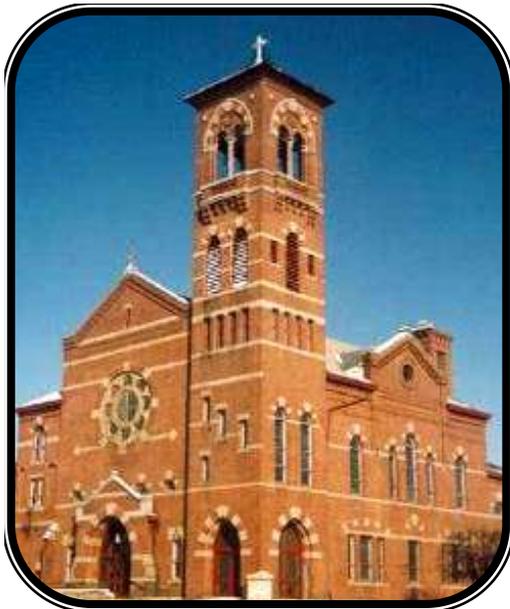


THE CALL



Church Meetings

COMMUNION	August 6
Worship & Music Meeting— 5 pm	August 2
Investment Meeting— 4:45 pm	August 3
Trustee Meeting— 4 pm	August 14
Mission, Outreach, and Advertising Meeting— 6 pm	August 15
Session Meeting— 5:30 pm	August 22

AUGUST SERVERS

LAY LITURGIST:

Dave Schlemmer

GREETER:

MICHELLE ANDERSON

USHERS:

Roy and Linda Simpson

REFRESHMENTS:

Michelle Anderson

COUNTERS:

Jeff Lincourt and ?

PASTOR LAWRENCE

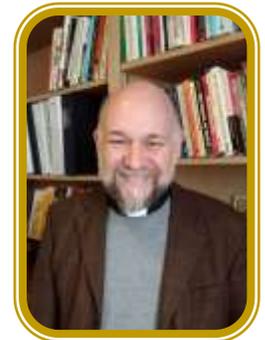
The Proper Response

Christian liturgy is full of proper responses and some of them we know well. If I say, “The Lord be with you,” I’m guessing you’ll automatically say, “And also with you.” If I say, “Lift up your hearts,” most of you will probably say, “We lift them up to the Lord.”

This past month I spent two weeks at St. Gregory’s Abbey, a Benedictine Episcopal monastery in southern Michigan, and my life was all about proper responses. In worship, at mealtime, in all aspects of monastic life, there are things you do and say in response. If someone says, “O Lord, make speed to save us,” you say, “O God, make haste to help us.” If we invoke the Holy Trinity, you bow. And not just a little, at almost a 90° angle. As Prior Aelred described it, “you should bow so that you can touch your knees with your opposite hands.” So, left knee with your right hand and vice versa. Try it. Go ahead. I’ll wait.

Yeah, we were doing that probably 50 times a day easy.

We celebrated Holy Communion daily (see Sidebar on **Weekly Communion**) which was chock full of proper responses. It was wonderful to celebrate it daily and it became the focus of each day.



Weekly Communion

Some people say that celebrating communion regularly makes it less special, but I disagree. I don’t tell my kids “I love you” just once a month because doing it more often would make it “less special.” Frequent communion reminds us of Christ’s love for us and the need we all have to respond to that love in big and small ways.

The early church celebrated communion weekly and I don’t see why we shouldn’t, other than we haven’t done it that way for a short while. The lack of weekly communion in the Presbyterian Church is really just a throw back to days when those ordained to preside at table were scarce and the preacher might only get around once a month or so to celebrate The Lord’s Supper. John Calvin favored weekly communion and that was the norm of the church for hundreds of years. It’s only in the last couple hundred years we’ve gotten away from it. I think it’s time to return to the norm.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN AND FRIENDSHIP & TALENT will not meet in August, but ...



Ladies, roll up your sleeves and join the fun and fellowship of cleaning the church kitchens. We will meet at **9:30 a.m.** in the basement kitchen on **Wednesday, August 9th**. Afterwards, we'll eat lunch out somewhere. So, mark your calendars and let us all come together for this opportunity of camaraderie and friendship.

