

401 Lincolnway East, Mishawaka, Ind. 46544

First Presbyterian News

February 2016

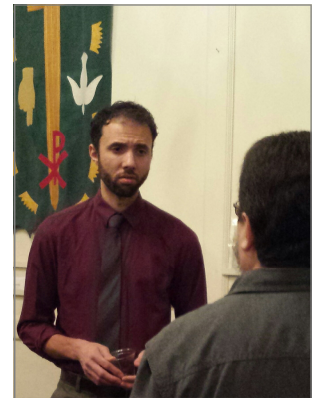
Volume 54 No. 6

A big **Welcome** to Rev. Travis Winckler. Originally from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, he graduated Cum Laude & Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Sioux Falls with a major in theology and philosophy in 2006. Travis obtained his Master of Divinity at Princeton Presbyterian Theological Seminary in New Jersey in 2009. He was ordained in the UCC and has been in that ministry for 5 years. He served from 2009-2011 as Associate Pastor, Broadway UCC, in New York City and from 2011-2014 as Associate Minister of the noted Marble Collegiate Church. (Marble Collegiate Church was the home church of Norman Vincent Peale). Most recently Travis has been Pastor of Blawenburg Reformed Church in New Jersey. He and wife Emily just moved to South Bend where Emily is doing post-doctoral work at Notre Dame. They have 2 young sons, Gabe who is 2 and 6 month old Silas. Travis has many interests-foremost is being a father; others are cooking, gardening, playing basketball and music. He loves to sing!

First Presbyterian church had a Meet and Greet on Friday, January 22 and many members came to meet Travis. (Emily was home putting the children to bed.) Stories and laughter filled the night, as good eats were consumed.

Travis' appointment was approved at a Congregational Meeting January 24 and he will soon be filling our pulpit on Sunday mornings. We look forward to him, Emily, Gabe and Silas joining us on Sunday mornings.

Come join us as we take this first step on our next path in God's way and teachings. Worship is Sunday mornings at 10 a.m.



A Paraphrase of the 23rd Psalm

The Lord is my Pacesetter, I shall not rush.

He makes me to stop and rest for quiet intervals.

He provides me with images of stillness, which restores my serenity.

He leads me in the ways of efficiency through calmness of mind and His guidance is peace. Even though I name many things to accomplish each day I will not fret for His presence is here.

His timelessness, his all importance, will keep me in balance.

He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity, by anointing my mind with His oils of tranquility.

My cup of joyous energy overflows.

Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours, for I shall walk in the pace of my Lord and dwell in His house forever.

Presbyterian Women 2016 CALENDAR



February 7th Noon PWCT Meeting
 February 22 Kitchen clean up
 March 12 9:00 am PWCT Meeting
 March 12 **Joint Circle Mtg.** & Bible Study @10:00 a.m.
 Carry-in Brunch Election of Officers
 April 3 **Gifts of Women Sunday** Honorary Memberships
 Birthday Offering Celebration, Install officers 2016
 April 3 Noon PWCT Meeting
 April 9 Mission sewing cutout 9:30 am
 April 17 Basement Sale set up 11:30 am
 April 19 & 20. Work days
 April 21 Basement Sale 9 - 6 p.m.
April 22 Basement Sale 9 – 2 p.m.
 April 23 **Bag sale** 10 – noon Clean-up @ noon
 April Spring Gathering TBD
 June 1 Calendar Meeting & Supper @Church 5:30 p.m.

2015-2016 PW/Horizon Bible Study:
COME TO THE WATERS
 by Judy Record Fletcher.

Circle Meeting Schedule is the 3rd Monday or Thursday of the month. Please Check our calendar.

Elizabeth Circle, Mondays at 7 p.m. Pam Martz is hosting this month. See Mary Ann Dentino for additional information.

Ruth Circle, Thursdays at 7 pm. Teresa Primmer is hosting for February. See Teresa Primmer for additional information.

Lesson 6: “Waters of Justice and Righteousness”

February’s lesson is taken from Old Testament book of Amos 5:21-24. This is a very familiar passage and one that will create a lot of good discussion and maybe uncomfortable self reflection. Amos shouts: “But let justice roll down like water, and righteousness like an everflowing stream”. The lesson starts with the historical events of the day and why Amos and God were so upset with the Israelites. As Fletcher has presented in previous lessons, the historical perspective turns to current issues and how the Bible story relates to our lives today. Fletcher writes: “Being righteous and doing justice are to be a part of our lives”. What are the ways we “walk the talk” of faith in a world of unfair distribution of wealth and resources? Fletcher suggests we Google water issues in Indiana. The results of recent water studies may surprise you.

