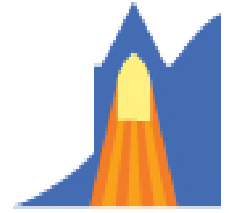


# The Presbyter

Celebrating  
100 Years  
1912 - 2012



First Presbyterian Church

October 2013

Clarks Summit, PA



**Say cheese!** It's time for a new church photo directory, and we need **YOU** to make it happen. Photography is scheduled for October 16-19. You can reserve your session on Sundays after each service or online by visiting [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com) and clicking on "schedule your photography session" on the right side, entering **PA579** in the Church Code field, and entering **briar** in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 5 or more in your family please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. **Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.** If you have any questions, please contact Briar Woodley at 570-575-1627.

### October 1st - Noon

Join us for an afternoon of fellowship with our guests. Men are always welcome to join us. Please donate a pair of new socks for both men & women.

Presbyterian Women



October is Food Pantry Month. Please bring your contributions of canned goods, powdered milk, pasta, and other nonperishable foods to the narthex during October.

### Table of Contents:

- Page 2 - Notes from Session Meeting, Financial Information, Third Grade Bibles
- Page 3 - From the Pastor
- Page 4 - The Way
- Page 5 - Wednesday Supper Reservations, Youth Group Corn Maze Event
- Page 6 - Board of Deacons, Presbyterian Women
- Page 7 - Stewardship Campaign, Arts at First Presbyterian
- Page 8 - Mission and Justice, Stephen Ministry
- Page 9 - Kids Page
- Page 10 - Joys and Sorrows, Lectionary Readings, Thanksgiving Dinner,
- Page 11 - Calendar
- Page 12 - Book Review

**Notes from the Session Meeting on SEPTEMBER 10, 2013**

1. Session approved the Fellowship's committee recommendation that we contract with Universal Church Directory to publish a new directory for our church members.
2. Mission and Justice committee is planning a presentation to our congregation on Sunday, September 29th at 4:00 p.m. Dave and Donna Porter and Meg Hatch will inform us of their successful trip to Haiti.

**The Presbyter deadline for the November issue is October 18, 2013**

The Presbyter is a monthly newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church, 300 School Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411.

All visitors are welcome to worship with us. **Worship services will be held at 9:00 and 10:55 a.m.** Child care is available all morning. Communion is observed the first Sunday of every month.

If you do not attend a church in this area, we invite you to any and all of the events, programs, and worship services described in this newsletter. Please call the church office to arrange child care. Our sanctuary and Fellowship Hall are both handicapped accessible.

**YOU'RE INVITED!**

On Sunday, October 6, at the 10:55 ALIVE! Service we will be presenting Bibles to all our students who are currently in 3rd grade. Anyone who is currently in 3rd grade is encouraged to be at this service in order to participate in this event. As part of our faith family, everyone is invited to join us as we celebrate this exciting event in the faith life of our children!



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**Church Office** (570) 586-6306  
**Fax** (570) 587-3784  
**Web Page** www.fpccs.org

**Pastor** William G. Carter  
 570-586-6776

**Director Educational Ministry** Tina Ide  
**Administrative Assistant** Nancy Owens  
**Treasurer** Patricia Delaney  
**Editor** Lindsey Hardy  
**Clerk of Session** Beverly Bright  
**Director of Adult & Teen Choirs** Susan Kelly  
**Director of Bells** Richard Cochrane  
**Director of Chapel Choir** Kay Ten Eyck  
**Organist** Kay Ten Eyck  
**Sexton** John Conklin

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION  
 FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE  
 FOR THE MONTH ENDING AUGUST 31, 2013**

<u>REVENUE</u>		
Budget		\$ 259,483
Actual Received		<u>233,757</u>
Difference		<u>\$ (25,726)</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Budget		\$ 265,209
Actual Expenses		<u>230,995</u>
Difference		<u>\$ (34,214)</u>
<u>BUDGET VARIANCE</u>		\$ 8,488
<u>PLEDGE INCOME</u>		
Budget		\$ 210,000
Received		<u>197,035</u>
Difference		\$ (12,965)

Per Capita Update 2013:

Total Received to date - \$4,070

## From Your Temporary Supply Pastor The Rev. Roger E. Griffith

“When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom” (1 Corinthians 2: 1 NRSV)

These are the words the Apostle Paul uses as he begins his letter to the church in Corinth. However, Paul goes on to say: “For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of the power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom, but on the power of God.”

