

First Press

First Reformed Presbyterian Church

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America.

12900 Frankstown Road • Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15235



Saying Good-bye

To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven ... a time to gain and a time to lose - Ecclesiastes 3:1 and 6

One of the first of Larry Bowlin's sermons that I ever had the pleasure hearing was at Hebron U.P. Church, just down the road from First Reformed. At the time, Larry and Ellen and our family were attending there. Although I am ashamed to say that I don't remember the subject of Larry's sermon that morning or even the Scripture passage upon which it was based, I will never forget Larry on that hot summer Sunday. The large windows in the sanctuary were open to let in what little breeze there was. As Larry climbed into the pulpit and began to preach, a sparrow flew into the sanctuary through one of the open windows. The little creature went back and forth, from the front to the back of the church, landing occasionally on one of the chandeliers for a brief respite before starting flight again. Without missing a beat, Larry took the situation by the horns (or should I say wings) and related to the congregation how he spent a summer as a chaplain in a national park being surrounded by God's creation as he preached. He took the attention of the apprehensive congregants away from the bird and back to the Word. He used what would otherwise be a distraction to worship and turned it into a positive. I'm convinced that the bird made the long trip from that national park because it had heard Larry was preaching that Sunday.

As Larry, Ellen, Grace, Joy and Hope take flight from Penn Hills to Murphy, North Carolina, we take time to reflect on Larry and Ellen's time at First Reformed. Some of you may know Larry as the assistant pastor at FRPC. But Larry and Ellen came to First Reformed as "regular" people. Larry was considering a move from ministry into teaching after having determined that he couldn't abide by the ordination requirements of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. Being the go getter that he is, Larry was taking

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COMING EVENTS

October 12 and 13

REFORMATION SOCIETY
CONFERENCE
WITH DEREK THOMAS

October 19
6:30 p.m.

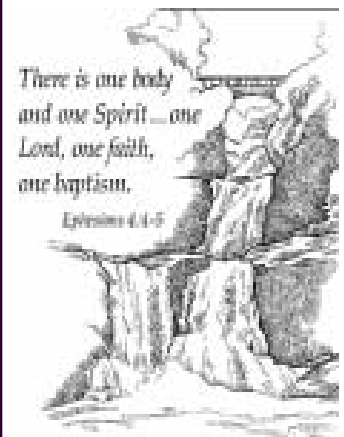
Women's Covered Dish
Dinner

OCTOBER 22
5:30 p.m.

Great Commission
Prayer Meeting

OCTOBER 28

NAPARC Joint Reforma-
tion Service



There is one body
and one Spirit ... one
Lord, one faith,
one baptism.

Ephesians 4:4-6

33 credit hours in one semester to secure his teaching certificate. Ellen, being the always supportive wife, sacrificed her time with Larry as he completed his coursework. As Larry completed his student teaching requirements for certification, he began to be noticed by Phil and the other elders of the church. Soon Larry was being approached about becoming a part-time assistant pastor while seeking ordination in the PCA. His short lived teaching career ended, and he reentered the ministry. The Lord's providence was clearly seen in bringing Larry back to his calling as a preacher of God's Word. Ellen was also using her gifts in befriending many of the younger women in the church.

Larry's work with the younger adults and teens has been rewarding to First Reformed. Larry and Ellen have a true gift of helping people to feel welcomed and assimilating them into church. He was, and continues to be, able to reach teens at a time in their life when they are most vulnerable, questioning and changing. The session could see how he was able to relate to these young people, make the disciplines of the faith an important aspect of their lives and hold them accountable. With Phil's resignation last November, Larry was quickly moved into greater responsibilities. The Lord used Larry's gifts during this transition to provide a balm for His people. Larry has diligently and faithfully proclaimed the truths of God's Word to the people through his preaching and teaching, and has provided the loving touch of a shepherd as he took on the great task of pastoring the people of FRPC.

In considering whether he should apply for the senior pastor's position as First Reformed, Larry (and Ellen) saw the great demands that would be made on Larry's time for a church our size. Although he would have fulfilled his calling had he been extended the position of senior pastor, Larry and Ellen realized that it would take away greatly from his role as husband, and father to three wonderful daughters. Keeping the proper perspective as they always seem to do, Larry and Ellen knew that the call from Providence Presbyterian in Murphy, North Carolina was the best manner for Larry to begin his ministry as a head pastor. This will allow Larry to use his gifts of preaching, and fulfill his duties as a husband and father.

