

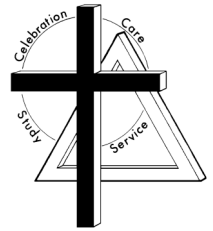
The Ambassador

Delta Presbyterian Church
6100 W. Michigan Ave
Lansing, MI 48917

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www.deltapres@sbcglobal.net



Inside this issue:

Words From Wendy Committee Structure	2
Cause to Rejoice! Delta Bits & Pieces	4
Ongoing Fund Raising Covenant Gathering	5
Deacon Salute Good Friday Service	6
Birthdays, Servants Deacon Retreat	7
Calendars	8,9
Looking Ahead	10

Upcoming Events:

- March 6
Communion
Change for Change
- March 7
Spiritual Life
- March 8
Shrove Tuesday Potluck
- March 13
Advent House
Daylight Saving Time Begins
- March 14
Mission
- March 16
Lenten Meal/Bible Study
- March 20
Personal Needs
- March 21
Deacons
Resources (Finance)
- March 23
Property
Lenten Meal/Bible Study
- March 24
Fourth Sunday Meal
- March 28
Session
- March 30
Lenten Meal/Bible Study

Close Encounters of the Christ Kind

Come and See! We will be doing some new and exciting things during Lent this year. We have brochures available that describe our Lenten program. Pick some up and give them to friends, inviting them to come and see what God is doing in and through us.

Come and See! Please join us, starting Sunday March 13 for **Close Encounters of the Christ Kind**. Sunday mornings will focus on the encounters that Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman, the man born blind and others had with Christ. On Wednesdays, we will focus on our own encounters with Christ as we consider John Ortberg's book, **The Me I Want to Be**. As we explore

the Bible together, it will have an impact, bring unity, and deliver growth.

Through our weekly experiences we hope to:

- Sense a deeper connection with God
- Find a growing sense of joy
- Discover an honest recognition of our brokenness
- Fear less and trust more

Our Wednesday Lenten Meal and Study begins on March 16, at either noon or 6:00 pm with a light meal of soup and bread. Each week we will explore an encounter with Jesus from a biblical story, and we hope that you will want to have your own close encounter of the Christ

kind this Lent. Help us with our planning by signing up at the Commitment Center, or by calling the church office. Let us know if you would attend at noon or in the evening. If you would like to use the companion book, you may purchase the book on your own (they are \$12.50 from Amazon.com) or you can have the church purchase the book for you. Just let us know. You do not have to attend all sessions or purchase the book to be involved.



Shrove Tuesday Potluck

Shrove Tuesday Potluck & Worship. Delta is again this year hosting the Shrove Tuesday Potluck and Worship for the Presbyterian congregations in the Lansing area. So mark your calendars for Tuesday, March 8, 6:00-8:00 pm, and share an evening of good comfort

food, fellowship, and faith. We are suggesting that the people from Delta bring main dishes to ensure that there will be enough entrees for everyone attending.

This year we will have the potluck in the sanctuary, so that we will have more room to accommodate our guests

and utilize one of our best assets, our sound and projection system.



Words From Wendy

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? Isaiah 43:9a

This month's Ambassador is full of change. To start with, we're distributing it a week late, and including two months of calendar. One of the session's top priorities for the year is communication, and our hope is that these changes to the Ambassador will strengthen our communication. I think everyone will agree that stronger communication is a good thing.

We are also going to have an elder attending deacon meetings and a deacon attending session meetings to improve communication and cooperation between the two boards.

You will read of changes to our committees, and plans

the deacons are making.

Change can be exciting and uncomfortable. Some of the things that will be happening are new ideas, and some are recycled. Some of the things we try will work, and some of them won't. We will keep the things that work, and change the things that don't work until we find things that do.

None of the changes are being made lightly, but grow from prayer and reflections as we seek to strengthen the ministry of Delta. The Sunday I candidated back in August, I invited you to come talk to me about your concerns (I'd like to hear your joys, too). Tell me what has worked in the past, and what hasn't. Tell me what you think will work now, and what you think is a

bad idea. Let me know what ideas you have for ways we can improve Christ's ministry here at Delta.

