



news from the **EDGE**

120 East Swissvale Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15218

412-241-4613

office@fpcedgewood.org

**JANUARY
2013**

**LOVE GOD
EACH OTHER
OUR NEIGHBORS**

Believing we are called together by **God's love through Jesus Christ**, our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to **love God**, to **love each other**, and to **love our neighbors**.

WORSHIP

Sunday Mornings
11:00AM
in the
Sanctuary

www.fpcedgewood.org

This month's news from the **EDGE** is sponsored by **YOU?** Sponsors are needed for upcoming issues. Contact the office.

Annual Meeting Tops January Plans

As we enter into a new calendar year, don't let your family at First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood fall off of your resolutions list! We'll be gathering to plan some exciting and meaningful experiences for the year ahead, in worship, fellowship, through scripture, prayer, food (of course!) and more. We come together as a congregation and a corporation at our Annual Meeting to discuss the important business in the life of the church. We receive ministry team reports and the church budget, and elect new leadership to the Session and Deaconate. Please plan to join us on **Sunday, January 13 immediately following morning worship**. Help secure the future of the Edgewood Church as a bright and vibrant one, carrying out our mission to love God, love each other, and love our neighbors. Happy New Year!



Sunday Worship Schedule

WORSHIP ALERT!

Sunday morning worship services at FPCE can become an inspiring, meaningful, beautiful and—yes! - fun part of your weekend. Please join us. Bring a friend!

Sunday, January 6

This is Epiphany Sunday—the week for the Christmas “wise men.” An Epiphany drama will be included.

Sunday, January 13

It is Baptism of the Lord Sunday, the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. We will enter into that “start-up” spirit by ordaining/installing newly elected officers and conducting our annual congregational meeting. See details elsewhere in newsletter.

Sunday, January 20

Our Emerging Worship Ensemble will lead us in worship with a variety of musical styles...and lots of enthusiasm. Walking beside Jesus, we will crash a wedding reception and imbibe some new wine. Metaphorically, that is. See John 2: 1-11 for details.

Sunday, January 27

Worship details to be worked out, but we need your body here for the service to be most effective. The sermon title is “Body Talk.” See I Corinthians 12: 12-31 for the pre-worship work-out.

Looking ahead:

Lent begins early this year—Ash Wednesday is on February 13. Mark your calendar.



First Presbyterian Church of
EDGEWOOD
The Community Church



STAFF DIRECTORY

120 East Swissvale Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15218
Phone: 412-241-4613
www.fpcedgewood.org

Interim Pastor	Michael P. Rucker mprucker@fpcedgewood.org
Pastor Emeritus	Dr. Gerald Hollingsworth
FROGS Program Director	Debbie Pike frogs@fpcedgewood.org
Minister of Music	Shaun Cloonan music@fpcedgewood.org
Organist/Pianist	Sunny Sakai sunnysakai4@gmail.com
Section Leaders	Tyler McGuigan Mandy Rineer
Office Manager	Judy Mysels office@fpcedgewood.org
Building Manager	Rob Mysels
Nursery Attendant	Kristi Cloonan LittleK815@aol.com

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
9:00AM-2:00PM



News from the Edge
is the monthly newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood.
If you have information you would like
to include in the next issue, email Judy Mysels
at office@fpcedgewood.org by
the 15th of the prior month.
Sponsorship is available for \$40 per month.

PASTOR'S POINT OF VIEW

Signs of the New Year, some are different for everyone of us; some are the same for all of us. But a new year calls us to pause, and count the ways our lives as individuals and as a

community are changing.

Let me share a few of the changes I am experiencing in my own life, you are encouraged to add your own:

- The Christmas gift that drew the loudest shout of happiness from my children's lips? Clothing! Alleluia! *Nerf Guns* begone!
- This will be the first year that Heather's and my Dad will not be ringing in the new year with us. Though they will be missed deeply, our resurrection hope is a great comfort to us.
- A new church. New church family. New friends. New opportunities. New challenges. A new way for God to work his will through us.

Some changes we will experience together.

- A new pastor. Wonder what will be different?
- The work of the Pastoral Nominating Committee will begin in earnest.
- Fiscal cliff? Health Care plan to go into effect? USA pulls out of Afghanistan. Gun control debate? Yikes! Pray for our nation and its leaders. Pray for our congregation to respond with grace, justice and love.

As I look into the year ahead of us, one prayer rushes through my heart, mind and soul. Evangelism. God is on the move, lives are touched, hopes are kindled, how to get the word "out there?"

