



First Presbyterian Church

MARCH 2014

Sunday Regular Schedule
 9:15am Disciples Class
 9:30am Sunday School Class
 10:30am Fellowship
 10:45am Worship Service

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1 8 AM – Noon Ham Slice & Dice Party
2	3	4 Toy Shop Spud Lunch	5 Ash Wednesday 6:00 PM Inside Ministry Meeting No Choir Practice	6	7 World Day of Prayer	8
9 Daylight Saving Time Begins	10	11 6:30 PM Session Meeting	12 10:30 AM Presbyterian Women Council Meeting 7:00 PM Choir Practice	13	14	15
16 Youth Food Harvest “CEREAL” Noon Outside Ministry Meeting	17	18	19 Noon Birthday Lunch @ El Palacio 7:00 PM Choir Practice	20	21 F-A-W DEADLINE	22
23	24	25	26 7:00 PM Choir Practice	27	28	29
30	31	<p>Usher: Nancy Grantham Hospital Visitor: Nancy Grantham</p> <p>Liturgist: Charlie Coker Presby Cab: Nancy Grantham</p>				

PARISH NURSE CORNER

Lent is just around the corner (March 3). The word “lent” means “spring”—things coming back to life—renewal & rejuvenation. Its intentional focus is on one’s own spiritual renewal—a “spiritual spring house cleaning”!

As a youngster, it meant a mid-week (Wed. or Thurs.) evening church service & “giving up” something for those 6+ weeks. I wasn’t always thrilled with those events so I generally chose to give up bubble gum & “call it done”! It wasn’t a big deal—my dental problems seldom allowed me to chew it for any length of time anyway & I wasn’t impressed with the “sugary” taste either.

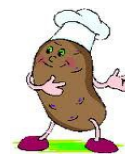
In time, I came upon Henri J.M. Nouwen’s writings. They entered my awareness through Lenten meditations & my Parish Nurse course. One of my favorites concerns hospitality. He tells us that “hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place. It is not to bring men & women over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by dividing lines”. He goes on to say that “the paradox of hospitality is that it wants to create emptiness, not a fearful emptiness, but a friendly emptiness where strangers can enter and discover themselves as created free”.

Some denominations suggest Lent is a time for deepening your spiritual life, becoming aware of what God is calling you to. It may be a time to stretch yourself—giving to others. If you’re not familiar with Henri Nouwen, you may want to seek out his writings to replace the tradition of “giving up” some habit this Lenten season. I don’t want to discourage from eating more healthy food or exercising more or taking time for yourself. On the other hand, you might want to take this time for seeking out new thoughts, offering “hospitality” to others—a place where you (& they) can change from tired, old practices whose comfort doesn’t allow us to be ourselves & live in freedom. It might be an amazing Lenten Walk this year!

Submitted by Jo Flanders



TOY SHOP SPUD LUNCH



The toy shop spud lunch will be on **Tuesday, March 4, 2014** at the First United Methodist Church. Serving will start at 11:00 am and close at 1:30 pm. Tickets are \$7.00 each. Pre-sale of tickets gives the chairpersons an idea of how many potatoes to prepare.

There are many preparations to get ready. March 3 will be a work day. There will be ingredients to prepare, and many other chores. This is a big operation and it takes a lot of people to get the job done.

The chairpersons have assigned FPC a list of ingredients to furnish. Desserts are badly needed. Pies and cakes are in big demand.

All proceeds go to the toy shop for Christmas gifts. In 2013 more than 1000 children received gifts. (*The only gift that some received.*)

Will you please consider all that FPC has been asked to do and commit yourself. Martha Coker had to turn in the list on Friday, Feb. 21 and money and unsold tickets, however, if you want to volunteer, report to Kathy Snider or Lynn Samples 9:00 am – 11 am on Monday, March 3 and Tuesday, March 4 and they will find you a job. Or please call Martha at 255- 8471 (if no answer, leave message). Desserts are to be brought to the FUMC kitchen on Tuesday a.m. at 9:00.

Submitted by Martha Coker
