

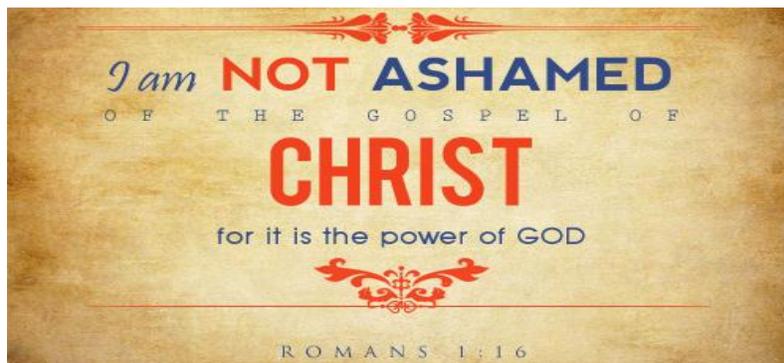


First Presbyterian Church

of Pittsburgh

320 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15222

**TRANSFORMING PITTSBURGH
BY AWAKENING A NEW GENERATION
TO LIFE IN CHRIST**



SUNDAY – AUGUST 31, 2014

Two weeks ago, six folks from FPCP went to Dallas to the gathering of the Fellowship Community, a four-year-old organization of Presbyterians, dedicated to making disciples for Jesus Christ. We commissioned this team partly as a response to the General Assembly of the PCUSA last June. But what our team discovered was that the Fellowship is doing amazing work to equip churches for ministry in the 21st century.

I'd like to share with you some of the words from Cherie Bowman, one of our long-time, faithful members, about her experience in Dallas. Please read this carefully. Cherie not only captured the essence of the Fellowship's ministry, she captured the essence of what it means to be the church in our day.

"I went to Dallas with a strong desire to see FPCP leave the PCUSA. I came back feeling differently. I know that the question for session and ultimately for the congregation is "what is God calling us to do?" As one speaker said, "Many of us emotionally left the PCUSA 20 years ago?" It was good to be reminded that God works in all situations. God made a way through the sea (Isaiah 43:16). He can make a way here too.

"The speakers talked about looking for a different way of being church and about being on mission together. There was talk about community building within the church and how doing mission work outside the church together is a great way to build community. One of the speakers talked about spiritual formation and spiritual transformation. He had some very thought provoking questions: What kind of people is our church producing? Am I a student of Jesus Christ? What does my life look like? Do I die to self? What do I look like when life doesn't go my way? Do I spend time in solitude with God?

"I went to a session on the International Justice Mission and learned about human trafficking and slavery. I was convicted by Jesus' own words in Matthew 23:23 where He said we do well to tithe the lighter spices, but have neglected the more important matters of justice, mercy and faithfulness. Justice and righteousness come from the same Greek word. God is making us right with Him through Christ and we need to participate with God as He is making the world the way it ought to be. How do we reflect God's justice in the world? We can pray; we can give; we can be advocates.

"I also went to a session on "Grace and Gratitude." What forms our identity as Presbyterians, as Reformed believers? It is grace and gratitude. God comes to us in grace through Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit to forgive our sins and make us right with God. My response is one of gratitude. Gratitude results in daily saying to God "I love you, too," and results in joyful obedience.

"If God is calling FPCP to stay in the denomination, I hope that He calls us to join the Fellowship. I think there would be great benefit to be a part of an organization of like-minded folks where accountability and encouragement would abound."

Blessings,
Cherie Bowman

WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:45 AM

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

Prelude: "Priere"

Boellmann

First Church News

Rev. Kerry Meier

Time of Welcome

***Responsive Call to Worship: From Isaiah 51**

Mrs. Judy Shipley

Leader: (God says): My righteousness draws near speedily, my salvation is on the way, and my arm will bring justice to the nations.

People: My righteousness will last forever, my salvation through all generations.

Leader: The ransomed of the Lord will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads.

