



A Publication of
The Presbyterian Church of La Porte

November 2011

The Presbyterian Church of La Porte announces...

Cross Connection
Starting Sunday, November 13th
9:00 AM

Cross Connection is a new exciting worship experience with dramas, videos, visuals and a great worship band.

Learning Hour
10:00 AM

A special time on Sunday morning to learn, share, and experience the teachings of the Bible. From preschool age to adult, there is a class for everyone.

Traditional Worship
11:00 AM

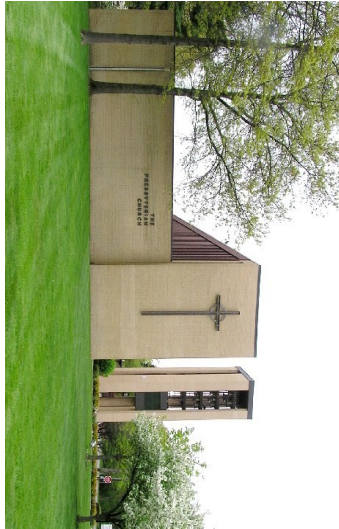
Traditional worship offers a worship experience that is thoughtful and uplifting. You can expect fine classical music and rich liturgy.

Child Care (main level)
8:30 AM to Noon

Staff nursery will be available for infants to 4 years old.

Coffee Bar (Narthex)
8:30 AM to 11:00 AM

Come and enjoy a cup of coffee, tea, juice and fellowship.



**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF LA PORTE**

307 Kingsbury Avenue
La Porte, IN 46350
219-362-6219

Return Service Requested

We're on the Web!
www.yourhomechurch.org

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Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends,

The excitement in the church is palpable. We are almost to Sunday, November 13th when we will begin Cross Connection, our new

contemporary worship service. So much time and energy has gone into this extraordinary effort. You probably can see the results of some of this work as you look around the church. The freshly painted walls in the Sanctuary, renovated Sunday School rooms, new coffee kiosk come out of our desire to create a hospitable house for visitors. The screen, projector and new sound system go in to creating a very different feel for this modern worship experience. There have been countless hours of dedicated planning on the part of the Second Service Planning Committee. Special thanks go to Nancy Emmons, Jill Kitowski, Steve Toth, John Link, Cassie Friend, Carl and Karen Schultz, David Kessler and Terry Wicks. They have met twice monthly since March to make this happen in addition to making 6-7 on site church visits and planning and attending three focus groups. They have done amazing work as have many quiet dedicated volunteers who have, donated funds, installed electrical wiring, created fabulous advertizing, flyers, and have given of themselves in a whole variety of ways. Our unity of purpose shows in the wonderful preparations that have been made.

As we move forward with joy and perhaps a little uncertainty toward November 13th, I would urge you to be grateful for the committed members of this congregation and for God's leading into the future. We are on a new path that has come out of a vision for ministry in this congregation that I believe comes from the Spirit. Let us rejoice in this month of Thanksgiving. God is among us and has great plans for us.

Sally



Gifts for those in the Military

MISSION OUTREACH CHRISTMAS PROJECT

We are asking for donations to send to soldiers serving overseas. The Mothers of Military Soldiers (M.O.M.S.) in La Porte along with other volunteers packages care boxes for the soldiers. Our church family can participate in October and November by bringing articles listed below to the church. Please be as generous as possible, so those protecting

us will have a brighter holiday.

NO GLASS OR AEROSOL CONTAINERS!

Shampoo , Conditioner, Deodorant, Shaving gel, Sunscreen, Lip Balm, Razors, Foot Powder, Liquid Soap, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Individual drink packets, Tuna Fish Packets, Chicken Packets, Dried Fruit, Hard Candy, Gum, Beef Jerky , small Word Search and Puzzle Books.

Checks may be given - payable to Presbyterian Church, please place them in the Ark.

We thank you, in advance, for your dedicated support.



**Come One - Come All
Annual Turkey Dinner
Sunday, November 20th
Noon**



Come and enjoy a Thanksgiving Dinner with turkey, ham, casseroles, and wonderful fellowship. Drinks and table settings will be provided. Just bring a veggie, salad or desert to share.

Please invite/bring your neighbors, family and friends.

Welcome



We are delighted to welcome Jennifer Underwood to the staff of our church as the new Worship Band Leader. Jennifer is a native of Michigan City, but is now happily nestled in La Porte with her husband, John. Between them they have three boys (two of them launched on their own) and three girls. Jennifer has her Bachelor of Music in Music

Therapy degree from University of Evansville and a Master of Business Administration from Bethel College. She is currently teaching Choir and Exploratory Music at Kessling Middle School and is working on a Masters in School Administration. She is a fine pianist, singer and has lots of experience working with contemporary music. Additionally she has directed church choirs, bell choirs and plays a little organ. We are delighted to have Jennifer join us!

