



Not your Ordinary Newsletter. . . Not Your Ordinary Church



Valentine's Day is coming !!! Celebrate on Sunday, February 10th in the PCJH Lobby - Our 4th ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF GOD'S LOVE. Please bring in labeled pictures of people, pets or places you love; hobbies; activities . . anything that God has blessed you with that is a result of His love for YOU! Feel free to drop off pictures, etc. BEFORE Feb 10th so that our 8:15am church family can share in your joy as well. Thank you ALL for being a part of this fun fellowship. This is another way for all of us to get to know a little bit more about you.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

The Mission Team is pleased to share with you that, once again, you have been a most generous congregation in reaching out to those in need. We received a total of \$3219.00 for our Christmas Joy Offering!

This Special Offering has been forwarded to the Presbyterian Church (USA) - our "national office" - for the traditional distribution. Half goes to the Board of Pensions to assist retired pastors in times of special need, and half to the seven ethnic/racial schools and colleges founded, and long supported by the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Again, we are grateful for your generosity.
THANK YOU !! - The Mission Team

Greetings Everyone,

I am writing this to you from Park City where I am attending the Sundance Film Festival. I was invited to attend by one of our members, Barbara Carlberg, who sits on the Board of Trustees for Fuller Seminary. Through Wind Rider Forum, Fuller runs a program focusing on film and faith. I am joining with 150 others, primarily college and seminary students, who are viewing films and then dialoging with producers and directors as to where faith fits in.

The premise of this study is that one of the most powerful tools through which a message can be delivered is through story. Our first film was a documentary about Jeremy Lin now the starting point guard for the Houston Rockets. This inspirational story incorporated the hopes, dreams, and hard work of a first generation Chinese immigrant family as they made their place in America and passionately pursued their dreams. Lin, a brilliant student, had hoop dreams, played collegiate ball at Harvard, and through a long and difficult journey, ended up in professional basketball. His faith was a significant part of his journey during times of despair, injury, rejection, and then success. Inspiring and Joyful.

Another movie was Life According to Sam, the documentary of a boy with an extremely rare disease that causes rapid aging and the fight of his two physician parents to find a treatment with hope of a cure. Sam and his family SKYPED with the audience after the movie. What was incredible in this story was not only the brilliant people committed to searching for a cure but the resiliency

and spirit of the children with the disease. In the midst of knowing the potential of their premature death, they lived life with joy, hope, and love. This Jewish family knew that no God would cause this type of illness. I sensed they knew they were teaming up with God to find a cure. Powerful.

Story telling. Maybe this is why the Bible has lasted so long. Yes, there is great theology in the pages of scripture. Yes, there is great wisdom about how to live and the consequences for when we do and when we don't. Yes, the teachings have been passed down generation to generation so we might "hide God's word in our hearts so we might not sin against God." But much of this theology and wisdom and teaching is embedded within the stories on the pages of the Bible. Of course, the story of our Lord's birth, life, death, and resurrection is at the center and continues to change lives today.

Stories. The greatest power in a story is when it not only conveys a message but draws us in and touches us deeply. As Christians, we have the privilege of not only telling the story of God's love for us through Jesus, but of also entering the story. Because Jesus is alive and has sent the Spirit to dwell within us, the story of God's activity continues in and through us right now. The forgiveness offered for our sin, the grace freely given from the heart of God's love is ours to receive and share. This year, as we begin to walk with Jesus to the cross on Ash Wednesday, may we relive his story in such a way that it changes us like never before.

Walking with you toward the Empty Tomb.
Pastor Paul

Walking through a Spiritual Desert

We are all on a faith journey. Sometimes our journey takes us through lush green meadows and beside quiet waters full of joy, peace and hope. Sometimes we have mountain top experiences where we can see clearly the way before us and all seems right with the world. At other times our journey takes us through a dry and arid land where we are thirsty for God in the midst of life's challenges and uncertainties. Some have described this place as a spiritual desert or the dark night of the soul. Others have described it as a place where one grows deeper in faith and reliance on God.