Few words make Presbyterians as uncomfortable and nervous as *evangelism*. How can we invite without being pushy? How can we share the good news of the gospel with integrity and non-judgmentally? How can we be ourselves and be "inviting?" I ponder and pray over these questions day and night. Honestly. I sat behind the pulpit on Christmas Eve and asked God—"Lord, what must I do, what must we do, for the sanctuary to be this full every Sunday morning?"

The Lord, with a patient, gentle, still and quiet voice, has spoken twice:

1. Pray. Pray for the Lord of the harvest to bless us who work in the field of Edgewood. Pray for the Lord to increase our number. Pray earnestly. Pray every day. And then....listen.
2. Be a friend to our neighbors. Be there for our neighbors. We don't need to create "big events." We do need to be real friends. And if I've witnessed anything since joining you three months

ago— FPCE is full of good people. People who can be good friends. An early leader in the church, John Chrysostom (347-407) wisely advised the fledgling Christian Church: *“This is the rule of the most perfect Christianity, its most exact definition, its highest point, namely, the seeking of the common good...for nothing can so make a person an imitator of Christ as caring for neighbors.”*

These two thoughts that have encouraged me. Neither are difficult; both are something all of us can do.

Before departing after the Christmas Eve service, Shaun made an interesting observation; *“We’re the best kept secret in Edgewood!”*

Do you agree with him? That can be changed. That is my first prayer for us in 2013. I hope you will join me. Let us pray.

A blessed New Year to all!

Pastor Michael

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group will meet on Wednesdays at 7pm in the Gathering Place beginning January 16. Our activities are geared to middle school students (grades 5-8) with older students welcome to join us. We may not meet every week, especially if weather is bad, so if you are interested but not coming regularly, check with Debbie beforehand: 412-244-9156 or 4pikes@comcast.net.

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL

We begin the year with a special celebration of Epiphany, also known as Kings’ Day or the 12th Day of Christmas. Parents and kids: Let Debbie, Lorraine or Rhonda know if you will be able to come to attend practice Saturday, January 5 (1:00 -2:30pm) and participate with us Sunday, January 6.

WINTER F.R.O.G.S.

(Friends, Reading, and Other Great Stuff)

Winter FROGS begins Tuesday, January 8, 2013. This term is a continuation of our after-school program begun in the fall, but we have a spot or two available if a new student is interested.

Volunteers make it happen! We thank Connie, Dan, Flo, Mary, and Rick for their dedicated help during fall term, and Pat Mielke for coming in December with a special bead candy cane craft. It was great to see some of our special friends at our Christmas party: Chris, Charlie & Bill Baldwin; Ranger Tim Manka; Benjamin Pike; and “Grandpa Frog” Bill & “Grandma Frog” Donna Stineman.

For more information about the FROGS program or activities, speak with Debbie at church or contact her at frogs@fpcedgewood.org or 412-241-4613.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The following members were elected to offices at the December congregational meeting and will be installed/ordained in worship on January 13.

Session:

Lorraine Douthett
Doris Hamilton
Paul Ohori
Jim Segedy

Deacons:

Stephanie Nihart
Helen Ebken
Rick Masten
Donna Stineman
Bill Stineman
Mary Ann Hartman

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC):

Brad Masten
Judy Mysels
Tyler McGuigan
Rhonda Rudman
Patrick Carrick

Auditor:

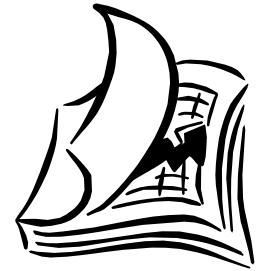
Mary Ross

2013 Nominating Committee:

Marcia Haley (Session)
Rick Masten (Deacon)
Elaine Cloonan
Ruth Miller
Lisa Segedy

CALL FOR 2013 REPORTS

On Sunday, January 13, immediately following worship, the Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held to accept the 2013 budget and to elect the church officers. If you are the chair or secretary of a ministry team or organization within the church, please have your narrative report into the church office by **no later than January 8**. It can be given in hard copy, on a disc, or e-mailed as a Word file attachment to Office Manager Judy Mysels at office@fpcedgewood.org.



OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE IN...

...and are available in the back of the Sanctuary. If you are not able to pick them up, contact the Church Office, and we will mail them to you.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED...