Sisterhood of the Traveling Presbyterians

A lunch and a movie date is being planned for August for the Travelers. Please watch for details.

ATTENTION EVERYONE!

Family Faith Night and our youth need your help. The church is in need of a vision and leadership for our Wednesday night youth classes, and our youth group as a whole.

Can you help? Please pray about it.

More on page 5.



IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

Mike Gommel

LIMPING, BUT BLESSED

At some point in each of our lives, something goes terribly wrong, and our faith is shaken to the core. This book is the **story of one man's journey through the darkest time of life searching for answers and a grueling attempt to find a sliver of hope to keep holding on.**

ANSWERING THE TOUGHEST QUESTIONS ABOUT HEAVEN AND HELL

Are heaven and hell for real? What will they be like? Will my dog be in heaven? When it comes to the big questions about **heaven and hell, the authors don't pretend to have all the answers.** With candor, insight, and a disarming touch of humor, they use Scripture to find at least some answers.

TWO MINUTES IN THE BIBLE THROUGH PROVERBS

A devotional book that uses the book of Proverbs to find practical answers for everyday challenges.

AT HEAVEN'S EDGE

A real-life EMT, the author shares stories of heroic courage in the face of fear. In times of intense suffering, she has repeatedly **witnessed signs of God's quiet intervention and healing presence.**

PW Rummage Sale

Thursday, October 12th and Friday, October 13th

Our annual rummage sale is just around the corner. We are now collecting items, so this is a great time to clean out those closets and sort through your unused, unwanted stuff. This sale is the main fundraiser for the Presbyterian Women that enables them to help in various ways **throughout the year.** A few examples are: **Mission offerings, Kid's Closet, Daily News Backpacks, United Fund, Fire Dept., Special Olympics, Tornado/Hurricane Relief, Shop with a Cop, Cheer Fund,** and the list goes on...

So help us to make this year's sale the biggest one yet!





Day of Caring

We will be celebrating our
2nd Annual Day of Caring

on **Saturday, September 30th from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

First Presbyterian Church's Day of Caring is a special day of ministry where we are able to go into the community and serve others.

Our date has been changed this year to a Saturday in order for our congregation to be able to attend services on Sunday. The committee is working hard with the various organizations in town, as well as members of our church, to commit our time and helping hands. There is a volunteer opportunity for every member young or old.

As always, we welcome everyone to attend. Whether you are a member, guest, or you just have a passion to serve others, you are welcome to join us! You are also welcome to bring a friend, we would love to get to know them!

Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. in the basement of the church. You don't want to miss that!

Roy and Linda Simpson

The Proper Response— Continued from page 1

At the end of the Great Thanksgiving (the communion prayer) the celebrant would hold up the bread and cup and say, "The gifts of God for the people of God," and I wanted there to be a verbal response to this. I wanted to say something like "Thanks be to God," or "Alleluia," or something. What I learned was the proper response to this was silence. Sometimes there is nothing you can say. Sometimes there is nothing you should say. Sometimes, confronted with the love of God, the best response is just to keep your mouth shut.

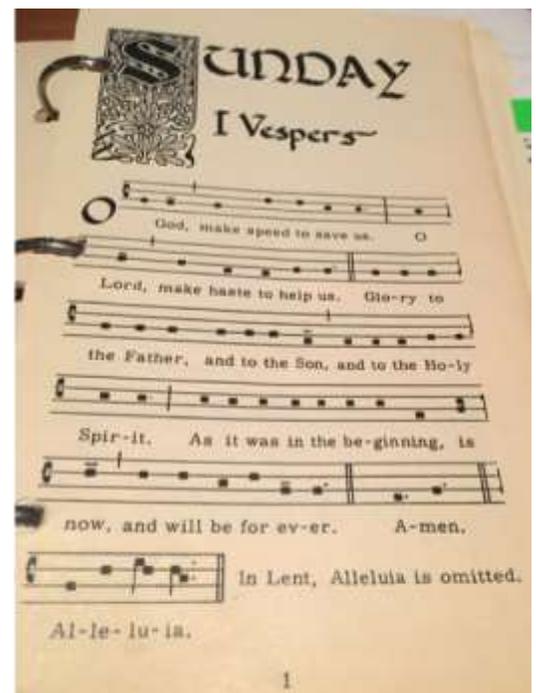
I pondered this in relation to my ministry. I learned early on that the best tool of a good pastor is silence. Listening is more important than filling the silence to say something. Being there is more important than having something to say. And, as in Holy Communion, what we often need to be doing is preparing ourselves **to receive God's mercy and love, than to put more of ourselves into the world.**

In a world that is hurting, the church's proper response is to heal, and we start to do that by standing in the presence of God and shutting the hell up, listening, waiting, receiving, rejoicing.

