



First Federated Church



February
2012

10786 Mahoning Ave, PO Box 188
North Jackson OH 44451
330/538-3936 / www.firstfederatedchurch.net

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Scout Sunday Feb 19

“Living the Questions”
Series continues

Shrove Tuesday’s Pancake
Dinner

Ash Wednesday Service

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“Sock It To Me” donations

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World Day of Prayer

Drop in Tuesday’s

Mother Hubbard’s
Cupboard

Dear Friends,

In January, the FFC Transition Team met for the first time to begin the work of "Intentional Interim Ministry." Many folks have asked, "Exactly what is Interim Ministry and why do we need it?"

The mythical Roman god Janus was said to have been "two faced." The god had one face with which to look backward and another face with which to look forward. When a congregation moves from one pastor to another it's a perfect time for reflecting on the chapter of its history just concluded and to seek to understand where God is calling it to go in the future. Intentional Interim Ministry was developed to do just that, to aid congregations to look backward during a vacancy before the call of a new pastor, that is to reflect on the past, good and bad. Congregations are both heir and victim of their history. It is also a critical moment to make decisions that will determine the future of a congregation, shaping its identity and mission for years.

An intentional interim period — that God-given, "in between time" — is an excellent opportunity for a congregation to reflect and re-view its past for the meanings of its heritage and history, and a time to project its future in a pro-active way.

The major work of an interim ministry period centers on five tasks.

Coming to Terms with History It is important for congregations to know their history so that they can *appreciate their heritage* and at the same time be aware of the issues and concerns that need to be resolved in order to move freely into the future.

Discovering a New Identity Identity is the task of understanding "who

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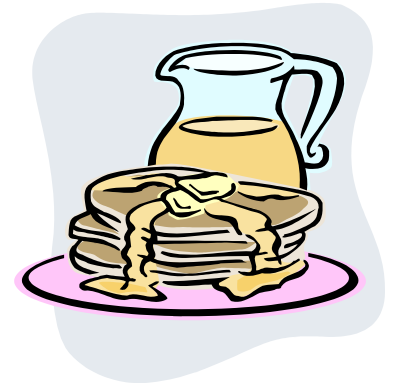
Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Dinner

Feb 21, 2012

5:30 to 7:00pm

First Federated Church will be serving a pancake dinner to benefit our food pantry. We will serve pancakes & sausage, coffee, juice. The Boy Scouts have volunteered to work with us on the dinner but we still need adult help, please see Pastor Gaye if you can help during this event.

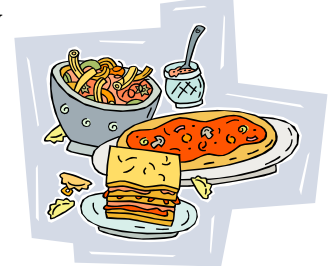
Love offering will be accepted that evening or canned goods for pantry.



YOU ARE INVITED

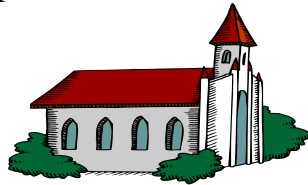
Every Wednesday through March 21. Please join us at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall for an interesting and entertaining discussion series titled "**Living with Questions**".

This fellowship opportunity will be led by Pastor Gaye. You are asked to **bring a covered dish** to share and we can enjoy wonderful conversation while breaking bread over a potluck dinner.



From Our Trustees.....

There are several projects that due to the age of the building can no longer be ignored. We have a drainage issue that has allowed water to come in the west youth center door during heavy rains. The pastor and secretary offices are not reliably heated for a reason yet to be determined. The windows in that wing of the building are also less energy efficient. The wall covering in the Fellowship Hall on the food service end will likely be removed and that area painted to improve its appearance and maintainability.



We have some money available to help with these expenses *IF* we can erase the budget deficit of \$5,658. With your help we can do it. An increase of only \$2 per week per giver would put us in the black. Please prayerfully consider how much more you can give financially in 2012. If you are unable to give more money please consider how important your contribution of help around the church is, including on days when we have work parties.

