

Presby Press

RAMBLINGS FROM THE REVEREND

THIS MONTH: 4 SIGNS YOU ARE GOING DEEPER

As I surf around the too many news websites I check out every day, I've noticed something about myself that might be true for you, as well. If the title of the article has a number in it, I am more likely to click on it. For instance, "7 Ways to Lose 20lbs Next Week Without Getting Out of Your Recliner," and "3 Ways You Become a Genius By Taking Longer Showers," would definitely be popular reads, I think.

So in keeping in this spirit, I give you 4 ways to go deeper with Jesus.

1. **Surrender Your Life to Jesus.** Americans don't like the word surrender. If you surrender, it implies that you've been defeated and you are no longer in control. I'm going to wager that if you take a serious look at your life that you will find instances, and if you are really honest, a whole life, that has been defeated by sin (Romans 6:15-23). To put it in stark terms, you are either serving sin or you are serving God (Matthew 6:24). We are called to surrender our whole life to Christ - keep nothing from him (James 4:7-10)!

2. **Worship in Community.** Nowhere in the Bible does it say that you should only worship if you are "getting something out of it." That's not worship, that's consumerism. If you don't get anything (enjoyment, relaxation, etc.) out of golfing, then don't golf. But this isn't how we are called to relate to the Triune God. If we are coming to worship we are coming to glorify God's name, surrender to Him, and be formed by Him and His Word in community (John 4:23-24). If God asked you why you weren't committed to worshiping Him, do you think, "I don't like the preaching," or, "I don't like the music," will really pass muster? God wants to renew you in community with Him. Come and be renewed!

3. **Study the Word.** Just like being in worship, studying scripture is a habit that needs to be cultivated. It will take your commitment and will take time out of your day. If you want to grow go deeper with Jesus, you'll need to be in His word. But you know what? You can't do it alone. You need Jesus. You need Jesus to inspire you, help you endure, help you understand. There will always be someone who knows more about something than you, but don't let that prevent you from taking the first step. Crack open the Word and open yourself to God's leading.

4. **Turn It Over in Prayer.** Your first prayer can involve what we just talked about in number three. Let yourself grow into patterns where you are listening for God's voice. Turn your mind, heart, and spirit over to God and listen. Then when you see or hear something in your day, it will become more natural to give it to God in prayer.

Jesus has given you salvation from death and given you new life in him, but he won't force you to change your ways. He does invite you into transformation and promises to be by your side along the way. Join Jesus!

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SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS MONTH

COFFEE HOUR

Don & Paula Sweitzer

Would you like to be the face of hospitality for our congregation on Sunday morning? Helping with coffee hour is a good way to extend loving fellowship to our worshippers. If you'd like to help or want more information, call the office at 810.735.5755

USHERS

10:00AM

September 6

Wagner Family

USHERS

9:00AM

September 13

Joel & Lisa Harden,
Deanna Harden

September 20

Cindy Brandt, Susie &
Sharon Spencley

September 27

Richard & Geri Geske,
Leatha Cudworth

10:30AM

Don & Paula Sweitzer,
Collins Family

The Chapin Family

Deb Wasylyshyn & Sue
Chapel

LITURGISTS

September 6

Kathy Selden

N/A (One Service)

September 13

Doug Spalding

Melissa Dugan

September 20

Mary Leitkam

Kathy Selden

September 27

Cindy Brandt

Trevor CeKander

COMMUNION SERVERS

September 6th

10:00am

Don & Paula Sweitzer
Harold & Ruth Fogelsonger

September 20th - 2nd Service

Gretchen Sutto & Sue Chapel

If you would like to be a communion server, please contact Sue Eaton.

IN WORSHIP

If you would like to serve in our worship services, please contact Cindy Shane at (810)750-8674.



A BIRTHDAY PRAYER

Gracious God, I come before you to praise and adore Your Holy Name this day for the gift of _____ in Your Church Universal and here at Linden Presbyterian. I ask for your blessings upon _____ this day and in the coming year, that s/he may come to a deeper knowledge of Your love, grace, and peace in mind, heart, and spirit. In Jesus Christ's name I pray. Amen.

