

The

Messenger

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March, 2010

Sunday Services

8:15 a.m. - Chapel
9:00 a.m. - Sunday School for
All Ages
10:15 a.m. - Sanctuary

Phone: 816-363-1300

Fax: 816-363-4942

Webpage: secondpres.org

Church Office Staff

Interim Senior Pastor:

Rev. Dr. John Ross

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Don Fisher

Director of Music:

Cory Ganschow

Organist:

Tate Addis

Director of Children's & Youth Ministries:

Paula M. Isgrig

New Member & Volunteer

Coordinator: Tera Yakel

Controller:

Leanna Hattaway

Admin. Asst.:

Marsha Kirsch

Admin. Asst.:

Derinda Moore

Admin. Secretary:

Diane Hunter

Clerk of Session:

James H. Bernard, Jr.

Summary of Income and Expenses for 2010

| | Jan. | YTD |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Income | \$172,346 | \$172,346 |
| Expenses | 82,172 | 82,172 |
| Surplus/ (Deficit) | \$ 90,174 | \$ 90,174 |

*January income reflects payments
against 2010 pledges received in Fall
2009.



The Interim's Musings

CERTAIN OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Daily we are faced with uncertainties. Daily we are aware of the certainty of God's presence. The author of Hebrews began the great chapter on faith with the following statement:

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for
and certain of what we do not see.

On April 1, 2010, our journey of faith together will complete a full year. As your Interim Pastor, I thank God that we share a hope together for the future ministry of Second Presbyterian. Yet, we are certain of God's presence with us even when we are unable to see clearly what lies in the future. So, we are certain of God and fully aware of what can only be seen by God. Thus, we journey together by faith.

The Session at the regular meeting for February extended the contract we share together for an additional six months. Depending on the actions of the Pastor Nominating Committee, the Session can terminate my contract at any time with a two-month notice. For now, our journey together by faith continues. Let us continue to look out into the future with our eyes on Jesus, the great author and perfecter of our faith.

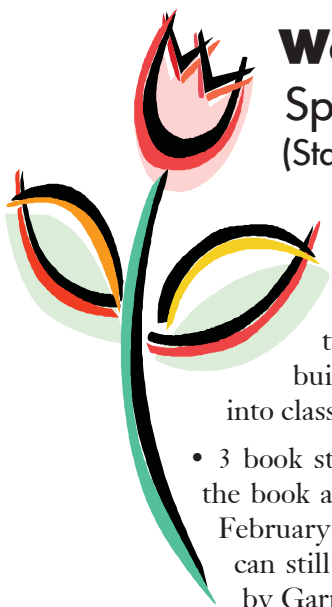
My wife, Tara, and I are pleased and proud to be a part of Second Presbyterian. Tara requests the privilege of offering Spiritual Direction to church members on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., beginning after March 15. The appointments would be for one hour and free of charge. A donation may be made to the church if a person so desires.

In February, the Session gave approval to this request. Tara will meet with those desiring conversation and prayer in the Celtic Room. She will handle her own appointment schedule and may be reached at her cell phone which is 520-730-4470.

Spiritual Direction is an invitation to a closer relationship with God. This focused journey of faith gives opportunities to reflect on the presence of God that is daily, but often taken for granted. Spiritual Direction is not so much about being 'directed' as being invited to an awareness of God's presence.

My wife practiced psychotherapy in a private practice for 16 years while we lived in Colorado. When we moved to Arizona, she took classes in Spiritual Direction, was spiritually directed by a loving mentor, and then entered a three-year degree program for Spiritual Direction at San Francisco Theological Seminary. She will attest that this rigorous academic endeavor was the highlight of her educational journey. Her previous degrees are from Mills College and the University of Northern Colorado. Her passion is to participate with fellow Christians as a guide and encourager in their spiritual life. So by faith, our hope in Christ is alive. We cannot see the future, but by faith, we journey one step at a time, certain of God's presence.

In Friendship and Christ's Love,



Wednesdays Together! Spring Edition - Updates... (Started February 24 and will conclude March 31, 2010)

During Lent, we are offering simple dinners and classes for all ages. Dinner will be served between 5:30 and 6:00 p.m. with a short community-building experience for all. At 6:00 p.m., we will break into classes for all ages and interests.

- 3 book studies, each 2 weeks long. Please obtain a copy of the book and read it before the class begins. Doug Hundley, February 24 and March 3 (If you missed the first session, you can still attend), *Head and Heart: American Christianities* by Garry Wills; Barbara Loots, March 10 and 17, *Gratefulness, the Heart of Prayer: An approach to Life in Fullness* by Brother David Steindl-Rast; Mark Johnson, March 24 and 31, *The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith* by Marcus Borg.

