



the Lantern

May 1, 2007

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Eggs Hunted Despite Cold Weather

Easter weekend was chilly, but that didn't stop First Presbyterian Church's younger set from hunting down a bunch of Easter Eggs. The hunt, hosted by Pastor Mike and Elizabeth McCormack was obviously a success...just look at the faces in the picture below!

Thursday supper and worship service, the KIM Good Friday service held at First Presbyterian this year, a Sunrise Service followed by a carry-in breakfast, and the regular service held at 9:30am.

Other Holy Week activities included a Maundy

Many thanks to everyone who helped make the Easter season special this year.



Above left: Noah McCormack, Benjamin Gering, and Daniel Marshall get ready to hunt eggs. Above right: Matthew Matheny helps the Bunny hide the eggs.

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Congrats, Graduates!

We will be recognizing our high school graduates on Sunday, May 13, during the worship hour. Please be present to support our youth in this important milestone of their lives. Pray for them often, too.



A Special Invitation to the Congregation from the family of Meghan King:

Join us in celebrating Meghan's graduation. When: Saturday, May 19, 2007

Where: Meghan's house, 804 East Dear Street

Time: 4:00-7:00 p.m.;

Please RSVP: 665-5704



Lectionary Readings

- **May 6 (Fifth Sunday of Easter)**
Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35
- **May 13 (Sixth Sunday of Easter)**
Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 21:22-22:5
- **May 17 (Ascension of the Lord)**
Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47 or Psalm 93
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53
- **May 20 (Seventh Sunday of Easter)**
Acts 16:16-34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17:20-26
- **May 27 (Day of Pentecost)**
Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21
John 14:8-17 (25-27)

Food of the Month:

Soup



Mark Your May Calendar

Sundays

- 5/6—Worship, 9:30am; Fellowship/Coffee-time, 10:30am, Fellowship Hall; Small Groups/Sunday School, 11am
- 5/13—Worship, 9:30am, **Recognition of High School Seniors; Second Sunday Brunch (all are welcome, bring a dish to share)** 10:30am, Fellowship Hall; Small Groups/Sunday School, 11am; **Sr Hi PYF Dessert Auction, 7pm, Fellowship Hall**
- 5/20, 5/27—Worship, 9:30am; Fellowship/Coffee, 10:30am, Fellowship Hall; Small Groups, 11am

Mondays

- 5/7, 5/14, 5/21—Sr. High PYF, 7pm, Travers Room (No PYF meeting on 5/28)

Tuesdays

- 5/1, 5/15, 5/29—Officers' training, 7pm, Fellowship Hall
- 5/8—Session and Deacons Meetings, 7pm, Fellowship Hall
- 5/22 — Christian Education Committee Meeting, 7pm
- 5/29—Presbyterian Women's Meeting, 7pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays

- 5/2—Mid-Week Bible Study, 1pm, at a member's home; Operation J.O.Y./Mid-High PYF, **Closing Day**, 3:15pm; Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7pm, Choir Room; **PCF Study Hall, Westminster House**
- 5/9, 5/16, 5/23, 5/30—Mid-Week Bible Study, 1pm, at a member's home; Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7pm, Choir Room

Fridays

- 5/11 — Parent's Night Out, 6-9pm, contact the church office for details.

Saturdays

- 5/12—Presby Seniors, 9am, Ponderosa Restaurant

Avalanche Ranch: Wah-h-h Woo!

The Vacation Bible School theme this year is *Avalanche Ranch, A Wild Ride Through God's Word*. Here's some information explaining the program and instructions to register your child(ren) online. You also can register by picking up a paper form in the church office.

Vacation Bible School, July 8-11, for children ages 3 through entering 5th grade.