Bible Study books are still available in Fellowship Hall and the library. This is one study I feel you would enjoy reading even if you didn’t belong to a Circle.

Darlene Seufert

PW Basement sale storage room. Presbyterian Women have an area that will be available for you to drop items off at any time. There is a room on the 3rd floor- 2nd door on west side which will remain unlocked at all times and there is a sign on the door. We would like to see all donated clothing in this room but you can also put other items here. We hope to make this a work room where we can sort and prep items for the sale ahead of time. As always thank you for giving, contact Darlene or Lynett with questions.

Did you know in the King James version of the bible...

the word - love - appears 314 times
 the word - loved - appears 98 times
 the word - lovely - appears 4 times
 the word - lovers - appears 23 times
 the word - loves - appears twice
 the word - lovest - appears 12 times
 the word - loveth - appears 65 times
 the word - loving - appears 3 times
 the word - loving kindness - appears 26 times



The Prayer Chain’s only requirement is for you to pray for others. We are a faithful group of folk who pray daily for those in need from our congregation or friends of our congregation. If you would like to help with prayers, and would like to be included in our Prayer Chain please contact Pam Camren, Lynett Heritz, or Darlene Seufert. We will send prayer needs through your email address.

Presbyterian Weekday Nursery School

February includes Valentine preparation, a Valentine party and a discussion on Presidents, the White House and voting. Red & white are popular colors and how they make pink, hearts and acts of kindness. We end the month with a special day of celebration on the 29th day of February! Thank You, Jayne

News from the Christian Education Committee: Sunday School News

We will be taking a short break in Sunday School preparing for Lent and Easter in March. Please check next month for details of classes. Judy, Alan and Darlene.

Mission Committee:

We will once again be collecting non perishable soup ingredients up until "**SOUPER**" Bowl Sunday. Any kind of canned or dry soups, any canned soup, any ingredients including but not limited to chicken, beef or vegetable broth, canned or dry beans, canned veggies, rice or any pasta. So let's get those kettles overflowing! Large soup kettles will be placed throughout the church for collection.

The mission committee is again going to collect new and gently used socks for Broadway Christian Parish beginning the last Sunday in February and lasting 4 weeks. Thank you, Angela

Special Gifts: Will be meeting for the first time in 2016 on the 18th, please contact a member with any request for summer campers scholarships, or special memorial request. Thank You.

Anna Bowers, Mary Ann Dentino, Pat Harker, Betty Johnson, Gordon Reif and Sue Rice

Book Club: February 21...The Paris Wife by Paula McLain

A story of ambition and betrayal, *The Paris Wife* captures a remarkable period of time and a love affair between two unforgettable people: Ernest Hemingway and his wife Hadley. Please come join us for this step back in time and history.

Book Club meets at 2:00 p.m. on the 3rd Sunday of the month and each month we take turns hosting, leading and providing snacks. This month we are meeting at Dyan Phillips' home and Lynett Heritz will lead the discussion. Contact Judy if you have questions. mtcgjag@aol.com

SCRAPBOOKING (or whatever) CLUB with Brittany Rice

Have a project that you need to work on or get finished? Then come join us for an evening of festive fun fellowship in the Fellowship Hall. We meet from 6pm to 11 pm. The cost is \$5 and includes set-up, tear down, and tableware. Please bring your own drink and a snack to share. See you soon, Brittany

scrap.brittany@comcast.net

The dates for 2016 are **February 26th**, **March 25th**, **April 29th**, **May 27th**, **June 24th**, **July**

Prayer Group meets to unite in prayer weekly. If you would like to learn more talk with Pam C. or Janet F. Requests for prayers can be made to Janet Freeman, jfree930@aol.com



Postage Stamps available for purchase! They come in all styles and shapes. 100% of proceeds support our Deacon's Christmas fund, and what a fun way to dress up your boring envelopes! Several people have been supporting the stamp program, thank you for that. Please remember there is a box with pre-packaged stamps in groups of 10 (\$4.90) or 20 (\$9.80) in the CE office. So you can pick up what you need when you need them. Thank you. Deacons

CHURCH STAFF**Pastor****Rev. Travis Winckler****Church Secretary****Debra Leonard**

Debrafcpmishawaka@gmail.com

Financial Secretary**Joan Horvath**

Joanfcpmishawaka@gmail.com

Organist**Justin Appel**

Justinmappel@gmail.com

Custodian**Ken Vargo****CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Secretary hours: 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

Financial Secretary hours: Mondays & Thursdays 8 - 11:30 a.m.

