

CORNERSTONE

Westfield Presbyterian Church

February 2012

“...for I am sending Christ to be the precious Cornerstone of my church...” Peter 2:6

Waterlines: Linking Water and People

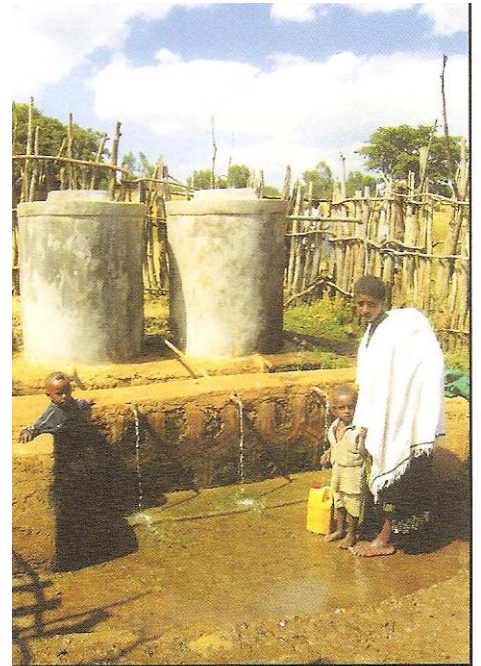
Nearly one billion people in developing countries lack safe drinking water, and 2.6 billion have no access to adequate sanitation. Contaminated water and poor sanitation cause 80% of disease in the developing world and lead to the deaths of 4,500 children each day. Without adequate water and sanitation, other development efforts—to reduce malnutrition and poverty, to improve girls’ education and environmental sustainability—are often in vain.

Initially composed of volunteers from Santa Fe, New Mexico, WATERLINES now involves dozens of men and women in the US and abroad who offer their expertise in water supply, engineering, construction, or rural development.

WATERLINES works primarily with gravity-flow drinking-water projects, rainwater-catchment tanks, and spring protections. In certain school projects WATERLINES also sponsors construction of latrines and hygiene education in a complete WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) program.

WATERLINES remains an all-volunteer organization. Technical volunteers who work abroad are reimbursed for travel and in-country expenses. All contributions to WATERLINES go toward the drinking water and sanitation projects themselves.

Drinking-water projects range from \$3,000 to \$15,000. The typical rainwater-catchment tank for a primary school in Kenya will cost \$3,000, while a typical gravity-flow system bringing springwater down to a rural Panamanian village will cost \$8,000 for the spring box, several kilometers of tubing, holding tank, distribution lines and faucets.

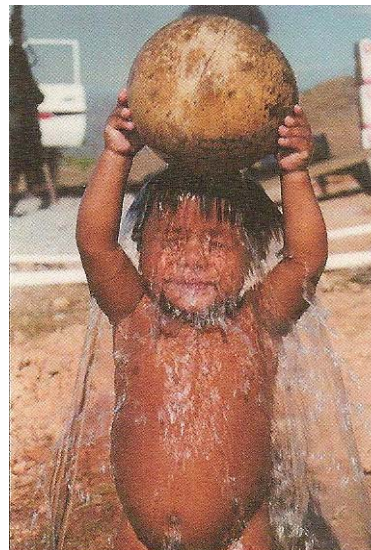


Spring protection, Ethiopia

Each community contributes in labor, materials, and funding 25% of the total cost to build the system. The success or failure of an effort hinges on the members of the community involved. WATERLINES’ initial ability to work in a certain area depends upon the invitation of the community itself, a clearly

drafted proposal from a local water committee, commitment by community members to perform labor and raise a portion of the cost, and long-term agreement to keep the water system maintained.

In 2011, Westfield supported WATERLINES with a \$1000 gift that is being used for spring protections in Ethiopia. To learn more, visit www.waterlines.org.



Water arriving for the first time in a Panamanian village

The Cross of Christ

by Bob Bardeen

During the Sundays in Lent, February 26 (First Sunday in Lent) to April 8 (Easter Sunday), the cross of Jesus Christ will be our subject, our thought, and our prayer.