I continue to be excited about the opportunities God is opening up to us here. I ask you to pray for the session, deacons, committees (and me as pastor) as we continue to look for the new things God is doing here and use them to build Christ's ministry. If you see God at work in a new way, or have a suggestion to strengthen our ministry, please let us know. Just as important as our communication to you is your communication to the leadership.



Words
From
Wendy

Committee Restructuring

There are various versions of a story that is loved by us preacher-types as a wonderful sermon illustration. It goes something like this:

One day a young wife was preparing a roast for supper. Her husband watched as she carefully cut one end off of it and set it aside. Curious, he asked, "Why are you cutting that end off?"

She was surprised by the question, but responded, "That's

the way my mother always did it."

Of course this answer did not satisfy the young man, so the next time he saw his mother-in-law, he posed the same question to her, and was rather surprised when she gave him the same answer. Some months later, there was a family gathering at which all three generations of women were present. The husband,

still puzzled by this tradition in his wife's family, approached her grandmother and explained his puzzlement and the answer he had received from her daughter and granddaughter. He asked her, "Why do you cut the end off the roast before you cook it?"

Her response was straightforward, "I didn't have a pan big enough to hold the entire roast."



**NEW COMMITTEE
STRUCTURE**

Committee Restructuring (cont'd)

I'm sure you're not surprised to hear that the same thing happens in the church. Things that were done in response to a particular situation or need continue long after the situation or need that gave rise to them has vanished.

We are in the process of reworking our committees, and we are beginning by defining the purpose of each committee. Since session set the goal of strengthening our mission and encouraging spiritual growth this year, I'll begin with the changes we've made to those committees:

Mission: We have dropped outreach, which originally referred more to evangelism. We are still reaching out into the community with our mission efforts, but we are not expecting this committee to do the work of growing the church. The mission committee has adopted as its purpose statement:

Showing the love of Christ to people in need through:

- Serving the Community and World,
- Promoting Mission to the Congregation,
- Screening and Funding Mission opportunities.

We will promote mission to the congregation through communicating, interpreting, recruiting, and giving opportunities to provide material support to various

missions. Our goal is to increase individual involvement in mission this year, and we are off to a good start, with 6 new servers signed up to work at Advent House in the first 4 months of the year. Contact Chuck Jennings for more information or if you would like to become a part of this committee.

Spiritual Life: We identified spiritual growth as one of our priorities for the year, and we have had two committees, Celebration and Study, working on spiritual growth. It was decided that to better coordinate efforts, these committees would be brought together as the Spiritual Life Committee. This is a big task, and will require careful organization to keep it from becoming overwhelming. There will be ongoing adjustments, but for now the committee is working from the following purpose statement:

To provide for the worship of Christ and encourage growth in Christ through worship, music, study, fellowship and other special events for all the members and friends of Delta Presbyterian Church.

We are still working on bringing this together in a manageable form. If you are interested in being involved in leading the spiritual growth of the congregation or want more information, talk to Sue Settle or Mary Jarrard.

Resources: Both financial and physical resources will come under this committee. The current property committee will become a team. Why the change? We discussed the importance of committees being representative and rotating membership to provide a broad perspective and keep things fresh. We also recognized that property is unique. We recognize the importance of the work they do around the church and that property really is a team, with fellowship an important part of who they are. We want the Property Team to continue to grow, and we don't want to burden it with the need to rotate members or be representative of the congregation. There will be people from the Property Team on the Resources Committee. They will be working on purpose statements in the near future. For more information or to volunteer to be involved, talk to Jim Dexter or Jo Seppala.

Personnel: We will have a standing committee of 3 individuals and then pull in appropriate people when it is time to do employee evaluations or deal with other personnel issues. Again, we will have a purpose statement to share in the months ahead. Kyle Dymond is your source of information with regard to personnel.

"Things that were done in response to a particular situation or need continue long after the situation or need that gave rise to them has vanished."

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS MARCH 13

SPRING FORWARD



Cause to Rejoice!

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice! Philippians 4:4

God continues to work in and through us, and in that we can rejoice.