Remember - we have company here seven days a week! And we want to do everything we can do be great hosts. Thank you!

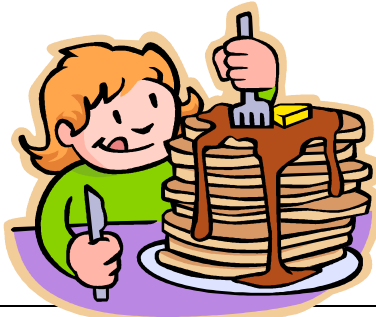
Jackson Twp. Fire Dept. Breakfast

March 4, 8am to 1pm

This will be held at the Jackson Township Adm. Building; 10613 Mahoning Ave.

Adults \$5, Children (5-12) \$2.50.

There will be Pancakes, sausage and a Chinese Auction.



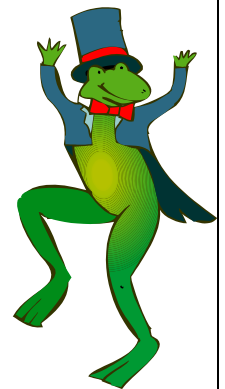
Chilli Dinner Benefit

The FROGS invite everyone to come to a benefit Chili Dinner on Sunday March 18, in the fellowship hall. Noon to 3pm. Come join us for some fun for a good cause.

Adults \$5.00, children 6-12 \$3.00 and all under 6 free.

You will chili, cornbread, beverage, and 2 cookies. This ticket will also get you a free chance for the green FROG raffle basket.

Advance tickets can be purchased from any FROG.



For those that are curious as to what the Frogs stand for:

**Forever
Rely
On
God's
Support**

Continued from page 1...

we are now at the present moment in history and what it is we understand God is calling us to be." It is the task of *developing the vision* to which a congregation is being called.

Shifts of Power and Leadership Changes In most congregations over a long period, the leadership begins to take on much of the style and values of the current pastor. When that pastor leaves, there is often a time when laypersons, who have been in leadership, rethink their commitment and determine whether or not they want to continue in leadership positions. Other persons often find the interim time an opportunity to take leadership roles. This is a good time to welcome leadership gifts from all parts of the congregation.

Rethinking Denominational Linkages Congregations often are not aware of the support and resources they receive from their denominations. The transition time can help raise the awareness of the congregation to its denominational heritage, ministries, and resources.

Commitment to New Leadership and to a New Future When a congregation has developed a shared vision of its future and has sought to call a pastor to help lead it in moving into that future, there will probably be a new commitment both to that new leader and to that new future.

Other tasks of Interim Ministry include:

- Reduce the Level of Anxiety - Fear of the Unknown It has been my experience that there is a great mixture of grief, loss, and despair early in a transition period. The task is to rebuild trust and reaffirm that there is life after "whoever went before" or "whatever happened before." I call this the task of "this too will pass." There will be a new day ahead.
- Attention to Stewardship/Financial Matters The interim period is an opportune time to review assumptions about stewardship and financial support for the church. It is also a good time to examine the procedures for handling finances..
- Training in Leadership Skills Interim time is a great time to train volunteers so that their gifts and skills may contribute to the ministry and mission of the church. It is also a time to help people understand the dynamics of change and conflict resolution skills so that they are better able to deal with change and conflict in the future.
- Focus on Spiritual Needs of Membership There is a spiritual hunger often, among the congregations to recapture spiritual power that comes from Bible study and prayer. The transitional period is an excellent time to engage the membership in discerning God's will for the congregation and for individual members.

We have a strong transition team in place to guide us through the next year, and put the church in a good position as we go forward. If you have any ideas or comments on how we can best move into the future, please feel free to contact me or one of the team representatives:

Joan Acri	Stu Hitchcock
Shawn Andrews	Jennifer LaLime
Bobby Collins	Teresa McKinney
Richard Davidson	Bill Ruggles

I am encouraged by the work that we have already begun. I hope you will join with us as we prepare for the future!
In Christ,
Pastor Gaye

Gaye

Drop-In Tuesday Lunch

Bring a sandwich and join Gaye for lunch in the parlor as we discuss next Sunday's scripture lesson. Lunch's will continue every Tuesday at noon except for the last Tuesday of every month when the Lunch Bunch meets.