- 2 Bible Studies taught by Don Fisher and John Ross. (Three weeks each.) *Luke for Lent*, Three Wednesday Evenings, February 24, March 3, March 10, 6:00 p.m. (come at 5:30 p.m. for supper) *Perspectives on the journey of faith from Luke's Gospel*. Led by Don Fisher. You are welcome even if you cannot attend all classes.

- Love and Logic (parenting classes) taught by Margaret Fetter - \$100 per person, \$150 per couple; class participation limited. Margaret has over 20 years experience assisting families with parenting skills. She has taught Parenting with Love and Logic at The Family Conservancy for the past five years. She believes in strengthening the functioning of children and families so they can gain a greater degree of social competence in our ever-demanding world.

- Choir Rehearsal continues at its regular time, 7:30 p.m.

- Children (K-5th) will enjoy time creating at Creation Station.

- Youth (6th-12th) will enjoy multi-sensory worship and Lenten disciplines.

Nursery care available upon request.

RSVP by the Sunday before, so we have an accurate count for the meal.

Pastor Nominating Committee Update

For members who couldn't attend Second's Annual Meeting on Jan. 20, the PNC provided an update on its work since September 16 - when it started receiving applications from candidates. To date, the PNC has:

- Reviewed 96 applications
- Listened to 19 sermons, with an additional 31 lined up; and,
- Interviewed several candidates

The committee is grateful for the prayers and ongoing support of the church staff and the congregation.

Got Passion?

The Social Justice & Peacemaking Committee Needs YOU! Environmental issues. Sustainable sanctuary. Immigration reform. Health care reform. Haiti. These are just some of the issues about which SJP is seeking to provide education to the congregation. If you have an interest or passion for topics of the day that affect people's lives, come be a part of SJP.

We have a lot on our plate and can use your help! For more information, contact Laurie Fisher, 816-268-4770, or laurief@everestkc.net. Or speak to Bill Dickinson, Margaret Hansen, Harry & Glenda Self, Elaine Dalglish, Nancy Dixon or Sharon Hamil.

No Banners During Lent

A conscious decision was made 25 years ago not to develop and hang banners for Lent. One of the messages in the decision was that the empty Sanctuary beams should remind us of the emptiness of our lives without the risen Christ.

Confirmation 2010

Our class consists of Maddie Alexander, Maddie Amend, Jeremiah Clark, Joe Cochran. Katie Hornbeck, David Marsh, Andy McKee, and Seth Myers.

Their mentors are Michael Ashcraft, Susan Krusemark, Barbara Loots, Kathy McKee, David and Judy Penner, Jon Porter, and Shirley Wurth.

Paula M. Isgrig and Alice Pattison are teaching the class. Please keep these students, mentors, and teachers in your thoughts and prayers as they continue on their journey of faith.

First 2010 Cross-Lines Lunch

Monday, March 8

Please help by baking cookies, brownies, or cupcakes, and bringing them to the church kitchen Sunday, March 7, marked "Cross-Lines." Call Cindy Bowman, 913-642-6854, to of-

fer your help by cooking, serving or cleaning up anytime between 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Mission Dollars at Work

Presbyterian Education Board

Second Presbyterian's mission goals embody a commitment to Social Justice and Education issues both locally and globally. Because the Presbyterian Education Board (PEB) believes that the way forward for Pakistan is through education that includes the values of peace, tolerance, respect, fairness and justice in all areas of life, our 2010 \$2000 commitment is an excellent fit with the principles we support.

In 1972, the Pakistani government nationalized all schools and colleges in Punjab. With passage of time, the quality of education imparted in the nationalized schools deteriorated. In 1998, through the efforts of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the PEB received back 10 of its schools. The PEB is an autonomous board supported by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and other churches and organizations worldwide. The PEB offers education to boys and girls of all religious backgrounds, regardless of their ability to pay.

Over the last 10 years, Second Church has developed a relationship with the Executive Director of the PEB, Mrs. Veeda Javaid. Second's support provides funding for the PEB schools as well as other programs and projects such as Christmas gifts, scholarships, two classrooms, and most recently, money to build a boundary wall - a mandate from the government due to the increase in violence against educational institutions.

Health Reminder

Hand sanitizer dispensers are available at the church entrances. Grab a squirt as you go by.

March Small Groups

Please sign up for the small groups at the table in the downstairs lobby or by contacting Tera Yakel at 816-363-1300 or tyakel@secondpres.org. It is important that we have accurate numbers for the restaurants and caterers to prepare adequately.

Federal Reserve Tour - Monday, March 1, 9:00 a.m.

