



Parish Presbyterian Church

P A R I S H L I F E N E W S L E T T E R

2 8 J A N U A R Y 2 0 0 7

Congregational Meeting

We will host another congregational on Monday evening, February 5—both for those who were unable to make it to the first one and for all those questions we were unable to tackle during the January 15 gathering.

✘ How to Use the Sunday Bulletin ✘

As you can see, the Sunday bulletin is full of resources. Hopefully, you will find it to be a helpful tool, not just to enter into the Sunday morning worship, but for devotions and discipleship throughout the week. Here are a few ideas:

1. Even before you arrive on Sunday morning you can access the bulletin online at the ParishPres.org website. Several of our families prepare themselves for worship by reading through the Scriptures, singing the hymns, and meditating on the themes.
2. A number of our families then use the Catechism questions and the Scripture readings to supplement their devotions at the dinner table or just before bedtime each night through the week. One of our families is even keeping the bulletins together in a big notebook, not only as a remembrance of their walk together in these early days of Parish Pres, but as a regular resource to draw on for spiritual growth and refreshment.
3. Another family is keeping the bulletins as a kind of personalized hymn book. They love to play guitar, fiddle, and harmonica together—and now, they also sing the hymns during the week that they sang during corporate worship.
4. Two other families keep the bulletins and allow the children to choose their favorite hymn and that becomes their “hymn of the week” which they then sing each morning before beginning their regular routines.
5. Three families who have been meeting together for several years every other week, now use the hymns and Scripture readings to give a bit more structure to their fellowship time together. And one of our elder’s small group meetings walked through the whole order of service, discussing the various elements of the service—all the better to appreciate the richness of our covenant renewal together.

There are probably many other ways to use the resources in the bulletin—but, you get the idea. Take every opportunity to grow in the grace and admonition of the Lord.

Sunday Morning Schedule

Remember that we are on a new schedule now that we have moved to Sunday mornings for our covenant worship together. We will try our best to be on time:

- 8:15-9:20 a.m.—Corporate Worship: First Service
 9:30-10:25 a.m.—Sunday School
 10:25-10:45 a.m.—Fellowship
 10:45-12:00 p.m.—Corporate Worship: Second Service



Sunday School

And so we now grow and learn together! In classes spread out all across downtown Franklin, we have begun our full complement of Sunday School classes for all ages. The children's classes are all in the chapel building while City Hall, the Police Station, Meridee's Bakery, and the Comer Home are the locations of the adult and teen classes. Here is what and where:

Jr. and Sr. High with Tate Parker at Merridee's
Topic: *Essential Truths of the Christian Faith* by R.C. Sproul

College and Young Singles with Jeff & Kay Dokkestul at City Hall

Young Married Class with Tom & Rosanne Goddard in the King's Meadow Office (Chapel—second floor to the left of the stairs)
Topic: The Book of Ruth

Adults with Will & Judy Matheny at the Comer's house (316 Bridge Street)
Topic: Promises of the Covenant

Adults with Chuck & Carol Emerson in the Police Training Room in City Hall
Topic: The Book of James

Adults with Danny Ketchum at Merridee's
Topic: Westminster Confession of Faith

Adults with Jeff Jeffrys at TBA

Small Group Meetings

During the next six weeks, each of our elders have committed to host at least three small group meetings in their respective homes. The purpose of these meetings is first and foremost to pray for the work of the Gospel at Parish Pres, in our families, and in our own hearts. In addition, in these more intimate settings we will have the opportunity to ask questions and gather information about the distinctive calling of Parish Pres as a congregation. And finally, the meetings will enable the elders to hear the testimonies of what God is doing in all our lives as we "particularize" as a local church. We would love for every one of you—whether you already know you're committed to the vision of Parish Pres or you are still in the process of making a wise and prayerful decision—to join us for one or more of these gatherings. Please contact Joanna at the church office either by e-mail (Joanna@ParishPres.org) or by phone (574-1029) for locations, times, and dates.

Children's Ministry

If you are willing to volunteer for the children's ministry, it is not too late. Please contact Joanna at the church office either by e-mail (Joanna@ParishPres.org) or by phone (574-1029). Needs:

Volunteers for the Registration Table—3 per Sunday for 1 hour

Volunteer Coordinator: Someone who can make calls from a list or own information to confirm Covenant Caregivers during the week.

8:15 Volunteer Nursery Covenant Caregivers needed.

Prayer Items

The Dillards made it safely to Iraq this past week. Please continue to pray for them and their work.

Worship Notes

God has placed us here in this time and place for a purpose, and our corporate worship should reflect that reality within the context of redemptive history. We are reformational, not revolutionary. We are confessional, not traditional or modern. In order to be truly contemporary, "with the time," we must understand our place in the lineage of the Church—which necessitates an understanding of what has gone on before. We should appreciate and utilize the wisdom and artistic excellence of the past without worshipping the forms; we should seek to create new work, without divorcing ourselves from our history. In all, the controlling factor is the worship of God through that which is excellent.

—Greg Wilbur

If you are a singer or musician who is interested in assisting with worship or if you are interested in being a part of choir for Lent and Easter, please contact Greg at GWilbur@ParishPres.org.