As many of you know, I began a sermon series last Sunday entitled *Walking through a Spiritual Desert*. I will continue preaching on this topic on into the first part of February. Here's an outline of the sermon series:

Silent Thirst – Sunday, January 27th

As we enter into a spiritual desert, it is usually marked by an incessant thirst for God. There comes a time in everyone's faith journey when our souls are parched and only God can satisfy. This spiritual state is often accompanied by the silence of God. We wonder where the Lord is in the midst of our thirst and trials. Why isn't God answering our prayers? We question whether God is truly listening and we wonder if God is going to intervene. We wonder why attending church and reading the Bible doesn't seem to fill us like it used to. Take heart! There is hope in the midst of this silent thirst. If you missed this Sunday's sermon, you can listen to it on our website at www.pcjh.org

Empty Mirage – Sunday, February 3rd

After some time wandering through a spiritual desert we often begin seeing things... but are they real or are they mirages? It seems that the Enemy looks for opportunities when we are weak and thirsty in order to try and deceive us with things that do not satisfy our thirst... things that leave us spiritually bankrupt and empty. The Israelites worshiped a golden calf in the midst of their desert experience. The pages of Scripture remind us about our tendency to worship idols instead of the living God. Jesus and the Apostle Paul warn us about false teachers. What are the 21st century mirages that distract us and keep us wandering in circles through the spiritual desert, empty of all spiritual nourishment? How do we know what's of God and what's not?

Thriving Oasis – Sunday, February 10th

In the third century, many Christians flocked to the deserts of Egypt and Syria to find God among the Desert Fathers and Mothers. The Lord was doing something mysterious and significant in the middle of these desolate lands! Often times, while we are walking through a spiritual desert, we come upon an oasis that is thriving with life. Many have found that these oasis' give them more nourishment than anywhere else on their faith journey. Sometimes in our darkest hour we grow the deepest in faith. Sometimes when we are in the middle of the desert we find life. This week we will look at the benefits of walking through a spiritual desert.

As you can see, there are three different aspects of a desert experience that I am highlighting in this sermon series. Usually we experience all three of these states at some point in time as we wander through a spiritual desert. The first two are difficult places to be spiritually, but the third is a profound and wonderful place, full of intimacy with God and immense spiritual growth.

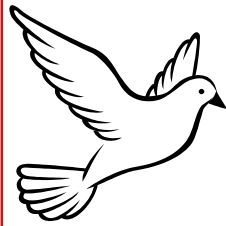
I hope this sermon series is meaningful to you and encourages you along your journey of faith. Please think of people you might know who would benefit from hearing these messages... and invite them to church!

This is what the LORD says: "Cursed are those who trust in mortals, who depend on flesh for their strength and whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes. They will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives. But blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit." -Jeremiah 17:5-8

Walking the road with you,

~Pastor Ben





Children, Youth & Family Newsletter

Save the Dates

February 3rd

- Confirmation Class with Pastor Ben at 9:00am
- **Super Bowl Sub Sale!** 9:00am to 12:00pm
- **Youth Group Snow Bowl!** 11:30am to 1:00pm. *No Youth Group at 4:30pm.*

February 6th

After School Wednesday
Rendezvous & MS Hangout.

February 10th

- Confirmation Class at 9:00am.
- Pastor Ben will hand out Prayer Pillows & cards to elementary aged children at the 10:15 Worship Service.
- HS Mission Trip Team meeting at 11:30am.
- MS/HS Youth Group, 4:30pm to 6:30pm

February 13th

After School Wednesday
Rendezvous & MS Hangout.

February 14th



Happy
Valentine's Day!

February 17th

- Confirmation Class at 9:00am.
- MS/HS Youth Group, 4:30pm to 6:30pm

February 20th

After School Wednesday
Rendezvous & MS Hangout.

February 24th

- Confirmation Class at 9:00am.
- **Children, Youth and Family Cookout & Skating party!** 4:30 to 6:30pm at the Rodeo Grounds ice rink. MS Youth will be co-hosts of this event. Contact Cindy Zabriskie for more information at 739-9591 or czabriskie@pcjh.org
- **HS Special Youth Group**, 4:30pm to 6:30pm at PCJH.

February 27th

After School Wednesday
Rendezvous & MS Hangout.

Children, Youth & Family Newsletter

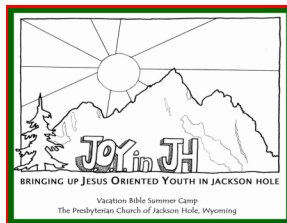
February 2013

Who was St. Valentine?

