



Edinboro Presbyterian Church

## Newsletter Update

February 18 - March 3, 2022

### Summer opportunities abound – for youth & families

Snowbanks remain piled up. The chill is in the air.

...And... it is already time to begin making plans for this summer.

Outdoor ministries and Christian conferences consistently show up on the top of the list when people are surveyed about their most significant spiritual experience in their lives. This is why we are encouraging young people of FUPC to look into the camps and retreats which are scheduled for Summer 2022. Families of these teens and preteens are influential in recommending these kinds of faith-building events. Whole families can also participate in the Christian camping programs (as can younger children) at our regional summer church camp.

#### Montreat Middle School Conference

The Montreat Conference Center in the western North Carolina mountains sponsors high school conferences at their facilities much of the summer, so they also offer a parallel option for middle schoolers at the Maryville College campus in Tennessee. The Presbytery of Lake Erie takes a group from here to there each year. Participants explore faith, build relationships with other young people from across the country, and strengthen their home faith communities for decades. Each day begins with a gathering of 600 young people in the auditorium for energizers, music, and a top speaker who explores a theme and scripture in all kinds of creative ways – multimedia, drama, storytelling, and more. Small groups of 20 or so have a safe space for further conversation.



Middle School Conference

The MMSC happens July 19-24 and uses the theme “A Place For \_\_\_\_ [You] \_\_\_\_”. The local church and the presbytery offer significant help with the costs, and the presbytery provides the transportation. Register through the local congregation by March 15.



Also inside this edition of the FUPC newsletter:

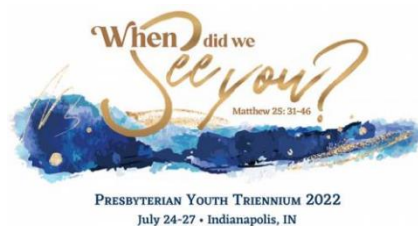
Encouragement for enhancing your marriage and family relationships

Practical steps for good love of self



## *Presbyterian Youth Triennium (High School)*

Once every three years, the national Presbyterian Church offers a huge youth conference for those who have completed grades 8-12. The upcoming Presbyterian Youth Triennium will be July 24-27 (plus travel time) at Indianapolis. Previews, details and videos are available at [presbyterianyouthtriennium.org](http://presbyterianyouthtriennium.org). Registration will be through each presbytery's delegation.



## *Camp Lambec summer opportunities*

Lake Erie Presbytery partners with three other presbyteries in northwestern Pennsylvania to provide outdoor ministry opportunities for children, teens, adults and families. The camp is located near East Springfield and has access to Lake Erie. Check out [camplambec.net](http://camplambec.net) for details about the facilities and the fun and relaxing programs. Here is the 2022 schedule:



- ✚ June 21-26: Wet-n-Wild Camps (grades 3-6 & 7-12)
- ✚ July 10-14: Lambec Music Camp (grades 4 through first-year college)
- ✚ Weeks of 7/17, 7/24 and 7/31: Family Camps

## *40 days of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 2*

## Join in this season of discipleship growth and spiritual reflection: FUPC has supper, ashes, Bible study, worship

The 40 days leading up to Easter – starting Ash Wednesday and running into Easter weekend, not counting the six Sundays – are the annual spiritual season to reflect on the person of Jesus and his ministry, do specific and intentional spiritual reflection, and make commitments to grow in our individual and community discipleship. Lent at Edinboro Presbyterian will have a number of events and activities to foster those purposes:

**Ash Wednesday:** our traditional simple soup supper and a relective worship experience. (March 2, 6pm)

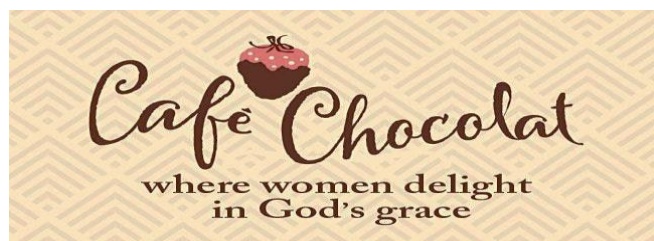
**Lenten Bible Study:** Our FUPC class will be in person at 9:30, with an online option (Sundays starting 3/06)

**Sunday Worship:** Weekly worship online and in the sanctuary will be based on themes of growing in faith.

**Easter Lilies:** Our Mission Team will introduce an expanded way to have lilies for in-house and our friends.

## **Regional Women's Spiritual Retreat**

Come join Presbyterian women from across northwestern Pennsylvania on Saturday June 25, 2022, in Slippery Rock. Programs will be from 9:00 to 4:00. Thanks to co-sponsorship from the PW of Lake Erie Presbytery, your cost will be only \$15, which will cover continental breakfast, lunch, snacks and materials. Contact Karen Haas 814-397-1619 for further information, or you can register through your local congregation. Please invite sisters in faith to join this event. Come be enriched in your life and in your soul.