We rejoice in the growth of the mission committee. It is good to see more people willing to be involved in Christ's ministry through Delta.

We rejoice in the purpose and plans the deacons developed at their retreat. We are truly blessed that our deacons were willing to give a Saturday to this work.

We rejoice in the number of people who have signed up for the Wednesday Lenten program. We are especially pleased to be able to offer it at noon and 6:00.

We rejoice as we welcome two new members by letter of transfer: Fran Johnston and Lena Pratt. Fran comes to us from Lawton, Oklahoma, and is the sister of Larry Johnston. Lena comes to us from Venedocia, Ohio, and is the daughter of Wendy Pratt. We will officially welcome them on March 27.

We rejoice with Jeff Jackson, who has been hired by Chrysler as a mechanical engineer.

We rejoice in the dedication of our leaders. Session, deacons, and committees have all had longer meetings as we explore the new things God is doing in our midst and how to respond to them.

We rejoice in all the individuals who are willing to help lead worship on Sunday mornings by serving as liturgists and song leaders.

We rejoice that we are able to provide a space for the Transitions Grand Ledge Satellite program to meet while the wait for their new building. Their departure has been delayed by poor air quality tests on their new building. The mold issues are now being addressed, and once the air quality is acceptable, they will move to their new building.

What gives you cause to rejoice around Delta? Let us know and we'll include it here next month.



Delta Bits and Pieces

The Deacons are putting together a list of folks that would be willing to provide meals for members in their home after surgery, or other times when a member may be in need of meal assistance. Please sign up at the Commitment Center with your name, phone number, and e-mail address.

Membership. Are you interested in becoming a member of Delta Presbyterian Church? Please let Wendy know and she will set up a time to meet with you and discuss what it means to be a member of this congregation.

Easter Garden. Gail Cone is once again organizing the annual Easter Garden. If you would like to purchase flowers in honor or memorial to someone special, contact Gail or watch for the sign-up basket at the Commitment Center.

AMAZINGRACE. Mark your calendars for May 21, 2011—Camp Greenwood's AMAZINGRACE. Get four of your friends and join the fun as you test your knowledge of camp and your physical skills. All for a chance to give two camp scholarships to your church and support the work of the

camp. Get a registration form from the camp website and submit it by May 1, 2011. If you have any questions contact Steve K. at 269-381-6337. Accept the challenge!!! campgreenwood.org



Ongoing Fund Raising

For many years, Delta Presbyterian Church has participated in fundraising through Campbell's Labels for Education, General Mills Box Tops for Education, and Meijer Community Rewards.

Labels for Education

For more than 37 years, *Labels for Education* has been awarding free educational equipment to schools in exchange for proofs of purchase from the Campbell family of brands. It's a fun, easy program where families and members of the community work together for a common goal.

Today, over 60,000 schools and organizations are registered with *Labels for Education*, benefiting more than 42 million students. Over the years, they've been able to provide more than \$110 million in merchandise to America's schools.

Delta has been able to purchase DVD players, a boombox, and other equipment for our Sunday School program. It is very easy to participate. Just check the bulletin board in the narthex to see what part of the Campbell products' labels you need to save and bring to the church.

Box Tops for Education

Through the General Mills Box Tops for Education Delta has received checks to add to our church's budget. In 2010, Delta received \$63.20 from Box Tops for Education.

Look for the Box Tops for Education on all General Mills products and bring them to the church.

Meijer Community Rewards

Enrolled members shop Meijer, simply paying with cash, PIN-based debit card

or linked Meijer Credit Card. Purchases made with a linked Meijer Credit Card earn 1%. Purchases made with cash or PIN-based debit card and a swiped Meijer 1 CardSM earn 0.5%.

Each year, at least 6% of Meijer net profits go toward overall community giving - one of the highest percentages in the retail industry! Last year, Delta received checks totaling \$223.03.

Application forms for the Meijer Community Rewards are in the church office. Fill out and send in the application and once you receive your rewards card, present the card each time you make a purchase at Meijer. It's that simple.