Saint Valentine was a Catholic priest who had also worked as a doctor. He lived in Italy during the third century AD and served as a priest in Rome. Historians don't know much about Valentine's early life. They pick up Valentine's story after he began working as a priest. Valentine became famous for marrying couples who were in love but couldn't get legally married in Rome during the reign of Emperor Claudius II, who outlawed weddings. Claudius wanted to recruit lots of men to be soldiers in his army and thought that marriage would be an obstacle to recruiting new soldiers; he also wanted to prevent his existing soldiers from getting married because he thought that marriage would distract them from their work. When Emperor Claudius discovered that Valentine was performing weddings, he sent Valentine to jail. Valentine used his time in jail to continue to reach out to people with the love that he said Jesus Christ gave him for others. He befriended his jailer, a man named Asterius, and Asterius became so impressed with Valentine's wisdom that he asked Valentine to help his daughter Julia with her lessons because Julia was blind and needed someone to read material for her to learn it. Valentine then became friends with Julia through his work with her when she came to visit him in jail. Emperor Claudius came to like Valentine, too, so he offered to pardon Valentine and set him free if Valentine would renounce his Christian faith and agree to worship the Roman gods. Not only did Valentine refuse to leave his faith, he also encouraged Emperor Claudius to place his trust in Christ. Valentine's faithful choices cost him his life. Emperor Claudius was so enraged at Valentine's response that he sentenced Valentine to die.



A Loving Letter Inspires Valentine's Day Messages Before he was killed, Valentine wrote a last note to encourage Julia to stay close to Jesus and to thank her for being his friend. He signed the note: "From your Valentine." That note inspired people to begin writing their own loving messages to people on Valentine's Feast Day -- February 14th -- which is celebrated on the same day on which Valentine was martyred. Valentine was beaten, stoned, and beheaded on February 14, 270. People who remembered his loving service to many young couples began celebrating his life, and he came to be regarded as a saint through whom God had worked to help people in miraculous ways. By 496, Pope Gelasius designated February 14th as Valentine's official feast day.



NEW this year... A daily program just for Middle & High School students!

Are you thinking about summer?

Jesus Oriented Youth in Jackson Hole

Summer Day Camp returns!

June 10th to August 23rd, 2013

Enrollment begins March 1st for PCJH members and regular attendees and March 11th for the community.

Contact Sarah Gensch for more information about summer at 739-9591 or JOY@pcjh.org

Little Lambs

Praise him, sun and moon, praise him all you shining stars!
Psalm 148:3



Well, the super cold weather got the best of us and though we weren't able to go to the Elk Refuge as planned, we were still able to do many fun activities and crafts here at school. We made "snowscapes" out of shaving cream and adorable paper plate penguins as we learned all about Antarctica. PCJH's very own Preston Gordon gave us an amazing slide show presentation about his recent trip to Antarctica too! We learned about some of the animals we have living here in North America as well as the various animals in Africa and Australia too. We love learning about our world! In February we are looking forward to cross country skiing with Scott McGee at Snow King and learning our new bible verse: "**How wide and high and long and deep is the love of Christ.**" Ephesians 3:18.

Also, please stay tuned as our Little Lambs fall 2013-2014 registration will be in early March! Please contact me at eabel@pcjh.org or 307-734-0388 ext. 111 for more information. Love ~ Mrs. Erin



Youth



Save the Date!
The 30 Hour Famine will be
March 8th -9th.

