



# The Pres-By-Terian

Volume 10, Issue 2

February 2010

## Stephen Ministers: The After People

People often ask, “What exactly is a Stephen Minister?” One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the *After People*.

### *Stephen Ministers are there:*

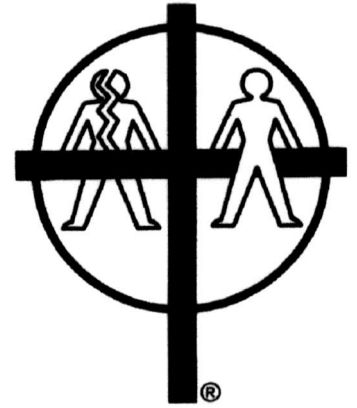
- ... *after* the phone call you hoped you’d never get.
- ... *after* the divorce papers are served and the bottom falls out of your life.
- ... *after* the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you’ve held at bay come crashing in on you.
- ... *after* the doctor says, “I’m sorry, but there’s nothing more we can do.”
- ... *after* the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, “Welcome to your new home.”
- ... *after* the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.
- ... *after* the gavel goes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- ... *after* the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- ... *after* you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- ... *after* your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the “After People.” They are ready to come alongside you—or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives—and provide comfort and support for as long *after* as needed.

[www.stephenministries.org](http://www.stephenministries.org)

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Here at First Presbyterian Church, we feel it is important to care for one another. Stephen Ministers are lay people trained to listen, and to be a comforting presence in a time of hardship. Our goal as Stephen Ministers is to show the love of Jesus to a hurting world.



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## From Michelle's Desk

"Write it on your heart that everyday is the best day of the year"

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Do you ever need to be reminded of that?

Is it the best day when you've got 10 loads of laundry waiting for you? Or when you have to get dinner on the table and can't come up with one more way to use chicken? Or when your kids want you to play a game and you just want to take a nap on the couch? Or when you've got more bills than money? Or you or your spouse got laid off? Or you're out walking the dog and he's had to "stop" three times and you only brought one bag? Or you come down the stairs in the morning, groggy eyed, needing a cup of coffee before you start making lunches and you are in bare feet and, yes, you step in cat puke? You get the idea....

There are any number of ways to have your days derailed and you end up wishing for your day to be over with. ATTITUDE....it's all in ATTITUDE....How is your day going to be???

"Write it on your heart that everyday is the best day of the year"

Ralph Waldo Emerson

*-Michelle*

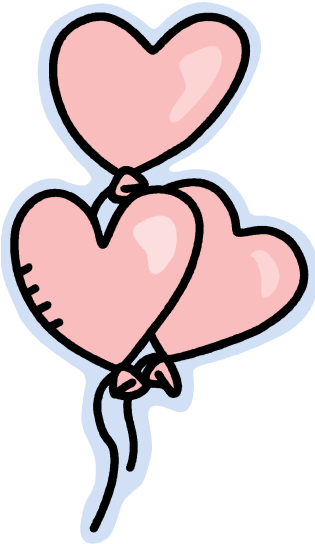
## Living Water Children's Choir

Children in Kindergarten through Fifth grade are invited to join the Living Water Children's Choir with leader Linda Curtiss. They meet on Tuesday evenings at 6:30. See you there!



## Souper Bowl Sunday

The Jr. and Sr. High will be collecting for Souper Bowl Sunday on February 7, 2010. They will be collecting after the 8:30 and 11:00 services. The money raised this year will go to help the Tecumseh Soup Kitchen.



**Senior High Youth Group meets every Sunday evening at 6:30. Junior High Youth Group meets every other Sunday evening at 6:30.**



## Small Groups Are Starting Now!

**...inviting persons to a higher level of fellowship and spiritual growth...**

Small groups are designed to be Bible study and prayer groups which meet in homes or at the church at various times during the week. Currently one small group is meeting regularly for fellowship, Bible study and prayer. Others will begin as groups are formed beginning this month. If you are interested in joining a small group please complete a registration card and return it to the church office or put it in the offering plate. Registration cards are available in the office or on the information tables in the hallway. For more information contact Tim Wilson (church 423-3470, home 423-2940, twilson@tecpres.org).



