

PALMS WEST



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

News

DR. GARY CECIL, PASTOR

February 2009

561-795-6292

FEBRUARY WORSHIP SERVICES

9:00 AM Contemporary Service
10:30 AM Traditional Service

February 1 - 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
"Being Seasoned With Love"

February 8 - Mark 1: 29-39 – "Faith Kept Vital"

February 15 - Mark 1:40-45 or 1 Cor. 9:24-27 –
"Lives shaped by the path we choose and
choices we make – Our SHAPE as
believers."

February 22 - 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 – What is veiling
those who don't believe, don't see yet....?

Introducing . . . Our New Newsletter Editor JoAnn Butler

JoAnn has volunteered to become the newsletter Editor beginning with the March 2009 issue. Please join us in welcoming JoAnn to the PWPC Team!

In order for our newsletter to be a success, we need participation from everyone. If you have information, an interesting story or anecdote to share please send it along!

As we get the new system rolling, please send emails to both JoAnn and the Church Office at: joannbut@bellsouth.net & Pwpc_lb@yahoo.com

Hi everyone,

I'm really looking forward to helping out. I know the newsletter is really important to many. I will try to be prompt and get this out in a timely manner. I may bug you for a while until we get into a routine. So if I bother you I'm sorry, just tell me.

If anyone has any ideas you'd like to see in the newsletter, let me know. I like pictures. Maybe some of the youth can submit articles. I know I'll have some ideas later. I'll pass them on to you to see what you think. Sometime ago Pat Banks did a spotlight on herself. I found it interesting. I don't know Pat but I know a little now! I think it's important to know your session members. Do you?

We'll be talking later, I attend the early service, my picture is in the directory for those of you that don't know me.

JoAnn, 791-9865 joannbut@bellsouth.net

Be sure to send copies to Linda too so she can double check and make sure I'm doing everything. THANK YOU for your help.....!!!!!!!

MUSIC NOTES

Here we are into the second month of a new year! January has zoomed by like a speeding bullet! It started with a flurry of energy as Karl & Cheri Knottnerus, Jeff & Carol Everest, Doc Wood, and Debbie Still met Jim and me at the church to pack away the Christmas decorations. Debbie had sent out an email asking for some help knowing that she and I could not possibly do all the heavy lifting with just the two of us. What a smart call! It could not have been done without some very hard work by all these folks. Thank you very much for pitching in!

After seeing the effort it took to clear the decorations, I am amazed that Debbie, Guy Vautin, Pastor Gary, and Sheila were able to assemble all that in a mere seven hours! Thanks to both groups for helping make the Christmas Eve Service look so elegant and then making it disappear as if by magic! I'm sure many of you gave little thought as to how all that happens. So much goes on behind the scenes to prepare for every service so I thought it appropriate for you to know about this past

Christmas so that maybe you too could give them a pat on the back!

I feel very humbled when people brag on the services and I try to let you know that so many folks work together to make this happen. The choir spends endless hours rehearsing and even squeezes a few extra rehearsals in if needed. Of course no matter how hard we rehearse, we only sound good if we can be heard. Enter the sound guys, Don Abbuehl and David Worby! Their skill and faithfulness every Sunday are a vital part of every worship service! With the help of Jim Briggs to back them up should the need arise, much of our worship services' success is on the shoulders of these men!

Praise chorus books are assembled by Janet Rankin weekly for the early service. Flowers are delivered weekly by Mike and Melissa Giles. Debbie Stermen hangs banners and attends to the communion table. Tim Smith and Pastor Gary, on guitars and Jim Meeks on electric bass as well as many choir members rehearse early to make sure the praise choruses are ready for the 9:00 worship hour. Jamie Meeks, Annette Turner, and Guy Vautin are there almost every week in a leadership role moving that service along. Again I tell you all this so you will know of the dedication and commitment of these folks so you can let them know that their contributions do not go unnoticed.

All of this is done because we have specific gifts to give as the body of Christ and not for the praise of men. However, a word of thanks from you will certainly result in encouragement as these folks continue to serve weekly! What better time to express appreciation than the month of February? So go to it! Let these folks know they are loved and appreciated for helping prepare for the weekly worship services at Palms West! Now that you know what goes on behind the scenes, maybe you too will want to find a spot where your gifts could be used for Christ! Now is an excellent time to get started!

Juanita

**Come and See our
Adult Sunday School Class!
Join us once or weekly!**

We share prayer concerns and then we have a different lesson each week. We have a new current event topic, called "The Wired Word" followed by several scripture passages for discussion with relevance to the current event topic.

You don't have to be a scholar to be here, in fact, none of us are; but we are open to hear each other's opinions. We learn & grow together in our faith and fellowship. Please consider joining us any Sunday morning at 9am. Cindy Kepler

Women's Group News

The December Women's Group luncheon was a huge success! 30 ladies enjoyed a Christmas luncheon at Binks Country Club. The annual event was preceded by a business meeting and ornament exchange held at Fellowship Hall. A fun time was had by all.

In The Coming Months . . .

Ladies Tea will be held on Saturday, February 14 at 3 P.M., There is a \$5.00 charge, and we ask you to bring your favorite "fancy tea cup", to sip from. There will be all kinds of Goodies to nibble on, from sandwiches to cookies...come and enjoy yourself.

On March 14, we will be having our annual Garage Sale, all donations will be greatly appreciated, and your attendance even more so.... Sandy Abbuehl is the chairperson for this event, she can be reached at 793-7158 or email at SandyKaye3@hotmail.com .

In May, we will have our Annual Luncheon...it will be held on the first Saturday in May, location and time to be decided at a later date....

Attention Parents of graduating students...Please notify either myself, or Phyllis Hoffman if you have a child graduating from either High School, Trade School or any other learning facility. We will be making our list soon for graduation gifts. Thank you.