Deacon's Desk

“When faced with a challenge, look for a way, not a way out.”
David Weatherford

Did you know? -----

Carrie Bjonback has been sharing her God given talents in several ways over the last year. She sings in our church choir, last year played guitar in the worship band and was a member of the Fine Arts Board. Now, she is a member of the Worship & Music Committee. She enjoys assigning communion servers and simply attending the informative meetings. Last year Carrie also found time in her medical practice to come to church at noon to give a program for the V.I.P.S on acupuncture. Time management is another of her talents.



The second concert in the Fine Arts Series will be Andrey Baranov, Laureate Violinist of the Indianapolis 2010 International Violin Competition, in recital with Miki Aoki, pianist. These exciting young artists will be giving a concert on Sunday, November 13 at 4:00 p.m.

Russian violinist Andrey Baranov is among the leading violinists of his generation. Born in St Petersburg in 1986 into a family of musicians, Baranov began playing the violin at the age of five. Since making his debut in 2005 at St. Petersburg Philharmonie Hall with Vasily Petrenko and the Philharmonic Orchestra, Baranov has performed with many leading international orchestras and in 2008 he was the 1st prize winner at both the Benjamin Britten International Violin Competition in London and the Henri Marteau International Violin Competition in Germany. In addition, he won the “New Master on Tour” prize from Holland Music Session, the Mozarteum prize for the best violinist in the summer academy and was featured in the prestigious Salzburger Festspiele. We are truly fortunate to have this talented violinist as part of the Fine Arts Series.

Born in Tokyo, pianist Miki Aoki, started playing the piano at age 4 and moved to London at age 9 where she made her orchestral debut at the Royal Festival Hall in London with the National Symphony Orchestra at the age of 12. A dedicated recitalist and chamber musician, Miki has since performed regularly across Europe, USA and in Asia. She holds degrees from Indiana University and Yale University.

Recent engagements include a tour through South East Asia, an appearance at the Menuhin Festival in Gstaad with Russian violinist Andrey Baranov, and invitations to the Great Lakes Chamber music festival in the United States and the Valdres Festival in Norway. Future seasons include concerto performances with the Washington Sinfonietta (USA), a solo recital in Tokyo and concerts in Austria, Germany, Norway, Turkey and Switzerland. Her first solo CD is about to be released.

Come and enjoy a delightful afternoon of music from these very talented musicians on Sunday, November 13 at 4:00 p.m. Childcare will be provided and there will be a free-will offering. The special reception after the concert will offer the opportunity to meet the artists. For more information call the church at 219-362-6219 or access the web page at www.yourhomechurch.com.

* THIS MONTH'S *
birthdays

11/01 Ed Christman	11/18 Drumm Osborn
11/02 Cassie Friend	11/19 Carrie Perra
11/04 Flo Carlson	11/21 Craig Weigel
11/05 John Mareska	11/22 Stephanie Hengst
11/06 Melissa Bangs	11/23 Mary Miller
11/09 Meagan Helms	11/23 Susan Aaron
11/10 Karen Bissonette	11/23 Eliot Hay
11/12 Bert Veenendaal	11/25 Suki Cho
11/14 Robert Spencer	11/25 Emma Perra
11/17 Amelia Graf	11/29 Eric Dunfee
11/18 Zoe Ann Smith	11/29 Brittany Belkiewitz

Youth Group Schedule

November 6th – Green Sunday

November 13th – Salvation Army Scavenger Hunt

November 20th - Legacy Walls

November 27th – Thanksgiving Weekend, No Youth Group

December 4th – Digital Nativity

Will you invite a friend?



Should you invite your neighbor to church? How about your friend that you know never goes anywhere on a Sunday morning. The surveys about why people attend church for the first time still indicate that 75% of all visitors come because someone invited them to come to church. On November 13th we will be launching Cross Connection, a new worship service that is contemporary in nature. It will be multi sensorial, energetic, media driving with a large variety of upbeat music. We are doing all kinds of advertizing for this new service, but none of it beats extending a personal invitation to a friend or neighbor.

A new worship service is one of the single best ways for an established church to reach out to new people. It is a great time for people who "used to come" or "used to belong" to try us out again. It can be threatening to walk into church when you haven't been coming. Just try thinking about how it might feel for you to walk into a different church than your own. However, when you walk into a new church or a new worship service there is a better chance to be a little anonymous. Everyone is new together, even the members of the church. There is an expectation that new people are expected and welcome. That's great for new folks. So that makes this the perfect time to invite a new friend, or an old friend who has drifted away from the church. Why not offer to pick them up or meet them at the church. Mention that this new and you have no idea quite what will happen either. You can "try it out" together.



