



# The GoodNews

## Connection

January 2017

### Youth Group Pancake Breakfast to Benefit Work Camp!

On Sunday, January 15th, the Youth of PPC are hosting a Pancake Breakfast to benefit this year's Mission Trip to Washington DC in February 2017. They will begin serving at 9:30am—there is **NO CHURCH SCHOOL** on that day. The cost for a ticket is \$6 per person, and a \$25 max per family. Thank you for your wonderful support of our Youth Group!

### From the Worship Committee...

#### Christmas Undecorating-- Sunday, January 8

Helpers are needed from 9:30-10:30 a.m. to take down Christmas decorations throughout the church and pack them away for next year. If necessary, we'll finish up after the 11:00 worship service.

**Thank you** to everyone who helped make the Christmas season at PPC full of joy, beauty, music, inspiration, caring and sharing. Our church family is blessed to have so many members who generously share their time, talents and treasures within our church and community.

~ The Worship Committee

### MISSION NOTES:

**A warm thank you note** was received from Pastor James Laughlin from Joy Community Church for PPC's generous donation of 12 complete Thanksgiving dinners towards the Gebhardt Outreach Neighborhood Center's providing a Thanksgiving meal for 145 families. Your contributions are deeply appreciated and make a difference to those who received them. Pastor James was also happy to report that 40 people gave their hearts to Christ as a result of this outreach.

**Remember** that your Christmas and other greeting cards (fronts only) are being collected for Project Vida. A collection box is in the Narthex.



## FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

**The numbers are in.....**

### Stewardship Message

If you have, give; if you lack, seek.-- Malay (on generosity)

### Results through October

We are running a deficit as we enter the final month of the year. Thanks to all for your continued support of our programming at PPC!

### General Information

There is a two month lag in reporting finances in the newsletter due to mailing deadlines, timing of bank statements and report processing. Contact Mark Stevens at (585) 739-8452 or [mwstevens63@gmail.com](mailto:mwstevens63@gmail.com) if you have questions or to request copies of financial statements. Our Operational Fund supports the day-to-day operation of the church and its programs. The Building Fund supports our mortgage and building expansion program. Like several churches in the Presbytery we embrace a "faith-based" financial plan and thus we do not budget our income. If you have questions about your individual contributions or personal statements, please contact the Financial Secretary, Al Norby at (585) 223-2126 or [anorby1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:anorby1@rochester.rr.com)

### Stock Donations and Bequests

If you have appreciated stock, you may find it to be a tax advantage to donate stock to the church. Several people have provided PPC with stock donations which have personal tax benefits. Please consider a bequest to PPC in planning your Will. We have received bequests in the past year and are blessed that at the passing of life other lives can be im-

pacted in this special way. If you are interested in learning more about these giving options, please contact Al Norby or Mark Stevens.

### Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Investment and Loan Program (PILP) Provides Investment Opportunities

PILP offers investment notes with competitive market rates and flexible withdrawal options. Get a return on your money plus the satisfaction of knowing that your funds are helping other churches grow. Additionally, our church may be eligible for rebates which we have been receiving for years, thanks to the members that have invested with PILP. Contact Al Norby for additional information.

Perinton Presbyterian Church Preliminary Summary 11/30/2016 Performance Year-to-date through November		
<b>INCOME</b>		
Operating Fund	\$	
		305,421
Building Fund	\$	
		138,047
Total Income		\$ 443,468
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Operating Fund	\$	319,819
Building Fund	\$	130,720
Total Expenses		\$ 450,539
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>		
Operating Fund	\$	(14,398)
Building Fund	\$	7,327
Net Surplus (Deficit)		\$ (7,071)

## Reflections on Growing in Faith

The older I get, it seems the less enthused I become about celebrating a New Year. Sure, I still find it to be moderately exciting, but my enthusiasm has certainly diminished from what it once was. As a child, I couldn't wait to stay up late, drink a liter of Mountain Dew, and watch the ball drop over Times Square. It was always an amazing, almost magical night that I always looked forward to. But these days, I'm much more likely to begrudgingly stay up till midnight—just to say that I did—and then head up to bed.

