



The Lake Erie Breeze

March 22, 2017

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 12

In This Issue:

Headlines for new items will be in green and highlighted. Newer items will tend to be toward the top of the Breeze. Headlines for old items will be in red.

*Upcoming Events

- ❖ Monday, April 3, 9:30 AM, Warren/McKean/Potter pastor's gathering, Bradford
- ❖ Monday, April 3, 12:00 PM, Nominating Committee, Edinboro
- ❖ Monday, April 3, 2:00 PM, Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Edinboro
- ❖ Tuesday, April 4, 3:00 PM, Coordinating Committee, Kane
- ❖ Thursday, April 6, 12:30 PM, Erie pastor's luncheon, First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant
- ❖ Tuesday, April 11, 4:00 PM, Committee on Ministry, Titusville
- ❖ Thursday, April 13, 8:30 AM, Venango pastor's gathering, First Church, Oil City
- ❖ Saturday, April 22, 9:30 AM, Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women, First Church, Meadville
- ❖ Tuesday, April 25, 4:00 PM, Presbytery meeting, First Church, Oil City
- ❖ Sunday, April 30, deadline for the Outward Mission Grant
- ❖ Tuesday, May 2, 10:00 AM, Worship Committee, Corry
- ❖ Friday, May 12, 9:30 AM, Synod gathering, Crestfield



"Empowered and guided by the Holy Spirit through Scripture, our confessions, and conscience the Presbytery of Lake Erie journeys with congregations, ruling elders and teaching elders as we live, grow, fellowship and witness to the work of God through Jesus Christ in today's changing world. Recognizing that we are called to serve all of God's children, we do this through shared prayer, worship, training, evangelism, and mission to strengthen the dynamic Body of Christ."

*Good News about Special Offerings!!

A number of churches in the Presbytery of Lake Erie receive various denominational offerings throughout the course of the year. Some churches receive one of them; some receive all four. The four offerings include:

- One Great Hour of Sharing (traditionally the largest offering)
- Pentecost Offering
- Peace & Global Witness Offering
- Christmas Joy Offering

Each offering goes to support designated ministries. More information on these offerings can be found at pcusa.org. In 2015 a total of \$44,188 was received for these offerings from Lake Erie Presbytery Churches. In 2016 a total of \$45,406 was received – an increase of almost 3%. Great work! Your gifts make a difference!

*New Wilmington Mission Conference

The New Wilmington Mission Conference is the longest-running mission conference in the United States and will take place July 22-29 at Westminster College. NWMC is intergenerational, Presbyterian-related, and youth-focused. About 1,000 people attend from over 30 states and 20 countries for a chance to connect with mission workers and hear what God is doing all over the world. This week-long conference features many well-known and engaging speakers for one low, all-inclusive price! This year's speakers include:

- **Dr. Rodger Nishioka**, Director of Adult Educational Ministries at Village Presbyterian Church;
- **Rev. Dr. Jim Singleton**, Associate Professor of Pastoral Leadership and Evangelism at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary;

- ❖ Monday, May 15, 2:00 PM, Congregational Life Committee, Corry
- ❖ Thursday, May 18, 9:00 AM, Christian Education Committee, Corry
- ❖ Friday, July 22-29, New Wilmington Mission Conference, Westminster College

Mission Trip Opportunities!

Two mission trip opportunities are currently open to neighboring Presbyterian Churches. Consider participating in one (or both!!):

1. The Presbytery of Lake Erie is hosting a mission trip to address flood recovery in West Virginia on July 16 to 22. An attachment is included in this email with further information. Or contact Rev. Jamie Fowler (fowler676@gmail.com)
2. The Mission Committee of the First Presbyterian Church in Meadville is sponsoring a mission trip to La Gonave Hospital in Haiti. We're looking for a surgeon, a nurse anesthetist, nurses and others willing to work. The trip will be led by Helen Jacobson, who has worked at the hospital as a nurse practitioner for 14 years. It will be a week-long trip that will take place in November of 2017. Does such an endeavor interest you? Do you know someone else who might be interested? If so, please contact Mary (1-814-333-2161) at the church office.

Coordinating Committee and Presbytery meetings for 2017:

For planning purposes the Coordinating Committee and Presbytery meetings have been announced for 2017:

Coordinating Committee meetings

- Tuesday, April 4, 3:00 PM, Kane
- Tuesday, May 30, 3:00 PM, North Shenango
- Tuesday, August 29, 3:00 PM, Girard
- Tuesday, October 24, 3:00 PM, Ripley

Presbytery meetings

- Saturday, February 18, 10:00 AM, Emmanuel, Erie
- Tuesday, April 25, 4:00 PM, First Church, Oil City
- Tuesday, June 20, 4:00 PM, First Church, Meadville
- Tuesday, September 19, 4:00 PM, Pleasantville
- Saturday, November 18, 10:00 AM, First Church of the Covenant, Erie

***Prayers for Your Colleagues in**

- **Shane Bennett**, speaker and writer for Frontiers;
- As well as many others!