Sunday, 7/8, 5-6:30pm Family Night at Jack Magruder's ranch

Monday-Wednesday, 7/9-7/11, 9am-

noon, First United Methodist Church

To register for VBS online:

1. Go to www.group.com/vbs
2. Look for Avalanche Ranch and click on ENTER.
3. Look on the left hand panel and choose "Web Toy Box—Sign On Now". The page says "Welcome to VBS Web Toy Box." Click on "Log In"
4. Choose "View My VBS Site" and click on "Register Now"
5. Fill in the form, then click "Submit"

Mike's Page

T.S. Eliot said in the opening line of his poem, "The Wasteland": "April is the cruelest month, breeding/Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing/Memory and desire, stirring/Dull roots with spring rain." Ah, that T.S. Eliot. Who knows what he's on about, half the time. Is he talking about the way creation seems to be "groaning with Labor pains" (to quote another oft-confusing man), the way nature seems to be bringing life from death, spring from winter? Or, is he talking about how painful it is for those of us who have engaged in spring cleaning? There's definitely "memory and desire" when we find something, maybe an old article of clothing that doesn't fit, or a prized possession. We know we should give it up, or give it away, but we want to hold onto it. There is both memory and desire. We remember the joy it brought to us. We feel that perhaps letting it go means we let some of the past go. Change is difficult. Maybe that's what Eliot is getting at—the dull ache we feel when there is a change in our lives. We feel a little out of control, a little like our life is not our own.

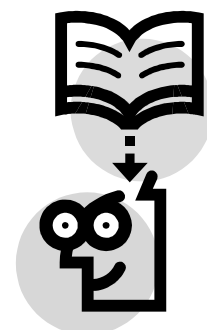
Presbyterians should be better at feeling out of control. We have always said that "God is sovereign." That means God is in control. So guess who *isn't* in control. That's right,



Left: "Let the hunt begin!"
First Presbyterian Youth get ready to hunt Easter Eggs on Saturday, April 7.

you...and me (don't feel bad). Perhaps you have seen the different confessional banners that are in the back of the Book of Confessions, or on the internet (just search under "confessional banners"). I looked at the banner for the Westminster Confession of Faith. It has a triangle in the very center with an eye on it. The eye is, I suppose, God's all-seeing eye. But rather than make us feel creepy, like the eye from Lord of the Rings, we are supposed to be comforted. God is watching, God is caring, God is bringing things to fulfillment. And, if the eye is not enough to tip us off to God's Sovereignty, there is also a crown. Kings have crowns but they are a bad example of sovereignty, because they eventually use their power for their OWN gain, and their own control. Shakespeare was as good as anyone to show that while kings might have a divine right to rule, they ruled in a very human and fallen manner. The true King isn't the kind of king you and I would ever recognize. Because, after all, this King came as a servant. So, we say goodbye to April, the supposed, "cruelest month" and hello to May. We pray that we can, with Reinhold Niebuhr, "accept the things we cannot change" and work to change the things we can, knowing always

that God is the one in control. So, though we're not in control, we need not feel "outta control." We need not say "Mayday!! Mayday!!" even in the month of May. Amen—
Mike



The banner of the Westminster Confession of Faith

Mike's Office Hours

MONDAY:
8:30am-Noon;
1pm-5pm

TUESDAY:
8:30am-Noon

WEDNESDAY:
8:30am-Noon

THURSDAY:
8:30am-Noon;
1pm-5pm

FRIDAY & SATURDAY: No office hours

Christian Ed. Committee Reports on Library Survey

You may remember that a questionnaire about the church library was included in last month's newsletter. This month, the Christian Education Committee reports the results of that survey.

The committee notes that the library survey was mailed to

220 households and that extra copies were placed in the Narthex. Unfortunately, only nine were returned for evaluation. Of those nine, only four reported that they used the library.