I sometimes wonder what exactly happens to us as we age. What happens to our sense of excitement, wonder, and astonishment? Sadly, this dynamic also presents itself in the realm of our faith. An author named Mike Yaconelli once wrote a book called *Dangerous Wonder*. Yaconelli reflects on the Christian faith, asking questions like this:

“What happened to radical Christianity, the un-nice brand of Christianity that turned the world upside down? What happened to the kind of Christians whose hearts were on fire, who had no fear, who spoke the truth no matter what the consequence, who made the world uncomfortable, who were willing to follow Jesus wherever he went? The greatest enemy of Christianity may be people who say they believe in Jesus but *who are no longer astonished and amazed.*”

As we get older, we lose our sense of amazement and we begin to pursue lives built upon comfort, safety, and security. It's a natural human desire that I personally struggle with a lot. Even Jesus recognized our lack of child-like faith: “unless you become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven” (Mt. 18:3). So, how do we become like children? How do we recover our sense of awe and wonderment in the Christian life?

I would like to suggest two things. *And please know that I write these things as much for me as for anyone reading this.* The first is to **dream**. Sadly, as we get older and experience the ebb and flow of life, we forget how to dream. We label things as “unrealistic” or “impractical” forgetting the God who declares that *all things* are possible. This year, allow yourself to dream about what God wants for your life, for your family, and your community as a whole. The second one is a little tougher: **make yourself uncomfortable**. When I think about formative experiences in my own faith, they always seem to occur in moments when I step outside my places of comfort, times when I very reluctantly said “Yes” to something. Jesus was constantly inviting his disciples to do this, and he asks the same of us. How might God be calling you to step out of your comfort zone?

May your 2017 be filled with awe and amazement at what God has done.

-*Danny*

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Yaconelli, Michael. *Dangerous Wonder: The Adventure of Childlike Faith*, pg. 24-25.

## Pageturners' Book Club



Date: Sunday, January 15, 2017

Time: 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Place: Perinton Presbyterian Church

Selection: *Lady Almina and the Real Downton Abbey* by Lady Fiona Carnarvon – discussion with Pastor Steve

“The present Lady Carnarvon, who tapped the family archives for her comprehensive research, dramatically captures the estate during the pre-war and war years, and paints a compelling...portrait of Lady Almina.” — *Newark Star-Ledger*

### Future Meetings

February 19, 2017 *The End of Your Life Book Club* by Will Schwalbe

March 19, 2017 *The Magician's Lie* by Greer Macallister

April 23, 2017 *Two Steps Forward* by Sharon Garlough Brown

May 21, 2017 *The Tender Bar* by J. R. Moehringer

June 25, 2017 Selection Meeting

## **From the Deacons...**

Happy New Year! It was wonderful to see so many of you at the many church events during the past month. How lucky we are that the miracle of Christmas continues as we begin the new year! As we put away the decorations and lights, let us not forget the promise that Christmas brings.

How wonderful it was to be able to provide a reception for the church in celebration of Steven Becker's 20th anniversary with PPC.

Thank you for your nominations for the Earth Angel. Our newest angel will be announced in January.

It was fun to deliver cookies to the "experienced learners" of the church.

In the new year, take time to contact your deacon if there is anything we can do for you. If you do not know who your deacon is, please stop in or call the church office and ask.

Remember: Don't let your past dictate who you are. Let it be part of who you will become.

## **Worship Notes...**

Our congregation values "Connecting through Jesus Christ" whenever we gather together. We encourage everyone to make that a regular part of Sunday mornings. Some ways to connect at worship:

- reach out with a friendly hello to people sitting around you in the pews
- welcome visitors or introduce yourself to a member you don't know
- move over in pew, if able, to provide room for late arrivals
- accommodate those in wheelchairs and their families (the last several rows along the center aisle are designated for that purpose)

As a church family, we want everyone who enters our doors to feel welcome and included! Coming soon... watch for the new Inspiration Blog on the church website.

# *Change Your Money.* **CHANGE YOUR LIFE.**

*Applying God's  
word to your money...*



This nine-week class  
will show you how to  
get rid of debt, manage your money, spend  
and save wisely, and more!

