



THE CHURCH CHIMES

Peters Creek Presbyterian Church • 250 Brookwood Road • Venetia, PA 15367

August 2008

REACH... BUILD... SERVE...

Peters Creek Staff

Contact us at 724-941-6210
www.peterscreekchurch.org

Rus Howard, Teaching Pastor
DrRus@comcast.net

Doris Sawhill, Visitation Pastor
dorissawhill@verizon.net

Jeff Such, Executive & Family Pastor
jeffsuch@comcast.com

Gina Hall, Children's Pastor
gina_hall@comcast.net

Hal Cypher, Accounting
halc5@comcast.net

Kathryn Miller, Secretary
Kathrynmillerpeterscreek
church@comcast.net

Jennifer Such, Communications
jennsuch@hotmail.com

This summer...

Summer Worship Services

8:30 Traditional Worship
10:00 Blended Worship

All Church Wild Things Baseball Game

Wednesday, August 13
7:05 PM

Tickets go on sale July 13 in the Narthex.
Seats are reserved so get your tickets early!
Would you like to Share a ride? Meet at the church parking lot at 6:00 PM.

Summer Fun at Chuck E. Cheese

Wednesday, August 20
6 to 7:30 PM

Kids in Kindergarten – 5th Grade are invited to Chuck E. Cheese for food and fun with Creekside Friends. See page 5 for more information.

Church Picnic

Sunday, August 24
11:00 AM
Peterswood Park

Join us for a church picnic with fun for all ages. Following the 10:00 worship service.

August Session Meeting

The August Session meeting will be on the 4th Tuesday in August instead of the 3rd Tuesday. The Session will meet next on Tuesday, August 26, at 7:00 PM, beginning in the Sanctuary with worship, communion, and prayer.

Youth Activities

| | |
|--------------|--|
| August 3 | Cookout - Youth Hall - 5:00 PM |
| August 5 - 7 | Teen Leadership Retreat |
| August 13 | Wild Things Baseball Game - Meet at the church 6:00 PM |
| August 24 | Church Picnic |



FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Friends,

Please help me!

Periodically, I will hear, after the fact or through the grapevine, that a church member has been in the hospital, had major surgery, or is going through a crisis. This news almost always comes with an accompanying set of questions, "What do you know? Did you visit? How are things going? What can you tell me?" Unfortunately, there are times I do not know about these needs or when I hear information through grapevines that are not always reliable.

In our world of misinformation and privacy laws, it would be a tremendous blessing if individuals and family members would contact me **directly** about hospitalizations, illnesses, personal crisis, and pastoral needs.

As your Pastor I stand ready to serve you and to minister to you, as requested and as informed. Please do not assume that *someone called the church* or I have the correct information needed to provide you great pastoral care. There are several ways you can contact me.

To contact me to inform me of a pastoral need, you may:

1. **Phone** me and, if necessary, leave a message at:
Church - 724 941 6210 - (during office hours)
Cell - 412 596 9203 - (always on)
Home - 412 831 2241 - (late evenings and during the night)
2. **Leave a message** at the Church, during non-office hours, at:
Pastoral Emergency Hotline - 724 941 6210, when prompted, press 9
My Voicemail – 724 941 6210, when prompted, press 2
3. **Text Message** me at:
412 596 9203 (comes immediately to my cell phone)
4. **Email** me at:
drrus@comcast.net

If at all possible, it is best for a family member to contact me directly. There are two primary reasons for this:

1. Some people do not want to be visited in the hospital or they do not want me to make information about their request public. A direct contact from you will help me to honor your needs and wishes and make sure we do not publicize private information. This affords me the opportunity to provide care to you and your family at the earliest possible moment when you are hoping to receive it.

Finally, if you need to leave me a message, **please leave me specific contact information, such as, contact phone numbers, names of hospitals, and hospital room numbers or unit names.** Also, some hospitals have a *privacy code* that they require for a patient to receive visitors. If this is the case for you and your family, please tell me.

Thank you for your help.