People: Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

***Hymn # 296 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"**



All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall; bring forth the roy - al
Crown him, ye mar - tyrs of your God, who from his al - tar call; ex - tol the Stem of
Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, ye ran - somed of the fall; hail him who saves you
Let ev - ry kin - dred, ev - ry tribe on this ter - res - trial ball, to him all ma - je -
O that with yon - der sa - cred throng we at his feet may fall; we'll join the ev - er -



di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all; bring forth the roy - al
Jes - se's rod and crown him Lord of all; ex - tol the Stem of
by his grace, and crown him Lord of all; hail him who saves you
sty - ap - ply and crown him Lord of all; to him all ma - je -
las - ing song and crown him Lord of all; we'll join the ev - er -



di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all.
Jes - se's rod, and crown him Lord of all.
by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.
sty - ap - ply and crown him Lord of all.
las - ing song and crown him Lord of all.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of grace, we bow before You, praising Your name and seeking Your mercy. We confess that we have been slow to serve You, reluctant to spread the good news of your mercy and love. Forgive our small faith. Fill us with Your Spirit that we may do You will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of God's Grace

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD

Children's Message

(Children ages preschool – 1st grade may either go downstairs to room 5 for a time to worship, or go back to parents to continue worshipping with your family.)

*Hymn # 599 "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"



Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we need thy ten - der care;
We are thine; do thou be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
Thou hast prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor; ear - ly let us do thy will;

5
in thy pleas - ant pas-tures feed us, for our use thy folds pre-pare: bless-ed
keep thy flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray: bless-ed
thou has mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free: bless-ed
9
bless-ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with thy love our bos-oms fill: bless-ed

13
Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are; bless-ed
Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray: bless-ed
Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, let us ear - ly turn to thee; bless-ed
Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still; bless-ed

Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray.
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Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still.

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Kerry Meier

Scripture Reading – Romans 1:1-4, 16-17 (p. 795-Bible; p.1746-lg. print Bible)

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Sermon – The Gospel of God

Rev. Kerry Meier

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Call for the Offering

Judy Shipley

Anthem

Mark Heinbockel

*Doxology – Hymn #733

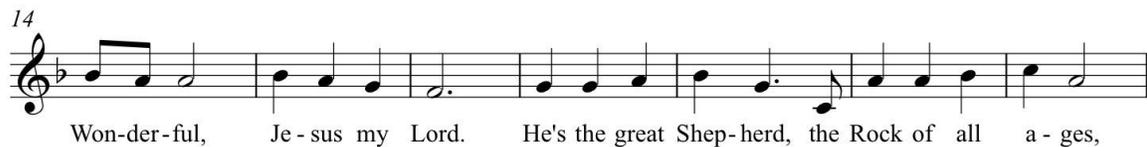
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; alleluia, alleluia! Praise him above, ye heav'nly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Prayer of Commitment

*Hymn "His Name is Wonderful"

WE FOLLOW THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

MIEIR



***Invitation and Charge**

***Benediction**

Postlude: "Menuet"

Boellmann

***Please stand as you are able.**

Serving Spotlight

Please pray for Jonathan and Deborah Bourbeau
and Greater Europe Mission, Latvia
for discipleship and evangelism

Prayer for Friends

Sherri & Rita Mae Manning
John, Erica & Hailey Marx
Joe & Katie Matrisch
Glenn & Pat McClintock
Matt, Stacey & Jackson McClintock

Tom McCune
Kent & Florence McElhattan
John, Megan & Trey McFarland
Linda McIntyre
Kerry Meier

Happy Birthday

Audrey Rorison
Connie Woods Howe
Amanda Osberg

September 2
September 2
September 3

Charlie Claudon
Luke Whitworth

September 6
September 7

We Welcome

Today we welcome to the pulpit Rev. Kerry Meier, retired from the Riverdale Presbyterian Church, Moon Twp., where he served from 1960 to 2001. Thank you for sharing your message of Christ's Gospel, Rev. Meier!