## New Adult Sunday School Study

### Pastor Richard leads First Corinthians study

Pastor Richard will begin a new study in the Timothy Class February 7. The class will be looking at First Corinthians chapters 12 through 15. Plan to join this group for Bible study this month. The class meets in Knox Hall A from 9:45 until 10:45 Sunday morning.



## Church Membership Class For Teens

Confirmation Class for ninth through twelfth graders will take place each Sunday morning in February and March. The class will meet during the 9:45 Sunday School hour. If you are interested in more information please talk with Tim Wilson or Michelle Brady. Confirmation class will meet upstairs in room 200.

## Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Saturday, February 20

All the men of the congregation are invited to a fellowship breakfast on Saturday, February 20, from 8 until 9 AM. The men will enjoy a hardy and delicious breakfast and share in devotions and fellowship. Please join us! Call Tim Wilson for more information (423-2940 home or 423-3470 church).



# Membership Covenant

Having received Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, feeling the leading of the Holy Spirit, I am ready to unite with the First Presbyterian Church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

1. I will protect the unity of my church. . . by acting

in love toward other members, by refusing to gossip, by following the leadership.

2. I will contribute to the life of my church . . . by praying for its growth, by inviting the unchurched to attend, by warmly welcoming those who visit.

3. I will serve the ministry of my church . . . by discovering my gifts and talents, by being equipped to serve, by the pastoral staff, by developing a servant’s heart.

4. I will support the testimony of my

church . . . by attending faithfully, by living a God honoring life, by giving regularly.

When I commit to these values, I am helping my church grow in faith, service, and devotion to Jesus Christ.

## Our Vision - God Calls Us To:

### Introduce...

- † Introduce people to Jesus.
- † Disciple believers through relationships in groups.
- † Deliver real help for human hurts and hopes.

The church exists to introduce people to Jesus Christ. We are to share our experience with Jesus with others. To *Introduce* fixes our attention on the worshiper, the Sunday school

### Disciple...

child, the young person at youth group, or the person we see each day of the week. We are simply asked to tell others what Jesus has and is doing in our lives. Sometimes we speak with words, sometimes with actions.

To *Disciple* draws our focus to the spiritual journey we each travel. As Christians, God wants us to grow in our discipleship. We expect to grow as we

### Deliver...

help one another and grow in our relationships as a family. Disciple is a verb. We are asked to disciple one another just as a family helps each member grow towards his or her own potential. Ultimately our discipleship is lived out in our walk with Jesus and is demonstrated in the “Marks of Discipleship”: Scripture, Prayer, Worship, Giving, Relationships, Spiritual Growth, and Encourage-

ment.

To *Deliver* real help takes the disciple to the role of servant. It acknowledges that we do not live alone as a Christian or as a community of faith, but we are in the midst of a world with real hurts and hopes. We are called by God to make a difference in this world.

# CHURCH LEADERSHIP

## Elders

- Rick Bunch
- Leigh Elliott
- Steve Gruber
- Kurt Hillegonds
- Amy Korte
- Martha Melcher
- Fred Miller
- Bill Poston

- Charles Saling
- Jan Salsberry
- Tracey Schafer
- Joseph Serafin
- Doug Smith
- Nate Smith
- Ben Spence
- Tom Sollars, Clerk

## Deacons

- Sherrie Bertram
- Renee Bilotta
- Dana Black
- Leah Chludzinski
- Lorie Easton
- Tammy Gruber

- Marc Hernandez
- Betty Hyatt
- Jim Ingle
- Ann Ingram
- Val McLerran
- Colleen Ream

*Session meets the fourth Thursday of every month at 7pm.*

Next meeting will be February 25. The meeting is open to all church members.

# CHURCH HAPPENINGS

## MEMORIALS

📖 Gifts in memory of Bill Adams were received from Don & Joan Ketteman, Rick & Pam Bunch, and Jim & Jan Hunt.

## BIRTHS

👶 Welcome to the world, Garrett James Amstutz! Born January 2, 2010, Garrett is the first child of Tyler & Renee Amstutz and the second grandchild of Mark & Michelle Amstutz.

