

# PROGRESS-IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3640 Ash St., Harrisburg, PA 17109, 717-545-8711



## *PIPC Messenger*

MARCH 2011



### **Lent: A Transitioning Season**

While walking Jackson, our one year-old Labradoodle, this past week I began noticing several interesting reasons to celebrate the middle and ending of February. I noticed when ending my walk around 5:45 p.m. that dusk was not quite as dark. I noticed that my several layers of warm clothing were too warm and that the warmer air was melting snow, revealing grass that I have been longing to see. I noticed the ends of trees and shrubs swelling with new life and growth, ready to burst and bloom into leaves, flowers and fruit for the summer. I noticed the tips of crocuses and daffodils peeking up and through the topsoil of our garden. I noticed more people out and about walking the sidewalks, riding bicycles, washing cars and even preparing a lawn mower for the inevitable grass cutting. Only several weeks ago we were listening carefully to the radio and television to see if schools would be delayed and the church office would be open. Maybe we are experiencing a change in the seasons.

Most of us, I imagine, are looking forward to saying good-bye to winter and hello to spring. We're tired of the cold biting wind, the slick sidewalks and the shorter days. We're ready to get on with playing outside in the green grass, tending to our flower and vegetable garden beds, eating meals on the back deck and enjoying what will seem like new life and living in the warmth of the sun. Yes, I am ready for spring. I want it to be here now. Yet I know since this is central Pennsylvania that spring is not here. We could have another or maybe two more snowstorms that will throw us back into the depths of winter. But we also know that those storms will be short-lived. We are somewhat in between seasons, still transitioning onward into the new life of spring.

The church transitions into a new season, as well. Lent, the forty-day plus Sundays season that prepares us for Easter and the celebration of Jesus' resurrection, is upon us. Ash Wednesday begins on March 9, just several weeks away.

In a way this season of Lent reminds me of the transitional time between winter and spring. Just as the melting snow uncovers much of winter's dormancy and death in brown grass, broken branches and decaying leaves, so Lent uncovers those areas in our discipleship that no longer produce growth and actually moves us closer to faithlessness. Just as the melting snow uncovers the unfinished projects from last fall, so Lent uncovers the decreasing practices of Bible reading, prayer, worship and outreach. Just as the warmer air and longer days makes us long for the coming spring and blooming flowers, so Lent causes us to embrace the coming of new life and new hope in the blooming of faith through Jesus our Lord.

This year our Lent at Progress-Immanuel Presbyterian Church will focus on forgiveness. We will uncover those areas and actions in our lives that keep us from fully embracing the love of God. We will consider how confession works as a tool for cleansing the landscape of our lives, preparing us for new life. We will catch glimpses of grace peeking and peering through our practices of hospitality, worship and nurturing. After these six weeks of Lent we will be better prepared to welcome the light of God's Son and the warm breath of God's Spirit on Easter morning.

I invite you to worship on Ash Wednesday evening, to participate in the Lenten Gatherings on Wednesday evenings, to worship on Sunday mornings, to experience the events of Holy Week and to prepare for the celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord. More information is included in the coming pages of the Messenger.

Partners in Ministry,  
Rev. Kent Carter



Dear Friends,  
 On behalf of Downtown Daily Bread, I want to thank Progress-Immanuel Presbyterian Church for the generous contribution to our soup kitchen. This donation is especially appreciated as our number of clients continues to increase.

Thank you for your continued financial support and for your recognition of the work we do in the community.

Sincerely,  
 Elaine Strokoff, Executive Director

## THANK YOU'S

Dear Progress-Immanuel Presbyterian Church,  
 I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to PIPC and members of the congregation for their prayers and kindness during my granddaughter's recent illness. The cards and expressions of sympathy after her passing on February 6th, have meant so much. Thank you for caring.

Sincerely,  
 Delores Smith

## DON'T FORGET!

Move Your Clocks Ahead!



**March  
 13  
 Daylight  
 Savings  
 Time  
 Begins**



April 17  
 Palm Sunday  
 Breakfast  
 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

May 22  
 Women's  
 High Tea  
 4:00 PM

June 4  
 Strawberry  
 Festival  
 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

## MARCH SUNDAY SERVANTS

### Worship Assistant

Mar. 6 Stewart Robinson  
 Mar. 9 (Ash Wed.)  
 Mar. 13 Shirley Cleaver  
 Mar. 20 Sandy Daily

### Greeters Schedule

*Blackberry Alley Door*  
 Mike & Barb Legg  
 Don & Marge Barner  
 Harold & Joyce Arnold  
 John & Joan Bowerman

### *Front Door*

Michelle Beck  
 Gail Diefenderfer  
 SuAnn Tucci  
 Grace Miller



# PIP-C GENERATION



## FEBRUARY MEETING NOTES

PIP-C Generation met on Tuesday, February 8, 2011. We enjoyed Jambalaya, Italian bread and a chocolate dessert.