All are welcome!



Thank you! "Sock It To Me"

The Breakfast Ops Group would like to thank you all for your generous donation of socks for our "Sock It To Me" collection.

We can always count on you to "Be for the World the Body of Christ, Reaching out to help those in need."



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER March 2, 2012

There will be a service held at 11:00am at St James Church in North Jackson. This will be followed by a light lunch in their social hall. All are welcome to come and participate in this world wide event!

They welcome any help, food, or desserts and could also use some volunteers to read scripture.

You can call Betty Byram to get more information on this program 330-559-5561; or you can call Katherine Keener to help with food or to help get the social hall ready 330-507-1953.

Thank you in advance
Betty Byram & Katherine Keener



Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

Please remember to donate to our food pantry. Although we get most of our inventory from Second Harvest but there are still fees involved in order to receive our shipments. We are serving an average of 80 families a month; this is the highest number ever. Monetary donations can be given to First Federated Church and marked "for food pantry". You can also donate on our web site.

www.firstfederatedchurch.net

FINANCE TEAM REPORT:

Financial Report – General Fund

YTD thru January 31, 2012:

Income	\$ 12,090.06
Expense	\$ 10,988.32
Surplus	\$ 1,101.74

Sunday Morning Coffee:

If you enjoy the coffee and treats on Sunday mornings, please consider supporting this ministry by placing donations in the glass jar on the counter. This will help us to keep the welcoming center a strong and vibrant part of Sunday mornings.

Scout Sunday, February 19

Boy Scout Troop 105 will conduct both services on this Sunday.

Ash Wednesday, February 22

We will hold Ash Wednesday service at 7 pm this evening.

Thank you to all that attended our “Souper Sunday”, we had a wonderful turnout with lots of delicious soups and sides!

Fellowship Hall

As we get closer to summer the hall starts getting booked for graduation parties. If you are planning any church events PLEASE contact the church office before setting dates to make sure the hall is not booked.

Please do not leave clothing at the church unless we have a specific request.

-Donations of canned goods are greatly appreciated for our food pantry “Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard”.

Unfortunately we cannot take clothing donations as we do not have the space. Occasionally we find out about a family in need and ask for clothing but right now we do not need any.

Recycle Bins

There are a few blue recycle bins in the hallway, two for paper (bulletins) and one for plastic bottles or cans. Please remember the Styrofoam coffee cups are not recyclable, there is a trash can at the far end of the counter by the parlor door for those. Thank you for helping keep our welcome area neat and tidy.



At a Glance

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENT

Feb 19	Scout Sunday	
Feb 21	Pancake Dinner (Shrove Tuesday)	5:30pm to 7pm
Feb 21	Girl Scouts	6:00pm
Feb 22	Friendship Ops	2:00pm
Feb 22	Ash Wednesday Service	7:00pm
Feb 23	Unload Truck for Pantry	9:30am
Feb 23	Church Council Meeting	6:00pm
Feb 25	Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard	10am to Noon
Feb 28	Lunch Bunch	11:30am

Girl Scouts use the youth center every other Tuesday.
AA meets every Sun. night in the Fellowship Hall at 8pm
NA (narcotics anonymous) meet Monday Nights at 7pm in the church basement.
Cub Scout meetings are every Monday at 6pm.
Boy Scouts Meet weekly on Tuesdays, at 7pm
Church Choir meets Wednesday’s at 8pm

