



The Grapevine *"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower."*

John 15:1

Calendar for February 1-15

Friday, February 2

GROUNDHOG DAY

Sunday, February 4

- 9:30 a.m. Worship—Communion
- 9:45 a.m. Commissioning of the Bloom
Welcome Team

Monday, February 5

- 7:00 p.m. Pastor Nominating Committee

Tuesday, February 6

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, February 7

- 9:30 a.m. GIFT (Growing in Faith Together)
Group
- 6:00 p.m. Deacon's Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, February 10

- 9:30 p.m. Baker's Group
- 12:00 p.m. **GRAPEVINE DEADLINE**

Sunday, February 11

- 9:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Education

Monday, February 12

- 7:00 p.m. Pastor Nominating Committee
- 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

Tuesday, February 13

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, February 14

ASH WEDNESDAY/ VALENTINE'S DAY

- 9:30 a.m. GIFT (Growing in Faith Together)
Group
- 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
- 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 15

- 7:00 p.m. Building and Grounds Meeting

From: Rev. Anne Fisher,

Hearts and Ashes



Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday fall on the same day this year. There is an irony that the day of flowers and chocolate is also

the day that people often give up those very same pleasures! Perhaps it is not as much a study in contrasts as we first think. We know Valentine's Day is about love and receiving gifts and nice things from those who love us. Christianity is about abiding love and knowing we are beloved by God who created us. Ash Wednesday is a time of penitence, but knowing our own failings and acknowledging them makes God's constant love even sweeter. We have not earned the right to receive God's forgiving grace. Understanding that we are beneficiaries of God's love, helps us to be kinder toward others.

Ash Wednesday is the opening day of Lent. It starts the forty day march (minus Sundays) toward Easter. Many people take the opportunity of Lent to change habits by giving up something or intentionally learning and growing in their faith.

On February 14, be sure to celebrate this Valentine's Day by telling those close to you that you love them and by giving thanks to a God who loves you no matter what. Celebrate a memorable Valentine's Day with both hearts and ashes!

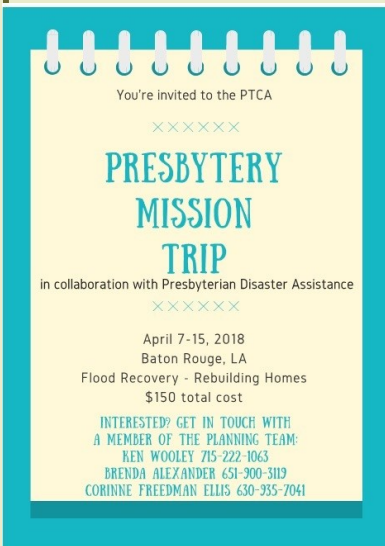
Blessings, Anne

PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Adult Mission Trip



Dear Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area Members and Friends,

I am excited to announce an Adult mission trip experience to Denham Spring, LA (near Baton Rouge) to assist in disaster recovery, clean-up, and rebuilding from the major 2016 Louisiana flooding. This is in

Collaboration with the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Please see the details below and respond quickly as the date is rapidly approaching!

Dates: Saturday, April 7 through Saturday, April 15, 2018

Cost: \$150 per person (does not include incidentals, including food while traveling, souvenirs, and a dinner out)

Reservation and Deposit: After talking with someone from the planning team: Ken Wooley: 715-222-1063, Brenda Alexander: 651-900-3119 or Corinne Freedman Ellis: 630-935-7041, please send a deposit of \$50 to the Presbytery Office **by February 16, 2018** to reserve your spot. Check payable to: Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, 2115 Cliff Drive, Eagan, MN 55122

The remaining balance of \$100 will be paid online at the orientation meeting held on February 25. Bring a credit card to do this.

Transportation: One (or two) 12 passenger van/s will be reserved for travel to and from Baton Rouge. A second van is needed for tools and the team's belongings. **To volunteer a van, please contact me ASAP.** These vans will leave Saturday morning, April 7. Details will be discussed at the orientation meeting. However, you may choose to drive

(Adult Mission Trip continued on the next column)

(Adult Mission Trip continued from previous column)

separately, carpool or fly and meet up with the group in Denham Springs, LA. (several miles from Baton Rouge.)

The goal will be to get to Memphis, Tennessee by Saturday night April 7. We will leave early Sunday morning and arrive for dinner and orientation by Sunday evening in Louisiana. After working until Friday about noon we will hit the road, have an overnight, and be home in the Twin Cities by Saturday evening.

