

First Presbyterian Church  
721 Church St.  
Jefferson City, TN 37760

## LECTIONARY

### February 7 (5th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13)  
Psalm 138  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
Luke 5:1-11

### February 14 (Transfiguration of the Lord)

Exodus 34:29-35  
Psalm 99  
2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2  
Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

### February 17 (Ash Wednesday)

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12  
Psalm 51:1-17  
2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

### February 21 (1st Sunday of Lent)

Deuteronomy 26:1-11  
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16  
Romans 10:8b-13  
Luke 4:1-13

### February 28 (2nd Sunday of Lent)

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18  
Psalm 27  
Philippians 3:17—4:1  
Luke 13:31-35

## *Meetings This Month*

Stewardship & Finance—February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.  
Fellowship & Evangelism—February<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m.  
Session—February 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.  
Mission—February 11<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m.  
Christian Education—February 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

### Treasurer's Report January 2010

The Treasurer's Report was not available at time of printing. Please look for a copy of the Report posted on the Bulletin Board in the back hallway.

# The Amen Almanac

First Presbyterian Church, 721 Church St., Jefferson City, TN 37760

Phone/Fax: 865-475-2761 Dial-A-Devotion 865-475-5152 E-mail: fpcjctn@bellsouth.net

Rev. Dr. Russ Weekley, Pastor

Glenda Hollingshead, Associate Pastor

## From the Pastor's Desk...

### WHY?

As most of you know, there is a persistent question asked by most four-year-olds on pretty much any and every topic imaginable, "Why?" The second most asked question seems to be, "Why not?"

Last Sunday after worship, Hannah and I had a conversation about her "little journey" through the sanctuary during the Prayer of Confession. For those of you who missed it, she got up from the back left pew and came to the pulpit to ask if she could share a tic tac with her mom in the choir loft. After saying "no" to her and "Amen" at the end of our silent confession, she journeyed back to her seat by way of Amanda (third row on the right side) to give her the tic tac she was not able to give her mom. To her, it was an innocent walk in an attempt to share. Hard to argue with her motives but an instructional conversation was indeed in order.

After worship in my office, it went something like this:

"Hannah, do you remember when you came to the pulpit in worship today?"

"Yes."

"You can't do that during worship?"

"But I wanted to give mommy a tic tac."

"I know, but you can't walk around during the worship service."

"Why not?"

"Because it is disruptive to the service."

"What's disruptive mean?"

"It means your distracting people."

"Why?"

"Why What?"

"Why was I distracting people?"

"Because you were walking while we were talking to God, that's interrupting and it's rude."

"O.K., I'm sorry."

That got me to thinking - along with conversations we've had recently in Worship Committee meetings, the Session Meeting, and the first chapters of our new Sunday School book for the fellowship hall class - why is it that only four year olds are asking "Why" we do or don't do certain things as a church. So brace yourselves, in the following year I will attempt to develop my first ever "Series" for the Newsletter. The articles will all be entitled, "Why" but the content will in great part depend on you. Please ask me, "Why" about things your not sure about in our life as a church, our denomination, or perhaps your personal walk of faith. I will try to have intelligent answers, or I might just say, Why not?

### Acceptance

Whatever you send me, Lord, I will accept.

My response may be clumsy, or even inept.

But I know you want only the best for me, too.

So with your help, I'll do what you want me to do.

—Peggy Ferrell

## Announcements

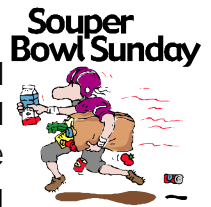


### WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Our next Women's Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, February 6th from 9-11 a.m. We will study chapter 6 of Horizon's "Old Songs for a New Millennium," which considers psalms of confession (Psalm 6, 32, 51, 130). Hope to see you there.

### SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

We are participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring through our Five-Cents-A-Meal Offering on Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. The children and youth will collect the offering and are encouraged to wear their favorite team colors! All money given will be sent to Holston Presbytery, and the total amount collected will be reported to The National Souper Bowl Organization. Please plan to give generously!

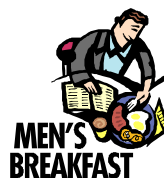


### YOUTH GROUP

The Youth in our Church Family will be meeting on Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. for a Half Time, Super Bowl Party (please check bulletins for location). The youth will also be meeting on Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at the church.

### CONFIRMATION CLASS

On Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> there will be Confirmation Class for our youth from 4 – 5:30 p.m., our discussion will be "The Ten Commandments, Church Polity". On Sunday February 21st we will be meeting from 4 – 5:30 p.m., our discussion will be "The Lord's Prayer, Spiritual Practices".



### MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

The next Men's Breakfast for is scheduled for Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall.