...January 1 in observance of the New Year's Day holiday and January 21, in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

P.W. CORNER

*By Luella Broe, Presbyterian Women
Moderator*

"What do workers gain from all their hard work? I have observed the task that God has given human beings. God has made everything fitting in its time, but has also placed eternity in their hearts, without enabling them to discover

what God has done from beginning to end." Ecc. 3:9-11 (CEV)

In the eight verses before this quote is the passage about "season for everything". God has a time for everything under the sun. God has given each of us a task, a mission. We, as Edgewood Presbyterian Women, have a task to do together. ***What is it as a group do we want to devote our time and energy to? *** What would enhance the mission of FPCE? Please, Ladies, investigate causes that are near and dear to your heart and bring an idea to the February Quarterly meeting. God says over in Isa 55:8 "My plans aren't your plans, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord." As we start 2013, I look forward to the year ahead.

THANKOFFERING January 20, 2013



What a glorious Advent season we had together. Spirit-filled worship, wonderful fellowship, and of course, high quality music enhanced the Word proclaimed. Thank you to all who contributed to our worship in any way during December—from the Emerging Worship Ensemble to the Sanctuary Choir, Blue Christmas with the Sakais, Christmas Eve, special musical offering by Jeremy Pike, you all made our journey just a little more special in 2012. I can't wait to see what 2013 brings us in worship and the music ministry at FPCE!

I am delighted to share that we not only collected enough donations to meet our hymnal goal, but we secured enough to replace literally every book in the pews and the choir room! We've already placed the order for 277 hymnals, got them at the discounted rate of \$15/book, and sent in the check! We are still accepting donations for anyone who hasn't had a chance to contribute yet. In fact, we can add a few more books to our order if needed—we can always use a few more for the Gathering Place, Lounge, office, etc. But THANK YOU to all who have made this new adventure in worship possible. We'll look forward to the arrival of the new hymnals in early summer. I'm sure some of you will eagerly show up to pull the red binders from the pew racks!

Blessings to you all in this new year. I remain humbled and honored to serve you all each and every week in this special place known as the Edgewood congregation. Peace.

Shaun

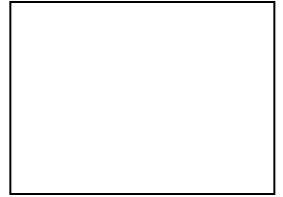
JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 11:00 Snuggie Sunday (L)	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	2	3	4 8:00 AA (SR)	5 1:00 Pinewood Derby Workshop (SR) 1:00 Sunday School Drama Practice (S)
6 Epiphany Sunday 9:30 Quartet (C) 9:45 Adult Ed (L) 11:00 Worship (S) 12:15 Fellowship (L)	7 7:00 Scouts (SC)	8 10:00 Tues Group (L) 3:45 FROGS 7:00 AA (SR) Deacons (L) Session (GP)	9	10 3:45 FROGS 6:30 Pack Mtg (SC)	11 8:00 AA (SR)	12
13 Baptism of the Lord 9:30 Choir (C) 9:45 Adult Ed (L) 11:00 Worship/ Installation (S) 12:15 Annual Mtg (S) 1:00 Luncheon (GP)	14 7:00 Scouts (SC)	15 10:00 Tues Group (L) 3:45 FROGS 7:00 AA (S)	16 7:00 Youth Group (GP) Worship Ens. (S)	17 3:45 FROGS	18 8:00 AA (SR)	19 1:00 Pinewood Derby (SR)
20 Thank Offering 9:00 Worship Ens (S) 9:45 Adult Ed (L) 11:00 Emerging Worship (S) 12:15 Fellowship (L)	21 <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 Scouts (SC)	22 10:00 Tues Group (L) 3:45 FROGS 7:00 AA (S)	23 7:00 Youth Group (GP)	24 3:45 FROGS	25 8:00 AA (SR)	26
27 9:30 Choir (C) 9:45 Adult Ed (L) 11:00 Worship (S) 12:15 Fellowship (L)	28 7:00 Joy Circle (L) Scouts (SC)	29 10:00 Tues Group (L) 3:45 FROGS 7:00 AA (SR)	30 7:00 Youth Group (GP)	31 3:45 FROGS	C=Choir Room; GP=Gathering Place L=Lounge; O=Office; PS=Pastor's Study S=Sanctuary; SC=Scout Room SR=Social Room	



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120 E. Swissvale Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA 15218



**A monthly support group
for people surviving the
loss of a love**



First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood
Rev. Michael Rucker, Interim Pastor
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GRIEVING SPACE

at the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood

Here, we understand that finding the space to grieve can sometimes be every bit as challenging as the loss itself.

Should you need us,
our support group is here.

Meetings: every third Thursday of
the month 7 pm

Call us to let us know you are coming:
412-241-4613

Individual support with a certified
grief counselor is also available through:



Edgewood Psychological Services