Biblical accounts, Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days of fasting, meditation, and reflection before beginning his ministry. See Matthew 4: 1-11, Mark 1: 12-13, and Luke 4: 1-13.

The word "Lent" is derived from a German word that was used originally to refer to the spring season generally. Over time, it replaced the Latin word "quadagesima" which means "forty days."

In many places around the world, the last day before Lent (known as Mardi Gras, Shrove Tuesday, Carnival, or Fasching) is celebrated as a last fling before the solemn days of Lent. Carnival is a common name because, for centuries, people were expected to fast by abstaining from meat during Lent, and the term *carnival* is Latin for "farewell to meat."

Although the Bible does not mention the custom of Lent, the practice of repentance and mourning in ashes is found in 2 Samuel 13: 19, Esther 4: 1, Job 2: 8, Daniel 9:3, and Matthew 11: 21.

I encourage you during this time of Lent to take a respite from the regular rhythms of life, and set aside time to study, pray, and read your Bible.

This information came from [www.about.com](http://www.about.com) and [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org).

### Fast – Feast

Fast from judging others;  
feast on Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from emphasis on differences;  
feast on the unity of all life.

Fast from words that pollute;  
feast on phrases that purify.

Fast from discontent;  
feast on gratitude.

Fast from anger;  
feast on patience.

Fast from pessimism;  
feast on optimism.

Fast from complaining;  
feast on appreciation.

Fast from negatives;  
feast on affirmatives.

Fast from hostility;  
feast on non-resistance.

Fast from bitterness;  
feast on forgiveness.

Fast from self-concern;  
feast on compassion for others.

Fast from discouragement;  
feast on hope.

Fast from lethargy;  
feast on enthusiasm.

Fast from suspicion;  
feast on truth.

Fast from thoughts that weaken.  
feast on promises that inspire.

Fast from idle gossip;  
feast on purposeful silence.

Fast from problems that overwhelm;  
feast on prayer that sustains.

From a newsletter at Fort Belvoir, VA.