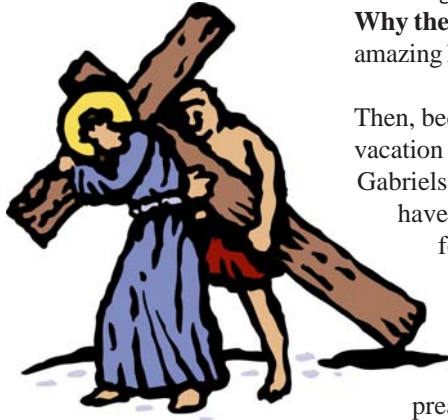
I will begin with an overview on February 26—**Why the Cross of Christ?**—using Paul’s amazing hymn of Christ in Philippians 2:5-11.

Then, because Joyce and I will be taking vacation time in California to meet Havilah Gabrielson, our newest granddaughter who we have not yet met, and attend a baby shower for James and Regan Bardeen in Los Angeles, we will have pulpit supply for the next two Sundays. Keith Breuer, chair of the Youth Committee and teacher of the Library Class, will preach on March 4, and David Champ our new Director of Youth and Family Ministry will preach on March 11—using that same theme, **The Cross of Christ**.

Questions can be asked! Why did Jesus have to die? What does the death of Christ accomplish? Why did God abandon Jesus on the cross so that he felt forsaken? What does the cross mean for us today? Did Jesus know he was going to die on the cross? Why the cross of Christ? What does the cross of Christ have to do with me?

And the good news is this: the Lord will supply all of the answers to our questions as we study scriptures and depend upon the Spirit of God to help us understand and apply truth to our lives.

So, come to church and worship God this Lent! Discover and learn about the central teaching of the church: Christ died for our sins!



Preaching In February

5 *What Fruit Is in Your Basket?*
Galatians 5:1-26

12 *How Should We Live?*
Galatians 6:1-18

19 *What Have We Learned from the Journey?*
Book of Galatians

Lent Sermon Series:
The Cross of Christ

26 First Sunday in Lent
Why the Cross of Christ?
Philippians 2:5-11



TriBoard Meeting Set

A meeting for all Elders, Deacons and Trustees will be held on Thursday, February 23 at 7:30 P.M.



Lent is a Time for Repentance

Repentance is the process by which we see ourselves, day by day, as we really are: sinful, needy, dependent people. It is the process by which we see God as He is: awesome, majestic and holy.

—Charles Colson
in *From Against the Night: Living in the New Dark Age*



Welcome Our Newest Members

Victoria Hopper
Jamey Stivers
David Champ



Help Fill Our Cup!

There is no better way to share warmth and kindness than to offer a hot cup of coffee on a cold winter day. Each winter, the City Rescue Mission serves thousands of cups of coffee to those seeking shelter and warmth. One way we can help care for the hurting and homeless is by donating coffee.

The Mission and Outreach committee is asking for your donations from now until the middle of February. You can donate any type of ground coffee. Just look for the coffee pot in the back of the church to place your donations.

The City Rescue Mission hopes to collect 750 pounds of coffee for these winter months.

Leap Into a New Year!

by Phyllis McCullough for Fellowship & Membership

The Fellowship & Membership Committee is taking a flying leap into the New Year! Our committee welcomes some new faces—John Long, Marcy McClymonds, Spencer Renner, Marian Spieker, and Roseanne Whiting along with those who have already been serving on the committee—Janet Davis, Phyllis McCullough, Chester Mace, Becky Summers, Darin Ernst and Amanda McDowell. All under the fearless leadership of Janet Wigg.



We hope you'll jump right in and join us as we plan activities throughout the year for all ages! Our goal is to create a family atmosphere within our church where we get to know each other and build new friendships as well as strengthen the old through a variety of activities.

Potluck Dinner!

Our first opportunity for all of you, is to join us for our Pot Luck dinner right after worship on Sunday, February 26. We will have a Leap Year theme so no telling what all that might entail! Bring a yummy dish or two to share along with your own place setting. We'll provide the drinks, set-up & clean-up. Go ahead, take a flying leap of your own and invite someone new to join you! Don't have anyone to invite? Then be brave and sit with someone you've never sat with before. Take a leap of faith that you'll have it in your heart to make a new friend this year! Our Pot Luck dinner is a good place to start!