February 2012 - March 2012

February 2012							March 2012						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 12 9:30am 10:30am Contemporary Service 11:00am 12:00pm Traditional Service 8:00pm 9:00pm AA (FH)	13 6:00pm 7:30pm Cub Scouts (basement) 6:30pm 9:00pm NA Meetings	14 Valentine's Day 12:00pm 1:00pm Drop In Lunch 7:00pm 8:00pm Boy Scouts (youth center)	15 6:30pm 8:00pm Pot Luck/Living the Questions (Fellowship Hall) 8:00pm 9:00pm Choir (Sanctuary)	16	17	18 6:00pm 9:00pm Blue & Gold Banquet
19 Scout Sunday 9:30am 10:30am Contemporary Service 11:00am 12:00pm Traditional Service 8:00pm 9:00pm AA (FH)	20 6:00pm 7:30pm Cub Scouts (basement) 6:30pm 9:00pm NA Meetings	21 Shrove Tuesday 12:00pm 1:00pm Drop In Lunch 5:30pm 7:00pm Pancake/Sausage Din 6:00pm 7:30pm Girl Sco 7:00pm 8:00pm Boy Sco	22 2:00pm 3:00pm Friendship Ops 7:00pm 8:00pm Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary) 8:00pm 9:00pm Choir (Sanctuary)	23 9:30am 10:00am Unload Truck	24	25 10:00am 12:00pm MHC
26 9:30am 10:30am Contemporary Service 11:00am 12:00pm Traditional Service 8:00pm 9:00pm AA (FH)	27 6:00pm 7:30pm Cub Scouts (basement) 6:30pm 9:00pm NA Meetings	28 11:30am 1:00pm Lunch Bunch 7:00pm 8:00pm Boy Scouts (youth center)	29 6:30pm 8:00pm Pot Luck/Living the Questions (Fellowship Hall) 8:00pm 9:00pm Choir (Sanctuary)	Mar 1	2	
4 9:30am 10:30am Contemporary Service 11:00am 12:00pm Traditional Service 8:00pm 9:00pm AA (FH)	5 6:00pm 7:30pm Cub Scouts (basement) 6:30pm 9:00pm NA Meetings	6 6:00pm 7:30pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm 7:30pm Spiritual Life 7:00pm 8:00pm Boy Scouts (youth center) 7:00pm 8:00pm Trustees	7 6:30pm 8:00pm Pot Luck/Living the Questions (Fellowship Hall) 8:00pm 9:00pm Choir (Sanctuary)	8 9:30am 10:30am Unload Truck	9	10 10:00am 12:00pm MHC
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Feb 12 - 18

Feb 19 - 25

Feb 26 - Mar 3

Mar 4 - 10

Mar 11 - 17

First Federated Church

10786 Mahoning Avenue
North Jackson, OH 44451

www.firstfederatedchurch.net

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US POSTAGE PAID
NORTH JACKSON, OH 44451
PERMIT #5

God is still speaking,



February 2012

SERVICE TIMES

CONTEMPORARY

9:30AM

TRADITIONAL

11:00AM

CHURCH PHONE

330-538-3936

EMAIL:

Pastor Gaye Santoro

ffcpastor@neo.rr.com

330-807-9201

Mary Sue McKinney

ffcsecretary@neo.rr.com



Our Prayers in January:

John Bachinger, Cathy Bartek, Billijo Byram, Tom Colwell, Gina Johns, Don Johnson, Marcia Kopey, Beth Lelo, Rod Lutes, Tom & Joy Murray, Shirley Ocheltree, Lucas Persing, Terry Raeburn, Mary Riebe, Dale Sewall, June Stas, Joel Straley.(you may add anyone to the prayer list by calling or emailing the church.)

Lunch Bunch

The next get together of the Lunch Bunch will be Tuesday, Feb 28, 11:30am. If you have any questions call Phoebe at 330-538-3126.

Friendship Ops

Their next meeting is, Wednesday Feb 22 at 2:00pm, in the church parlor.

Pastor Gaye's Office Hours

Pastor Gaye will be in the church office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 12 to 4pm or by appointment. Her email is: ffcpastor@neo.rr.com and her cell phone number is 330-807-9201. Please feel free to stop in the church office or to call her on the phone.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday's from 9AM-12Noon, & Tuesday through Thursday Mary Sue is in the office from 8am to 1:00pm