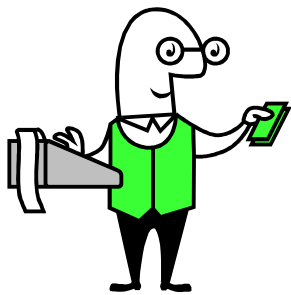
According to the returned surveys,

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Financial Report, 31 March 2007

	Month Income	Month Expense	YTD In- come	YTD Ex- pense
Giving & Other Revenue	\$10,545		\$31,632	
Restricted Program Transfers			1,416	
Designated Income/Expense	1,506	1,373	2,353	\$2,081
Direct Mission		1,100		3,400
Pastoral Leadership		4,950		19,748
Worship & Music		737		2,412
Christian Education	749	419	900	2,831
Administrative Support	17	5,094	77	14,891
House & Grounds	25	2,881	25	8,304
General Needs				28
Campus Ministry	750	69	1,805	813
Membership Shepherding		29		235
Community Ministries	54		256	727
Rollins Ministry	2,569	1,326	7,528	4,636
Westminster House Ministry	<u>0000</u>	<u>224</u>	<u>0000</u>	<u>866</u>
Total	<u>\$16,215</u>	<u>\$18,202</u>	<u>\$45,992</u>	<u>\$60,972</u>
Undesignated Cash Checking Account: -\$822.09				



Notes from the Session

Announcements from the April meeting of the Session:

- New officer training will be held on May 1, May 15, and May 29 from 7 to 8:30pm.
- New officer ordination and installation will be held on June 12 during the worship service.
- New windows are being installed throughout the church, funded by the Bell Fund.

The following nominations and by-laws changes were approved at the Congregational Meeting:

- Nominations for Elders: Jeff Arabas, Bonnie Collier, Kelvin Hodges, Scott Thatcher
- Nominations for Deacons: Charles Gerdes, Krissy Giovannini, David Lintner.
- By-laws change: Reduce the number of Deacons to 9



May Brings a Paper Shower

April showers bring May flowers, but this May, there's sure to be lots of paper in the air. Why? Because First Presbyterian Church's Presbyterian Women's group is holding a paper shower to benefit Victims' Support Services.

It takes a lot of paper, all kinds of paper, to find a job (resumes), deal with legal issues (letters), and just keep things clean (paper

towels, tissues, etc.) and, Victims' Support Services could use any and all kinds of paper.

Just bring your donations (yes, they'll accept paper money and paper checks, too) to worship on Sunday, May 13 (**Mother's Day**). A representative of Victims' Support will be there to accept them. Many thanks in advance for your generosity!

May Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

May 4: Kay Alm

May 5: John Haman

May 6: Blake Collier, Melina Mathene

May 7: Judy Bultman, Matt Mathene

May 9: Todd Sparks

May 11: Mary Novinger

May 12: Alexandra Arabas, Brenda Mathene

May 14: Margaret Ferrell

May 20: Ginny Crabb

May 21: Jane Trimborn

May 23: Sydney Ross, David Giovannini

May 27: David Bulen

May 30: Georgia Walter

Anniversaries:

May 15: Jamie & Todd Sparks

May 18: J & Jan Biehl

May 30: Brenda & Matt Mathene

May 30: Bob & Barbie Sanders



(Continued from page 4)

the library's best features were its location, easy access, and coziness. On the negative side, respondents stated that many of the books are old and obsolete, and the library lacks up-to-date material. Some characterized the atmosphere as "dark and dismal."

Respondents would like to see the collection enhanced with Bible commentaries, a Bible dictionary, books on Presbyterian beliefs, doctrine, theology,

and atlases. One respondent even listed specific books he/she would like to see added.

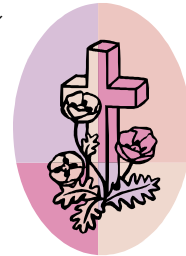
Although those who responded gave valuable feedback, the committee isn't sure how to proceed. There is money set aside specifically for books.

The committee would like to thank all those who did return the survey and encourage all those who did not to **please** do so.

A Note of Thanks

Many thanks to everyone for their thoughts, prayers, and help during our mother's final illness. We appreciated all you did very, very much.

—Janis Keough, Steve Allison, and the entire Billie Allison Family



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