Sept 1 Kristen Garmyn
Gayle Wagner

Sept 4 Hanna Chapin

Sept 5 Joe Ingamells

Sept 6 Jack Hurst

Sept 11 Don Robare

Sept 13 Deborah Brindle

Sept 14 Danny Oda

Sept 15 Evan Montague

Sept 16 Paula Sweitzer

Sept 17 Savannah Niec

Sept 18 Sandra Wenger
Alexandria Zysk

Sept 20 Julia Hyde
Toby Versola

Sept 21 Johnathan Dugan

Sept 23 Amber Wasylyshyn

Sept 24 Mallory Stehle

Sept 26 Carroll Butts
Emma Spurrier
Braelynn Versola
Katie Rutledge

Sept 27 Shirley Fisher

Sept 28 Cathy Everhart
Sara Ward

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Praise Band

Johnathan & Melissa Dugan
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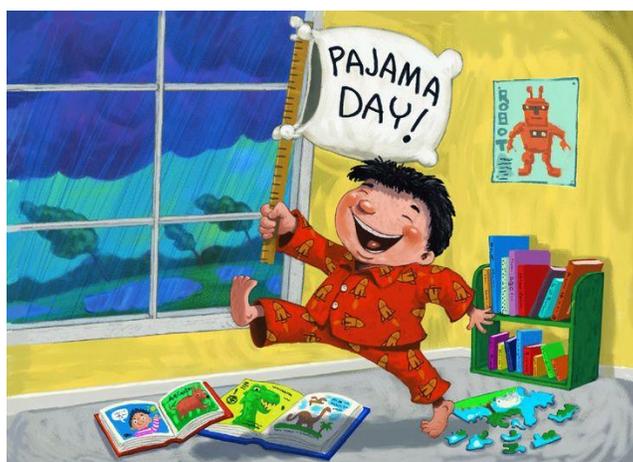
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

VBS 2015 is in the books and was a fun success! The kids learned about some heroes of the Bible: David, Esther, Daniel, Joseph, and the greatest Superhero, Jesus. Throughout the week, the kids created their own superhero costumes which they wore proudly, played some silly games, ate crazy delicious snacks, and sang their hearts out. In addition, our superheroes learned five verses from the Bible (with hand gestures) and came away with the message that Jesus is their Superhero and their best friend. Morgan Dugan (our rock star for the older kids' group) did ministry in a hands-on way. She helped prepare and serve Free Lunch Mondays, clean the mill pond and Eagle's Wooden Park, organize the clothes closet (HUGE job), and bake cookies for our local heroes, the police and firemen. VBS couldn't have happened without our awesome helpers. A standing ovation goes to Fred Lewis and Lisa Chapin in the kitchen; Tammy Neuville in games; Cindy Brandt in crafts; Don Neuville and Ed Arter in story telling; Gemma Amendola for decorating and organizing the kids to paint the utility pole; our classroom leaders (Sue Chapel, Kim Lau, Janet Miller, along with her daughter Kristen and granddaughters Marisa and Courtney, Sharon Spencley, Susan Spencley, Barb Clark, Leatha Cudworth, and Wendy Mueller); Jack, Tucker, and Camden Whitman and Marco Keech for running sound and pitching in wherever we needed, those who popped in when they could (Nathan Wagner, Anderson Muenzer, Kim Neuville, Theresa Montague, Donna Ingamells, Cassidy Lau, Jerry and Tina Nippa), and those anonymous multitudes who donated pillow cases, brought children, and lifted us up in prayer. We couldn't have done it without you. If you're a techie, search #lpcvbs2015 for some great shots!!

- New Sunday School Curriculum is in place for the upcoming months, with a new teacher schedule also in place, which will cover the entire upcoming year (Sept 2015-Sept 2016). We are very fortunate to have such generous teachers so willing to give of their time and talents, all have **re-signed** for another year!
- We have added a couple new teachers to the "Sub List" however we are still in need of a couple teachers for the pre-school /early elementary class to co-teach (once every four weeks) with Cindy Brandt or Kim Neuville,
- In the spirit of fellowship and the great ministry that is going on in Christian Ed we are considering a "Get Together" with Sunday School Teachers and beyond (Seth, you'll be there...right?). This would take place at or around our October Committee meeting (10-14-15). It will be a time to celebrate the great work being done and strengthen our engagement for the purpose of our youth and their growth.

Sunday School kids (and parents)

Mark your calendars!! **Sunday, September 13th** will be **pajama day!** Come relax after that first tiring week of school. Both age groups will hang out and watch a video. Snacks will be provided.



LINDEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TO HOST THE LAKE HURON PRESBYTERY MEETING

We are once again excited to host the Lake Huron Presbytery meeting on September 15th. Representatives from each church in our Presbytery will be arriving at 9:00am. Their morning will begin with a light continental breakfast provided by our church. The bulk of the morning will be spent in the sanctuary with a worship service and business meeting. Lunch will be served in Whitney Hall for approximately 100 visitors. A meeting will follow lunch and the day will conclude near 2:00pm.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

It is a big job to get ready for this day, can you help in some way? We will need help in the following areas and a sign up sheet can be found in Whitney Hall.

- **Special Cleaning** (above and beyond the beautiful job done by Sandy) There is a list of items in Whitney Hall and the best part is you can help when it best fits your personal schedule!
- **Greeters** during the day of the event at the entrance doors.
- **Parking Attendants** 2-3 people to direct traffic in the parking lot.
- **Ushers** four people to take an offering during the worship service.
- **Ticket Sales** We will also need someone to sit and sell lunch tickets.
- **Kitchen Service** we will need several people to prepare food, serve food and clean up after breakfast and lunch.