## DEATHS

Three people have gone to be with our Lord.

✝️ Gerald Baker passed away on December 27, 2009.

✝️ Mary Lou Feight passed away on January 2, 2010.

✝️ Greg Grover passed away on January 2, 2010.

Our prayers are with their families.

## 2009 Financial Update

From the Session, here is a look at our 2009 financial update.

December 2008 actual giving:	\$40,580.83
December 2009 actual giving:	\$41,833.00

## Can You Help?

The Lenawee Department on Aging is in need of *volunteer* drivers in the Tecumseh area to transport seniors to and from medical appointments. You will be paid mileage if you request it. If you can help, please call 264-5280 and ask for Libby.

## Do You Have an Ornament on the Tree?

If you would like to add an ornament from your family to our congregation's Christmas tree, you can drop one off at the office any time.



## E NEWS

Are you online? Do you email? Us too! If you would like to receive the Newsletter by email, be on the virtual prayer chain, or get weekly Scripture for prayer and meditation for Sunday's worship service, email me and let me know what you would like emailed to you. *Vanessa* [vybechler@tecpres.org](mailto:vybechler@tecpres.org)





# February 2010

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Florence Gilbert	2 Alexander Chludzinski	3 Ashley Amaya Megan Graf	4 ♥Robert & Peggy Lusk	5 West Marble	6
7	8 Debbie Feight	9 Katie Meier	10 Sherrie Bertram	11 Leea Gunder	12	13 Mikaloh Hill Anna Mortimer Kathy Novak
14 Einor Jacobsen Jac Matthews Joshua Thomas  ♥Mike & Vivian Moore	15	16 Brittany Poston Karl Roehm	17 David Baker	18 Kimberly Ringer Austin Rushlow  ♥David & Julie Schiller	19 Ashley Britt Jason Smith Shannon Spence Josephine Watkins	20 Kaitlin Marie Knape  Lori Mortimer
21	22 Cindy Marcum  Lloyd Miller	23 Jacob Britt  ♥Donald & Maxine Curtis	24 Emily Anderson Sam Craig Bryce Downard Jeanette Gillies Dane Louden Aubrey Williams	25	26 Alex Daly  ♥Ron & Carolyn Publiski  ♥Tom & Cheryl Schrock	27 Sharon Ketola  Jim McLerran
28 Don Fry						



# February 2010

## EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Great Food For All order time	3 Men's Bible Study 7pm  Women's Bible Study 7pm	4 Great Food For All order time  Knox Hall Re- served 6:30 - 9pm	5	6 Benefit Concert for Hiede Curtiss at NewSong Office Downtown
7 Communion  SouperBowl Sunday	8	9 Shut In Commu- ion  MOPS 9am	10 Women's Bible Study 7pm	11  Knox Hall Re- served 9:30am	12	13
14 Valentine's Day	15	16 MOPS 6:30pm	17 Ash Wednesday  Men's Bible Study 7pm	18	19	20 Great Food For All Distribution
21	22	23 MOPS 9am	24	25	26	27
28 Ladies Ministry Heart Health Seminar 12:30-3:30 Knox Hall		<u>Every Week:</u> Monday - Financial Peace University 7 pm Tuesday - Living Water Children's Choir 6:30pm, St. Andrews Choir 7 pm Wednesday - Quiet Prayer Hour 6 pm, Carillon Bell Choir 6:30 pm, Praise Choir 7 pm, Friday - Celebrate Recovery 6 pm Sunday - Worship 8:30 & 11 am, Sunday School 9:45 am, SH Youth Group 6:30 pm				

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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Helping people become totally devoted  
 followers of Jesus Christ.

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FPC Website:  
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The Ladies Ministry Invites You To Attend:

## At The Heart Of It All.... A Balance and Wellness Heart Health Seminar

Topics include: Inner and Outer Physical and Spiritual Health issues.  
Guest Speakers to be announced.

Lunch will be provided. Cost: \$15.00/each  
Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> in Knox Hall 12:30-3:30 PM  
Sign up on the Bulletin Board.

