

TOLONO PRES NEWS

FEBRUARY 2010 EDITION

**PHILO-TOLONO YOUTH GROUP TO HOST
"SPAGHETTI ON A MISSION"**

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The Philo-Tolono Youth Group (PTYG) is holding a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, February 20 from 4 – 7 p.m. at the Tolono Presbyterian CE Building at 104 E. Vine in Tolono. The group is raising funds for its 5th annual mission trip to Appalachia in July 2010. The menu will consist of pasta with a choice of sauce, including marinara with or without meat, or alfredo sauce, salad, breadsticks, homemade desserts and coffee, tea, and lemonade. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for kids 10 and under. Tickets are available from any PTYG member or by calling Tolono Presbyterian Church 485-3725 or Philo Presbyterian Church 684-2317.



PTYG is a group of senior high students who work together to show God's love through service and fellowship. The group is co-sponsored by the Philo and Tolono Presbyterian Churches, however, it is an ecumenical group that welcomes any youth who wishes to participate. Activities include two gatherings per month, mission work and Bible study with discussion.

**TOP
STORIES**

- **WYN to begin February 10!**
- **One Great Hour of Sharing!**
- **Join Pastor Kerry in a discussion group!**

KNOW YOUR SESSION MEMBERS!

Chris Schweighart- Clerk
485-5195

Delores Lucas- Memorial
485-5197

Jeannette Hulick- Mission
485-5678

Susie Fisher- CE/
Personnel
485-5358

Cheryl Smith- Treasurer/
Finance/Personnel
898-4149

Gary Fisher- Buildings &
Grounds

485-8120

Barb Kelley-
Membership/Finance
485-5547

Jim Wilson- Buildings &
Grounds/Worship
485-5730

Jeri Brooks- Worship/
Buildings & Grounds
637-5464

Rev. Kerry Bean-
Designated Pastor

Cell phone number-
618-314-2298

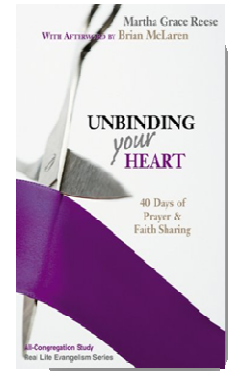
Email address-
kerrybean@frontiernet.net

Skype account:
Kerrybean1

updates will be made to this section next month

Unbind Your Heart – Unbind the Gospel

Please consider this a personal invitation for you to join me as First Presbyterian Church of Tolono begins its adventure of growth and renewal throughout 2010. I will be teaching about evangelism and church growth from the fascinating little book **Unbinding Your Heart** by Martha Grace Reese. It is the second edition of **Unbinding the Gospel**.



I will be offering this time of reflection, prayer, fun, and fellowship throughout the season of Lent, which begins this month. The folks on session have graciously agreed to host us in their homes as we get together. I thought I'd go first and host our initial get-together at the manse at 7:00pm on **Thursday, February 18th**.

All you will need to bring is a notepad and pen. Bibles and copies of **Unbinding Your Heart** will be provided. As will desserts.

The essence of the book is that for church's to grow, they must enter into a time of prayer and discernment in order to discover where God is leading them to go. And so the Lenten season will be a prayerful season for us. Once we get a solid understanding of God's plan for us, then we get going. Reese says that the key to growing the church is a congregation full of people who sense the right moments to invite neighbors, friends, and even acquaintances into the life of the church. Maybe you'll meet them at their home, bring them to church- and then head together for lunch!

Reese also says that mainline Protestant churches like ours are woefully prepared to do evangelism because none of us- including the pastors- are experienced in it or trained to do it. **Unbinding Your Heart** combines insight, thought-provoking questions, and spiritual nourishment as we move closer and closer to understanding how we're called to share gospel of Jesus Christ with our community.

Ideally, the whole congregation will participate. But this time around, even twenty would be a good start. Please prayerfully consider this chance to learn how to more effectively spread the gospel and build up our church. Let me know if you're interesting in attending by Wed. 2/10, so I can order a book for you. It's not another thing to do; it's another chance to grow.

Peace,

Rev. Kerry Bean, Designated Pastor

PS I'll keep updates of how this study is progressing on tolonopresbyterian.org.

MISSION MOMENTS

One Great Hour of Sharing

February brings us into the season of Lent, which is also the season of **One Great Hour of Sharing**. From the Presbyterian Church USA website:

“For more than 50 years, Presbyterians have joined with Christians throughout the nation in supporting One Great Hour of Sharing, responding to Christ's love for all people by joyfully sharing that love with people in need. The refugee and the stranger have found food and safe shelter; those stunned by the aftermath of disasters have found relief and help rebuilding; and communities seeking to take control of their future have found partners in development... After deducting administrative costs (up to 5 percent) and the costs of creating and distributing promotional materials (roughly 5 percent), the remaining undesignated gifts are divided among three programs as follows:

Presbyterian Hunger Program (36 percent)

For ministries working to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes, responding with compassion and justice to poor and hungry people in local communities, in the nation and throughout the world, as well as ministries addressing homelessness and affordable housing.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32 percent)

For disaster response and ministries with refugees.

Self-Development of People (32 percent)

For partnerships with groups of people who are oppressed by poverty or social systems, who want to take charge of their own lives, have organized to do something about their own condition, and have decided what they need to do to produce long-term benefits for themselves.”