Covenant Gathering 2011

Join other Christians for Covenant Gathering 2011 at beautiful Michindoh Conference and Retreat Center near Hillsdale, Michigan, close to the Ohio and Indiana borders, as they find God's peace within ourselves and let it flow like ripples into our families, our churches, our communities and the world. **Covenant Gathering** is a little bit conference, a little bit vacation with facilities for all abilities!!!

Your day at Covenant Gathering will be rich in worship, study, mission and time to enjoy the community of Christians. Covenant Gathering will give you about 4 to 8 hours of class time per course, depending on what classes you choose. You're able to take two different classes if you'd like—select one for yourself, and one to take back to your church! There are activities for all ages. Wendy and Lena will be attending, with

Wendy teaching a Bible Study of The Beatitudes. Join them for a week of learning, laughter and worship presented by members and churches of PCUSA Synod of the Covenant and Synod of Lincoln Trails.

Covenant Gathering 2011 will take place July 3-July 8.

For more information check their website at: covenantgathering.com



Deacon Salute-Fran Johnston



DEACON SALUTE

Frances Johnston (Fran) was born in Kansas City, Kansas, and raised in Junction City, Kansas. She worked numerous jobs while she was going to high school and college. She sang and danced in USO tours, skated in an ice show while waiting tables in Sun Valley, Idaho, and worked in a quarter master laundry. Both of her college degrees are from Kansas State University. After finishing her first degree, she taught school, then went back to work as a civilian for the Department of Army. Her career has taken her to jobs all over the world. While on the Army Staff in Washington, D.C. she was required to work in Alaska, Hawaii, Korea, Japan and Europe, and traveled to most of the Army posts in the U.S. When she was not traveling for her job,

she traveled to other location such as South America, Australia and New Zealand for vacations. She has either worked or visited 49 of the 50 states (missing Oregon).

Fran has been a Presbyterian all her life, since her baptism in Kansas City. She was ordained and installed for the first time as an elder in the First Presbyterian Church, Junction City, KS. While on session there, she was the church representative to Presbytery. During that period, she went as a voting member to General Assembly. The Northern and Southern Presbyterian Churches, which met in Kansas City, joined to form the Presbyterian Church USA. She has also served on sessions at the Philadelphia Presbyterian Church in Forest Park, GA and the First Presbyterian Church in

Lawton, OK. She taught children's Sunday School and gave scripture lessons to all the children using a flannel board, taught Adult Sunday School and sang in the church choir. She has served on the Worship and Music, Christian Ed./Nurture, Administration and Stewardship Committees and served as the church Treasurer. She also served as the church financial secretary following her retirement. She now lives in Grand Ledge and is enjoying retirement.

In her spare time over the years, she performed in Community Theater plays, playing Marion in Music Man and Sarah in Guys And Dolls, as well as directing shows. She has already attended a couple of shows at the local community theaters.



Fourth Sunday Meal

Fourth Sunday Meal

The Deacons are planning another wonderful meal for Sunday, March 27. This month it will be Sloppy

Joes, and Creamed Chicken Sandwiches, a delicacy all the way from Venedocia, Ohio. You may sign up to

bring a salad, dessert, relish tray, or chips. Please plan to enjoy the good food and fellowship!

Good Friday Community Service

The Good Friday service is going to be at Immanuel Community Reformed Church on Friday, April 22, at 7:00 pm. Everyone from the community is invited to attend. There will have a community choir sing during the service. If you would be interested in singing, please

contact Mark McElwee or Delta's office. There will probably be one joint practice for this service.

Immanuel Community Reformed Church is located at 3200 Delta River Drive, just east of the Waverly and Delta River Drive intersection.



March & April Birthdays

Mar 4	Mary Jarrard	Apr 5	Mary Jo Kelley
Mar 7	Virginia Probst Georgia Brown	Apr 8	Marilyn Whiting
Mar 18	Janice Beglin	Apr 9	Mary Mead
Mar 19	Judi Wheatly Roger Small	Apr 14	Cindy Schilling
Mar 21	Jo Seppala Bill Stirling	Apr 17	Luci Kull
Mar 24	Sharon VanCourt	Apr 18	Julie Cruz
Mar 26	Betty MacDowell Bonnie Reemsnyder Lena Pratt	Apr 19	Aaron Zabriskie Ciarah Fech
Mar 28	Frank Jackson Julie Boedeker	Apr 25	Steve Whiting
Mar 31	Doug Dykstra	Apr 27	Ben May
		Apr 28	Anne Ryan
		Apr 29	Richard Mead
		Apr 30	Al Deutsch

April Ambassador News is due March 18, 2011

Ambassador news is due the third Friday of each month. Please include your name and phone number with any article you submit.