Our program was patriotic-everyone wearing red, white and blue and we sang patriotic songs led by June Rounsley and accompanied by Anna Royer. Such fun!

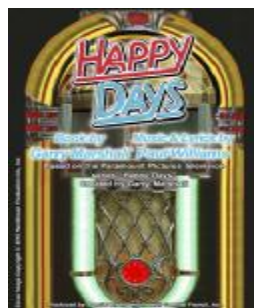
In March we will have Rev. Frank Frischkorn with us to share about his recent trip to Haiti. While there, he helped build "rubble" homes for the earthquake victims. Come and listen as he shares about life in Haiti.

See you next month!



### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Joan & John Bowerman 1



## PIP-C Spring Trip Wednesday April 13, 2011

We will be going to Columbia, Maryland, to attend Toby's Dinner Theater. We will enjoy a buffet lunch and then see the new musical "Happy Days." The show will include Richie, Potsie, Ralph, and many more characters, but we cannot forget Fonz Fonzarelli. The show is complete with varsity sweaters, hula hoops, and jukebox sock hoppin.

### Itinerary:

8:00 AM Arrive at Church Parking Lot  
8:15 AM Depart for Toby's Dinner Theater  
10:45 AM Lunch  
12:30 PM Show time (This is in the round)  
3:00 PM Depart for Home  
5:00 PM Approximate Arrival Home

Cost of the trip is \$68.00

(must be paid by March 8, 2011)

Please sign-up as soon as possible.

Make checks payable to "PIP-C Trips."

### Send to:

Zana Allison Allen Travis  
504 Redwood Street OR 4404 Ethel Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17109 Harrisburg, PA 17109

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Carol Colyer 1  
Grace Miller 3  
James Sayers 4  
Jean Sherry 13  
Jane Shallcross 17  
Joanne Sayers 20  
Gayle McCollum 27  
Nicki Milakovic 29  
Roberta Hill 29



# LENTEN DINNERS

The Lenten Dinners are held for six Wednesdays beginning March 16, 2011, at 6:00 PM with a time of worshipful study to follow. Each person is asked to bring their own place setting (plate, knife, fork, spoon, water glass, coffee cup, napkin, and anything else they will need.) The main dish (casserole, vegetable or salad, rolls butter, coffee, tea, and milk) will be provided. Desserts will be provided by those attending. A sign up sheet may be found on the bulletin board and in the Sunday bulletin. Please be sure to indicate on your sign up sheet which week you wish to bring a dessert.

A suggested donation for the meal will be \$4.50 for adults, \$2.50 for children 5-12, and children under 5 will be free. The maximum cost for a family will be \$12.00. We are looking forward to seeing you at the dinners.



## EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to place a flower in the sanctuary for Easter Sunday, April 24, 2011, please fill out the form below and **return it with your payment to the church office, no later than Sunday, March 27, 2011.** This year the flower choices are: lilies, hyacinths, tulips and daffodils. The cost for each plant is \$6.00.

Number of Lilies(3-4 blooms)    \_\_\_\_ x \$6.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Hyacinths(3 blooms)    \_\_\_\_ x \$6.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Tulips(6 blooms)    \_\_\_\_ x \$6.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Daffodils(6 blooms)    \_\_\_\_ x \$6.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Paid                            \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE PRINT THE INFORMATION BELOW

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Deliver # \_\_\_\_\_ to Shut-in.                            Take Home # \_\_\_\_\_

Placed by: \_\_\_\_\_                            Envelope Number: \_\_\_\_\_

# Learning Forgiveness

Repentance is at the heart of our Lenten journey. Can we learn to forgive with open hearts?

Christians differ widely in their interpretations of how forgiveness should be practiced. Some urge forgiveness as a Christian duty under all circumstances, while others argue that certain conditions must be met before forgiveness can be meaningful or effective. How do we sort through such competing claims and interpretations? And how do we get past some of our emotional barriers to real forgiveness? These are the kinds of questions we will explore together in this study of a theme particularly well-suited to the season of Lent.