Join economist and church member, Jon Willis, on a tour of the Federal Reserve Bank. This tour not only includes a look at all the millions stashed in the vault but, Jon will also be answering questions about the state of the current economy and how our economy works. Due to security, you must sign up and bring a copy of your photo ID.

Saturday Night Out - Saturday, March 6, 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Before Spring Break comes and the kids drive you crazy, take a few moments to breathe and enjoy some adult time. Do you remember the time when you longed for a conversation that wasn't interrupted? Let's see what KC has to offer as we venture out to the Power and Light District. We will eat and maybe check out the bowling at Lucky Strike or a movie at the Downtown AMC theater.

Sunday Lunch - Sunday, March 7, 11:30 a.m.

Cantina Del Ray, the favorite local Mexican restaurant for Waldo residents, will play host to this month's Sunday Lunch. We all know that you have your favorite Mexican meal. If you don't, then you need to start testing some to see what yours may be. So let's share our most harrowing winter stories and celebrate that spring is on the way.

Senior Lunch - Sunday, March 14, 11:30 a.m.

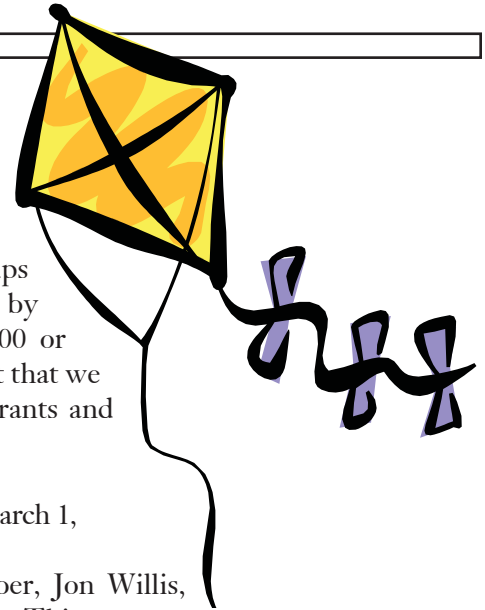
Let the feasting begin! Italian food and lots of conversations and laughs will make this the highlight meal of your week. You don't want to miss the opportunity to taste some of Tera's cooking. All seniors are welcome, single or married.

Singles and Marrieds with No Kids - Sunday, March 21, 11:30 a.m.

Pizza 51 will use your favorite toppings to make your own personal slice of heaven. Come celebrate that spring has sprung with some of the most fun people of Second Pres.

Charlie Hooper's in Brookside - Monday, March 29, 6:00 p.m.

You can't beat the price - \$3 burgers and fries make this one of the cheapest places to get a good meal on Monday nights. So start the week off right with lots of fun conversations and a few smiles directed at the kids attempting to play pool. This is one of the best intergenerational activities that Second has to offer.





Tired of Winter? Ready to Garden?

The Social Justice and Peacemaking Committee has signed up for a few of the community garden plots (12' x 4') being made available by DST Systems at the corner of Main and 51st Streets. Several more plots are still available, so depending upon the number of Second Church gardeners wanting to join the project, the committee would ask for a few more.

The recipients of our produce have not yet been determined—probably a food pantry, community center, or one of our mission partners in the city. Suggestions are welcome. Interested gardeners should contact Bill Dickinson (816-333-6363) or Laurie Fisher (816-268-4770).

New on Sundays

A New Sunday Morning Education-Hour Offering

Living in the Real World: Faith, Unfaith, and Dealing with the Day-to-Day, Sundays at 9:00 a.m., Room A, beginning March 7. Study and discussion led by Don Fisher.

Understanding Haiti

For an understanding of the forces and conditions that have shaped Haiti, the Social Justice and Peacemaking Committee highly recommends *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer*, written by Tracy Kidder, Random House, 2003.

Spots Still Open for All Options!

Family Camp 2010 is scheduled for March 20-21. Please join us on our annual weekend at Heartland Center.

You can come and spend the day (\$20/person), enjoy an overnight experience (\$225/family), or just come for the evening cookout and campfire worship (\$5/person). S'mores included! We hope you will join us for all or part of this community experience!

After The Manger... Cookies

The community at Second Presbyterian enjoys one gift of the Spirit Paul never mentions: the gift of baking, or kitchen generosity. At Journey time especially, the call goes out, and the response is an avalanche of cookies. Hundreds and hundreds of cookies. The same generosity supplies cookies for Cross-Lines, family potlucks, and countless other gatherings at Second. Bless you, bakers. It's possible that the streets of heaven are paved with...cookies.



Attention Musical Ladies!

Join the women of the Motet Choir on Sunday, March 7, for the all-female anthem.