During February and March please bring **CANNED FRUIT** for our Project HOPE community food bank. Items may be left in the labeled boxes in the coat rack area.

**"Be devoted to one another
in brotherly love.
Honor one another
above yourselves."**

—Romans 12:10 (NIV)

YO! Family Super Bowl Party Highlights February Events

by David Champ for the Youth Committee and Youth Team

Just to give you all an update on what has been going on with YO! We have continued our curriculum series and are focusing on how Christ has redeemed us from sin and what that means to each of us as a Church as well as individuals. We also just had a bowling day on Sunday, January 15 as well as a Steeler Playoff party Sunday, January 8. Both were an awesome time of fellowship and a time centered around the Lord.



In February we will have a Super Bowl party over at the Grange for the youth as well as their families. We want to emphasize the family aspect of ministry as a team and we think this is a great opportunity to do so. We ask each family to bring a side dish to share and to RSVP by Sunday, January 29. This is so we know that we have enough food for everyone!

We will have more information on this year's events and activities in next month's *Cornerstone*, and if you have any questions, just ask David Champ: youth@westfieldchurch.org or 724-747-9144.

Christian Symbols The Number "40"

This number appears many times in Scripture, often indicating a time of trial or testing, or simply marking something significant. It rained 40 days and nights during the Great Flood.



Israel wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Jesus fasted for 40 days and was with the disciples for 40 days between his resurrection and ascension. Taking this symbolic number to heart, the Christian church has long observed 40 days of Lent (not counting Sundays).



What's So Amazing About Grace?

by David Champ

During the summer I read Philip Yancey's book, *What's so Amazing about Grace?* Yancey, at times, can be wrong theologically, but in this book I thought he was pretty good. Like anyone, you need to read him with caution because he isn't Holy and inerrant like Scripture is. He starts off talking about how we all know that there is grace and claim to know what it means, but do we really?

I'm often convicted by this thought: *What is grace?* I know I receive it through Jesus Christ from God the Father, but do I know what it is. I probably could give a good theological definition of it, but does that mean I truly know what it means?

Grace isn't knowing the most Scripture, knowing the answers in Sunday School, tithing 10%, going to church. While all these things are good and I encourage them, that's not what grace is. So what is grace? It's such a useful word and is used all the time, but what is it? (If you haven't noticed yet, I really am trying to make you think about this)

Grace, simply put, is receiving something you don't deserve. Grace comes in many forms. It can be life in Jesus Christ (which I definitely do not deserve) but it also can be owning a car, a house, having good health and, quite frankly, just living. Period. God breathed into us His breath and created us in His image. Talk about grace! I don't deserve to be made in the image of God and yet I am. I don't deserve life in Jesus Christ and yet, "while we [I] were still sinners, Christ died for us [me]." (Romans 5:8)



Chasin' the Masons...to Thailand

From Kevin Mason

I leave today for Thailand and southern Asia. Our approach is to join two or more entities, who will share resources, to achieve a missional objective. I am participating in our United World Mission Asia Conference. I'll also give a devotional which links in to our theme of being people who delight God and surprise the world. This is an important time as we are getting our Global Partnerships team off the ground. By the way, our meetings last month produced unified vision, purpose and definition!

Following my time at our Asia Conference in Thailand, I'll travel to another country in south Asia. UWM has partnered with a group of church planters with gratifying results: more than 250 churches planted and many of these among unreached minority groups. I'll be

meeting with some of the leaders of this group to determine how we might continue to work together

Prayer Points

1. Pray for Wendy's health to remain strong.
2. Pray for me to hear God's voice and respond obediently to whatever He asks of me.
3. Pray for open doors to create new partnerships which encourage outreach and church planting initiatives.
4. Pray for safety and "street smarts" as a colleague and I travel together in southern Asia.
5. Pray for effective communication with our Asian partners (English can be limited).