Peace,

Pastor Lawrence

218-591-9686, pastor.lawrence.lee@gmail.com



PRAYER FOCUS FOR AUGUST: Students and Teachers

Schools will soon be in session. As students, teachers, and staff prepare for its beginning, let us pray for each pupil, teacher, staff member, and parent. Throughout August, seek God's blessings over the school year of 2017-2018.

Pray that each child and youth will be attentive in classes and be able to retain the subject matter they study. Pray that they will be disciplined in their attendance, assignments, and conduct in consideration of other students, teachers, and staff.

Pray that each teacher and staff member will present their instruction and duties in clear, precise, and understandable execution that will benefit each student in present and future obligations and daily living.

Pray that each parent will encourage their children to apply themselves in the most productive activity and diligence in their schooling, personal, and social responsibilities as they grow into the most fulfilling and meaningful lives as they become adults.

Also, please pray for the children, youth, and leaders of our ministries within and through our church's programs. Seek our God to place the ideas and applications that will bring an interest of active participation to our children and youth in our community. Pray for encouragement to each leader to reach out to them, whether there is only one or twenty-plus in classes and activities. Keep giving support in assisting, praying for, and being available to the Holy Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ to truly show the children and youth of our church and community that they each will find love, acceptance, inspiration, and undoubtable caring from every person who is part of our congregation.

Thank you for your faithful involvement.

Dennis Shepherd, Care of Parish

CONFIRMATION

Are you 12 to 17? Are you seeking to better understand the Christian faith? Do you want to know more about the Bible? Do you want to formally join the church as a full member? Do you want to know more about what it means to be a Presbyterian? Are you baptized or, if not, want to be?

If so, Pastor Lawrence is starting up a Confirmation Class this fall and wants to include you. Contact him (pastor.lawrence.lee@gmail.com or 218-591-9686) if you are interested and want more information.

The schedule is not set yet and depends largely on the people who are interested. The class would not need to meet weekly, though it could. Currently the plan is for it to meet on Wednesday evenings, but your input will help shape the schedule.

Those who complete the confirmation requirements would join the church as members on April 8, the first Sunday after Easter.



Springhill Presbyterian Church

Pork Chop Dinner

Friday, August 4, 2017

4:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Clarksburg Fire Station

\$10 Per Meal—Child's Meal \$2

Adult- Pork chop, baked beans, corn on the cob, applesauce, dessert (extra pork chop-\$3)
Child- Hotdog, baked beans, corn on the cob, applesauce, dessert





God's Green Earth: What Is Sustainability?

Sustainability is how biological systems withstand and remain diverse and productive. But, sustainability goes far beyond these boundaries. Today, it refers to the need to develop the sustainable models necessary for both the human race and planet Earth to survive.

Sustainability is a balancing act. Sustainable development needs to meet the needs of the present without compromising the well-being of future generations.

Sustainability means the whole world needs to show respect for nature, universal human rights, economic justice, and a culture of peace. To achieve these goals, humans will have to re-examine their policies on Environmental protection, Social responsibility, and Economic practice.

Old models of consumption and industrialization will not support the world's growing population. If humans wish to have the water, materials, and natural resources needed to thrive, a new approach to living is called for.

A Need for Conservation and Energy

It's no secret that economic growth and energy have come at the cost of environmental degradation. In answer to this challenge, sustainability experts are looking at ways in which we can slow or prevent pollution, conserve natural resources and protect remaining environments.

Developing a Sustainable Society

A sustainable society is founded on equal access to health care, nutrition, clean water, shelter, education, energy, economic opportunities and employment. In this ideal society, humans live in harmony with their natural environment, conserving resources not only for their own generation, but also for their children's children. Each citizen enjoys a high quality of life and there is social justice for all. Is such a vision possible?