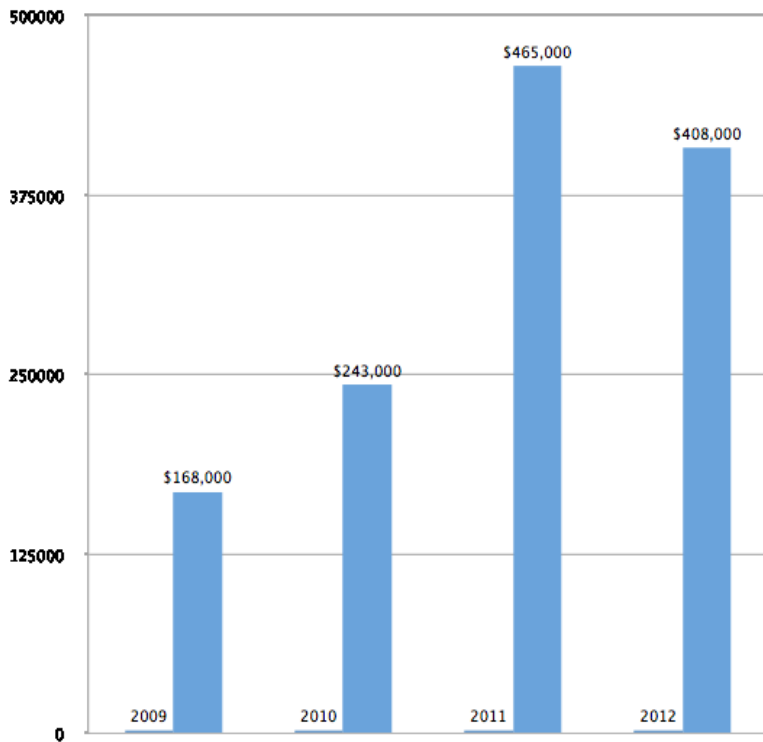
- ☺ **SUPER BOWL SUB SALE FUNDRAISER**
February 3rd ~ 9:00am to 12:00pm
- ☺ **YOUTH GROUP "SNOW BOWL" FOOTBALL**
February 3rd after church 11:30am to 1:00pm.
No Youth Group at 4:30pm!
- ☺ **YOUTH GROUP** meets, February 10 and 17
4:30pm to 6:30pm at PCJH.
- ☺ **HS MISSION TRIP TEAM MEETING** February
10th after church at 11:30am.
- ☺ **COOKOUT & SKATING PARTY!** MS students
are co-hosts of this event and will join PCJH
Families at The Rodeo Grounds ice rink.
February 24th 4:30 to 6:30pm
- ☺ **HS ONLY YOUTH GROUP SPECIAL NIGHT.**
February 24th 4:30pm to 6:30pm at PCJH.

Mid Week Rendezvous

Quilting with
Barb!

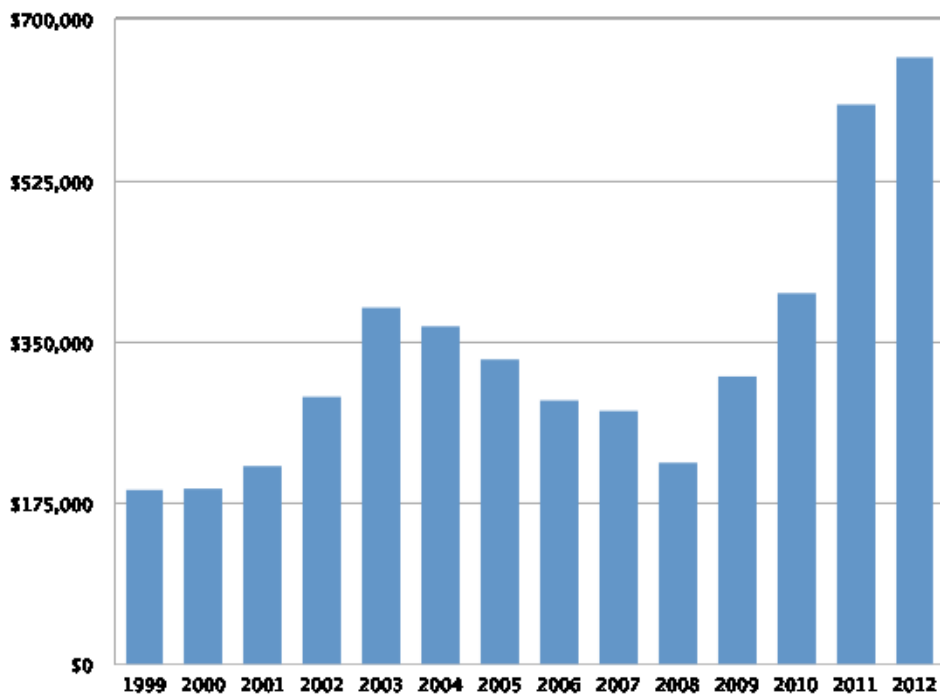
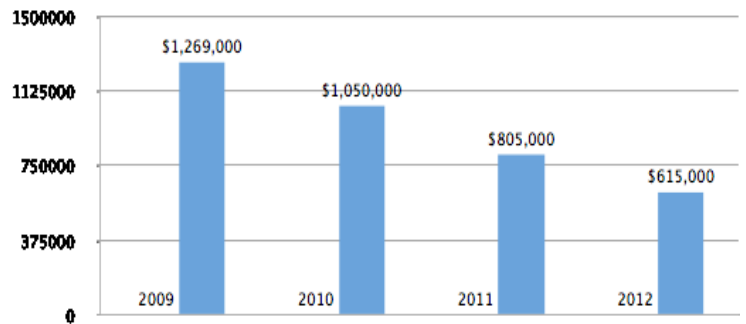