### YOUTH MISSION FUNDRAISING LUNCH

On Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, the youth will be hosting a fundraising lunch following worship service for the summer Youth Mission Trip. Roxanne Moser, JoAnne Vest and Kay Williams will be preparing lunch (along with the help of others). You are invited to stay & enjoy lunch for a donation (generous, we hope) which will go to help offset the cost of the trip. Lunch will include a variety of homemade soups & breads as well as dessert plus wonderful company! There will be sign up sheets in the back hall.





### GOING-ON-GROUP

On February 16<sup>th</sup> the Going-on-Group will be meeting at the Church at 11:30 a.m. for a brown bag lunch and a movie. We will be watching a DVD of Scotland. Please remember to bring your brown bag lunch, coffee and dessert will be provided.

### FEBRUARY FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE



Our February Family Night Supper will be on Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Our Ash Wednesday Service will follow. Please bring a dish and join us for an evening of fellowship and fun!



### HOLY LAND PRESENTATION

As you may recall, I gave a presentation of my pilgrimage to the Holy Land as a Family Night Supper Program. Some of you were unable to attend and have expressed an interest in a "do-over." The plan is to gather in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. for a light meal of soup and bread followed by the presentation. If you would like to attend, please let me know (so that we make sure to have enough food to go around). Blessings, Glenda

### GRACE NOTES FLUTE CHOIR

We are pleased to announce that on Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup> the *Grace Notes Flute Choir* will be



with us during our worship service. The *Grace Notes Flute Choir* is a group of professional and amateur flutists based in Maryville. This inspiring group of 10 flutists, including our own Dr. Sue Swilley, is sure to enrich our worship experience together.

### WOMEN'S DAY CONFERENCE



Please mark your calendar, saving the date of Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Plans are in the works for our **Annual Spring Day Conference**. As usual, registration will begin in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. The program will begin at 10:00 and lunch will be served. We generally end by 2 p.m. More details will follow--very soon.

### CHURCH WORKDAY



We will be having our *Annual House and Grounds Spring Clean Day* on **Saturday, April the 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Any projects church members want addressed for spring clean need to be e-mailed to the committee at [dscarlett@hchoe.net](mailto:dscarlett@hchoe.net), by **March 20<sup>th</sup>**. Commitment sign up sheets for particular areas of the church to be worked in will be in the hallway.



### SPECIAL CONCERNS:

Macy and Madison Ratliff, friends of Donna Musick, whose mother passed away Haiti  
Frances Woodruff  
Rhonda Rush, Donna Jenkins daughter  
Ryan Wilbanks, Frances Wolf's grandson  
Members of the military and their families  
The unemployed

### ILL AND RECOVERING:

Jan Rick, who is now in hospice care  
Lila Clouser, Kent Clouser's mom, who is recovering from heart surgery  
Zach Werner, friend of Frances Wolf, who was injured in the Penske truck shooting in Atlanta  
Jim Smith, who recovering from surgery on his leg  
Faye Seals, Friend of JoAnne Vest, who is undergoing chemotherapy for cancer  
Frieda Hunley, Judy Finley's daughter, who is undergoing chemotherapy for lung cancer  
Annette Hall, Deborah Scarlett's mom, whose cancer has returned  
Bill Briggs, Barbara Wilson's brother, who has been diagnosed with stage III Hodgkin's Lymphoma  
Lennis Williams, Phil Williams' mother  
Jill Massey-Braun, friend of Barbara Wilson, who is battling cancer  
Chris Jarrett, Debby Rinehart's cousin, who is undergoing treatment for cancer  
Ardelia Evans, Allen Evans' mother  
Nancy Johnson, Debby Rinehart's sister-in-law, who is undergoing treatment for cancer  
Tim O'Neill, Frances Wolf's brother, who has been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease

### THOSE UNABLE TO BE WITH US:

Lucille Tinsley      Bonnie Young

### IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES:

DARBY HOUSE: Pam Rutherford  
CHANDLER HOUSE: Argie Saylor, Helen Hodges, Dot Johnson  
ELMCROFT (Knoxville): Aileen Wilson  
JEFF. COUNTY NURSING HOME: Elizabeth Felknor, Ruth Lambertson  
JEFFERSON CITY LIFE CARE CENTER: Betty Wolfe  
JEFFERSON HEALTH & REHAB CENTER: Frances Woodruff  
REGENCY (Morristown): Isabel Sites

### PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

This fund was established to provide the pastor a means of immediately meeting the needs of all God's children who are in distress, and with whom he comes in contact in his day-in-day-out activities in the community with agencies of the community. The fund is used to *help pay* many different bills, such as electric, water, housing, gasoline and just about anything for those in need. The normal process is for the person in need of assistance to get screened by the Jefferson County Neighborhood Center. Then the Neighborhood Center contacts the pastor with a request for funds, either partial or full amount. If the church has the funds in this restrictive fund, it will be paid to the company and not the requesting individual (i.e. Appalachian Electric, water utility, landlord, etc.). *With so many people in need in our community our fund is currently empty. Please take time to contribute, so that our church can continue to help all those in need.*

## How to Lose an Argument Eldertorial Deborah Scarlett

The girl slouched into the kitchen, her head and shoulders slung forward on her tall frame, her shoes irritatingly dragging across the newly cleaned floor. The grandmother skeptically waited to comment until the dejected girl had fully and dramatically plopped onto a chair at the table. Apparently, the normally assertive teen had won an argument.

The girl had not expected *not* to enjoy her victory; in fact, she hadn't expected to feel this way at all. The trouble, she knew, was that she never really understood the argument, and instead of creating cohesiveness and belonging, she felt isolated, fragmented, and disconnected. But that *had* never mattered before, and it *had* been an easy win. She had done what she always did- used her leadership and power of influence over her peer group to plot her victory. She repeatedly and strongly restated her opinions while nodding to others' ideas with the pretense of politeness. She naturally possessed a quick wit and was usually verbally dominate over her classmates. She regularly employed all of these skills to win her way. She incorporated the tactic of answering obvious and ignorant questions in an abrupt and sarcastic way which helped to embarrass and demean the opinions of the opposing side.

Yes, she was good at winning. She had won many times before; she simply rallied the troops, staked the flag, and trounced the other side without much contemplation at all. But it didn't *feel* the way she had expected it to. In fact, now that she had won, things weren't really working out the way she thought they should.

The girl watched her grandmother making dinner. A woman whose military husband's rigidity and stoic demeanor struck fear in the bones of his granddaughters and other civilians as well. Even the girl's father still snapped-to when the man's voice boomed. But on many occasions the dark-haired girl had noticed that when a matter of any importance was to be made or decided upon the Colonel's pale blue eyes privately sought grandmothers as if to defer to her. The assumption the girl made was that grandmother knew how to succeed in winning an argument.

After dinner in that quiet special time of the evening when the chores were done the girl finally confessed what she wanted to know. The advice her grandmother gave was not what she expected- quite the opposite. The confused girl was presented with steps on *how to lose an argument*. Of course, they were in exact opposition to the tactics she employed to win arguments. They included concepts like:

- Investigate and understand the opposing side's perspective (why they see things the way they do)
- Never use tenure, seniority, popularity, socio-economic position or title to influence or manipulate opinions to your side (don't malign, manipulate, or embellish the opposing side's ideas)
- Never assume opposing individuals or cultures are ignorant. (You are more than likely not the

only one who received any textbooks.)

- Understand the outcome of your side's victory to the future of *all* involved. (It's not all about you, so be careful what you wish for.)

The girl realized that she had assumed incorrectly about her grandmother. The prize for depth of character, grace, respect, and peacefulness that surrounded her grandmother was not because she won arguments but because she knew how to lose them.



### February 2010 Ushers, Greeters, Nursery and Breakfast Schedule

#### February 7

Ushers — John and Debby Rinehart  
Greeters — Allen and Susan Evans  
Nursery — LeAnne Potts

#### February 14

Ushers — Jake Moser and J Moser  
Greeters — Charlie and Sara Piper  
Nursery — Bili Ledgerwood

#### February 21

Ushers — Bill Vest and Rob Musick  
Greeters — Vivian Gerber and Bili Ledgerwood  
Nursery — Suzanne Fearnside

#### February 28

Ushers — Johan Koppier and Ted Folsom  
Greeters — John Zirkle and Phil Williams  
Nursery — Dianne Reagan



### St. Jude's Ranch for Children Recycled Card Program

Once again we will be collecting card fronts for the St. Jude's Recycled Card Program until February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Please place your used card fronts in the box, located on the table in the library. Below is a little history about the Recycled Card program. Over thirty years ago, wishing to show donors appreciation for making St. Jude's Ranch for Children possible, the idea was conceived for turning the previous year's Christmas cards into "new" cards for the coming season. The recipients were so delighted with their unique "thank you," they requested the children sell the special cards. And so, the St. Jude's Ranch Recycled Card Program was born. Since then, the Program expanded to include all occasion greeting cards. The children make the new recycled cards by removing the front & attaching a new back made with recycled paper. The new card is a beautiful, "green" card made by the children and volunteers. The benefits are two-fold: customers receive "green" holiday cards for use & the children receive payment for their work & learn the benefits & importance of "going green".