What's New This Week

- See our events calendar online at www.fpcp.org -

Sunday, August 31

9:30 am Inquirer's Group
10:45 am Worship Service
12:00 pm Hospitality Hour
12:00 pm Serenity (Room 28)

Monday, September 1

Labor Day – Church office closed

Tuesday, September 2

9:30 am Staff Meeting
3:30 pm Youth for Christ (Cellar)

Wednesday, September 3

10:30 am Prayer Group (Room 17)
3:30 pm Youth for Christ (Cellar)

Thursday, September 4

3:00 pm Café Team Meeting
3:30 pm Youth for Christ (Cellar)
7:00 pm Faith Development Meeting (Balderose's)

Saturday, September 6

11:00 am Celebration & Blessing of Pgh. Educators (Trinity Cathedral)

Sunday, September 7

9:30 am Faith Development Kick Off
Breakfast with Rick Gallagher
9:30 am Inquirer's Group
10:45 am Worship with Holy Communion
12:00 pm Hospitality Hour
12:00 pm Serenity (Room 28)

Announcements

Sunday School Kick Off – September 7

We'll kick off the new year of Sunday School classes next Sunday with a breakfast buffet at 9:30 am; we'll also commission teachers that day as part of worship. Classes will actually begin on September 14. Jana Hall will demonstrate how to sign up and use our web-based Right Now Media subscription for Bible studies. Plan to join us! The Inquirer's Group continues to meet in the chapel area, studying Paul's letter to the Philippians.

The Voice of the Martyrs

The Voice of the Martyrs is currently partnering with more than 30,000 workers on the front lines of hostile and restricted nations worldwide. These men and women, ranging in age from their 20's to their 80's, work diligently to advance God's kingdom. In some of their countries the consequences of being discovered are severe, but they persevere in service to God, even bringing their persecutors to Christ! They ask for our prayers and are worthy of our support. Now you can "adopt" one of these workers committing to pray for them daily. When you sign up to adopt one of these front-line workers, you are committing to pray faithfully for that worker for one year. After your year ends, you will have the option of adopting another front-line worker for another year. The VOM also invites you to make a monthly gift to help equip these front-line workers by sending Bibles and other Christian literature for training and distribution – even bicycles, motorcycles and horses for transportation! To sign up online, go to www.vombooks.com/July2014, or phone 1-800-747-0085.

Come and Share

A Celebration and Blessing of Pittsburgh Educators will take place this Saturday, September 6 at 11:00 am at the Trinity Cathedral, sponsored in collaboration with FPCP and other Downtown Ministerium churches! Worship Leader will be The Rt. Rev. Dorsey McConnell, Episcopal Bishop of Pittsburgh. Come and share in this special ecumenical service to bless our area Educators, and those who support them in the Education field!

Ladies's Monday Morning Bible Study

Women are invited to join the Monday Morning Bible Study! We will begin meeting at Pam Meckler's home in Millvale on Monday, September 8 at 10:00 am. We will be studying the book of Ruth. Please call Cherie Bowman at 412-221-3461 with questions or for directions.

Excursions Corner

September's Excursion will be a visit to St. Nicholas Croatian Catholic Church in Millvale (24 Maryland Ave.) on Saturday, Sept. 13th. We'll have a one hour, docent-led tour at 11:00 am, followed by optional, dutch-treat lunch in Lawrenceville. Meet at the Croatian Church at 10:45 am, or contact the FPCP office to arrange carpools. Donation. Join us in seeing the historic murals of Maxo Vanka (1890-1963)! The murals tell the story of Croatian peasants who left Europe for a better life in America. These are among the most striking murals found anywhere in the world. Visit vankamurals.org for more information.

Ideas for an Excursion? Contact Pastor Kay at kbalderose@fpcp.org. She'll be delighted to hear from you.