Blessings and peace,

ADULT GROUPS THIS SUMMER AT THE CREEK

2nd & 4th Monday at 1:00 PM
Cross Stitches Group - A2

Wednesdays at 6:15 AM
Eat 'n Pray - Narthex

Thursdays between 7 & 10 AM
Farmhouse Coffee with Rus

2nd & 4th Fridays at 7:00 PM
Single Moms -
location varies

MUSIC MINISTRY

A native of Marion Center, PA (where the cow to human population is roughly 2:1), Brian has been obsessed with music since he was a toddler sitting beside his dad during church choir rehearsals. He began piano studies at age 4, and hasn't stopped making music since. Along the way, he has performed (with varying success) on the piano, organ, trombone, trumpet, euphonium, tuba, french horn, and of course, vocals. He graduated from Duquesne University's School of Music with a degree in Music Performance in 2005 where he studied with several members of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

Prior to joining Peters Creek Church, Brian was the Music Director for Port Vue United Methodist Church, the Contemporary Music Director for Christ's Lutheran Church, Music Director for Swissvale United Methodist Church, and the Marching Band Director at South Park High School.

Brian now lives in the Pittsburgh area with his wife, Ashley - a flutist, pianist, and animal-lover extraordinaire. Rounding out the family are the kids - a 12-year-old schnauzer named Cody and a 16-year-old cat named Ling-Ling (disclaimer: neither Brian nor Ashley named the cat).

When not spending time with his wife and "kids", Brian enjoys performing regularly in the Pittsburgh area as a singer, trombonist, and jazz pianist. He is the pianist for the Tuesday Night Jazz Band and the Pittsburgh Do-Wop Band.



*Welcome
Brian &
Ashley*

A NOTE FROM THE MUSIC PASTOR

Hello, everyone, from your new music pastor! I am thrilled to be joining the pastoral team at PCPC, and am very excited about the future growth possibilities for music and worship within the congregation. Because this is my inaugural article in the Chimes, I thought I'd tell you a bit about myself and about my thoughts about the future of music at Peters Creek.

I've been involved in church music for practically my entire life. Along the way, I've developed musical preferences that could be considered my musical "philosophy." Basically, I believe that music for worship should be an interactive experience that allows for participation and communication between the performing musicians and the congregation. You may see me asking for a hymntune suggestion for a prelude, or a service during which the hymns are selected by members of the congregation. So, be prepared! I may ask *YOU* for your favorite hymn before or during a service.

I'm very excited about the great musical potential at PCPC. I've been hearing about the many, many talented individuals at the church, and look forward to meeting all of you. I'm also looking forward to working with the choir and to putting together a praise team for the new contemporary service that we're launching in September. This is a great time to get involved if you're new to the church or you've just never taken

the next step. If you have an interest in the choir or praise team, I'd love to hear from you. If the only thing holding you back is a worry that you may not be "good enough", don't worry - I won't ask you to sing a solo in Latin at the first rehearsal (or the second, or the third...). If you have the desire to sing or play and a good attitude, you've got everything you need to become involved in some way with the music ministry at PCPC.

In addition to the groups already in place, I'd love to develop additional music ministry opportunities over time. I'm looking to eventually start a handbell choir and Children's choir. I would love to put together a group of individuals who would be willing to travel to nursing and rest homes in the area to lead the singing of hymns. This group could also be used as a caroling ensemble around the holidays. In keeping with the developing vision for ministry at PCPC, I think it's important that we use music to minister to those within the congregation and within the community.

I'm very much looking forward to meeting all of you and to serving as your music pastor. I'd love to hear thoughts that you have regarding music and worship at the church. If I can be of service to any of you, please don't hesitate to contact me at brianpappal@gmail.com.

MISSION AND OUTREACH



**THURSDAY,
AUGUST 28
5:30 P.M.**

Spicy Habitat for Humanity Fund Raiser

Add spice to your life by attending the grand opening of Amigos Restaurante & Cantina in McMurray (formerly Bella Piatto) on Thursday, August 28, 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

There will be food stations, Tequila & Mexican beer tastings, prizes and auctions.

Tickets are \$50.00 per person and proceeds benefit Washington County Habitat for Humanity.

To reserve your tickets call the Habitat office 724-222-4340.