Everyone has an agenda, goals, expectations and a mission. Yet Paul admits he did not come with previous knowledge about them; although I find it hard to believe that he didn't hear rumors through the grapevine that the Corinthian church was in trouble. What I like about Paul, and always have, is his honesty; especially when he establishes a disclaimer that he is not writing to them in his own wisdom, but in the inspired word by the Spirit and the power of God. This serves as a reminder that we are under the Spirit and power of God as both individuals and as a Church. Paul's agenda and mission is clearly laid out as one of preaching Jesus Christ and the power of the cross. What the history of the church at Corinth once was is no longer relevant. The relevancy, is where they go in the future and what their mission is as a church.

When I came to you as your Temporary Supply Pastor, I admit that I did have some limited previous knowledge about you and your ministry; having served a year with you in my internship as a second career seminarian in 1995. Under the leadership of your Pastor who has remained both a close friend and colleague, I learned much about your church and ministry; way back then, and I have learned much more in serving as your Temporary Supply Pastor the past three months; thanks to a grant from the Lilly Foundation. Together, we have learned how to “rediscover the Sabbath”. First, how to “remember it”, and more importantly, how to “keep it holy” as it says in the Old Testament laws. Second, we learned what it means to take sabbatical time for ourselves; allowing time for spiritual refreshment and renewal in our relationship with Jesus Christ and each other. In my own spiritual life, being retired for one year but not yet having taken time for authentic Sabbath and sabbatical, this period of time we have spent together I believe has accomplished the mission. In my 25 years of ministry, I have never taken sabbatical time. The time I have spent with you has been good for both me and my wife. It afforded me time away from preaching a different church every Sunday as well as the physical and emotional draining as a contract chaplain with Geisinger Wyoming Valley hospital.

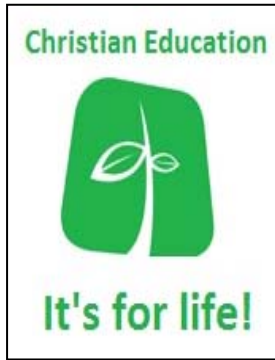
I think I could easily say that my time with you as your Temporary Supply Pastor has been a rich and rewarding experience. I have learned as much from you as I hope you may have learned from me. It is always difficult to say goodbye, but you have left me with a legacy of many good memories and the opportunity of making many new friends.

Together with you in service & for good,  
Roger E. Griffith

"Pastor Carter has returned from sabbatical, however, he continues to reflect on his experiences and record his thoughts using an on-line journal.

If interested, you may view it at:

**[www.spiritsmusic.blogspot.com](http://www.spiritsmusic.blogspot.com)**"



## THE WAY

The Wednesday Adults and Youth

Christian Education

“I am the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE”

Supper, 5:45-6:10

Gathering Time, 6:10-6:15

Classes for all ages, 6:15-7:15

**Halloween Party** - Join us on Wednesday, October 30, for an intergenerational Halloween party in place of our 6:15 Way Classes. Come join us for an evening of fun, food and games!

**Newborns - 3 year olds** will enjoy Bible stories, songs and games in the nursery with teacher Linda Schuller and our caregivers Kaitlin Scappatura and Sondra Lionetti.

**4 year old - Grade 6** are divided into three age groups and will be learning about the story of Joseph and learning how God is always with us - in good times and bad times.

**Grades 7-8** meet in room 209 with Jana Schillinger and Katie Fischer. Using *We Believe: Faith Questions* our Junior High Class will look at real questions related to God and the Bible.

**Grades 9-12** meet in room 111 with Charlie and Robin Pinches. Using *Feasting On The Word* our Senior High Class will dig deeper in the Scriptures we read during Sunday morning worship.

