



February 1, 2012

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**Happy Birthday!**

#### February Birthdays

**February 2**

Michael Walls  
Jacob Strain

**February 7**

Beverly Dornbusch

**February 9**

Josephine Karmazin  
Hildi Costello

**February 10**

Loren Scribner

**February 11**

Matt Hurst

## What Presbyterians Believe

It seems as though the more we think we know, the more we desire to learn. Spiritual thirst we might call it ~ we never seem to get our fill, do we?

***What Do Presbyterians Believe*** takes up volumes, but the articles in the 2011 Special Issue of ***Presbyterians Today*** are a great starting point (2 copies are located at the Crossroads for your perusal). Topics of interest include:

1. Belief in the Apostle's Creed.
2. Belief that Faith is partly intellectual, partly experiential.
3. Belief in the Trinity ~ Calvin: 'Christ is the pledge of our adoption to God with the Holy Spirit as witness'.
4. Belief that Jesus is fully human, fully divine: Jesus is 'The Way'.
5. Sacraments of Baptism and Communion are connected and are visible signs of Grace.
6. As a Community of believers, Confession defines who we are through expressing shared beliefs and asking forgiveness for our wrongdoings.
7. A radically connectional Church: in the midst of great diversity, we strive to comprehend that God's love endures and withstands that which would otherwise tear us apart.
8. Dealing with Evil and the freeing Grace of Forgiveness.
9. Biblical Justice and healing of broken relationships.
10. Concern with End Times is not as important as doing God's work while we are here on earth.

For articles and more detailed information, [click here](#).

PCUSA's General Assembly Mission Council's theme is ***1,001 new Worshiping Communities in ten years***. Read more about how our denomination [can grow](#).

No matter how well versed we become, we always experience something new at the ***Inquirer's Class*** where we not only learn about the Presbyterian Church (USA) but often hear about beliefs from other denominations. The next class is scheduled for **Sunday, February 5th**, from Noon to

**February 12**

Addie Firnschild

**February 13**

Joe Nardone

Jack Richardson

Denise Trombley

**February 14**

Pat Dickson

Jenny Simon

Sarah McElwaney

Leah Trombley

**February 15**

Sharon Westerdale

Bev Morris

Rob Hunter

Quentin Jensen

**February 17**

Philip Reed

Bruce Markwardt

Allison Longton

Robby Loveday

**February 18**

Amy Nurenberg

William Butler III

**February 19**

Judy Darin

Sandra Yardley

John Ryan

**February 21**

Barry Jensen

Irene Silye

Donald Treadwell

Taylor Konkus

**February 22**

Ethel Carver

Alyssa Danyo

**February 23**

Barb Thornley

**February 24**

Kelsey Dubois

**February 25**

Gabe Mans

**February 26**

Brooke MacNee

**February 27**

William Taylor

Denise Schiebout

Marcia Kenyon

**February 28**

Colleen Horvat

Mikey Ankony

**February 29**

Frank Kent

2 pm. A light lunch will be provided along with church information and discussion. To participate, please call the church office at 734-676-8811 or contact Kathy Rankin at 734-752-3161 or e-mail [Kathy](#).

To delve further into the fascinating history of the Presbyterian and other Protestant denominations, attend our ***European Reformations (1500-1650)*** class which meets every Wednesday evening from 6:45 to 8 pm. Taught by the Rev. Dr. Loren Scribner, we learn of the dynamics of social, economic, and political reform as well as new theological precepts that revolutionized all of Europe. It is well worth the comprehensive reading and enough 'homework'!

## Rembrandt's "Faces of Jesus" Exhibit



What a privilege it would have been to know this creative man in the flesh! As I moved from panel to panel at the Detroit Institute of Art's "Faces of Jesus" exhibit, reading with fascination the descriptive panels and absorbing the imagery, I was drawn into Rembrandt's world...

### ***My Observations***

by G.T. Swift

The stark, Reformed churches of 17th century Amsterdam obviously yielded little demand for religious art, yet this master, who studied under Pieter Lastman and Caravaggio, developed a love for and produced an amazing array of works that featured Biblical subjects. Like Caravaggio, Rembrandt's dramatic use of light and shade give his paintings a stunning life-like realism. Even more fascinating to me is the means by which he applied these techniques to his etchings. Placing ancient subjects in "modern" settings, as Rembrandt did, was not an unusual practice with artists of this era. The subjects in *The Woman Taken in Adultery* are standing on the steps of a temple with nary a stone in sight. *The Supper at Emmaus* takes place in a medieval palace and, in Rembrandt's etching of *The Raising of Lazarus*; drapes are suspended above. I can imagine a present day Rembrandt placing the *Good Samaritan* at the wheel of a Ford!