Joan Byers
at her residence

Marie Carlton
at her residence

Alice Fullerton
at her residence

Doris Williams
Edison Manor

Fern Winter
Shepherd of the Valley



Thankful for God's Provision

from Dan Scheel in Ethiopia

Our New Year has gotten off to a good start. We were able to attend SIM Ethiopia's Spiritual Life Conference Jan 2-6 at Sodere, Ethiopia. What a wonderful time with most of SIM Ethiopia in attendance and great Bible teaching from the lives of the good kings of Judah.

We have an answer to prayer we want to share with you! Just before Christmas our son, Alan, was able to secure a good job in Dallas, TX as an inspector of concrete at large, multi-story building sites. He has moved from Arkansas to Dallas to be close to his new work and his girlfriend, Megan. We are so thankful for God's provision for him. Thank you to all who have been praying for Alan.

Our daughter Andrea will be getting married May 12th. Our present plan is to return to the USA to be home in plenty of time prior to the wedding to be of help, then after the wedding to start the remainder of our home assignment.

As we get ready for departure, we urgently need to find a nurse administrator to cover Kim's place at the clinic. So our big prayer request is that in some miraculous way God would lead us to the person of His choosing to fill the position. In addition to a nurse administrator, it looks like we will be looking for a new lab technician. So we need prayer for his replacement as well. Thanks for praying with us for another couple of miracles!

Tomorrow morning we welcome the first arrivals of another short term team from Charlotte, NC. Pray for this team, for health, safety and good opportunities to minister in Langanjo. Pray too that they are able to get the needed tools and other items into the country without undue hassle or high custom costs. And pray that great strides can be made on the clinic addition while they are here in Ethiopia, so Dan is able to finish it by April.

February

2012



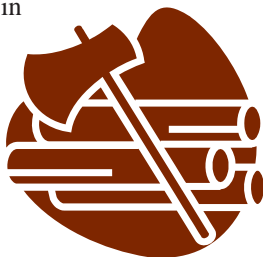
Women's Bible Study Blessed Are the Merciful by Joyce Bardeen

Lesson 5 begins the second half of our Beatitudes study, in which we turn even more from our attitude to God to our attitude to our fellow human beings, beginning with mercy. Jesus calls his disciple and us to imitate God by showing mercy through emotion, action, and dedication. Jesus teaches that those who are merciful will experience the compassion, intervention, and dedication of the God of mercy. Our God is a merciful God and shows mercy continuously; the citizens of his kingdom must show mercy too.

All women are invited to join together at 10:30 A.M. on Tuesday, February 21 for study and lunch following.

Firewood Available

The logging is finally completed on the church property across from Herman Cvetan's lane. There are a large number of down tree tops that will make great firewood. The Trustees are permitting church members to cut the firewood. You will be FULLY RESPONSIBLE for yourself and anyone you bring in to help you. Please, be very careful—cut only the wood that is already down, not any standing trees. You are not required to clean up the brush.



Blankets for Babies Sewing Day is February 25



The annual Blankets for Babies Sewing Day will be held Saturday, February 25, from 9:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. in the Fellowship hall. Once again our goal is 100 receiving blankets for the clinic at Langano, Ethiopia where Dan and Kim Scheel serve with SIM, and at least 15 baby quilts for the Nurse-Family Partnership in New Castle.

Sewers and non-sewers alike are welcome and needed...there is a job for everyone! Sewers, please bring your own sewing machine, power cord, basic sewing supplies, and thread. Everyone, please bring your own lunch. Snacks to share are welcome, but not required. We could also use perle cotton for tying the baby quilts.

If you have questions, call:
Joyce Bardeen 724-667-0385 or 724-971-2837 or
Kay Harman 724-667-8560.

High school students receive community service credit for helping at this event.



From a church bulletin in Big Pine Key, Florida:

TONIGHT

Join us this evening immediately following the Sunday evening worship service for finger snakes in the fellowship hall. We look forward to having you join us.

Did the snakes *snack* on fingers?



The Cornerstone is a monthly publication of Westfield Presbyterian Church.

Our print version is available though the church office.

We worship together every Sunday at 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:45 A.M.

We welcome all members, friends, and visitors to join us.

Please send any comments, questions, or address corrections to:

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Next Publication Deadline:
February 29, 2012