Supporting Sustainable Business

Businesses are facing a new challenge. They're being asked to create long-term practices that do more to respect the environment, the well-being of employees and the prospects of future generations. Meanwhile, these same businesses are also expected to improve profitability, fund innovation and increase market share for current stakeholders.

Advances in Sustainable Technology and Development

Amid all the gloom surrounding the future, the promise of science shines brightly. Optimists hope that new technologies and urban infrastructures, built with environmentally sound practices, can support a sustainable, healthy and happy population.

Investigating Climate Change

Any way you look at it, climate change is a major issue in the field of sustainability. Debates on its impact continue to dictate government policies, corporate decisions and individual actions.

Look for further information on these topics in the next two newsletters.

<http://www.sustainabilitydegrees.com/what-is-sustainability/>

FAMILY FAITH NIGHT

Family Faith Night is on hiatus for the summer and we are looking for your input on what this ministry could and should be as we look to the fall. We are looking for leaders to step up with a vision and a commitment to make it happen. If you are interested in leading a Bible or book study; planning meals or serving food; starting a short or long-term interest group; working in an age-specific ministry area; leading games or crafts; hosting a movie and discussion night; etc., please contact Pastor Lawrence (pastor.lawrence.lee@gmail.com or 218-591-9686) this month and pitch your idea. Please note that we are not looking for year-long commitments to serve, but we are looking for commitments - people who could commit to a month or two in leading some service or activity. Together we can create something that will engage each other and show and share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Pastor Lawrence

2017 Session

First Presbyterian Church

202 N. Franklin St.
Greensburg, IN 47240

Phone: 812-663-2197

Fax: 812-663-9381

E-mail: fpcgburg@etczone.com



*Seeking to Live God's Word
by Serving Others*

2017
Per Capita
\$38.55

Visit us at:
www.
fpcgburg.org

Did You Know?

The Thrift Store
located at 318 S East
Street is open to the
PUBLIC – Everyone!

Open Wednesdays—
12:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Fridays and Saturdays—
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Proceeds from the sales are
used to help support the
Greensburg TLC—
Transitional Living Center.

Terri Pleak — Trustees
Larry Clark — Spiritual Formation and Education
Roy Simpson — Finance, Investment, and Stewardship
Jeff Lincourt — Worship and Music
Marilyn Woods — Mission, Outreach, and Advertising
Katy Prairie
Betty Zillick — Personnel
Dennis Shepherd — Care of Parish
Mary Stradley

Rev. Lawrence Lee — Pastor
Darleen Fox — Clerk



THINKING ABOUT VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME TO HELP A LOCAL ORGANIZATION?

- Bread of Life • 812-662-4887
- New Directions • 812-662-8822
- Meals on Wheels • 812-663-6099
- AGAPE Center • 812-222-4273
- Big Brothers, Big Sisters • 812-663-7556
- Kids Closet • 812-663-2084
- Decatur County Special Olympics • 812-663-4690
- Decatur County United Fund Adult Literacy Program • 812-560-3820

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS:

Shut-ins

Anna Clemenz— Room 405
Aspen Place, 2320 N. Montgomery
Rd., Greensburg, IN 47240

Bill Baumgartner
At Home, 924 E. Beechwood Ln.
Greensburg, IN 47240

Hazel Shonk
At Home, 1029 E. Tara Rd.,
Greensburg, IN 47240

Barb Blare
At home, 207 Orchard Drive,
Greensburg, IN 47240

Pat Rooker
1555 N. Main St., Rm. H122
Frankfort, IN 46041



Prayers

Agatha (Aggie) Search
Alice Rust
Bill Baumgartner
Brenda Oldham
Carol Courtney
Cathy Crelin
Claude Bilbrey
Clinton Shepherd
Gary Miller
Jonathan Friend- infant
Kathy Autry Miller
Larry Skinner
Michael Yarmuth
Monique Rust-Metzing
Naoyuki Furukawa and family
Steve Gookins
The Family of Carolyn Adkins

YOUR PRAYERS DO
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Baptism of
Arya Rose Clark



July 4th
Water
Give-away



←Pastor Lawrence's
son, Simon, came for a
visit in July.

Pastor Lawrence had
fun with Marilyn at the
Bread of Life→