The Wednesday Rendezvous crew has been working on quilts for the Oncology department at St. John's Medical Center since January 16th. This has been the perfect indoor activity since the temperatures outside have been frigid! We hope to deliver 8 quilts by Valentine's Day. Many hands make light work!
~ Mrs. Cindy



Presbyterian Church of PCJH General Fund Cash Balance at Year End

Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole Building Expansion Long Term Debt at Year End



Presbyterian Church of PCJH Year End General Fund Reserves

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW FINANCIAL RESULTS

This was another tremendous year for the Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole. God continues to bless all of our Ministry and Mission programs. Pastor Paul led a well attended adult education class on World Religions, and also had a great summer sermon series "Secular Music...Sacred Message." Pastor Ben taught a well attended adult education class on the After Life, and also expanded the post-college intern program. The Mission Team continued the highly successful Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners for the community (serving over 6400 meals), and expanded its reach to include the developing village of Tiera Nueva through Agros International and led two adult mission trips to this village in Nicaragua. And the list of God's blessing goes on and on.

These successes are also reflected in our financial results. Once again, God has also financially blessed PCJH. Thanks be to Him! Thanks also to our congregation, volunteers and staff for your extraordinary support.

The financial results for this past year were outstanding! Everyone did their part - the congregation stepped up with offerings that exceeded budget (+\$20,000), volunteers increased other revenues through the Fine Furniture and other sales (+\$5,000) and the staff contributed by holding expenses well below budget (-\$51,000). All together, we were able to turn a planned operating deficit into a significant positive result, adding to our General Fund operating reserves.

The following table summarizes the results:

	<u>2012</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2012</u> <u>Budget</u>	Favorable (Unfavorable) vs. Budget
REVENUE			
Offerings	\$ 920,000	\$900,000	\$20,000
Other Revenue	<u>82,000</u>	<u>77,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,002,000	\$977,000	\$25,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ <u>988,000</u>	\$ <u>1,039,000</u>	\$ <u>51,000</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE)			
IN GENERAL FUND RESERVES	\$ 14,000	(\$62,000)	\$76,000 (better than budget)
	=====	=====	=====

The accompanying graph illustrates the changes in our "Year End General Fund Reserves" for the past 13 years. These reserves represent our "rainy day fund" and the cash set aside (now over \$264,000) to fund our maintenance reserve, in order to accumulate cash in advance of its requirement for major repairs and maintenance projects such as a new roof or repaving the parking lot. Reserves went down during the years of construction to expand the Church facility, but have grown substantially these last three years.

Our "cash on hand" has also grown significantly, from \$168,000 at the end of 2009 to over \$408,000 now.

One significant financial challenge remains - debt. We still have \$615,000 of debt payable to "outsiders" remaining from the recent expansion of our Church facilities. Our "Debt Payoff Campaign" is in full swing. We have paid down over \$654,000 in debt during the past 30 months. We also have pledges to cover some of the remaining debt. Thank you for your support of our Debt Payoff Campaign!

Just a reminder that you can use your credit card to make contributions to the church by going to www.pcjh.org
Article prepared jointly by your PCJH Finance and Stewardship Teams.



BLANKET SUNDAY

February 10, 2013

"Tools of Hope—BLANKETS
A Rainbow of Caring to Children and
Families the World Over"

One Blanket for \$5 --- Two for \$10 ---
Five for \$25!!

\$15 can provide a hoe, shovel and rake
for a rural family!