What's Cooking? We need your help. A committee comprising Ellen Gannon, Joycelyn Stewart, Lucy McQuillen and June Donovan will be assembling a fundraiser cookbook. Please give us your favorite recipes, beginning now . . . we need Main Dishes, Desserts, Appetizers, any other dishes you can think of. If you like to cook it, we'd like to print and share it. We'll keep you posted on the progress, with your help we hope to go to print in Fall 2009.

YOUTH CHOIR

We meet every Friday – 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. and we welcome all Kids and Youth who are in 3rd grade and up to come sing with us. We are working on music to sing during the Easter season and we'd love to have more of our kids and youth join us. We have a lot of fun as we learn songs to sing and glorify God during our Worship Services.

FEbruary Birthdays!



Eric Kepler	2/1
Scott Collier	2/1
Kristina DePelisi	2/3
BRUCE HOFFMAN	2/5
CATHY WIDNESS	2/6
JIM JOY	2/13
KATHRYN ADAMS	2/13
KAREN KELLY	2/13
ROBERTA SCHRIEFER	2/13
Jordan Tribble	2/13
JAN DePELISI	2/15
Hunter Truman	2/15
Casey Vanorman	2/17
ADLIN FRANCIS-LEE	2/17
RICHARD SULLIVAN	2/18
RONALD ECKMAN	2/19
CAROLYN JOY	2/22
PAUL EISEMAN	2/22
LUCY MCQUILLAN	2/24
James Park	2/24
Miles Purvis	2/25
CARLTON WILLIE	2/25
MARVA PARK	2/26
BARBARA PURONEN	2/26
MARIE PELFREY	2/27
Mark Kazee	2/28

CHURCH FAMILY FUN SUNDAY

As many of you may remember last year the Christian Ed. Dept. tried get a once a month outing/event started that would be a fun activity for everyone in our church family who would like to participate. Unfortunately, we planned some fun activities and then because of different circumstances we were unable to carry through with our plans.

Well. . .we are going to try it again. Starting soon we will begin some monthly fun activities that everyone can join in on – no matter your age, so watch for info in the bulletin and newsletter.

PRISONER PEN PAL MINISTRY

I am looking for people who would be interested in being pen pals with those who are incarcerated in the jail/prison system. A lot of these people have no one who writes to them or keeps in touch with them and they would really like to hear from the outside world. You never know, it might make a big difference in their lives.

If you are interested, please let me know. Thank you.

ITEMS WE NEED

1. Our Sunday School classes are in need of CD/cassette tape players – new or used as long as they work. We could use at least 2.
2. We can always use donations of children's religious and/or appropriate DVD's and VCR tapes.
3. I would like to start an informational bulletin board that can be moved easily or rolled each Sunday and put out front. It would have pictures of new members, information on up and coming activities/events/services and would serve as a general informational board. It would be great if it was double sided so both sides could be used. I have checked into what these cost new and it is way more than we can afford at this time. If any of you are really handy at making something like this, I would really appreciate it, as I think it would be a very useful tool to help keep our congregation informed of things going on within our church and community.

Thank you and Blessings to all of you, Candi

PASTOR'S COLUMN...

A Call For Transformation...

Romans 12:2 is one of those dynamic oft-quoted scriptures: "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will." This scripture has inspired many through the ages, and by the power of the Holy Spirit many of us in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) believe it is now calling us into a new era of renewal. We believe our churches are being challenged to lift up and reclaim the power of biblical, spiritual transformation.

Biblical transformation is a process, a journey, and not an event or program. Vital and healthy churches are always in some stage of transformation even if they don't really think of it in these terms. They just know that they are praying, studying God's Word, and intentionally reaching out to others in mission and service while continually seeking God's will – and the result is that things change: both personal attitudes and formal structures reshape and adapt in ways that allow for spiritual and physical growth.

The word the apostle uses in this verse is actually the root for *metamorphosis*. It means change, especially by supernatural means. It's a real, observable, behavioral change that comes by a renewing of the mind; that is to say, how we think about the meaning and significance of conversion and being faithful to our baptismal vows. It is coming to appreciate more and more how every Christian decision should be made to advance the values of the kingdom of God in a world whose values often oppose God's "good, pleasing and perfect will."

Conversion became a key word for us at the Transformation Summit I attended in Louisville. Sensing a movement of the Spirit, a slice of the national program staff gathered some regional voices to dig deeper into what God is doing in our church and in the world. Out of this gathering, we developed a renewed commitment to move toward something akin to a conversion experience described as "a national altar call," bringing to mind past experiences in the church's revival movements where people felt the tug of the Spirit to listen for God's Word, heard God's call to give their lives to Christ, responded to a clear invitation, and came forward to humble themselves before God and congregation and receive prayer as they made a public profession of faith. Conversion in this sense is something "caught, not taught" because it is anchored in the activity of the Holy Spirit. Conversion is personal and passionate, yet also very much a shared experience of the whole faith

community. It is a first step toward preparing us for real transformation, calling us to spiritual acts of worship and sacrificial giving, fellowship and service.

One of the first actions we are taking is to establish a spiritual foundation for transformation through prayer. I'm inviting people wherever they may be to join me at noon, every Thursday, in prayer, for the health, growth and vitality of PWPC, for our presbytery, for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and for all of God's churches, that we might be shaped by the Great Commission of Matthew 28 and other great scriptures that send us out with a passionate call to faith and discipleship.

If you'd like to join me in this spiritual discipline, and would like to receive a weekly scripture and reminder, simply provide me with your e-mail address and you can join a grassroots network of people across the country. May Christ be honored as we PRAY: Praising God, Repenting our sinfulness, Asking for Christ's help and strength, and Yielding ourselves to God's will.