Must be 21 years old to purchase tickets.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Welcome to **THE CREEK!**

**Coming This
Fall!!**

**Peters Creek
Church
Saturday Night
Service**

**September 6
6:00 p.m.**

John 14:6 says: Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. And in the book of Matthew we read: Matthew 28:19- "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

Jesus has called us to "Go and make disciples" he has also called us to share the Good News with the world around us. With this as a foundation and building block we are excited as we continue to plan and gear up for the launch of the Saturday night service. We are one month away and the excitement is building. The praise team is practicing, the hospitality team is planning and organizing welcome packets, the creative planning team is preparing some pretty cool surprises. All we need now is you!! Who are you planning on bringing? Who have you been praying about inviting? Start working on that now...let's carry out the Great Commission of Jesus Christ to "Go and make disciples".

Over the next few weeks we are going to be rolling out a new website: www.worshipatthecreek.com. On this website you will be able to find out all the information about this new exciting service at Peters Creek. We will also be printing up 250 yard signs to put out in the community to let them know about the upcoming service. Please pray with us as we step out in faith in this new adventure. May God get all the glory and may we reach this community with the life saving message of Jesus Christ.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Summer Fun at Chuck E. Cheese!!!

Kids in Kindergarten – 5th Grade are invited to Chuck E. Cheese for food and fun with Creekside Friends from 6 to 7:30 PM Wednesday evening, August 20. Cost is \$6 per child which includes 2 slices of pizza, unlimited soft drinks, and 16 game tokens. To register, call Gina at the church office or sign up on the Friendship slip.

Creekside 2-5-2 Children's Worship

Worship for children Kindergarten to 5th grade is held each Sunday during the 10:00 worship service throughout the summer.

The worship theme in August is HONOR—letting someone know you see how valuable they really are. The memory verse in August is "Love each other deeply. Honor others more than yourselves." Romans 12:10

Children's Sunday School Kick Off

Families won't want to miss the Slime Time Fall Fest, on Sunday, September 7, 2008 at 9:45 AM. It is sure to be the best Children's Sunday School Kick-off we have had yet!!! Kids, old or young, will have a great time as they laugh, play games, and hear about God's love. So, mark your calendar and join us on the church lawn for a time oozing with fun as we kick off another Sunday School year.

Sunday School
Teachers
Needed



If you want to make a difference in the lives of children, desire to lead them to become whole-hearted followers of Jesus, and can encourage and pray for a class group, you have what it takes to be a Sunday School teacher. We have a need for Sunday School teachers this fall for our 2nd/3rd Grade class. If you are interested in teaching Sunday School next year please contact Gina Hall.

VBS Notes

Dear Peters Creek Church,

Ryan, Ella and I had such a nice time this week. You do a wonderful job with VBS. We enjoyed each part and felt lucky to be a part of the week. Thank you for taking such care of the snacks too. It is so nice to know that you were careful with nuts for everyone. Ryan really enjoyed being allowed to eat the same snacks as his friends. Again, thank you for everything. Your church is very talented at what you do!

Suzie Liebscher
(VBS volunteer & mother of preschoolers)

Peters Creek Church,

My power story is that not only have my grandchildren learned about the POWER, but so have I. This has been one of the greatest experiences in my life! Thanks to all of you and my cousin, Mary Jo Hensler for helping us find the Power of Jesus.

Judy Altman
(VBS volunteer & grandmother of preschoolers)



UPCOMING CLASSES



Leadership Preparation Seminar

In September 2008, Rus Howard, our Teaching Pastor, will be leading a *Leadership Preparation Seminar* for our current leaders and for those interested in assuming a leadership role in our ministry at Peters Creek.

Some of the topics to be covered in this 10-hour seminar will be:

- What do we believe?
- What is distinctive about the Evangelical Presbyterian Church?
- What does it mean to be a leader in the church?
- Our mission statement, core beliefs, values, and the primary purposes of our ministry!

This seminar is open to all members. Individuals who wish to serve as an Elder are required to complete this seminar before being elected to serve as an Elder.

If you are interested in participating in the *Leadership Preparation Seminar* this fall, please contact Rus Howard at drrus@comcast.net or by calling the church office at 724-941-6210. The exact schedule for the fall seminar will be announced in late August and will be designed to fit the schedule of those who want to participate in the class.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Cedar Point Trip

On Wednesday July 16th the youth headed over to Sandusky, Ohio for a fun filled day at Cedar Point. We had 22 students and 3 adults make the trip. Many of our students invited friends. We continue to experience the goodness of God and praise Him for the many blessings we see in our lives. It's great to see the youth bond with one another and make friends from different school districts. We pray that we will see these teens back this fall as we kick off another great year of youth ministry. Thank you for all of your love and support for our teens.