**Talking About God Stuff (TAGS)** meet in room 206. Fall 2013: *Windows Into God's Kingdom*. Led by Rev. Bill Carter. Jesus was a consummate storyteller who provoked, teased, and enticed listeners to imagine a different world. Can you imagine a father who loves arrogant children, or a boss who commends a thief? How about rich and poor neighbors who feed one another, or a God who answers people when they annoy him? Join us for an exploration of Jesus' parables, as found in the Gospel of Luke. Bring a sense of humor and a curious spirit. Bibles will be provided.

**Faith and Life** - meets in Narthex. October 2 and October 9 – *The Good Work of Eldering*. Eldering is about giving back to family and community through the power of wisdom and experience. It's about living and communicating in the present and creating possibilities for others to realize their potential. Join Jim and Shirley McLaughlin as they lead the discussion on the various ways to turn age-ing years into sage-ing years. October 16 and October 23 – *Panel Discussion –The Real World*. We will join with the **Contemporary Christian Living** class as members of our church from the medical profession and the business world share with us the ethical and spiritual challenges they face in their daily work.

**Contemporary Christian Living (CCL)** meet in room 210. October 2 and 9. *Hopes and Fears of Raising a Family*. This new adult class is aimed at young adults and parents. Our first series will explore topics related to family life because, let's face it, raising a family is no easy task. Throughout this series, you will hear from various parents who have been there or are currently there. Come join us as we explore the hopes, the fears and the joys of raising a family! October 16 and October 23 – *Panel Discussion –The Real World*. We will join with the **Faith and Life** class as members of our church from the medical profession and the business world share with us the ethical and spiritual challenges they face in their daily work.

## Wednesday Supper Reservations

**Light Supper** is served before The Way classes from 5:45-6:10 for those with **reservations**.

Suggested donation: \$3 per person.

Please return reservation slips no later than **Monday**. Slips can be placed in the **basket near the phone in the kitchen** or in the **offering plate**. You may also **call the church office** to make reservations.



Reservations slips can be found in the church office, in the kitchen, or in pews.

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# YOUTH EVENT: CORN MAZE AND COOKOUT

All youth grades 6-12 are invited to join us for an afternoon  
at Roba Family Farm!

When: Sunday, October 20, 3:00-7:30

Meet at the Church

Cost: \$10

Cost includes entrance to maze, transportation and a cookout supper.

**SIGN UP BY OCTOBER 13!**

Questions?

Contact Tina Ide, Director of Educational Ministries, 570-563-6306

## Board of Deacons

### Care Team Ministry Coordinators are:

Independent & Assisted Living:	Sara Ann Hosier	587-0371
Emergency Needs:	Jo Conklin	563-0211
Time of Loss:	Lee Wirth	587-3767
Emergency Home Repair/ Maintenance:	John Conklin	563-0211

*Please let the Board of Deacons Care Team Coordinators or the church office know if anyone is in need of care.*

*We're here to care for FPC members and friends and we count on all of you to let us know when help is needed. This is our ministry and our Christian privilege to care for you.*



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

### JO ANNE SHEPHERD

Background Scripture: Exodus 2:11 – 4:17

Key Scripture: Exodus 2:11 – 22; 3:1 – 15

Key Idea: God calls us to service even though we may feel inadequate, the same as He called Moses to serve Him. His promise is “I will be with you” (Ex. 3:12)

In October we study Lesson Two, which focuses on God’s call to serve. Moses observed a Hebrew slave being beaten by an Egyptian and in anger at the injustice, killed the Egyptian and then hid the body. Even though he was unobserved, the deed was known in the land, so Moses left Egypt and went to Midian where he worked as a shepherd and met his future wife. Moses did not feel really at home there; he was still connected to his life in Egypt. One day, while he was tending the sheep, he alone saw a bush that was burning but not being consumed. Coming from the bush he heard the voice of God. Moses was afraid but God told him he was to lead the Hebrew people out of Egypt with His help so not to feel inadequate. God was with him so ordinary human limitations were not a problem. Moses and the people all had to trust in the promise made by God. As a sign of the promise, God told Moses a name which the people can use to call Him, Yahweh. After this sign from God, Moses did not feel out of place again. Instead, he was confident because he was a child of God.