Contact us at (574) 259-7874 or

First Presbyterian Church-Mishawaka

P.O. Box 744 Mishawaka, Indiana 46546

or fcpmishawaka@gmail.com



Newsletter deadline is February 17 at noon. Please send **information for March** newsletter to Sue Rice at suce@aol.com or mail information to Debra, the church secretary.

NEWS FROM THE MAC:**DO YOU HAVE TWO EXTRA HOURS EACH MONTH?**

If so, the Food Pantry at Albright Church can use your help. There many and varied opportunities for volunteering.

The Pantry is open to clients on Tuesday nights: 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm and Friday mornings: 10:00 am. until 12:00 noon

Volunteers are needed to:

Meet and greet clients as they come in to be sure they are registered and have the REQUIRED identification and if not, give them the information and help them sign up.

- ◆ Making sure the identification on file is accurate.
- ◆ Direct them to the area to pick up the donated products and assist them if necessary.

Prior to Pantry hours, there are duties as well:

- ◆ such as stocking the shelves with donated items.
- ◆ Occasionally, going to the Food Bank in South Bend to pick up USDA commodities The Food Bank loads the items; however, someone is needed to help unload at the Pantry.
- ◆ Using previously donated funds, shop for advertised specials at local grocery stores. This can be scheduled any time.

**THERE IS A SIGN-UP SHEET ON THE BULLETIN BOARD
THANK YOU from THE MISHAWAKA ALLIANCE OF CARE**

The MAC Board is still looking for a replacement for Pantry Director, Carol Minx. A temporary director is in place at the moment. Carol is recovering from surgery but is willing to work with a new volunteer.

Church Officers and Committees

Session: Angela Bellinger, Alan Camren, Judy Green, John Martz, Ron May, Darlene Seufert

Board of Deacons: Lynett Heritz; moderator, Tom Camren, Teresa Primmer, Jason Pursehouse, Judy Sulak, Bill Walter

Facilities and Operations

John Martz, chair (elder)
Ethan DeMaegd, Dick Dentino,
Chuck Wukovits

Book Club: Judy Green

Clerk of Session: Teresa Primmer

Christian Education: Darlene Seufert

Finance: Ron May, Chair

Mission and Evangelism:

Angela Bellinger, Chair

Newsletter: Sue Rice

Nominating: Darlene Seufert, Chair

Personnel: Alan Camren, Chair

Prayer Chain: Lynett Heritz

Presbyterian Women:

Teresa Primmer and Carole Polk

PWNS Board: John Rice, Chair

Scrap Booking: Brittany Rice

Special Gifts: Sue Rice, acting chair

Stewardship: Ron May, Chair

Treasurer: John Rice

Worship and Music:





Judy Green, Chair

Thank You to my family at First Presbyterian Church. The calls, cards and visits are greatly appreciated. My surgery went well and I am on the road to recovery. I hope to see you all soon. Jean Radman

Thank you! So many calls, cards, dinners and moral support. We are truly blessed, really truly blessed. Laura and Randy Pride
Randy is already back to work. Again thanks.

Worship 10 am
Fellowship at 11 am
Church school 11:15am

February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Souper Bowl Sunday 2/7	1	2 <i>Groundhog day</i>	3	4 	5	6
7 greeter: Lynett H. ushers: Ethan D. & Dan B. W. Leader: Pam Camren PWCT meeting noon	8  <i>Deacons 7pm</i>	9 <i>W&M 7pm</i>	10 <i>Ash Wednesday 7pm Rev. Winckler preaching</i>	11	12	13
14 greeter: Ethan D. ushers: Carole P. & Bill B. W. Leader: Chris Wukovits <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i>	15 <i>President's Day Special Gifts 3pm</i> <i>Elizabeth Cir. 7pm Pam Martz' home</i>	16	17 <i>Newsletter deadline noon</i>	18 <i>Ruth Circle 7pm Teresa P's home</i>	19	20
21 greeter: Mary Ann D. ushers: Carole P. & Bill B. W. Leader: Judy Green <i>Book club 2 pm</i>	22 <i>Kitchen clean up 9am</i>	23 	24	25 	26 <i>scrapbook club 6-11pm</i>	27
28 greeter: Bill B. ushers: Michael G. & Gordon R W. Leader: Dyan Phillips	29	<p>Did you know? That over the last 60 years groundhogs have only been 28% accurate in guessing when spring will come.</p>				