Youth Trip to Cedar Point

Summer Activities

- August 3** Cookout - Youth Hall - 5:00 PM
- August 5 - 7** Teen Leadership Retreat
- August 13** Wild Things Baseball Game -
Meet at the church 6:00 PM
- August 24** Church Picnic

NOMINATIONS

Nominations Being Accepted

The Congregation Nominating Committee is beginning the process of nominating church members to serve as Elders, Deacons, Trustees, and Auditors in the class of 2011. The congregation will elect these officers at a Congregational Meeting to be held later this Fall.

The Nominating Committee is seeking your suggestions of active church members who you believe would be capable and faithful leaders for our ministry. You may send your suggestions to the church office: Attention The Nominating Committee; or, you may place suggestions in the offering plates at worship.

All active church members are eligible to serve as an officer. Officers are generally elected to a three year term (unless they are elected to finish serving for a vacancy) and begin their service in January after their election and a time of training.

Church officers are expected to attend regular and special board meetings. They are expected to participate in the worship, fellowship, financial, service, and spiritual growth ministries of the congregation on a regular and on-going basis. Officers to be elected, with a brief description of their responsibilities, are:

Elders serve as the spiritual leaders and ruling officers of the congregation. Elders have oversight for the whole ministry of the congregation. Elders should be men and women:

- With a deep and abiding faith and be willing to follow God's lead;
- Who have demonstrated their commitment to our ministry;
- Able to attend monthly Session Meetings on the third Tuesday of the month;
- Willing to help lead one of our primary ministry teams.

Deacons direct our ministries of compassion to church members, visitors, their families, friends, and neighbors and the congregational fellowship activities of the church. Deacons should be men and women:

- With a compassionate and caring faith committed to sharing God's love to individuals in a very practical manner at their point of need;
- With a desire to bring the congregation together for fellowship;
- Able to attend monthly Deacons Meetings on the second Tuesday of each month.

Trustees oversee the maintenance and repair of our buildings and grounds. Trustees should be men and women:

- With practical knowledge in the maintenance and repair of buildings and grounds;
- Able to attend monthly Trustee Meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

Auditors conduct an annual review of the church books in late January or early February of each year. Auditors should be men and women:

- Experienced in reviewing financial transactions and management;
- Knowledgeable in basic accounting practices.

OPPORTUNITIES

Journey to Bethlehem - If we are to present Journey this year we need LOTS of help. This year we are in need of several new scene leaders. They are: Guides, Costumes, Make up, Reservations, Parking, Synagogue, Marketplace, Thieves.

If we are unable to fill these slots, then it will be impossible for us to have Journey this year. Please prayerfully consider helping. Sign up on the Friendship slip in the bulletin, call the office, or contact Ann Sexauer.

Publication Deadlines

Articles for the Church Chimes and announcements for the bulletin should be submitted in electronic format.

Submissions for the Chimes are due no later than noon on the 15th of each month for the following month's edition.

Sunday Bulletin Submissions are due no later than noon each Wednesday.

Email:

peterscreekchurch@comcast.net

Chimes by E-mail

The Church Chimes can be emailed to you. E-mail the church office to request our email edition

August Worship Themes

Worship is at 8:30 and 10:00 AM through August 31

- August 3 *Keeping Your Heart During Seasons of Trials and Temptation*
Proverbs 4:23 and Matthew 4:1-11
Rus Howard, preaching
Celebration of the Lord's Supper
- August 10 *Losing Your First Love*
Jesus said, "This I have against you. You have forsaken your first love."
Revelation 2:1-5
Jeff Such, preaching
- August 17 Elder Jim DeWoody speaking
- August 24 *The Church – Who are we?* John 17
Rus Howard, preaching
- August 31 *Worship – Jesus at work!*
Hebrews 2
Rus Howard, preaching



Children's Worship is held for all children from Kindergarten through 5th grades during the 10 AM Worship Service. Children are dismissed from the sanctuary at the end of our songs and hymns of praise. Special programs for children from age 3 - 5 are held in the nursery during the 10 AM Worship Service. Childcare for children is provided during both Worship Services in the Church nurseries.