

February 22, Ash Wednesday

On Ash Wednesday, there will be three services. The first will be in the morning in the Chapel at 8:00 a.m. The other two will be in the evening: one is in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m., and the Spanish service is in the Chapel at 7:00 p.m. The Wednesday Night Special dinner will be served at 5:15 p.m., but no classes will be held. Call the church office (955-8119) to make dinner reservations.

I Come To The Garden Alone...

Are you interested in being a part of our church garden? It is time to plan the community garden. Call Clay Thomas (955-8119).

What's Up With Youth

Youth Group continues today (5:00 p.m.) in high gear as we move toward Youth Sunday! We will be selecting a theme and setting the practice schedule, so be sure to be there! (Oh yeah, we will be having fun games and great food!)

What? You haven't been to the Wednesday Night Special. Well, it's not too late to come and sign up! What's going on? Children are preparing for a musical and taking part in games and crafts. The youth are having a Bible Study of the book of Acts. Adults are enjoying the Christian Education hour and EVERYONE is enjoying the food. This week, however, is Ash Wednesday and there will be no Bible Study.

Don't Miss The Bus!

Join the Missions Committee for an informative tour of our local mission on Saturday, March 10. Coffee will be served at 9:00 a.m. We will board the bus by 9:30, and we plan on being back by 11:30 a.m. This will familiarize you with our mission work here in Sarasota. All are welcome, but seating is limited so hurry and call the church office at 955-8119 to reserve your seat.

Spaghetti & Talent

Mark your calendar for March 4! The Youth Group will be holding a Spaghetti Dinner/Talent Show to raise money for their upcoming trip to the Montreat Youth Conference. The meal will be immediately following the 11 o'clock worship service and will feature the skills and talents of First Presbyterian Church. Also, if YOU have a talent that you would like to share with your church family, please contact Dan McCurdy (955-8119).

Awesome, Stupendous, Colossal YARD SALE

Friday, March 16, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 17, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Bring your items to Fellowship Hall on the following days:

Sunday, March 11, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, March 12-13, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 14, 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 15, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Good sellers: glassware, pots and pans, dishes, kitchen wares, lamps, toys, sporting goods, collectibles, books, jewelry and accessories, purses, costumes, holiday décor, pictures and artwork, tools, miscellaneous items, children's and teen clothing (no adult clothing).

Prayer During Transition

O Christ, keep us in your care as we move through this period of searching for a new pastor. Grant the Pastor Nominating Committee wisdom and discernment. As they spend many hours evaluating the qualities of the various candidates, open their minds, hearts and souls so that the Holy Spirit's guidance will assist them in their decision-making. Amen.

Priscilla Circle

For Priscilla Circle's February meeting, we will meet on Tuesday, February 21 at 10 a.m. in Room 203.

Two New Adult Education Classes for Lent

Both classes begin Sunday, February 26 at 10:00 a.m. "From Age-ing to Sage-ing" will also be meeting on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Please pick up a registration form at the church office.

From Age-ing to Sage-ing Room 223

Led by Janet Olszewsky

It is common to talk about Lenten journeys, but we seldom actually take the trip. The focus of this course is both examination and revelation. What has contributed to your life so far? What has shaped your patterns, influenced your decisions? With the recognition that we are people who are still growing, we need not only to look back, but also forward. How do you view your potential? What are you still learning, and what will that mean for the days ahead? What do you have to offer?

This course can be a gift that you give yourself. Let these weeks of Lent be for you a time of reflection and renewal, a time to derive wisdom from your life experiences, and to use that wisdom to shape a fresh outlook on life. Let the practice of "spiritual eldering" change your world.

The Letters of John - "For the Love of God" Room 203

Led by Jean Luker

You are invited into a unique Bible study during the weeks of Lent. These three short letters of John offer an opportunity to dig into some familiar passages with fresh eyes.

As readers of the New Testament, we soon discover that its text can teach us as much about the early church practices and traditions as it can about the words and deeds of Jesus. This course will focus on the life and concerns of the community which produced the three "Letters of John" and what clues that community offers us as we seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. Our study will take us back to the first century and push us into the 21st century as we ponder what we are called to do "for the love of God".

Meet our Peace River Presbytery Sisters!

WHERE? The Presbyterian Women's Spring Retreat at the DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center, Parrish, FL.

WHEN? April 23 and 24, 2012

COST? \$80 to \$110 (depending accommodations chosen)

WHAT IS THE THEME? "Dispatches to God's Community" presented by the Reverend Valerie Bell from Burnt Store Presbyterian Church of Punta Gorda, FL

Registration forms are available in the church office. Some scholarships are available.