The writer of Ecclesiastes was right when he wrote that there is a time to gain and a time to lose. First Reformed has certainly gained from the time that Larry and Ellen have ministered to us. Larry and Ellen have grown as well. Now, Providence Presbyterian will have the chance to gain from the gifts, abilities and love that Larry, Ellen and the girls will bring to them. FRPC will lose the Bowlins' ministry, but we must also be aware that this is for the good of God's church. There is sorrow in loss, but we must also recognize that the sorrow is an indication of the great love that you have for the ones whom you lose.

We have about a month left with Larry, Ellen, Grace, Joy and Hope. If you haven't done so already, tell them how much you have enjoyed their ministry at First Reformed and pray for them as they enter into a new phase of their ministry. Pray especially that Larry will bring his people back to the Word week after week, just as he did on that hot Sunday morning years ago.

Scott Magnuson

Missions Focus: Jeff and Mischa M. (MTW Enterprise Global & Atlanta)

Jeff and Mischa both served on the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ and met in Zaire during a summer missionary trip. After their marriage in 1982, they served in university ministry in French-speaking Canada. After seminary training at RTS and Aix-en-Provence in France, they planted a church in Montreal. In 1992 they were accepted by MTW to lead a team to French-speaking Senegal in West Africa. That country is 90% Muslim. In 2003 they moved to Atlanta. Jeff's responsibility covers all areas of equipping and training nationals and missionaries within MTW and specifically Enterprise, MTW's Muslim outreach ministry. In July MTW held training in NYC for 35 new workers headed to 4 continents. They partnered with six churches ministering to different immigrant nationalities. The missionaries learned how to minister cross-culturally and prepare for their new fields. Their 4 older children were involved as interns during this time. In September Jeff is involved in a Middle Eastern country conducting a team-building and strategizing workshop and in October he will travel with others from MTW to Trinidad to possibly create a training site for Latin Americans to be trained in Muslim work.



We express our sympathy to the Frost family on the death of Jim's father Delbert Frost.

Our sympathy also to the Turner family on the death of Walter Chila, uncle of Walt Turner

Christian sympathy to the Pifer family on the loss of Beth's Aunt Peg.



Kingdom Connections ~ WIC 2007-2008

In Chapter XXVI of *The Westminster Confession of Faith*, it says, "All saints, that are united to Jesus Christ their Heflowerflowead, by his Spirit, and by faith, have fellowship with him in his graces, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory: and, being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces, and are obliged to the performance of such duties, public and private, as do conduce to their mutual good, both in the inward and outward man." Because of our union with Jesus, we are in union with one another in the body of Christ as well. One of our goals as a WIC Council is to promote this unity among the women of our church through our various activities. Therefore, our theme this year is "Kingdom Connections" and our focus is to learn how to love and serve our Lord, our church, our families, our friends, and our communities in an effective and God-glorifying way. We hope that every woman in the church will join us this year as we together seek to "act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with (our) God"!

October Birthdays

1	Jill Sullivan	14	Jack Bechter
2	Millie Salvaterra	15	Marlene Agate
3	Terry Gardner Kay Holliday Emma Lintelman	16 17	Cathy Taylor Kate Carter
4	Lydia Sabella	18	Janet Baker
7	Hannah Airgood Beth Pifer	22	Dee Malone
8	Samuel Dutton	24	Bill Bolish
9	Lindsay Crawford	26	Linda Lintelman
10	Velma Patterson Terry Smith	27 28	Sandy Knox Eleanore Thompson
11	Amanda Cahill Dan McClain	30	Will Anderson

**Financial Summary
January 1 - August 31, 2007**

Operating Account:

Receipts \$ 252,504

Disbursements* \$ 244,681

Account Balances -

Operating Checking \$ 8,351.

Operating Saving \$ 98,026

Benevolence Account:

Income \$ 83,388

Disbursements \$ 87,016

Ladies, Ladies, Ladies!

Our WIC theme for this year is

“Kingdom Connections”

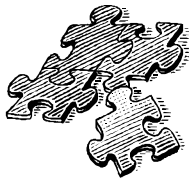
We will explore our connections
to the Church



to our families
to each other
to the world
Plan to connect with each other at a

Potluck Supper
Friday, October 19th
6:30 p.m.