For more details or to register visit: www.nwmcmission.org

***Men's Communion Breakfast**

Belle Valley Presbyterian would like to invite the men and their sons/grandsons of your congregation to join them for a Men's Good Friday Communion Breakfast on April 14th @ 6:30am. The breakfast buffet will cost \$10 a person, \$8 for kids 5-12, and under 5 are free. It will be followed by a brief worship service, "At the Crossroads" Series by Rev. David Edmunds. Please R.S.V.P. by April 10th (397-1861).

***2017 VBS Reviews Available**

The Resource Center does not provide VBS kit samples because of the expense involved. However, if you are interested in seeing reviews of all the programs available, the Center for the Ministry of Teaching reviews VBS kits and programs every year. They study each program then give a review including the strengths and weaknesses of each one. They list their top picks then all the other new programs and a listing of the A perennial @ programs. For a free PDF of the 2017 reviews go to https://bbk12e1-cdn.myschoolcdn.com/ftpimages/95/misc/misc_180269.pdf

Information for Outdoor Ministries Opportunities this Summer!!

Attached you will find information about Christian Camping ministries at Camp Lambec this summer. Check out the details. There are opportunities for both youth and family ministries!

A Great Source for Presbyterian News!!

There is a wealth of Presbyterian news, but sometimes we don't know how to access it. Below is a link that allows you to sign up for a wealth of Presbyterian eNews. The resources for which you can sign up range from daily lectionary readings to weekly news updates a range of interesting topics to social justice and advocacy to youth and young adult ministries. Sign up for 1 or 2 or all of them! Grow your faith! Discover! Learn! Check it out at <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/newsletter-subscription/>

Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women

April 22 provides a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the very complex issue of Middle East relationships. Gather at First Church, Meadville at 9:30 AM with other Presbyterian Women to hear from Rev. Tim Solomon as he provides his keen insights on the dynamics of regional issues. A flyer is attached that provides further information. Don't miss it!

Invitation to Participate in Easter Vigil Cantata

St. Paul's Lutheran, 3108 Sterrettania Road, Erie invites anyone in the community to participate, including Presbyterians, who may not have other Easter vigil plans on Holy Saturday. The church is hosting a community-wide Easter cantata on Saturday, April 15th at 8 PM and is

Ministry

I Thessalonians 5:17 encourage believers to 'pray without ceasing.' In your unceasing prayers for others you are encouraged to pray for your colleagues in Lake Erie Presbytery as well as beyond. The eNews this year will carry the prayer list which has also been distributed to the churches of this presbytery. Pray without ceasing for these partners in ministry.

March 26
Fairview, Church of the Cross
General Presbyter Rev. David Oyler

April 2
Linesville Church
Rev. Rachel Johns, Temporary Supply
Endeavor Church
Commissioned Ruling Elder Roger Snyder

April 9
Emlenton Church
Rev. Darrell Knopp, Temporary Supply
Co-Moderators of the 222nd General Assembly
Rev. Denise Anderson and Rev. Jan Edmiston

April 16
First Church, Meadville
Rev. Brian Jensen, Pastor
Rev. Emily Zeig Lindsey
Moderator of the Coordinating Committee

In search of "Feasting on the Word"

Kane Presbyterian is looking for someone that may have a set of "Feasting on the Word" at a discounted rate. If you know of someone please contact Anne Cleer (814-837-6960)

Employment Opportunity

Organist/Pianist Needed
The Waterford Church is searching for an organist or pianist for Sunday mornings. For more information, please call 796-4110.

With Sadness...

The recent death of a key former leader has had an impact on the Presbytery of Lake Erie.

- Ruling Elder Betty Irvin, charter member of the Wayside Church, died on February 26. Professionally she served as a nurse for many years but she was also known to many Presbyterians as the registrar at presbytery meetings in the 1980s and 1990s. She was a pleasant presence who always welcomed people in a kind fashion and an affirming smile. A service to honor her life will be

amassing a choir to sing a cantata of Easter music that evening. This is the second year for this and, when they did it last year, it especially appealed to those who are unchurched or who belong to a congregation too small to have their own choir. This is an opportunity for singers and musicians to be a part of a larger choir and/or orchestra. If you would like to know more about this opportunity please access the flyer attached to this eNews.

Congratulations!!

Rev. Nicola Vitiello, Girard, and his wife Malinda became parents on January 27, 2017. Michael Benjamin Vitiello entered the world on Friday morning. Born a bit early, but in God's good timing, Michael was able to go to his home in Fairview on February 9. Pray with all three of them as they look to the future together! And ask Nicola to show you some pictures!