Servants

USHERS

Mar 6 Dykstra
Mar 13 Dymond
Mar 20 Michelle Dymond
Mar 27 Elsinga

GREETERS

Mar 6 Whiting
Mar 13 Dykstras
Mar 20 Seppalas
Mar 27 Colleen Dymond

NURSERY

Apr 3 Hulliberger
Apr 10 Jarrard
Apr 17 Lena Pratt
Apr 24 Johnston

Mar 6 Doris Snelling
Mar 27 Ellen Jackson
Lena Pratt



Deacon Retreat

The deacons spent time together at the church on Saturday, February 26, considering the new things God is doing among us and the purpose of the deacons. We developed a purpose statement:

The deacons lead the caring ministry of the church through:

Supporting members and friends of the congregation in times of need

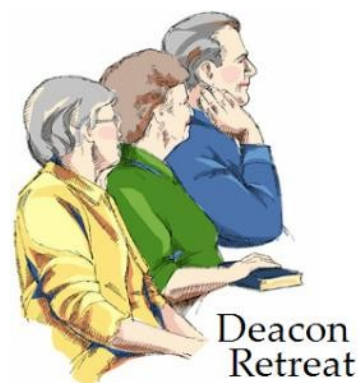
Building congregational fellowship and relationships

Welcoming visitors and incorporating them into the church family

In the weeks ahead, we will be asking you to take on specific tasks as we organize to care for our community. For now, we are putting together a list of folks that

would be willing to provide meals for members in their homes after surgery, or other times when a member may be in need of meal assistance. Please sign up at the Commitment Center with your name, phone number, and E-mail address.

We hope you will join us as we carry out Christ's ministry together.



March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
		1 10 am Great Parents/ Great Start Play Group	2 9:30 am Quilting 7 pm Small Gathering (Meier)	3 6:15 pm Believers 7:30 pm Choir	4 World Day of Prayer	5
6 Change for Change 10 am Worship/ Communion 11:15 am Adult Sunday School	7 6:30 pm Spiritual Life (Study & Celebration) Girl Scouts	8 10 am Great Parents/ Great Start Play Group 12 pm Called & In- stalled Lunch 6 pm Shrove Tuesday Potluck	9 Ash Wednesday 9:30 am Quilting 10 am La Leche	10 6:15 pm Believers 7:30 pm Choir	11	12 Baby Shower
13 1st Sunday in Lent Advent House 10 am Worship 11:15 am Adult Sunday School DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS	14 7 pm Mission	15 10 am Great Parents/ Great Start Play Group 7 pm La Leche	16 9:30 am Quilting 6 pm Lenten Meal/Bible Study	17 6:15 pm Believers 7:30 pm Choir	18	19
20 2nd Sunday in Lent Personal Needs 10 am Worship 11:15 am Adult Sunday School 3 pm Worship/Delta Retirement Center	21 6:30 pm Deacons 6:30 pm Resources (Finance) 7 pm OCD Support Girl Scouts	22 10 am Great Parents/ Great Start Play Group	23 9:30 am Quilting 10 am La Leche 3 pm Property 6 pm Lenten Meal/Bible Study	24 6:15 pm Believers 7:30 pm Choir	25	26
27 3rd Sunday in Lent 10 am Worship 11:30 am 4th Sunday Meal	28 6:30 pm Session	29 10 am Great Parents/ Great Start Play Group	30 9:30 am Quilting 6 pm Lenten Meal/Bible Study	31 6:15 pm Believers 7:30 pm Choir	 Lent	