If you would like to be a part of this important ministry, please contact Suzi Eaton at (810) 701-8243 or Sue Chapel at (810) 931-5835

Deacon on Duty

Leatha Cudworth

810.444.7828

In the event you have a pastoral care emergency after office hours, the Deacon on Duty is available to take your call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They will be able to notify the proper people and provide you the care you need.

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

Raising Cheerful Givers

Part 2 – The Value of Work

This is the second in a series of articles on “Raising Cheerful Givers”. Helping our children understand financial principles will not only help them manage their money, but also become joyful stewards.

According to a 2003 study, students who worked in high school are much more likely to achieve their financial goals and be knowledgeable about money than those who did not. Working in high school and college, to the extent that it doesn't interfere with schoolwork, seems to pay off later in life. Children can begin to understand the value of reward for work at a young age. The fact of the matter is that the value of work is much more than just monetary.

Teaching your child the value of work builds character. Children will grow up with more respect for the value of money and what is required to earn it. It also teaches diligence. Diligence is a work ethic that means you do the task set before you to the best of your ability in a timely fashion. Diligence encompasses honesty, purpose, energy, excellence and working heartily. “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.”(Col. 3:23) NIV

When they are too young to “work”, children need a source of money that enables them to learn how to save, spend and share. One such source is an allowance. Sometimes there is debate among parents of whether an allowance is good. Some may feel that children need to understand that as part of a family, they do chores simply for the benefit of the family community. While contributing help to the family unit is very important and right, parents may miss the opportunity of a valuable teaching tool if there is no allowance.

Have you ever been in the store when your child eyes the toy that represents the latest hot “toy craze” or technological gadget that he really needs and he needs it now? Do you hold your ground and simply respond, “No” as you prepare to once again do battle with the crankiness that follows? Or, do smile and ask your child, “How soon will you have enough money to buy it?”

Whether the money is given or earned, the money is theirs. If they choose to blow the money on the ugliest (in your eyes) and most expensive shoes in the store, let them do it. When they are short on cash, they will realize the benefit of a wiser decision. Keep telling yourself that the reason your children are receiving money is because you want them to learn to manage it.

*Reprinted by permission: Barnabas Foundation, Tinley Park, IL

Financial Snapshot

The finances through July 31, 2015:

	Income	Expenses	
Budget	\$121,284.33	\$120,093.49	
Actual	<u>\$132,670.24</u>	<u>\$120,496.51</u>	
	\$11,385.91	(\$403.02)	Total Difference: \$10,982.89

SEPTEMBER 2015 YOUTH NEWSLETTER

September 13th – First Youth Group, Middle School 6 – 7pm, High School 7:30 – 8:30.

September 20th – Youth Group

September 27th – Youth Group

We are back... September 13th is our first youth group of the year with middle school (6th - 8th grades) meeting from 6 – 7pm at the church and high school (9th – 12th grades) meeting from 7:30 – 8:30 at the church. We are excited for another school year to begin after an exciting summer of 3 different camps where kids from both youth groups went on many adventures and encountered Jesus on a personal level. Some events planned this year are of course a fall and Winter Weekend at Timberwolf Lake Younglife Camp. We are planning trips to concerts to see awesome Christian musicians and the always-important lava tag. Look forward to seeing you soon!

Campaigners – Campaigners for all 9th – 12th graders returns at the newly upgraded Whisman house located at 521 South Street in downtown Linden. Meet at 6am on Friday mornings for food and a message, we will conclude around 7am so kids can get to school.

Fall Weekend – For all 9th – 12th graders November 13 – 15th for \$120 go on the best weekend trip this school year to Timberwolf lake camp. See Jake for any questions and forms are in Whitney Hall. Only 55 spots are available for kids in Genesee County so confirm you are going and don't miss out!

Winter Weekend – For all 6 – 8th graders February 5 – 7th we are going to Timberwolf Lake camp for our winter weekend. Forms will be in Whitney Hall soon and see Jake for any questions.

October Newsletter Deadline

Communication is key to a vital congregation!

Please send all submissions to lpcoffice@lindenpres.com by

Monday, September 21st at 5:00pm

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

1 ST AT 7:00PM	BOARD OF DEACONS MEETING
7 TH	OFFICE CLOSED - LABOR DAY
9 TH AT 7:00PM	COMMITTEE/TEAM MEETINGS (WORSHIP COMM. AT 6:00)
12 TH AT 8:30AM	MENS AND WOMENS CLUB MEET
13 TH	RESUME TWO SERVICES AT 9:00AM & 10:30AM
15 TH	PRESBYTERY MEETING AT LINDEN PRESBYTERIAN
17 TH	AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
23 RD AT 7:00PM	SESSION MEETING
27 TH	DALLAS GATLIN PREACHING

MONDAYS

8:00PM AA - FIRESIDE ROOM

WEDNESDAYS

10:00AM QUILTERS

THURSDAYS

8:00PM AA - FIRESIDE ROOM

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