



# news from the **EDGE**

120 East Swissvale Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15218

412-241-4613

office@fpcedgewood.org

## OCTOBER 2012

**LOVE GOD**  
LEACH 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

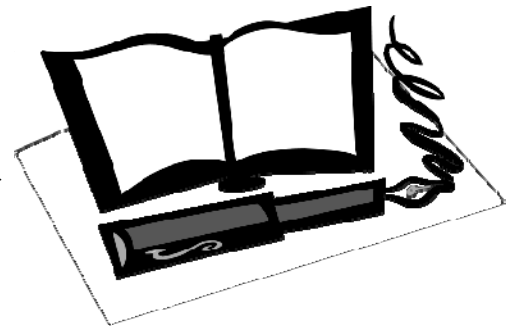
Sunday Mornings  
**11:00AM**  
in the  
Sanctuary

[www.fpcedgewood.org](http://www.fpcedgewood.org)

This month's news from the **EDGE** is sponsored by **Shaun Cloonan** in honor of the music ministry of FPCE

## The Next Chapter of FPCE History Begins...

The Session, staff, and transition team are thrilled to begin the next part of our ministry together at First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood with the arrival of our new Interim Pastor, the Reverend Michael P. Rucker. Michael comes to us after serving for 15 years as the settled pastor at Homestead United Presbyterian Church, just across the Rankin Bridge. Pastor Michael is a 1983 graduate of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary where he wrestled with scripture, fell in love with church history, and shared brews and debate at Kelly's on Penn Circle. He began his ministry in the suburbs, serving as an Associate and Interim Senior Minister at Sunset Hills United Presbyterian Church for nearly 8 years. After fulfilling a four year call at the Springdale Presbyterian Church, Michael spent over three years at Arlington Presbyterian Church in south Arlington, just outside Washington D.C. That experience opened his eyes and heart to the deep needs of the urban community. Feel free to call, e-mail (new FPCE address coming soon!), or



## Sunday Worship Schedule

*Note: at the time of newsletter printing (and since Pastor Michael hasn't started yet), specific worship details were not available to list. The general schedule is as follows:*

### Sunday, October 7

World Communion Sunday. Music from around the world accompanies this first service with Pastor Michael preaching and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Meet-and-Greet fellowship in the sanctuary follows the service.

### Sunday, October 14

Pastor Michael preaching.

### Sunday, October 21

Emerging Worship on the lawn, weather permitting. Harvest Happening immediately follows the service in the same space (weather permitting).

### Sunday, October 28

Pastor Michael preaching.



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**
- Pastor Emeritus** ..... **Dr. Gerald Hollingsworth**
- FROGS Program Director**..... **Debbie Pike**  
frogs@fpcedgewood.org
- Minister of Music** ..... **Shaun Cloonan**  
music@fpcedgewood.org  
cell phone: 412-480-7876
- Organist/Pianist** ..... **Sunny Sakai**  
sunnysakai4@gmail.com
- Section Leaders** ..... **Mia Fuqua Hotkowski**  
**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.

## The Next Chapter of FPCE History begins... (cont. from page 1)

Facebook Pastor Michael at any time. He is looking forward to sharing a cup of coffee (grande bold) and getting to know you better. The Rucker family lives in Squirrel Hill.



In addition to Pastor Michael's arrival, we have a full plate of activities and events in the coming weeks. First, we celebrate with Christians around the world as we gather at the Lord's Table for World Communion Sunday on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Since this is our first Sunday with Michael, we will hold a special meet-and-greet coffee hour *in the sanctuary* immediately following worship in the transept where the choir usually sits. The following week, representatives from FPCE will join with brothers and sisters of many denominations and faith backgrounds to help eradicate hunger by participating in the Pittsburgh East CROP Hunger Walk. And, last, but certainly not least, we will hold our annual Harvest Happening fall festival on the side lawn (weather permitting) immediately following outdoor Emerging worship (also weather permitting!) Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. Read on in this issue of *News from the Edge* to see all of the exciting things happening in our corner of the Kingdom!



Session encourages all to attend worship on Sunday, October 7th to welcome our Interim Pastor, the Reverend Michael P. Rucker. Also plan to attend a fellowship gathering in the front of the sanctuary following services to say hello to Michael.