Where we will focus on our connections to the
Church
Sign up at the Welcome Center.



Micah 6:8 "He
you, O man,
And what does the LORD require of you? To act
justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with
your God."



Women's Bible Studies

On the first and third Thursdays
of each month, there will be a
morning and evening Bible study for
women. **Please come and join us.**

Morning study—Going through the book of Isaiah
using Kathleen Nielson's study guide. Please see
Debbi Dutton for book.

Meeting 9:30 am until 11:00 am Thursdays in the
downstairs fellowship hall.

Evening study— Kathleen Nielson's study in Proverbs
Please see Becky Lozenski for the book.

Meeting 7:15-8:45 Thursdays in the library.

(see church calendar for meeting dates)



Thank you to **Day Boyd** for her
20+ years of ministry with the
Pioneer Girl program at First
Reformed. Day stepped down
this past spring and is delighted
that **Becky Musser** and her
committee will take over the
reins.

*Anna Jane Sneddon would like to thank everyone for
their cards, calls, meals, and especially prayer during
this time of recovery from her recent surgery.*



*Allison Lee Brickner, daughter of
Tim and Lori Brickner, was baptized
on September 9, 2007.*



*Congratulations to Larry and Ellen Bowlin,
on the birth of new daughter **Hope Rebekah**,
on September 15, 2007*

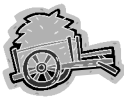

First Reformed PCA
12900 Frankstown Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15235
412-793-7117

October



2007

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

	1	2	3 6:45 p.m. College & Career Bible Study 7:00p.m. Plum Covenant Group 7:30 p.m. Crawford Covenant Group	4 9:30 a.m. WIC Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Girls, First Boys Club 7:15 p.m. WIC Bible Study	5	6 10:00 a.m. Golf Outing Manor Valley/ picnic following
7 4:45 p.m. Joint Youth Group No Promises	8	9 7:00 p.m. McLane Covenant Group	10 6:45 p.m. College & Career Bible Study	11 9:30 a.m. MOPS 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Girls, First Boys Club,	<p>Reformation Society of Pittsburgh Conference at FRPC Friday evening: 7-9:15 PM Saturday: 9AM-2PM (see schedule on back)</p>	
14 4:45 p.m. Joint Youth Group 5:30 Promises	15	16 7:30 p.m. Murrysville Covenant Group	17 6:45 p.m. College & Career Bible Study	18 9:30 a.m. WIC Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Girls,-FALL FLING First Boys Club 7:15 p.m. WIC Bible Study	19 6:30 p.m. WIC Covered Dish Dinner	20 Presbytery Meeting at Pitcairn
21 4:45 p.m. Joint Youth Group 5:30 p.m. Great Commission Prayer Meeting	22	23 7:00 p.m. McLane Covenant Group	24 6:45 p.m. College & Career Bible Study	25 9:30 a.m. MOPS 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Girls, First Boys Club,	26 Youth Group Hayride 	27
28 (No Promises, No Youth Group)  6:30 p.m. Joint Reformation Worship	29	30 7:30 p.m. Murrysville Covenant Group 7:30 p.m. WIC Prayer Meeting	31 6:45 College and Career	Each Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 10:45 a.m. Morning Worship 5:30 p.m. Promises 6:30 p.m. Evening Worship		

Reformation Society of Pittsburgh Fall Conference-2007, God's Kingdom at War
Oct.12 &13,2007

FRPC , Penn Hills, PA

Friday Evening

6:30-7:00 p.m. - Registration

7:00-7:15 p.m. Opening/Greeting Dr. Metzger (7:15- 8:00 p.m. "Defining God's Kingdom" Dr.
Roy Blackwood

8:00-8:15 p.m. Break

8:15-9:15 p.m. "God's Kingdom at War" Dr. Derek Thomas

Saturday morning/afternoon

9:00-9:15 a.m. Opening/Greeting Rev. Harry Metzger

9:15-10:00 a.m. "Weapons of Christ's Warfare" Dr. Derek Thomas

10:00- 10:20 a.m. Break

10:20-11:20 a.m. Workshops

11:30-1:00 p.m. Reformation Society Luncheon -
2 Timothy 2:2

1:00-2:00 p.m. " Victory of the Kingdom" Dr. Derek Thomas