The same way that Moses felt, we feel that we are not always equal to the problems of life. But, like him, we are children of God and labor under His promise. He will provide for us the skills necessary to complete the tasks He sets before us. We have the gift of God’s grace. Each person has different ways to contribute. God’s love enables us to be more than we think we can be; to do better than we could do without His grace. Please plan to come to the circle meeting of your choice on October 15, 2013 at either 10 AM, 1:30 PM, or 7 PM. There you can learn more about the promise that God gave to all His people, through Moses, to always be with us.

## Stewardship Campaign Kickoff



STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

As we move into our annual Stewardship Campaign season, I want to first thank everyone who has contributed during this year. Our pledge income is below budget, but we are optimistic and appreciate everyone's attention to keeping their pledge current. Your continuing financial support has given us the resources to be Christ in the world, and helps provide for things such as support of the St Francis kitchen, our mission work, and our successful Vacation Bible School.

We acknowledge that you and your resources are pulled in many directions. We hope that you are willing and able to support the First Presbyterian Church in 2014 to assist us in continuing God's work.

You will soon receive a mailing containing your *Stewardship Commitment Card* for 2014. We ask that you complete that card, and return it to the church office as soon as possible, or place it in any Sunday offering plate. During worship on **Sunday, November 3**, we will hold a dedication service to give thanks for all the pledges that we hope to have received.

Thanks in advance for your participation in our Stewardship campaign!

Heather Acker  
Stewardship Committee



Arts at First Presbyterian concert series will open on Sunday, October 6 at 4 pm with a presentation by the Excelsior Cornet Band, New York State's authentic Civil War band. The band will recreate the glorious sounds and appearance of this pivotal period in American history. The leader of the group is Jeff Stockham, who has performed a number of

times at the church with the Presbybop Quartet. Jeff participated in the filming of Stephen Spielberg's epic movie "Lincoln", playing tenor horn in the brass band "President Lincoln's Own", which portrayed the US Marine Band of 1864. What a great way for children and adults to experience the music and dress of the Civil War era!

For more information about this concert and other concerts in the series, please pick up an Arts Series brochure in the narthex today. We have quite an ambitious season planned. If you would like to help with a contribution, please drop off or mail your check to the church with "Arts Series" in the memo block. Thank you in advance for your support.



## Mission and Justice Committee News

Jesus calls us to be peacemakers at all times and in all ways. We see this everyday as we experience the world's need for Christ's reconciling love, peace, and justice. Throughout the month of September, you will read in your bulletin about peacemaking programs around the world supported by the Presbyterian Church. On October 6, World Communion Sunday, the Peacemaking Offering will be collected. 25% of the offering is retained by congregations for ministries of peacemaking within the congregation. This year the Mission and Justice committee has chosen the Transitional Housing Programs for women, a service of Catherine McCauley Center, to receive our 25% share. The Transitional Housing Program enables homeless women with limited incomes to obtain safe decent, affordable housing. Please participate in the Peacemaking Offering to help those in need.



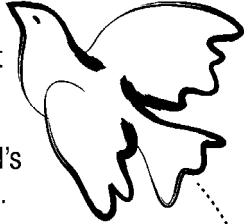
A Stephen Minister comes alongside a hurting person and meets with that person on a weekly basis to listen, care, encourage, pray, and provide emotional and spiritual support. Men are paired with men; women with women.

Over the years, well over one-and-a-half million people have benefitted from the one-to-one, confidential, Christ-centered care of a Stephen Minister. We have Stephen Ministers that are trained and willing to walk beside you as you face challenges in your life. If you would like to have a Stephen Minister meet with you to help bring Christ's love and healing into your life, please contact one of our Stephen Leaders, Judy Cutler, John Conklin, or Rev. Bill Carter



# GROW IN Grace

Make this craft as a reminder to continue growing in God's amazing grace.