## SESSION NOTES

The September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Session began following the joint board meeting, with the Reverend Douglas Marshall, associate pastor at Beulah United Presbyterian Church serving as moderator. The following actions were taken:

- Approved the use of the church grounds on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> by the Boy Scouts for their flea market.
- Discussed budgetary items, noting that giving is below expected levels this quarter, and some exterior building work contributed to current estimated losses.
- Approved the terms of call between FPCE and the Reverend Michael P. Rucker as Interim Pastor for a period of one year (with option of renewal) to begin Monday, October 1, 2012. Pastor Michael's first service with us will be World Communion Sunday, October 7, 2012.
- Discussed the timeline of transition process and pastoral search: congregation is notified of Interim Pastor, welcome reception is planned, church survey begins run by the survey team, nominating committee puts together slate of names for congregational approval of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC), whose work will begin once the survey is completed and the mission report is written.
- Directed the Property Team and Building Manager to complete renovation on the pastor's study restroom and to paint the study prior to Rev. Rucker's arrival.
- Authorized the church survey team of Liz Held, Paul Ohori, and Jim Segedy to begin communication with the congregation regarding the online church mission survey as soon as they are ready to make it "live" online.
- Voted to change the job title of Director of Music to "Minister of Music" to more accurately reflect the spiritual component to music leadership at FPCE.
- Authorized the music ministry to begin a capital campaign to raise funds for the purchase of the denomination's new hymnal, *Glory to God*, in order to take advantage of discounted sale prices for pre-ordering by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Rev. Marshall commended the members and leadership of FPCE for managing the transition period as smoothly as possible, and offered words of encouragement as we begin a new chapter with our Interim. Elder Jim Segedy closed with prayer.

## Joys and Concerns of God's People in Edgewood

- Congratulations to Mia-Lin Fuqua and Leonard Hotkowski on their marriage in our sanctuary on October 15 with the Rev. Wendy Keys officiating.
- Prayers and sympathies go out to the family of Helen Mang, who passed away in early August.
- Congratulations to Mariah Mysels who is this year's recipient of the Deacons' Melfard Douglass Scholarship.
- Congratulations to former Pastoral Assistant Carrie (Hanson) Benton, who was ordained on September 23 and serves as Assistant Pastor at the Community of Reconciliation Church in Oakland.
- Thank you to Building Manager Rob Mysels for his work preparing the pastor's study for Pastor Michael's arrival. The restroom has been renovated and a fresh coat of paint is up on the walls!
- Thank you to the transition team for their diligent work this summer in securing our Interim Pastor. The members of the team are: Chris & Gregg Baldwin, Tim Carr, Marcia Haley, Debbie Pike, and Brad Masten.



**PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN**

## **P.W. CORNER**

*By Luella Broe, Presbyterian Women Moderator*

Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful. Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King. Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre. Ps 149:1-3 (NRSV)

As I look over this passage in 3 different versions, the passage is primarily the same. Two versions say "in the assembly of the faithful", the KJV says "in the congregation of the saints". Webster gives one definition of "assembly" as a "group of persons gathered together" and Webster defines "congregation" as "an assembly of people gathered for religious worship". The term "assembly of the faithful" is the same

idea as congregation. Each time we assemble or congregate: we are the children of Zion. We rejoice in our King, Jesus Christ.

I found this interesting the instruments spoken of in the 3 versions: tambourine and lyre (NRSV), drum and lyre (CEV), and timbrel and harp (KJV). Webster defines timbrel as an ancient type of tambourine. The one instrument is stringed and the other is percussion. The lyre and the timbrel are the instruments that we are least familiar to us. We know the tambourine, drum and the harp. In nearly every worship band, the primary instrument are stringed instruments such as the guitar and the drum are there for percussion. Without realizing it, we go back to this scripture for worship music.

### PWPP Upcoming Events:

Nov. 3—World Day of Prayer

Nov. 10—Thank Offering Gathering at Presbytery Office

Dec. 10—4th Quarter Mission Pledge Due

### 2013 Events:

March 10—1st Quarter Pledge Due

March 16—Prayer Breakfast (location and time TBA)