Your TOOLS OF HOPE AND BLANKET GIFTS make a world of difference for millions of people at home and around the globe who find themselves without basic necessities due to a natural or man-made disaster. CHURCH WORLD SERVICE, of which Presbyterian Church (USA) is a member, uses Tools of Hope and the Blanket Program funds to purchase and quickly ship blankets and other relief aid to areas of need. When possible, the tools and blankets are purchased closer to the scene of a disaster to speed delivery AND to spur local economics. Blankets not only keep people warm, they also provide shelter, privacy and are a means of carrying children, or transporting meager household goods. Tools of Hope can help a family help itself, and include family shelter kits, emergency medical supplies, food, water, cooking utensils, gardening tools, health and school kits, and other essentials.

We invite you again this year on FEBRUARY 10th, to participate in this one of four special offerings of PCJH. You may designate this gift of love "IN APPRECIATION OF" or "IN MEMORY OF" a loved one. We enclose a special envelope for your offering in the Sunday Bulletin. You may fill out the form attached to the envelope if you wish to dedicate your gift in honor or remembrance of a loved one. (Donations may be made payable to PCJH). On Sunday February 20th, the names of donors and those honored will be printed in our bulletin; the list will appear again in our PINNACLE.

To read more about this mission to those in dire need, see churchworldservice.org.

Donation Form

Given by ... (circle one)

In Appreciation/Memory of...

Checks may be payable to PCJH

Thank You

The Mission Committee

_____ One Blanket for \$5.00

_____ Two for \$10.00

_____ Five for \$25.00

The Pinnacle
The Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole
Box 7530
1251 South Park Loop Road
Jackson, WY 83002
Published Monthly
Issue #2-2013

Fine Furniture Sale on Saturday, May 18, 2013



Fine Furniture Sale Saturday, May 18th Volunteers, Donated Items and Buyers Needed

PCJH will have its fourth "Fine Furniture Sale" at 9am on Saturday, May 18 in the Church Fellowship Hall.

You can help! First, please donate items for the sale. Then, attend the sale and buy some great furniture and home furnishings at excellent prices. We also need volunteers to help with the sale and the set up on Friday, May 17th.

If you have some fine home furnishings to add to the upcoming sale, here are some guidelines:

Here's what we need: Bookcases, End tables, Living room chairs, Night stands, Area rugs, Floor and table lamps, Lamp shades, Dining tables and chairs, Dressers, Framed mirrors, Quality bed and bath linens "Crate & Barrel" style, table ware, Sets of dishes, glasses, flatware, Fine cookware, Accent pillows and better art pieces

Sorry, we cannot accept these

No televisions * No "too worn or torn" * No large TV wall units * No large desks * No fitness machines * No mattresses * No odds 'n ends of table service pieces

If you have items to donate (we can arrange pickup), please contact Ed Cheramy at 690-1245 or the Church office at 734- 0388. If you can volunteer to help with the sale on May 18th or the set up the sale on May 17th, please call Shirley Cheramy at 739-2157.

Funds raised will be used to support PCJH mission projects and Children, Youth & Family activities.

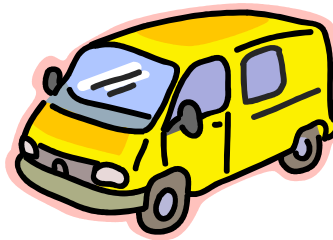
FEBRUARY Birthdays 2013

Garrett Nickell	February 1
Oliver Orchard	February 1
Lisle Hooper	February 2
Lesli Luther	February 4
Ralph Sternberg	February 4
Kathy Robertson	February 5
Sarah Walls	February 5
Kasey Carr	February 6
Don Harger	February 6
Cindy Dahlin	February 7
Christine Gunderman	February 8
Christy Walton	February 8
Gabe Robertson	February 9
Bill Ward	February 10
Mike Jackson	February 11
Grace Reuter	February 15
Charles Atwater	February 16
Alex Nye	February 17
Cate Watsabaugh	February 17
Lexi Carr	February 18
Cathy Blount	February 19
Gemma Ford	February 19
Joshua Frantz	February 19
Jack Wiley	February 20
Amy Lloyd	February 21
Jack Larimer	February 22
Betsy Forster	February 23
Debbie Schlinger	February 25
Claire Balliro	February 26
Cindi Jacobsen-Brinton	February 26
Will Andrews	February 27
Jillian Sheue	February 27
Lauren Windey	February 28

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES 2013

Larry & Paula Jorgenson	Feb 4	46 Years
Robert & Katie Carr	Feb 6	7 Years
Paul & Shirley Piper	Feb 14	20 Years
Richard and Tracy Mulligan	Feb 16	5 Years
Lloyd & Trudy Funk	Feb 23	20 Years
Ned & Amanda Pinkerton	Feb 23	39 Years

NEEDED for CYF Ministries: A new/or newer 15 passenger van.