Watch for the fish banks at church to begin collecting your **offering for One Great Hour of Sharing, which will be taken on March 28 (Palm Sunday)**. Also, you can print out your own “Sharing Calendar” with information and ideas for how to make an offering each day. Print copies will also be available at church.

<http://www.pcusa.org/art/09oghs/sharingcalendar.pdf>

A PCUSA One Great Hour of Sharing Lenten Devotional is available to print out here:

<http://www.pcusa.org/oghs/lent.pdf> Again, print copies will also be made available at church.

Here is a thank-you letter from one organization that benefited from One Great Hour of Sharing:

“Dear Presbyterian Hunger Program:

On behalf of everyone at Global Exchange, we would like to convey our sincerest gratitude to you for your continued support of our fair trade campaign. We are most appreciative of your generous donation to support the goals of the fair trade campaign. We will, of course, ensure this gift is allocated for the purposes of promoting fair and environmentally sustainable practices in the cocoa industry.

Thank you again for your commitment. We are grateful for your dedication and commitment to our shared vision for a brighter future. We look forward to continuing our partnership in the coming year.

MISSION MOMENTS CONTINUED

P.S.: As I sat down to write you this note, word came in that over 50 children were just discovered and freed from cocoa fields in West Africa, where they were toiling in abusive child labor. This is a major development showing the continued importance of our work and your support.

Thank you so much for making it possible for us to help build a brighter future free of suffering and full of education and hope for the children of West Africa.

With sincere gratitude for your support year after year,

Adrienne Fitch-Frankel

Fair Trade Campaign Director

San Francisco, California”

Food Bags for Area Neighbors in Need

In March, the Mission Committee is planning to take a collection to be used for purchasing food for folks in our community who could really use some extra help. Please pray about this project and also contact Jeannette Hulick or Linda Smith if you know of a person or family who might like to receive a food bag. More details will be coming as the month goes on.

Words to Live By

Here are a few more quotes about mission to inspire you and make you think:

"Sympathy is no substitute for action." – David Livingstone, missionary to Africa

“A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history.” – Mohandas Gandhi

“Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it.” – Helen Keller

WEDNESDAY YOUTH NIGHT BEGINS FEBRUARY 10

First Presbyterian Church of Tolono invites the youth of the community to attend Wednesday Youth Nights (WYN) which begin Wednesday, February 10 and run through Wednesday, April 28. WYN begins with a family style dinner for all ages at 5:30 p.m. Preschool and kindergarten then enjoy Bible-based activities until 7 p.m, while children in grades 1 through 5 hear a Bible story and participate in a variety of activities such as music, games, science, cooking, sports, art, drama and crafts until 8 p.m. WYN also offers opportunities for youth in grades 6, 7 and 8 to enjoy dinner with the group and then participate in their own Bible study, games, and other activities.

Cost is \$28 for the first child \$24 for each additional child in a family. Children can join at any time during the semester. For more information, please call the church office at 485-3725.

FEBRUARY 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Worship 10:30am	8	9	10 WYN 5:30pm	11	12	13
14 Worship 10:30am	15 Friends Lunch	16 Session 7pm	17 WYN 5:30pm	18	19	20
21 Worship 10:30am	22	23	24 WYN 5:30pm	25	26	27
28 Worship 10:30am	*** Adult Sunday School @ 9:15am					

Birthdays!

2/3 Anna Jane Bretzlaff
 2/10 Paul Tabaka
 2/16 John Flavin
 2/17 Amanda Robeck
 2/19 Kati Smith
 2/23 John Frasca
 2/26 Andrea Hawn

OTHER IMPORTANT CALENDAR ITEMS....

Anniversaries!

2/2 Josh and Andrea Hawn
 2/22 Dean and Bonnie Bonnell
 2/28 John and Karen Collins

Sat. 2/6: KB at Camp Carew Board Meeting
 Sun. 2/7 Neutral Pulpit Preacher
 Installation and Ordination of Officers
 Sun. 2/14 Valentine's Day
 Wed. 2/17 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service in Sanctuary
 Thu. 2/18 7:00pm Unbinding Your Heart at the Manse
 Sat. 2/20 4:00-7:00pm PTYG – Pasta Dinner –
 CE Building
 Mon. 2/22 7:00pm Unbinding Your Heart
 Thu. 2/25 Presbytery Meeting in Effingham
 Fri. 2/26 Kerry on vacation 'til 3/3
 Sun. 2/28 Worship at 10:30am Guest Preacher

Lay Leaders

Feb 7– Bonnie Woolard
 Feb 14– Jeff Fisher
 Feb 21– Susie Fisher
 Feb 28– Jeannette Hulick
 March 7– Linda Smith

Church Website-

<http://www.tolonopresbyterian.org>

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOLONO

104 E. Vine St.

Tolono, IL 61880

Phone: 217-485-3725

Email: tolonopres@yahoo.com

Worship is every Sunday at 10:30 am.

Adult Sunday School is at 9:15am and Children Sunday School is at 9:30am.

The Quilting Group meets every Wednesday at 1pm in the church basement. All are welcome!

The Friends of the Church meet for lunch of the third Monday of each month at 11:30am at the Hometown Buffet on North Prospect in Champaign. Everyone is welcome to join!

Please visit our new website for more information! www.tolonopresbyterian.org