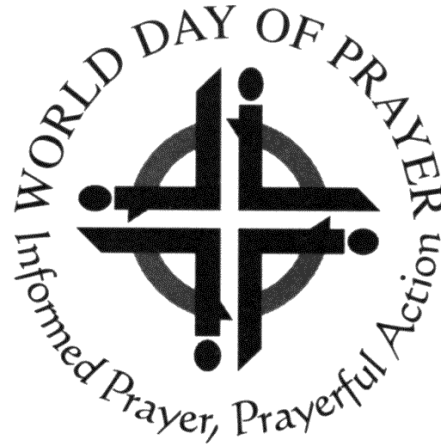

April 20—Spring Gathering at Bethany Presbyterian Church

### Local Events:

Nov. 4—P.W. Business Meeting/Election of Officers

Feb. 10—2013 P.W. Business Meeting


Joy Circle meets the 4th Monday of each month at 7PM

A Youth Group has started here at FPCE on Wednesdays at 7PM (same time as Church Wide Bible Study). Childcare available for all ages.

**CALLING ALL YOUTH**

Youth could sign up to bring snacks, lead a lesson, plan a game on a rotating basis with various adults. Ideas or questions welcome.



**CHURCH WIDE BIBLE STUDY**  
**Wednesdays, 7PM**  
Topic: The Beautitudes

Held every Wednesday until November 14 (except on Halloween—Oct. 31)  
Child care available for all ages

### **News from the Nominating Committee**

The nominating committee will be meeting to develop a 2013 candidate slate for Deacons, Session and Auditors. It is also the responsibility of the nominating committee to select candidates for the Pastor Nominating Committee that is tasked with selecting a new pastor. If you are interested or have recommendations, please contact Tom Ochs at [tomochs.101@gmail.com](mailto:tomochs.101@gmail.com) or (412) 212-0705.

# October 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
		3:45p.m.FROGS 7 p.m. Deacons 7 p.m. AA	10:30 Food Training FROGS 7 p.m. Bible Study 7 p.m. Youth Group	10:00 Thursday Morning Group 3:45 p.m. FROGS	8 p.m. AA	
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
9:30 choir reh. 11 a.m. Worship 12:15 Fellowship	7 p.m. Parent Mtg	3:45p.m.FROGS 7 p.m. Session 7 p.m. AA	7 p.m. Bible Study 7 p.m. Youth Group	10:00 Thursday Morning Group 3:45 p.m. FROGS	8 p.m. AA	Boy Scout Flea Market
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
9:30 choir reh. 11 a.m. Worship 12:15 Fellowship 12:15 C.E. Mtg. 1:00 CROP Walk	7 p.m. Scouts	3:45p.m.FROGS 7 p.m. AA	7 p.m. Bible Study 7 p.m. Youth Group	10:00 Thursday Morning Group 3:45 p.m. FROGS 6:30 Pack Mtg. 7 p.m. Grief Support Group	8 p.m. AA	
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
9:30 choir reh. 11 a.m. Worship 12:30 Harvest Happening	7 p.m. Scouts	3:45p.m.FROGS 7 p.m. AA	7 p.m. Bible Study 7 p.m. Youth Group	10:00 Thursday Morning Group 3:45 p.m. FROGS	8 p.m. AA	
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			
9:30 choir reh. 11 a.m. Worship 12:15 Fellowship	7 p.m. Joy Circle 7 p.m. Scouts	3:45p.m.FROGS 7 p.m. AA				

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING DATES IN NOVEMBER ...

### TURKEY TIME ALREADY...

While it may be October now, the membership at FPCE is already busy planning its annual community Thanksgiving meal. This outreach event has brought hot, home-cooked meals to many Edgewood homebound residents, provided fellowship for those without families to spend the day with, and a given a holiday pick-me-up for service workers at the police, fire, and EMT stations in the area. The entire meal is donated and prepared by church and community members. If you would be interested in helping to prepare the meal, cook an extra turkey at home to donate, provide canned or boxed donations, serve the meal, or deliver take-out meals, please contact Judy at the church office to get signed up. All hands and hearts are welcome for this important hands-on act of compassion toward the Edgewood and surrounding communities.



### PROJECT MANGER TREE



Beginning Sunday, Nov. 11, the Board of Deacons will be working with Action Housing Homeless Service again this year. We have had an overwhelming response from the congregation in the past and would like to continue this wonderful project.

Please select a tag from the tree (located in hallway next to the water fountain) and buy an age-appropriate gift. Money can also be donated to buy wrapping paper, gift bags and ribbon. See any Deacon for more information about the project, for help in selecting a manger tree tag and for gift ideas. Please sponsor one of God's children.