Rehearsals will be Wednesday, March 3, 8:00-8:30 p.m., and Sunday, March 7, 9:00 a.m. If you want to join, contact me ASAP. Come share your beautiful gift of music!
- Cory Ganschow

Clothes Closet News

March is here, and although we are hoping for spring weather, we still need winter items at the Clothes Closet. We will begin collecting spring and summer items in April. Meanwhile we still have a great need for blankets and other linens. We are out of men's underwear (all sizes) and crew socks as well as undershirts/T's. We are also in need of women's undies (sizes 7-11) and women's bra's (sizes 36-42). Warm pj's for both men and women are needed as well as robes. As always, we thank you for your generosity.

March Barrel Collection

Supplies for Troost Tutors
Paper, Lined Notebook Paper, Copy Paper, Pencils #2, Colored Pencils, Crayons, Elementary Scissors, Educational Games and Books

Baby!

Søren Michael Widmeyer was born January 31, 2010. He is the son of Aimee Roberts Widmeyer and Michael Widmeyer.

In Need of Prayer

Prayers of sympathy for the families of:

- John Gayton "Jack" Barnes, Jr. who died February 2, 2010.
- Jerry Schomacker who died February 7, 2010, in Bloomington, Indiana. He is the brother of Don Schomacker.
- Charles A. Carter, Jr., who died February 15, 2010. He is the husband of Elizabeth Carter.

YOUR **Second Family**

Tuesday Morning Bible Study... a 40-Year Tradition

Some things just don't seem to last. An exception is the Tuesday Morning Bible Study Class that has met for well over 40 years at Second Church. It was started by Dr. Bill Hage soon after he began his ministry at Second. It was called the Tuesday Morning Pastor's Breakfast and, as the name implies, a complete traditional breakfast was served along with the Bible Study. Class members prepared the meal adjacent to Witherspoon Place in a kitchen that later was converted to Meeting Room A. At one point, the breakfast and Bible Study were offered to the indigent and "street people".

As many as 30-40 people attended each week for a number of years. Dr. Hage conducted the class, always using the lectionary reading both as the topic for teaching as well as preparation for Sunday's worship service. Later, the class became self-directed by lay members after Dr. Hage retired and was renamed simply the Tuesday Morning Bible Study Class.



Dr. Bill Hage

Max Penner, George Hoare, Bill Dickinson and Barbara Loots are among the early-risers who gather inspiration from this long-standing Bible study.

There have been other gradual changes. Today, only coffee and juice are served instead of a full breakfast. But there are basic things that remain still unchanged. The lectionary reading still is the basis for each class. And the meeting time continues to be 7:00-8:00 a.m.

Among the class regulars are Max Penner, leader; Cindy Bowman; Dave Ege; George Hoare; Barbara Loots;

and Bob Pruitt. The class is open to all, and other members of Second Church are invited to share in the learning, fellowship and stimulating discussion that has spanned more than four decades.

The Restaurant Connection

Several eating establishments are owned and/or operated by members of Second Presbyterian Church. Here is a profile of one. Watch for more in the coming months and remember them when you're hungry. They'll be delighted to serve you!



Dorna Edgar and Martha Pruitt

Oak Street Coffee Shop is owned and operated by Martha Pruitt in association with Dorna Edgar, an affiliate member of Second Church. Oak Street Coffee Shop is located at 6221 Oak Street. Hours: Monday-Saturday, 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Sunday, 7:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., oakstcoffee.com. Fresh roasted Broadway Coffee is featured along with a variety of baked goods prepared at the shop. The scones are a featured item and a favorite. The coffee shop also offers a breakfast and luncheon menu. Everything offered is under \$6.00. Martha used to have a successful catering business in Dallas, Texas. However, she opened this shop in 2005 to give her children exposure to running a business and entrepreneurship while they are still living at home. They catered the February 20, PW In-Service Brunch to benefit Newhouse.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
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Kansas City, MO 64113

Church

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Lent and Holy Week

Lenten Study: *Luke for Lent*, Wednesdays, February 24, March 3, March 10, 6:00 p.m. *Perspectives on the journey of faith from Luke's Gospel*. Led by Don Fisher. Welcome to attend, even if you cannot attend all classes.

Palm Sunday - March 28, 8:15 a.m., Chapel, & 10:15 a.m. Sanctuary,

Maundy Thursday - April 1, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Good Friday - April 2, Noon, Chapel

Easter! - April 4, 7:00 a.m. Courtyard, 8:15 & 10:15 a.m., Sanctuary

Order Your Easter Flowers

Easter is fast approaching, and it is time to bring Spring into the Sanctuary. The deadline is March 28. Cost: \$15.00. **Include payment with your order.**

The flowers can be given:

To the Glory of God In loving memory or honor or celebration (circle one)

of: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____