Financial Peace University

Thursday Evenings, PPC Fellowship Hall @7:00PM

January 12, 2017 – March 16, 2017

To register or for more information contact

Pastor, Steven Becker 223-1203 or [steve@perintonpres.org](mailto:steve@perintonpres.org)

Or,

Dave Lowry [dave2877@hotmail.com](mailto:dave2877@hotmail.com)

January 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:30a Worship	<b>2</b> 9:30a Rug Hookers 12:15p AA 6p Brownie 60979 7p Knitters 4 Peace	<b>3</b> 5:45p AA 6:30p Session and Deacon Joint Potluck	<b>4</b> 6p GriefShare 7p Bell Choir 7:45p Adult Choir	<b>5</b> 10a Bible Study 12:15p AA	<b>6 Epiphany</b> 12p Al-Anon	<b>7</b> 12:15p AA
<b>8</b> 8:30a 11a Worship 9:30a Youth Pancake Break- fast 10a Undecorate Christmas	<b>9</b> 12:15p AA 7p Knitters 4 Peace	<b>10</b> 5:45p AA 5:45p GS-Sherman 7p Deacons	<b>11</b> 6p GriefShare 6:30p GS Service Unit 7p Bell Choir 7:45p Adult Choir	<b>12</b> 10a Bible Study 12:15p AA 6p GS 63463 7p Financial Peace University	<b>13</b> 12p Al-Anon	<b>14</b> 12:15p AA
<b>15</b> 8:30a 11a Worship 9:30a Church School 4p PageTurners	<b>16</b> 12:15p AA 7p Knitters 4 Peace	<b>17</b> 5:45p AA	<b>18</b> 6p GriefShare 7p Bell Choir 7:45p Adult Choir	<b>19</b> 10a Bible Study 12:15p AA 7p Facilities Comm 7p Financial Peace University	<b>20</b> 12p Al-Anon	<b>21</b> 12:15p AA
<b>22</b> 8:30a 11a Worship 9:30a Church School 4:30p Youth Group	<b>23</b> 12:15p AA 5:30p GS JR-63414 7p Knitters 4 Peace	<b>24</b> 5:45p AA 5:45p GS-Sherman 7:30p Finance Comm 7:45p Church Life	<b>25</b> 6p GriefShare 7p Bell Choir 7:45p Adult Choir	<b>26</b> 10a Bible Study 12:15p AA 7p Financial Peace University	<b>27</b> 12p Al-Anon	<b>28</b> 12:15p AA
<b>29</b> 8:30a 11a Worship 9:30a Church School 4:30p Youth Group	<b>30</b> 12:15p AA 7p Knitters 4 Peace	<b>31</b> 5:45p AA				

## Adult Bible Study Update

Adult Bible Study – 10 Women of the Bible

Starting 01/22/2017, we'll be using "Ten Women of the Bible" by Max Lucado with Jenna Lucado Bishop. This is a 10-week study discussing how these women changed the world. "...These women show us there is a God who sees us where we are and loves us for who we are. He is the one who hovers over all the pages of the Bible, shaping lives, rescuing hearts, healing sicknesses, raising what was dead to life, and assigning high callings to those who choose to follow him and have faith in him." (taken from the back cover)

We meet at 9:30 AM on Sunday mornings (between the two services) in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome and no prior Bible study experience is necessary. Resources will be available both prior to and at the first class.

For more information, please contact Beth Spalty at 223-8987.

# Perinton Presbyterian Church

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Steven A. Becker, Pastor ([steve@perintonpres.org](mailto:steve@perintonpres.org))

Danny Peters, Associate Pastor ([danny@perintonpres.org](mailto:danny@perintonpres.org))

Don Besig, Adult Choir Director

Jonelle Kohl & Sherri Frederick, Church School Coordinators

Megan Glikes, Keyboard Accompanist

Dale Olson, Custodian

Bernie Trott, Editor, The GoodNews Connection, ([btrott@rochester.rr.com](mailto:btrott@rochester.rr.com))

**Worship Time Sunday's 8:30 & 11:00AM**

Nursery Care provided during worship service

Building is handicapped-accessible

# The GoodNews Connection

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