We would like your UNWRAPPED gifts along with the tag returned to the church by **Dec 9**. Thank you for your support of this project.

God Bless,  
*The Board of Deacons*

### **HANGING OF THE GREENS**

**Sunday, November 25 following worship**

Advent, our journey to Christmas, begins in just a few weeks! We'll begin our visible preparations with the Hanging of the Greens after church on **November 25**. We'll meet in the Lounge for fellowship, then, as usual, we will sing and pray. But we'll set aside a majority of our time for dressing up the sanctuary and hallways for Christmas. Join us for this time of celebration and anticipation.

Stewardship asks that you begin now to prayerfully consider your pledge for 2013. Please do the best you can to meet the goal you set for 2012.

*Your Servants,  
Stewardship Committee*

## **CROP WALK: October 14**

On Oct. 14, the Pittsburgh East community will celebrate its 35th year of walking to end hunger one step at a time. The oldest walk in the country, is sponsored by Church World Service ([www.churchworldservice.org](http://www.churchworldservice.org)). Over 34 years we have raised \$283,566 to fund anti-hunger and development projects around our block and around our world. 25% of what we raise is returned as grants to East End Common Ministries and Wilksburg Community Ministry.

Last year, FPCE raised over \$1,000...let's see if we can top that!

Youth and adults from this congregation will gather at the South Avenue United Methodist Church at 1:00 to gather in preparation for the 10K loop through Squirrel Hill and back. The walk distance is 6.2 miles. Walking time is approximately 2.5 hours. You can participate by either walking or sponsoring a walker. Walkers this year are: Mary Ann Hartman, Stephanie Niehart, Tyler McGuigan, Shaun Cloonan, Judy and Mariah Mysels.



**Sunday, October 21**

Come and enjoy the taste of fall. Everyone plan on enjoying a couple of hours with all your friends and family from FPCE, immediately following morning worship outside on the side lawn (weather permitting) or inside in the Social Room, eating, playing games, making seasonal crafts, caramel apples, decorating pumpkins, etc. Tentative menu: hot dogs/hamburgers, side dishes, desserts, beverages for \$5 donation.

## **Fall F.R.O.G.S.**

(Friends, Reading, and Other Great Stuff)

Fall FROGS began Thursday, September 13, 2012. Meeting Tuesdays and Thursdays in the lower level of the church building, the program times changed again, now to 3:45 - 6:00 pm, to coincide with different dismissal time at Edgewood Elementary. Snack, homework, reading, craft, outdoor play or games, and dinner are included on most program days. In late September an outing to the Edgewood Borough building was planned to learn about the local community.

Dan Mielke joined our team this fall (Thanks Dan!). We appreciate his help as well as volunteers returning or able to visit occasionally. Our helpers find working with the kids a rewarding experience and really make this program possible. If you are interested in volunteering or making a one-time visit to share a craft or special interest, we'd love to have you join us. For information on volunteering, please contact Debbie at the church or [frogs@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:frogs@fpcedgewood.org).



## **From the Worship Ministry Team**

Worship is everyone's business. I remember Rev. Mike Wilson teaching us - "Who is the audience at Sunday worship? Certainly, not us. The audience is God." In this regard, all of us are performing for the Lord - no matter how large or small the role.

During our transition period, we have shown that as a church, we are capable of seamlessly continuing our worship practice. We are grateful for our worship leaders and I would like to give special acknowledgment to our Minister of Music - Shaun Cloonan, Elder Jim Segedy, Elder Patrick Carrick, Sunny Sakai, Rev. James Davison, Rev. Stewart Lawrence, Deacon Rick Masten, Dr. Jeff Nine, and all others who participated in the worship services.

Rev. Mike also taught us that we are in the time between the "already" and "not yet". As we welcome our new interim pastor, we will start a new chapter in the history of FPCE. Let us re-examine how we may better worship our Lord - during the 11 AM hour on Sundays in the sanctuary and elsewhere at other times. Let us pray together so that our actions and meditation of our hearts may be acceptable to our Lord - our strength and redeemer.

*Elder Paul Otori, Worship Ministry Team Chair*



It's hard to believe October is already upon us. Last month, I wrote to you regarding the "seas of change" and keeping faith as we move forward. Well, my friends, here we are at the beginning of our next chapter of church history with Interim Pastor Michael Rucker. I am eager to begin our shared ministry together, and look forward to the exciting ways in which we'll "do church."