The audio devices provided by the DIA to describe the works were extremely helpful. Following one narrative about etchings, we were instructed to press a key for additional information. I was pleasantly surprised to discover the audio device included a miniature video display describing the entire process. The layout of the exhibit lent an easy flow of traffic and the huge, "silent video panels," located between the rooms of the display, provided the sense one was

## Connections

Our Website:  
[www.gipc.org](http://www.gipc.org)

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Presbyterian Church  
Sermons"

Check out what's  
happening  
nationally:  
[www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org)

## Stephen Ministry

**February 5**  
***Isaiah 40:28***

Have you not known?  
Have you not heard?  
The Lord is the  
everlasting God, the  
creator of the ends of  
the earth. He does  
not faint or grow  
weary, his  
understanding is  
unsearchable.

**February 12**  
***Psalms 30:2***

O Lord my God, I  
cried to thee for  
help, and thou hast  
healed me.

GIPC is a Stephen  
Ministry  
congregation.  
Contact a pastor or  
[Julie Gloor](#) for more  
information about

walking the streets of 1640s Amsterdam. Though I was prepared by Lea and Addie's Adult Nurture class to observe Jesus as Rembrandt portrayed Him, (A middle-eastern Jew) Rembrandt's extraordinary "Faces of Jesus" will remain etched in my memory from this day forward.

Men I interviewed at the Men's Retreat described the event with the words, "excellent," "fascinating," "wonderful" and "delightful." They were also impressed with the size of the exhibit and how well it was organized. From the number of people attending that Sunday afternoon, I would judge the event a great success and suspect additional offerings of this sort would be well received by our congregation.

## ChristNet Fundraiser

**Carrabba's Italian Grill** is pleased to host  
***Lunching for the Homeless*** to benefit the  
**ChristNet Center** on  
**Saturday, March 10th, 2012**  
**11:30 am.to 1:30 pm.**

The menu is Chicken Marsala, Penne Pomodora, Minestrone Soup, Bread, and a Beverage.

**Seating is limited. Tickets** must be purchased in advance and will be available for purchase from mid-February until March 2nd.

**\$ 15.00 Adult**

**\$ 5.00 for children 5-10 years old** (4 and under eat free, compliments of Carrabba's)

Please call Jo-Anne Gronlund at 734-676-0046 for **tickets**.

Thank you for your support!

Carrabba's is located in Southgate at **14805 Dix-Toledo Road** just north of Eureka Road.

## Ronald McDonald House Volunteers Needed

Many thanks to Dave and Michael Loudon, Rachael Bruce, Karin Cozzi, and Kathy and Steve Benton who served dinner to approximately thirty residents at the Ronald McDonald House in Detroit on January 13th. "Home" to those who have children being treated at Children's Hospital, families are provided not only a room, but are served meals three times a day by volunteers. This was GIPC's first time preparing a meal at the facility. The next GIPC date is a **Saturday morning breakfast on April 14th**. Six more

this ministry.



The Spire is  
a  
publication  
of the  
Grosse Ile

Presbyterian Church,  
7925 Horsemill Road,  
Grosse Ile, Michigan.

Contributions to this  
newsletter are  
invited and  
encouraged. The  
editors reserve the  
right to edit to fit  
available space or for  
style and consistency.

Material is due six  
business days before  
the first or the  
fifteenth of the  
month. Emailed  
submissions should  
be sent to  
[spire@gipc.org](mailto:spire@gipc.org).

Please contact the  
church office or a  
member of the  
Communications  
Commission if you  
have any questions.  
Communications  
Commission: Sue  
Ashley, Marta  
Kramer, Ray Kramer,  
Carl Krohn, Nancy  
Morrison

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

volunteers are needed. Watch for the details and sign-up  
sheet at the Crossroads.

## Middlers WIRED!

**February 1 WIRED!** activity at GIPC.

**February 5:** (Sunday) *Souper Bowl of Caring*  
collection after both services.

**February 8 WIRED!** activity at GIPC.

**February 15 WIRED!** activity at GIPC.

**February 22 WIRED!** Ash Wednesday dinner and worship.  
We will meet at 6:00 pm for dinner in the Middler Hideaway  
and go to worship at 7:00 pm. Please bring \$4 for dinner.

**February 29 WIRED!** activity at GIPC.



**Middlers WIRED!** is designed for students in 6th- 8th  
grades. We meet most Wednesday nights during the school  
year from 5:00 to 6:30 pm for a fun evening of faith  
exploration and friendship.

Unless otherwise noted on the calendar, **Middlers WIRED!**  
includes dinner. The cost of dinner is \$4 and is payable at  
the start of each meeting. Scholarships are available by  
contacting the Rev. Katy Doyle-Hohf.

*Friends are always welcome!*

## Thank You!

You don't truly appreciate the enormous impact of prayers  
for a speedy recovery, notes of concern, visits of caring and  
support -- until you're on the receiving end. That's also  
when you really value the closeness of a congregation like  
ours. A heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you for  
helping us get through a difficult time.

-Jim and Ilona Macek

## Sunday Adult Class

*"What's so amazing about Grace?"*

Find out in a video presentation and discussion of  
this extraordinary book by Phillip Yancey.

**9:30-10:20 am.**

**Fireside Room**

**Now through March 4th, 2012.**