*From the  
Pastor*

## The recipe for a quality life: **Love God, love others, love yourself**

This being Valentine's Week, this newsletter offers some practical advice on love. Scripture is clear that honest, self-giving love is key to a satisfying quality of life. Jesus himself points this out to a listener to who asks which Godly commandment is most important of them all:

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and mind and strength; and love your neighbor as yourself.**

While romantic love often gets most of the publicity around February 14, other flavors of love are also key to our relationships – with God, within couples and families, and with pretty much everybody else too. Therefore, I pass along some sage advice which comes to me through resources I use.

The first is from the national/global Prepare-Enrich program. Its focus is on marriages and engagements. I have been trained as a Prepare-Enrich facilitator since my first year as an ordained pastor 27+ years ago. I offer it to those who come seeking a wedding through a church, as well as for couples who are either in a challenging chapter or who wish to invest some intentional energy to strengthen their connections. (This is a good opportunity for me to commend that you contact me if this would be a good time for you to utilize this excellent and well-researched tool.)

The information from the Prepare-Enrich blog can certainly be applicable to ALL your relationships: parent/child, workplace, extended family, church and social groups and more. If you are in a romantic relationship though, the encouragement here can perhaps be helpful to you. The recommendations are on reducing barriers to quality communication. Please check out the full article [📖 here](#) or ask for a printed version.

### 4 Reasons You're Misunderstanding Each Other

*You're thinking about your reply.*

*You're making assumptions.*

*You're taking things personally.*

*You're being cryptic.*

For many people, loving others often is easier to do than loving yourself. The second resource I commend to you is a free download from the Find Your Passion Planner, the source of my 2022 calendar. This offers brief daily activities to help us to build confidence, release guilt, and find inner strength. If this is an issue for you, I encourage you to utilize this to put any focus on weaknesses into proper perspective with all the good aspects of your personality.

Love yourself. Love your loved ones. Love the people around you. Love God. Among the ways you and I love God is to love people and love the self which God created us to be.

Happy Valentine's Week!

P.S... As more people are opening up from the shutdowns and lockups we have experienced through the past couple of years, I invite you to consider coming back into our in-person activities. In case you are curious, I have scheduled office hours (obviously adapted for meetings and emergencies) on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 to 1:00. I am in the building many other times during the week, but this facilitates your planning if you'd want to drop in and chat. It's always better to schedule something with me, and those appointments can happen at 4281 Route 6N or anywhere else, mornings or afternoons or evenings, weekdays or weekend. I currently schedule Fridays as my Sabbath day.

## Annual meeting will be Sunday, February 27

The annual meeting of the congregation has been scheduled by our elders for the end of the sanctuary worship service on February 27. Our revised bylaws also allow participation by electronic means, so please ask if you would like to join in (and vote) through our Zoom meeting.

The only item of business on that docket is the annual review of the “terms of call” between the installed pastor and the congregation. The Session will recommend that there be no change in the overall financial total, although there will be some shuffling from one line item to another, due to changes in Pastor Greg’s insurance and retirement accounts. The total though, subject to approval by the congregation and the presbytery, would be the same as the we have designated since Greg was installed as the fulltime pastor in 2018. The 2022 terms include \$52,016 in salary and housing; \$34,895 for insurance, retirement and other BOP benefits; plus \$1,900 in professional reimbursements and travel at the IRS rate. Presbyterian Churches are to provide four weeks of vacation and two weeks for professional development annually.

## FUPC has a nice collection of medical equipment to loan out

For many years, Edinboro Presbyterian has provided hospital equipment and home medical items for use by our members and people in the community. Some of these items were donated by people who had them but no longer needed them. Other items were purchased by the FUPC Deacons using open-designation mission funds which our members and friends have given.

Last fall, we were able to convert an unused classroom into a place to store and display this medical equipment. This was an improvement over the crowded outdoor shed we previously used. You can take a quick tour to see what all is available to help people. The display area is in the room at the back southwest corner of the Fellowship Hall.



If you or someone you know could benefit from borrowing something from us, please call or e-mail Sue Johnson. We have a nice collection of hospital beds, wheelchairs, crutches, bedside tables and many other items.



**Mailing:** FUPC, P.O. Box 789, Edinboro PA, 16412  
**Location:** 4281 Route 6N (Waterford Road)

**Website & Online Worship:** [www.EdinboroPresby.org](http://www.EdinboroPresby.org)

**Zoom meeting number** 814 734 3511  
**Password (for Zoom and web videos)** 814

**[Office@EdinboroPresby.org](mailto:Office@EdinboroPresby.org)** (814) 734-3511 **Mon-Wed-Thur 10am-2pm**

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