One of those ways will be the inclusion of our new denominational hymnal, *Glory to God*. Believe it or not, it's been 22 years since we purchased our last hymnal. The general shelf life of a hymnal is 20-25 years, and here we are smack in the middle of that statistic.

Now, do we *need* a new hymnal? We could find at least a dozen reasons to say "no." And I get it. The budget, current state of the economy, the ever popular "what's wrong with the one we have?," and the list goes on. However, my most compelling reason for bringing this before Session and now to you is that it's something that will *enhance* our worship experience and that will continue to move us forward in that whole idea of how we *do church*. The PC(USA) has committed over 3 years of research, debate, discussion, and prayer to this new initiative, and it was enthusiastically endorsed at General Assembly here in Pittsburgh back in July. So, if the larger church at the denominational level is excited about it, I feel like we should be also! Oh, and there's that whole idea of not having to switch between "blue" and "red" anymore, too, since most of what is in the red binders is now part of the new book, and whatever isn't, we'll do during Emerging worship and put the words on the screen. So, say goodbye to the binders!



You'll see a reprint of an article that is far more articulate than I could attempt to be regarding this musical adventure into changing our pew racks. Even if you couldn't care less about what book we use, what color it is, which hymns were or weren't included, or anything of that nature, I invite you to read Eric Wall's words, because he captures a little part of who we are on Sunday mornings, the things we cling to, and what change can do to move us forward. And, well, if after reading that, you're still not convinced, send in a donation anyway!

Included in this newsletter is a pink envelope for you to consider donating to our new hymnal fund. Understandably, the Session was fiscally responsible and chose not to commit any budgeted monies to this purchase. Instead, they've given me authorization to solicit donations to get these new additions to our worship time together. I'm asking that every member consider at least a \$20 donation (the cost of one book), which you can dedicate in honor or memory of someone special. If each of our 150 members gave this amount, we would have exactly the \$3,000 needed to purchase the number of hymnals needed. And to show that I'm not just asking for money and not being a part of it myself, I'm starting the fund with my own contribution of 25 hymnals.

By the way, in case you ever wondered what the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s view on music was, this comes from the *Directory of Worship W-2.1003*:

"Song is a response which engages the whole self in prayer. Song unites the faithful in common prayer wherever they gather for worship whether in church, home, or other special place. The covenant people have always used the gift of song to offer prayer. Psalms were created to be sung by the faithful as their response to God. Though they may be read responsively or in unison, their full power comes to expression when they are sung. In addition to psalms the Church in the New Testament sang hymns and spiritual songs. Through the ages and from varied cultures, the church has developed additional musical forms for congregational prayer. Congregations are encouraged to use these diverse musical forms for prayer as well as those which arise out of the musical life of their own cultures."

As the psalmist writes, "Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!" I am continually amazed by the dedication, talents, support, and generosity of the congregation here at Edgewood. I hope you will continue to share in our music ministry's weekly charge to enhance the proclamation of God's Word, and that you prayerfully consider contributing to the future of how we *do church*!

In a shared ministry,

Shaun Cloonan  
Minister of Music



## “A Hymnal Change Is Gonna Come”

By Eric Wall, Director of Music

First Presbyterian Church, Asheville and Montreat Conference Center

Reprinted by permission from [blog.presbyterianhymnalproject.com](http://blog.presbyterianhymnalproject.com)

A new hymnal? It can't be time to give up the old red hymnal - oh wait.... A new hymnal? Wasn't there something called The Worshipbook - oh, wait... A new hymnal? We just got this new blue hymnal - oh wait....

Though statistics confirm the typical 20-25 year life span of denominational hymnals, a hymnal change can make us feel as though we're suddenly on the bridge of the Starship Enterprise at warp speed. For myself, I came into the PCUSA about a year before the 1990 hymnal was published, and I still find myself in these latter days of 2012 calling it the “new hymnal”. Warp drive, indeed, Scotty.

Since 2008, the “peacocks” - make that PCOCS, or Presbyterian Committee on Congregational Song - have met and worked with some of the most remarkably thorough and faithful diligence our denomination has witnessed. The fruits of their labors - and what I believe will be the apple of the church's eye - began to emerge on April 9 with the list of the new book's contents. (It will also exist in digital formats, but I use “book” as a catch-all word here.) That list goes to General Assembly this summer- not for line-item parsing or even approval as such, but for commendation to the church. It is a magnificent and mouth-watering list of song; I can hardly wait till it rolls off the presses and into the pew racks. This list, of course, also ushers in more fully this transition period between hymnals - a period of real excitement that is also tinged with poignancy.