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
					1	2
3 4th Sunday in Lent Change for Change 10 am Worship/ Communion 11:15 am Adult Sunday School	4 6:30 pm Spiritual Life (Celebration & Study) Girl Scouts	5	6 9:30 am Quilting 6 pm Lenten Meal/Bible Study	7 6:15 pm Believers 7:30 pm Choir	8	9
10 5th Sunday in Lent Advent House 10 am Worship 11:15 am Adult Sunday School	11 6:30 pm Resources (Finance) 7 pm Mission	12 Presbytery (Hastings First) 10 am Great Parents/ Great Start Play Group	13 9:30 am Quilting 10 am La Leche 3 pm Property 6 pm Lenten Meal/Bible Study	14 6:15 pm Believers 7:30 pm Choir	15	16
17 Palm/Passion Sunday Personal Needs 10 am Worship 11:15 am Adult Sunday School 3 pm Worship/ Delta Retirement Center	18 6:30 pm Deacons 7 pm OCD Support Girl Scouts	19 10 am Great Parents/ Great Start Play Group 7 pm La Leche	20 9:30 am Quilting	21 Maundy Thursday 7 pm Worship/ Communion	22 Good Friday 7 pm Wor- ship/ Immanuel Reform	23
24 ^{Easter} One Great Hour of Sharing 8 am Decorate 10 am Worship 11:15 am Adult Sunday School	25 6:30 pm Session	26 10 am Great Parents/ Great Start Play Group	27 9:30 am Quilting 10 am La Leche	28 6:15 pm Believers 7:30 pm Choir	29	30 Bridal Shower

The Ambassador

Delta Presbyterian Church
6100 W. Michigan Ave
Lansing, MI 48917

MARCH 2011
Phone: 517-321-3569
E-mail: deltapres@sbcglobal.net



"We are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us." II Cor 5:20 .

We're on the Web!

www.deltapresby.org

Looking Ahead in Worship & Study

Sunday, March 6, 2011
Transfiguration of the Lord-Communion
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9
Majesty

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE CHRIST KIND

Sunday, March 13, 2011
1st Sunday in Lent
Matthew 4:1-11
Satan Encounters Christ

Sunday, March 20, 2011
2nd Sunday in Lent
John 3:1-21
Nicodemus Encounters Christ

Sunday, March 27, 2011
3rd Sunday in Lent
John 9:1-41
A Sinful Woman Encounters Christ

Sunday, April 3, 2011
4th Sunday in Lent
John 11:1-45
A Man Born Blind Encounters Christ

Sunday, April 10, 2011
5th Sunday in Lent
John 11:1-45
Martha Encounters Christ

Sunday, April 17, 2011
Palm/Passion Sunday
Matthew 21:1-11; 27:11-26
A Revolutionary, a Witness, and a Priest Encounters Christ

Sunday, April 24, 2011
Easter/Resurrection of the Lord
Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24;
Matthew 28:1-10
Mary and Simon Peter Encounter the Risen Christ

Delta Presbyterian Church Mission Statement

Delta Presbyterian Church is a community of Christians committed to serving God through celebrating God's love in worship; studying God's Word; searching for God's truth and guidance; caring for each other in times of need, sorrow and joy; and, serving others to reflect Christ's example.

—Approved by Session, September 2009

(Child care will be available during the Sunday morning service and the Wednesday evening studies.)

Weekdays During Lent

Tuesday, March 8, 2011--
Shrove Tuesday
6:30 pm Potluck Supper with our Sister Churches
Delta Members and Friends are asked to bring main dishes

Wednesday, March 16, 2011
Noon and 6:00 pm
Meal and Study: **Discovering The Spirit**

Wednesday, March 23, 2011
Noon and 6:00 pm
Meal and Study: **Renewing My Mind**

Wednesday, March 30, 2011
Noon and 6:00 pm

Meal and Study: **Redeeming My Time**

Wednesday, April 6, 2011
Noon and 6:00 pm
Meal and Study: **Deepening My Relationships**

Wednesday, April 13, 2011
Noon and 6:00 pm
Meal and Study: **Transforming My Experience**

Thursday, April 21, 2011
Maundy Thursday
7:00 pm Worship with Communion