For those who may want to fly, we can try to help with transportation to and from the airport however, you will be responsible for the cost of the flight.

Work Week: We will begin our volunteer work on Monday, April 9 and end on Friday, April 13. There will be one partial day for some sightseeing, which will also include a meal at a restaurant in the area for your trip cost planning.

Orientation Meeting: An orientation and get acquainted time is on Sunday, February 25, 2018 from 3:00 to 6:00 pm with conversation and a potluck dinner at Macalester Plymouth Church in St. Paul. This will give us an opportunity to meet with one another and make final arrangements. Attendance is required for team building and information sharing.

Please do not hesitate to call or email me. My cell is 651-900-3119, the landline is 651-748-1208 and my email is bk.alexander@live.com. Leadership for this trip is Ken Wooley (First Presbyterian Church, Hudson), and Brenda Alexander (Chair of Mission and Witness Com, PTCA and Honorably Retired.)

I trust Christ will be at work in us and through our mission trip experience.

With love in Christ,

Rev. Brenda K. Alexander

Mission and Witness Committee, PTCA



The Midweek Lenten Services are starting February 21st. A light soup supper is planned at 6:00 p.m. and a brief service at 6:30 p.m. in the

Fireside Room. The theme for this year's Lenten Services is "Getting to Know Jesus Through His I AM statements. Join us as we explore the following weeks: February 21 "The Great I AM; Yahweh"

February 28 "I AM the Bread of Life"

March 7 "I AM the Light of the World"

March 14 "I AM the Good Shepherd"

March 21 "I AM the Resurrection and the Life"



Souper bowl for Caring.

Last Sunday, Abby Larson introduced the Souper bowl of Caring. For 26 years, communities have sponsored the Souper bowl of Caring. 100% of what is received goes toward a local agency that addresses hunger. This year our proceeds will go to Bloom Early Learning & Child Care for their lunch and snack program for the children. To date, we have received \$189. **Soup pots will be in the Narthex this Sunday, February 4th** to receive your donations to the Souper Bowl of Caring.



Dear PPC friends,

We thank you dearly for all of your thoughts, prayers and cards we've received

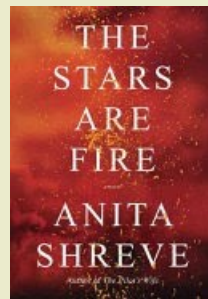
since the passing of Chad's Dad. It is such a comfort to know that our burden of grief was shared by our friends. Thank you.

In Christ,

The Robran Family

PPC BOOK CLUB 2018

We'd be glad for anyone to come whether they read the book or not! Meetings on the 4th Wednesday of the month (except December) 1:00 p.m.



Month Presenter Book,
Author

February Pat Johnson *The Stars are Fire*, Anita Shreve

March Joanne Mann *An Invisible Thread*, Laura Schroff and Alex Tresniowski

April Carla Bahls *The Florist's Daughter*, Patricia Hampl

May Loni Gradick *The Orphan Master's Son*, Adam Johnson

June Deb Petersen *The Women in the Castle*, Jessica Shattuck

July Mignon Nearmyer Author discussion – Jane Austen

Read any book by Jane Austen (one you haven't read before!): *Pride & Prejudice*, *Emma*, *Persuasion*, *Sense & Sensibility*, *Mansfield Park*, *Northanger Abbey*, *Lady Susan*, *Sanditon*, *The Watsons*, *The Beautifull Cassandra*, *Catharine or The Bower*, *Plan of a Novel*, *Lesley Castle* [Some are short novellas, some are unfinished, some are romantic, some are comedy, and some are satire.]

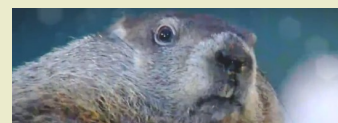
August Melody Baker *The Shadow of the Wind*, Carlos Ruiz Zafón

September Carole Marsh *The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend*, Katarina Bivald

October Lu Wilmot *Robicheaux*, James Lee Burke

November Suzy Robertson *The Underground Railroad*, Colson Whitehead

December no meeting





Prayers and sympathy for the Feterl family at the death of Andy's father, Roger Feterl, on January 27th. *"I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord."*



PASTOR
NOMINATING
COMMITTEE

PNC Update

Your Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) continues

to work toward the goal of nominating a pastor for Plymouth Presbyterian Church. To date, the committee has received and reviewed four groups of candidates from the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) and a number of self-referrals. The total number of candidates considered to date is 133.