**What you need:**

- An adult to help
- Newspaper
- Acrylic paints
- Paper plate
- Paintbrush
- Small terra cotta pot and plate
- Cup of water
- Permanent black marker
- Potting soil
- Small "indoors" plant or packet of seeds

**What you do:**

1. Cover your work area with newspaper and squeeze paint onto the paper plate.
2. Paint designs on the pot and plate, cleaning your brush in the water when changing colors. Let dry.
3. With the black marker, write "Growing in God's Grace" along the top ridge of the pot.
4. Pour in a small amount of soil. Place your plant in the pot and surround it with more soil. (If planting seeds, follow packet instructions.)
5. Water your plant. Check it daily and keep the soil moist.
6. Enjoy watching your plant grow!



# PUZZLE

## Growing up!

You're growing each day in many different ways. A verse from 2 Peter tells what will help you grow!

Directions: Fill in the blanks below, using the height measurements as guides, to complete 2 Peter 3:18.

3 1/4 ft. knowledge

3 1/16 ft. him


2 3/4 ft. now

2 1/4 ft. Lord

2 1/16 ft. glory

2 ft. Amen

1 ft. our



Savior 3 1/8 ft.

grace 3 ft.

forever 2 1/2 ft.

grow 2 1/8 ft.

Jesus Christ 1 1/4 ft.

"But 2 1/8 ft. in the 3 ft. and 3 1/4 ft. of 1 ft.  
2 1/4 ft. and 3 1/8 ft. 1 1/4 ft.  
 To 3 1/16 ft. be 2 1/16 ft. both 2 3/4 ft. and 2 1/2 ft. 2 ft.!"

2 PETER 3:18, NIV

Answer: "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen." 2 Peter 3:18, NIV

## Joys and Sorrows



**Thomas Avery Toole**, son of Jennifer Kreinberg and William Toole, was baptized on May 19, 2013 by Rev. Carter.

**Mira Leigh Haines**, daughter of Sharon and Carl Haines, was baptized on June 16, 2013 by Rev. Carter.



Congratulations and best wishes to the bride and groom. **Julianne Muto and T.C. Owens** were united in marriage by Rev. Carter on September 14, 2013.



Tired of the fuss and bother of cooking a big Thanksgiving dinner? Facing Thanksgiving on your own? Just want to do something different this year? Come to the annual Thanksgiving Feast at Judy Cutler's home (unless we grow too big and need to move to the church). There will be turkey and all the trimmings. Contact Judy Cutler at 570-446-9310 or [jdragonflyc@hotmail.com](mailto:jdragonflyc@hotmail.com) for more information or to let me know you are coming.

The 2014 Flower Calendar poster has been hung on the bulletin board in the upstairs hallway. If you would like to contribute flowers during 2014, please sign this poster to indicate your intentions. You will be contacted for your specific dedication.



## Lectionary Readings

**October 6, 2013**

**World Communion / Peacemaking Sunday**

Lamentations 1:1-6; Psalm 137

2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

**October 13**

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7; Psalm 66:1-12;

2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

**October 20**

Jeremiah 31:27-34; Psalm 119:97-104

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8

**October 27**

Joel 2:23-32; Psalm 65;

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14



## Quilts for the Homeless

My Brothers' Keeper Quilters thank those who donated material, blankets, sheets, towels and other supplies for the sleeping bags for the homeless. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

300 School Street  
Clarks Summit, PA 18411-1536

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Clarks Summit PA

**DATED MATERIAL**

**Return Service Requested**



October 24th at 7:00 will find us at Pat Delaney's home. We will be discussing **The Dressmaker** by Kate Alcott. Tess, an aspiring seamstress, thinks she's had an incredibly lucky break when she is hired by famous designer Lady Lucile Duff Gordon to be her personal maid on the Titanic. Once on board, Tess catches the eye of two men—a kind sailor and an enigmatic Chicago businessman—who offer differing views of what lies ahead for her in America. But on the fourth night, disaster strikes, and amidst the chaos, Tess is one of the last people allowed on a lifeboat.

Come join us and enjoy an evening of good fellowship and discussion. We will meet in the upper church parking lot to car pool to Pat's home. For more information, contact Judy Cutler at 570-446-9310 or [jdragonflyc@hotmail.com](mailto:jdragonflyc@hotmail.com)