In very basic terms, of course, the idea of a one new hymnal for every member of a congregation means that once every twenty years, we spend fifteen or twenty bucks on a new book. (What's your personal purchase rate of books in just one year?) That new book will be used again and again, week in and week out, for several decades. (How many of the books we buy sit around and are read once? or never?) That book is a treasure chest unsurpassed by any literary or musical anthology we can imagine: centuries of miraculous music and miraculous words - and “miraculous” is not a flippant adjective nor florid hyperbole, but something we believe to be spiritual truth: the miracle of God in Jesus Christ. Not many books or downloads offer this to us.

Hymnals have a curious place in worshipping communities. They *matter* - because what's in them *matters*. Songs we've always known, songs we've newly learned; the fundamentals of our faith; Biblical story; doctrine; comfort and disturbance; songs that draw us into worship and songs that kick us out into the world - and all of that might only describe words! As for music - well, where does one start? In our digital age, music is available to us from pretty much anywhere in the world, and our hymnals give us a remarkable cross-section of that breadth. Our iTunes accounts invite us to compile our own playlists of exactly what we like and help us find more of the same; and we can easily go through a hymnal and pick out our own list of favorites (if we've looked at the new content list we may have done this already). But a hymnal presumes not just

personal taste but also the community's worship, and so it gives us six or seven hundred songs which say, “Here we are - notice us and sing us, like it or not”.

We are not allowed the luxury, in the community's worship, of plucking rose petals with each hymn in the book, saying “I love it” or “I love it not”. Those questions are not irrelevant, just limited - as limited as if they were asked about people. So we sing all kinds of things, not because everything floats our own boat, but because all of it together floats the larger boat of the community. This is the excitement of a new collection like *Glory to God* - a staggering diversity that will engage us in amazing ways in our worship.

Because hymnals demand our engagement, a faithful response to them may at times be a joyful dance and at times a wrestling match, as is the whole life of faith. In the process, a community may come to claim a hymnal strongly. A new hymnal is a big change, and big changes may be felt in small ways. I think about *The Presbyterian Hymnal*: I am used to the blue cover; I am used to knowing that “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” is Hymn 376 and “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” is Hymn 9; I am used to the thematic progress one gets in leafing through the “Life in Christ” section; I like the type-setting, the music engraving; I know my way around. You may have your own particulars about this or other hymnals. I think these show faithful use and genuine affection, and we aren't always ready for the deep breath, the fresh start with a new book - and a new color - and different page numbers - and...

So for me, the transition does have poignancy. I have loved *The Presbyterian Hymnal*. I've loved playing it on the organ and the piano and hearing it sung by congregations large and small. Friends and mentors on the 1990 Hymnal Committee have fundamentally shaped my work as a church musician. For all those reasons, it's a living book for me - it has *mattered* - and retiring it is significant. Equally significant is my complete excitement about *Glory to God* - that is the paradox of transition. “Well done, good and faithful servant” would be appropriate words to say to *The Presbyterian Hymnal* and to the people who helped shape it; the same words are just as true for *Glory to God* and the PCOCS.

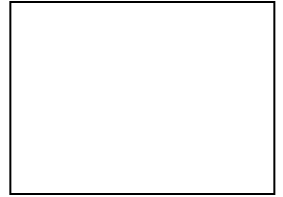
Maybe what this time of past and future needs is our being *present* - noting and singing with gratitude hymns we've loved that won't carry forward; noting and singing with assurance the many, many hymns we've loved that will move forward; noting and singing with delight and curiosity those hymns that, in *Glory to God*, will be first-timers to a Presbyterian hymnal.

I hope that, as a church, we will give thanks to God for the contents and crafting of *The Presbyterian Hymnal* and equal thanks for the contents and crafting of *Glory to God*. Just as past hymnals have brought our worship to greater life, so will this wonderful new collection. Full impulse power!



First Presbyterian Church of  
**EDGEWOOD**  
*The Community Church*

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  
120 East Swissvale Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

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office@fpcedgewood.org  
www.fpcedgewood.org

## 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**

**This month's meeting will be October 18 at 7 p.m. in the Lounge**