Many telephone interviews have been held and a number of video interviews also. The number of sermons watched and listened to by the committee members is now beyond an accountants ability to tabulate.

Some candidates have withdrawn or accepted other calls as we progressed. But, at this point we have two pastors we consider top candidates and are in the process of arranging neutral pulpits for further consideration. Please keep the PNC in your prayers that we will find the perfect teaching elder and leader for our church.

John Wilkens, PNC Co-Chair



Our Ash Wednesday Service will be held on Wednesday **February 14 at 7:00 PM** in the Sanctuary.

There will be the imposition of Ashes.

Food Shelf Donations



The Mission committee is looking for YOU- to deliver the food donations one time. It entails: collecting the donations the first week of the month and drop-

ping them off at the food shelf in your area. Get a receipt for the number of pounds donated and stick it in the Mission mail slot. Easy peasy! Can you pick a month and then deliver to CROSS (Rogers) or PRISM (Golden Valley) or IOCP (Plymouth)?

Let us know!

Suzy Robertson and Kyle Larson



Deacons and their Care Team Group numbers are:

Care Group 1: Abby Larson and Janet Menary

Care Group 2: Ann Foote and

Donna Holtan Halverstadt

Care Group 3: Joanna Kipp and Jan Leaf

Care Group 4: Sandy Hawley and Jake McMahan

Care Group 5: Georgia Motes and Jennifer Voca

Care Group 6: Adam Ling and Pat Johnson

Please note: Your Deacons will be contacting you in the next few weeks.

Per capita allows us to work with other churches to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world.

Per capita - Our church is assessed **\$34.50** per member. This assessment goes to fund our Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, Synod of Lakes and Prairies and the national offices of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Our total per capita bill for 2018 is \$8901. **Please help by giving your annual per capita, mark your check per capita.** Thank you!

40 Things to Give up for Lent



- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Fear of Failure | 21. Bitterness |
| 2. Your Comfort Zone | 22. Distraction |
| 3. Feelings of Unworthiness | 23. Giving up |
| 4. Impatience | 24. Mediocrity |
| 5. Retirement | 25. Destructive Speech |
| 6. People Pleasing | 26. Busyness |
| 7. Comparison | 27. Loneliness |
| 8. Blame | 28. Despair |
| 9. Guilt | 29. The Quick Fix |
| 10. Overcommitment | 30. Worry |
| 11. Lack of Counsel | 31. Idolizing |
| 12. Impurity | 32. Resistance to Change |
| 13. Entitlement | 33. Pride |
| 14. Apathy | 34. A Small View of God |
| 15. Hatred | 35. Envy |
| 16. Negativity | 36. Ingratefulness |
| 17. The Spirit of Poverty | 37. Selfish Ambition |
| 18. Going Through the Motions | 38. Self-Sufficiency |
| 19. Complaint | 39. Sorrow |
| 20. The Pursuit of Happiness | 40. My Life |



Join us this Sunday, February 4th. Melissa Musliner, Executive Director of Bloom Early Learning & Child Care, will join us for worship. We will also be commissioning our **Bloom Welcome Team:** Penny Blankenship, Gary Gabe, Natalie Kovach and Suzy Robertson

Thank you for all who volunteered at the Food Shelf on January 31st!



our next fifth Wednesday is May 30th



From Tom Paulson, Director of Music

Have you enjoyed having "the bell

band" in worship recently? We are 6 wonderful people and looking for a few more to bring more beautiful music into worship once a month or so. Give us a try for our next handbell session!

Rehearsals - Sundays, February 18th and 25th from 10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Worship - Sunday, March 4th

It helps to be able to read music, although it is not a deal-breaker.

Contact Tom Paulson, Director of Music at Tom@plymouthpc.org or 952-292-4461

PEOPLE OF PLYMOUTH - (POP)

- Congratulations to our Music Director Tom Paulson** who is being honored by the Edina Chorale at their **February 3rd concert**. Tom was the Chorale's Music Director for 22 years.
- Congratulations to Mari and Dale Thompson** on the birth of their granddaughter, **Summer Millicent Sibley** on Sunday, January 21st. The proud family is Taylor and Michelle Sibley along with big sister, Piper.