Jazz Vespers

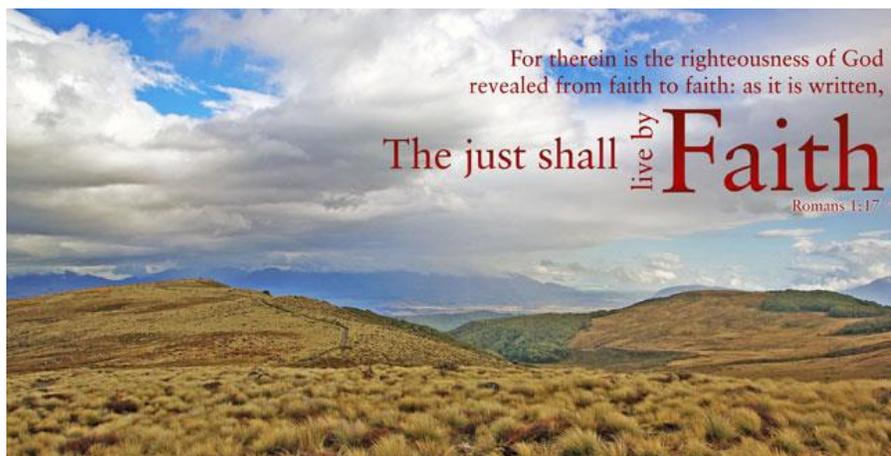
A new season of Jazz Vespers begins on Thursday, September 25th, with lovely piano music by our friend, Rick Gallagher! In addition, we'll enjoy the violin music of Keiko Rush. Start-up time will be 6:00 pm this year. Plan to join us!

Tuesday Boost for Pittsburgh

Tuesday Boost will start up again on Tuesday, September 16th. We will again welcome back Mr. Rick Gallagher to play jazz hymns for us. Plan to join us on Tuesdays at 12:25 pm through 1:00 pm!

Interest?

Any member or friend of First Presbyterian Church who is interested in learning the details of the new baking business of former member June O'Rourke can contact Mary Jane in the church office (412-471-3436, ext. 210 or mjsnyder@fpcp.org) with your questions.



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CATERER

Michael Isaac
412-232-0292

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Larry Murray
Robert DeVere

Church Office hours are Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 412-471-3436, www.fpcp.org. For pastoral emergencies after office hours, please call 412-913-7010. The Sanctuary is open weekdays from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The deadline for receiving information for the bulletin is 12 days prior to the date of the bulletin's issue.

Bulletins: If you would like to receive your weekly bulletin via e-mail, please contact Mary Jane Snyder at mjsnyder@fpcp.org, or call 412-471-3436. Want more FPCP news during the week? Watch for your FPCP newsletter via e-mail! The e-newsletter provides project updates and photos, news between bulletins, and ways to get involved! Not on our e-mail list? Just send a message to mjsnyder@fpcp.org. Deadline for submitting news: Tuesday, 4:00 p.m.

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Quality Nursery Care is on the ground floor during Sunday school and worship.

Interested in a tour? Inquire w/ushers or guides at the Welcome Desk either before or after the service to arrange a tour.

Today's sermon will be available on our web site on Monday: www.fpcp.org

Sunday School/Faith Development offers a variety of educational classes to encourage thoughtful discussion for adults, youth, and children. Classes are held from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Interested in membership, or learning about the church's beliefs? Let us know: 412-471-3436, or mjsnyder@fpcp.org. Visit the Inquirer's Group on Sundays, beginning in September, (9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.) around a chapel table.

Hearing Devices, large-print Bibles, and children's bulletins are available from our ushers.

Cell Phones: Please turn your cell phones to vibrate during worship.

Sunday Services:

Sunday School – 9:30 am Worship – 10:45 am

Join us at noon for Hospitality Hour! Coffee & cookies!

Need Validated Parking?

Sundays only, get your parking ticket stamped at the FPCP Welcome Center in the Narthex (front lobby). See the person in the payment booth at Mellon Square or Smithfield Street garage to pay \$1 for parking.