## 2010 SMOKY MOUNTAIN HIKING GROUP

Welcome to our 2010 hikes! As usual, all hikes will be on Saturdays and will leave from behind the First Presbyterian Church, on the Deborah Street side. Unless otherwise stated, the departure time will be 8:00 a.m. Hikers should have appropriate footwear and should bring water, pack a lunch, and consider bringing a camera. We have tried this year to put in some new hikes, as well as including some old favorites. If you have questions, you may call John Zirkle (865-475-4329) or Lyle Juroff (865-475-8634).

**MARCH 27. HEN WALLOW FALLS.** This is a short hike from Cosby Campground to the falls, through stands of hemlock and rosebay rhododendron; look for walls, fence posts, and other traces of previous homesteads. The hike is 4.4 miles, roundtrip.

**APRIL 17. CUCUMBER GAP.** This is a loop in Elkmont, going up the Little River Trail to the Cucumber Gap Trail, then completing the loop down the Jakes Creek Trail. This is the area known for the famous synchronous fireflies, which may be seen on June nights, and also for the Elkmont cabins, now abandoned. We may also see wildflowers along the way. The trail is rated easy, and the hike is 5.1 miles total.

**MAY 15. PORTERS CREEK.** This is an old favorite, and another good trail for wildflowers in April and May. We'll pass an old graveyard, and, if you look carefully on the way, you may see the "Official Car" of the Hiking Group (Any of the "Old-timers" can point it out.). The hike can be either to Fern Branch Falls, a 2.8 mile roundtrip, or all the way to Campsite 31, a 6.2 mile roundtrip, depending on the preferences of the hikers.

**JUNE 19. ANDREWS BALD.** We're doing this hike in June to allow us to see the flame azaleas and the Catawba rhododendrons which bloom in mid-to-late June. Also, there are some beautiful vistas from the bald, if the weather cooperates. The hike is down to the bald and back, a roundtrip of 3.6 miles.

**JULY 17. CHARLIES BUNION.** This hike will allow you to say that you've hiked a (small) part of the Appalachian trail (and part of one of the trails to Mt. LeConte), and the hike will afford panoramic vistas and a beautiful rock formation (the "bunion"). It's a popular trail, so expect to meet other hikers along the way. The roundtrip is 8 miles.

**AUGUST 21. ROCKY TOP.** Yes, there really is a Rocky Top, "down in the Tennessee Hills." This will be the challenge hike for the year. Vistas from Rocky Top should be excellent, barring cloud cover. We'll take Lead Cove Trail to Bote Mountain Trail to the Appalachian Trail to Rocky Top, a roundtrip of approximately 12 miles. After we return to our cars, we may choose to drive the Cades Cove Loop, remaining daylight and hiker fatigue permitting.

**SEPTEMBER 25. METCALF BOTTOMS TO LITTLE GREEN BRIER GAP.** This will be an easier hike, allowing us to recover from our trip to Rocky Top. We'll see the old Little Greenbrier School and pass the Walker sisters' cabin as we make our way to Little Greenbrier Gap and return, a roundtrip of 4.2 miles.

**OCTOBER 16. SAND CAVE. WE'LL VENTURE OUT OF STATE TO CUMBERLAND GAP, KY,** thence out to the trailhead to Sand Cave; a loop trail of sorts will take us to a beautiful cave with a waterfall, and also past White Rocks and White Rocks Overlook. We estimate the roundtrip at 8-9 miles.

**NOVEMBER 6. MAX PATCH.** Lyle points out that this is our most requested hike, especially for the October-November time frame, as the colors tend to be dazzling. Those who wish may do a short climb to the bald on the Patch, which will show the vistas, but most of us will do a loop trail from the Patch through the woods and back, a hike of about 3-4 miles. It's a good way to end the season.

---

### THE ROLE OF FAITH

"Fear imprisons, faith liberates; fear paralyzes, faith empowers; fear disheartens, faith encourages; fear sickens, faith heals; fear makes useless, faith makes serviceable — and, most of all, fear puts hopelessness at the heart of life, while faith rejoices in its God."

—Harry Emerson Fosdick

### IN MEMORIAM...

*Betty Fulweiler*

Memorial given by:  
Lucille Tinsley  
J and Susan Moser  
Doug and Juanita Dykstra  
Susan Howell

*Anne Zirkle*

Susan Howell

*Bill and Becky Swann*

Susan Howell

*Marie Piper*

Lynn Key

### IN HONORARIUM...

*Dot Johnson*

John and Debby Rinehart

*Charlie and Sara Piper*

Lynn Key

*John & Eva Zirkle, Denny & Alice  
Pryor, Helen Jolley, Larry & Mev  
Musick, Rob & Donna Musick, Sue  
Swilley and Angie France*

Susan Howell