Connect2Christ Spring Jam

Are you looking for an exciting worship event for your youth this spring? Then mark your calendars for the Connect2Christ Spring Jam 2017 Saturday April 29th at the Franklin High School Auditorium. Our opening act is Franklin's very own Country/Blues Rock performers the HUNTER COOK BAND. Our headliner is none other than the 5 time Dove Award winning Christian Rock band AUDIO ADRENALINE! This will be an exciting event that you do not want to miss! The doors open at 4:30 and the concert starts at 6:00. Admission is FREE with the donation of at least one canned food item to benefit Youth Alternatives of Venango County. For more information please check out our website at franklinpresbyyouth.org Interested in helping? Call Tina Kaye at 814.493.3997.

Check out the Synod eNews!!

The Synod website contains a wealth of information of how God is at work in a multitude of lives. Type 'Synod of the Trinity' into your search engine and you will learn more of God's great work! Make it one of your favorites!!

*News from Our Churches and Pastors

- Sune Swart, daughter of **Rev. Jannie Swart**, had a wonderfully successful Patriot League women's basketball tournament. She was the team's leading scorer in their semi-final win over American University. In the final, against Navy, the Bucknell team was pushed to overtime but was victorious. Sune was the second leading scorer in the final. With the victory the team qualified for the NCAA tournament. Unfortunately in the NCAA tournament Bucknell lost badly to the University of Maryland but Sune ended up as the leading scorer for her team in her final college game. Congratulations!
- A dozen pastors from the Presbytery of Lake Erie joined with colleagues from Western New York Presbytery for a retreat February 6 to 8. The leadership was provided by Dr. John Burgess of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. It was a reflective, refreshing time.

celebrated at Wayside Church on March 18.

Please note: The presbytery office is seeking to complete a significant overhaul of the eNews.

1. If you do not receive the eNews please contact (adminasst@pbylakeerie.org). We will make every effort to update/correct the oversight.
2. If you know of someone who you believe should be receiving this eNews you are encouraged to invite them to send along their email address.
3. If you no longer desire to receive the eNews please inform Melinda and she will remove your name from the list.

Thank you for your patience as we seek to undergo this upgrade



Please remember to visit our website at:
<http://www.pbylakeerie.org>

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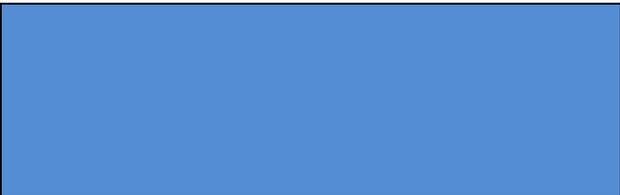
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- Missional church conversations continue to engage a number of pastors in this presbytery in rich fashion. Recently nearly a dozen pastors gathered for reflective discussion on the call of God in our communities in an all-day gathering in Corry. Pray with our churches to continually engage the Gospel!
- **Garland Church** will be celebrating their 200th anniversary in 2017. Pray with them in this milestone moment. Activities will take place Friday night, June 16th through Sunday, June 25th. More details to follow!
- In anticipation of the 2017 summer camping season there will be a major redesign and upgrade of the water system at Camp Lambec. Pray with the Board – and consider providing financial support – for this important endeavor! Any questions? Contact General Presbyter David Oyler.
- **Rev. Chuck Cammarata, Fairview**, retired on February 5 after 31 ½ years of serving as pastor of the Fairview Presbyterian Church. He was the longest serving pastor in one location in this presbytery. Congratulations to Chuck as he begins a new chapter in his life!
- **Rev. Lee Pomeroy**, a retired United Methodist pastor, will be serving as the interim pastor of the Fairview United Methodist Church, effective March 20.
- On February 26 **Rev. Greg Gillispie** concluded service as temporary supply pastor in Oil City.
- **Rev. Greg Gillispie** will be serving as the temporary supply pastor at the Edinboro Church, effective March 26.



*Prayer Concerns

- Prayer for wisdom in the serious conflict in the community of Bimbilla, Ghana. A dispute among tribal leaders erupted in early February that led to the death of 10 people. Schools are closed. Business and medical care has been disrupted. Bimbilla is the community in which Rev. David Bindati was engaged in ministry.
- Pray for Ruth Mills, wife of **Rev. Bill Mills, Honorably Retired**. Ruth continues to deal with the impact of Alzheimer's on her life, though she is resting comfortably at home.
- Pray for the continuing conversations around racism and violence that the power of God might be brought to these difficult conversations.
- Pray for wisdom to engage radical missional thought in each of our



communities. The time to act for the Kingdom of God is NOW!