December 24, 2015

Dear friends: Twenty years ago this week, I packed a bag to move to Xpujil full-time. Thanks to you, I can look back with tons of great memories, and look ahead with hope and excitement.

From my front row seat, I marvel at this ministry that, by design, leans heavily on its partners. Your participation and commitment allows us to continue to make an impact in the Xpujil region. I am blessed to be a part of it. Hundreds of families, from both sides of the border, dedicate time, talents, and treasure to form this unique partnership. Thank you for your role. Truly, I cannot thank you enough.

A Bit of What We Have Done: 369 Total number of cisterns built, 29 New cistern owning families in 2015, \$59,000 Repayments, in pesos, made by cistern owners in 2015, 4.5 Million gallons of water we expect our cisterns to supply in 2016, 3 number of molds that we will use to build cisterns beginning in 2016.

A Little News: Long-time Presbyterian cistern building foreman, Raul Vazquez, was recently elected to a three year term as Commissar of his village, Castilla Brito. His new administrative responsibilities require him to be in Xpujil or Campeche City almost every day. Raul will be a great blessing to his village, John Calvin would be proud. Unfortunately, Raul will not have time to build cisterns. This is a huge loss, but it motivates us to encourage several of our young apprentice builders to take on more responsibility. Raul cannot be replaced, but we pray for God's guidance as our head foreman, Victor Guzman, equips a new foreman or two. Please pray for Raul and his family, and for Victor.

Looking Ahead: We plan to build nine cisterns during January, 2016. Todd Luke, tluke2300@aol.com

Geneva Center—The First Fifty Years: an Invitation to Remember

You are one whose life has been touched by the ministry of Geneva Center. Perhaps you were a camper...or a member of the summer staff...or experienced a retreat for spiritual renewal...or regularly attended Presbyterian meetings and events...or your children and grandchildren now build Geneva Center memories...whatever your connection, you know Geneva Center is a special place. Calls to faithful discipleship have been nurtured, God's children have been welcomed and loved and cared for—Lives have been changed.

Geneva Center—the Next Fifty Years: an Invitation to Participate

In 2016, Geneva Center celebrates 50 years! To claim a new future and with the blessing and concurrence of Presbytery, Geneva Center will become "Geneva Center, Inc." a not-for-profit ministry. No longer operated by the Presbytery of Wabash Valley, Geneva Center, Inc. will be guided by a Board of Directors. Its values, goals, and programs will remain unabashedly Christian and welcoming of persons of all faith communities.

Taking this step is huge! It has required faith and courage and perseverance on the part of the Presbytery, the staff, and a group of committed volunteers. It will require continued faith, courage, and perseverance as we proceed. It is a step taken already by many other Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) camp and conference centers, a step proven to increase energy and vitality in their missions and ministries.

We cannot claim this new future without YOU! The team working to transition Geneva Center, Inc., into its new identity has identified that, in order for this ministry to succeed, we will need at least \$200,000 of "start-up" financing. This will help us get off to a good beginning and navigate the change from Presbytery—subsidized ministry to independent non-profit entity; we will no longer be able to rely on the Presbytery as a financial safety net for operational expenses, we must make it on our own. Most importantly, we are seeking a Director to lead us strategically in marketing, programming, financing, and communicating to other the wonderful experience available to all those who use or come to Geneva Center.

For 50 years, Geneva Center has shared God's abundant love with persons of all ages. We invite you to support Geneva Center, by responding generously to this letter, so future generations will have the chance to know, nurture and care for this special place.

Geneva Center, Inc
5282 N. Old U.S. Highway 31
Rochester, In 46975

Transition Team; John Ritchie, Dave Fincher,
Charles Fortney, Jim Hubbard, Carol McDonald,
Steve Mullin, Rachel Osborn, Jim Rasp,
and Sally Van Bokkelen