Grief Support Group

If you are experiencing loss or grief in your life, know that you are not alone. Pastor Ben, in conjunction with the Stephen Ministers, are facilitating a series of weekly group sessions aimed at helping bring God's love and peace to those who are grieving for any reason. Sessions are held on Wednesdays from 5:15 to 6:15pm at PCJH. All in need are invited to participate in the support group at any time between now and March 20th. For more information, please contact the church office.

Worship at 9,000 feet



Pastor Ben is leading monthly worship services at the summit of the gondola at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort throughout the winter months. The gatherings will take place in the Cornice room upstairs near the Couloirs restaurant. Free sight-seeing gondola tickets will be available in guest services for anyone who wants to attend a service. For those who enjoy skiing or snowboarding, come on up and worship in your ski boots! After the service a group of people ski a few runs and then share lunch together. It's a great time of fellowship.

Sunday, February 17th at 9:30am
 Sunday, March 10th at 9:30am
 Easter Sunrise Service on March 31st

February 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 8:00 am Worship Service 9:00am Adult Bible Class 10:15am Worship Service 10:30am Children's Sunday School 11:30-1:00pm—Snow Bowl HS/MS Youth Group	4	5 12 Noon Women's Bible Study 1:30pm Staff	6 After school-6:15pm Mid- week Rendezvous 5:15 Adult Classes 6:15pm Dinner 7:00pm Choir 7:15pm Koinonia	7 12:00 Noon Men's Group at E. leaven	8	9 8:00am Men's Discussion Group PCJH Youth Lounge
10 8:00 am Worship Service 9:00am Adult Bible Class 10:15am Worship Service 10:30am Children's Sunday School 11:30am—HS Mission Trip Meeting 5:00pm—Youth Alliance	11	12 7:30 Stewardship 12 Noon Women's Bible Study 1:30pm Staff	13 After school-6:15pm Mid- week Rendezvous 5:15 Adult Classes 6:15pm Dinner 7:00pm Choir 7:15pm Koinonia	14 12:00 Noon Men's Group at E. leaven	15	16 8:00am Men's Discussion Group PCJH Youth Lounge
17 8:00 am Worship Service 9:00am Adult Bible Class 9:30am—Worship at the Summit of the Gondola 10:15am Worship Service 10:30am Children's Sunday School 11:30 Church Info Class 4:30-6:30pm MS /HS Youth	18 President's Day No Little Lambs	19 No Little Lambs 12 Noon Women's Bible Study 1:30pm Staff 4:00pm Finance Mtg 5:30pm Session Mtg	20 After school-6:15pm Mid- week Rendezvous 5:15 Adult Classes 6:15pm Dinner 7:00pm Choir 7:15pm Koinonia	21 12:00 Noon Men's Group at E. leaven	22	23 8:00am Men's Discussion Group PCJH Youth Lounge
24 8am Worship Service 9:00am Adult Bible Class 10:15am Worship Service 10:30am Children's Sunday School 4:40-6:30pm HS Youth Group 4:30-6:30pm CY&F Cookout & Skating Party	25	26 12 Noon Women's Bible Study 1:30pm Staff	27 After school-6:15pm Mid- week Rendezvous 5:15 Adult Classes 6:15pm Dinner 7:00pm Choir 7:15pm Koinonia	28 12:00 Noon Men's Group at E. leaven		

*The Presbyterian Church
Of Jackson Hole
P. O. Box 7530
1251 South Park Loop Road
Jackson, WY 83002
February 2013*

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #189
Jackson, WY
83002



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Mission of The Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole is

Passing on the Faith

as we Gather to love God;

GROW to know and follow Jesus; and

GO and make a difference.

*All are welcome and all are needed as we advance this significant mission for the
21st Century.*

www.pcjh.org