*The challenges of forgiving and being forgiven*

*The foundations of awareness, acceptance and confession*

*Identifying our external and internal enemies*

*Reconciling judgment and love in forgiving*

*Unwilling and/or unable to forgive*

*The relationship between repentance and forgiveness*



## Worship Schedule For Lent

## Worship

**Ash Wednesday-** March 9, 2011

Worship begins at 7:00 PM, *“The Importance of Confession”*

**Lenten Gatherings and Dinner** - Six Wednesday during Lent, March 16 - April 20, Dinner begins at 6:00 PM, Worshipful study begins at 6:40 PM

**Palm Saturday Children’s Event**—April 16

Explore our Easter faith in light of Jesus’ suffering, death and resurrection  
at 9:30 AM till 11:30 PM

**Palm/Passion Sunday**—April 17

Congregational Breakfast 8:00 AM till 10:00 AM  
A Holy Week Cantata, *“Song of Shadows”*,  
presented by the choir at 10:30 AM

**Maundy Thursday**—April 21

Celebrate the Lord’s Supper at 7:00 PM

**Good Friday**—April 22

Meditate on the cross of Christ and experience the Tenebrae, a service of light and shadows,  
at 7:00 PM

**Resurrection of the Lord, Easter Sunday**—April 24

Celebrate new life and rebirth in Christ our risen Lord and Savior with communion at 10:30 AM



## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

*“Sharing brings joy. To others, to God and to us.”*

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God’s love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find hope for a brighter future.

The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated One Great Hour of Sharing gifts, while the Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receives 32 percent.

Prayerfully consider how you may bring joy to others, to God and to us.



**“The measure you give  
will be the measure you get back.”  
Luke 6:38 a**

### Community Aid Box



The Mission Committee has placed a *Community Aid* box in the parking lot for the collection of clothing, shoes, books, etc. The Mission Committee will receive a small income based upon the weight of the articles donated.

*All donations are greatly appreciated.*



### “Giving of the Green” Food Sharing Sunday

March 20, 2011

On Sunday, March 20, 2011, canned and boxed goods will be collected. Please place all donations in the baskets provided. Items collected will be given to the Food Pantry at Messiah Lutheran Church.



FOOD  
COLLECTION



# Peanut Sale

Sponsored by Christian Education



The peanut sale will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2011. You may pick the peanuts up on the Saturday, April 9th from 1 to 2 PM, or after church on Sunday, April 10th. **Orders must be in by March 27, 2010.**

The price is \$5.00 a pound. We are selling pound packages only. The choices are: light or dark and salted or unsalted. Peanuts can be frozen.



Please return this portion with your order and payment by  
Sunday, March 27, 2011.

Please indicate if you would like:

\_\_\_\_\_ Light

\_\_\_\_\_ Salted

\_\_\_\_\_ Dark

\_\_\_\_\_ Unsalted



\_\_\_\_\_ Pounds at \$5.00/ pound      \_\_\_\_\_ Total Due

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_



## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

*School Kits for Church World Service*  
School Kit Items



- ◆ 1 30-centimeter ruler (12")
- ◆ 1 hand-held pencil sharpener
- ◆ 1 pair blunt metal scissors (rounded tip)
- ◆ Three 70-count spiral notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages.  
(No loose-leaf or filler paper.)
- ◆ One 12" X 14" X 17" finished size cotton or lightweight canvas bag\* with cloth handles. (Please, no reusable shopping bags or backpacks.)
- ◆ 1 large eraser
- ◆ 6 new pencils with erasers
- ◆ 1 box of 24 crayons

\*Cloth bag

Materials needed: 1/2 yd. "Kid-friendly" fabric.  
(Directions are available in the office.)

\*Canvas tote bags can also be used. Inexpensive canvas bags are available at area craft and discount stores or can be found online.

Items will be collected until **May 15, 2011.**

Please place school items in the basket provided in the narthex.





# ASH Wednesday

March 9, 2011

## “The Importance of Confession”

Worship begins at 7:00 PM

Confession is a gift from God,  
not a place of shame or guilt.  
Confession is a moment that  
allows us to interact intimately  
with God. Receive the mark of  
ashes during our worship.



**smart. cool. safe.**

Who are your Safe Side Adults?  
What do you do with a Don't Know  
and Kinda Know?  
How do we learn and practice  
Hot Tips?

Come to the Safe Side workshop on  
Sunday, March 20, after worship at  
11:45 a.m. (lunch included) to learn  
“stranger safety” tips for adults and  
children kindergarten through 5th  
grade.



PIPC is hosting.  
Invite your friends.  
RSVP encouraged for lunch.

Questions?? Contact Pastor Kent.

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