

February 2023



Feel the Love February

This year, we'll be sharing love in February in two very special ways:



Wednesday Dinners at the Parsonage

You're invited to sign up for one of the following Wednesdays to join Martha at the parsonage for dinner and get to know a few new people. You can sign up using the Signup Genius link, or you can email Martha with the dates you are available:

Feb. 8, 15, or 22

Mar. 1, 8, or 15



RAOK –Random Acts of Kindness

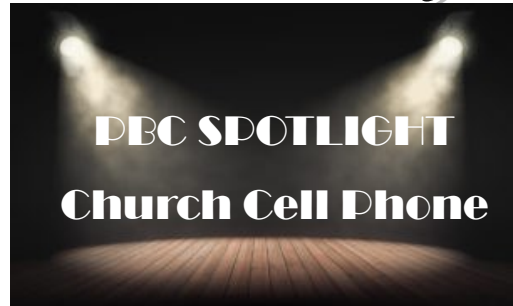
During February, we'll be encouraging each other to offer random acts of kindness— leave an extra-large tip or tape a \$20 bill to a gas pump; drop a note to someone you haven't seen in a while; bake cookies/brownies/ something and leave it for a friend or acquaintance on their doorstep. Be creative! Then share on our Window of Love* what your RAOK for that week was—we'll fill our window and our city with love during what promises to be a long and rainy month.

Get ready to give and receive lots of love this February!

*the window in the breezeway

Signup Genius Link for Wednesday dinners:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44ACAC2CA2F8C70-wednesday>



In an effort to stay accessible to the church community and also enable staff to move around the building during the office hours, we now have a cell phone set aside exclusively for church use. In addition to being a way to contact church staff, the cell phone will allow us to increase our security on Sunday mornings, a process we will be working on with the Facilities Team in the near future.

The landline number (**434-384-2031**) will still be available and the voicemail on the landline will include the new cell number.

Our new cell phone number is:

434-435-1721

This phone also has the ability to send and receive texts, which is the only way to communicate with anyone under 50.

In addition, after we complete our updates of the 2023 Church Directory, it will be sent to you as a PDF which, if you choose, you can upload to your phone and access on your smart phone any time from anywhere. Technology rules!

Add our new cell number to your contacts and give us a call!

One PBC Weekend—March 24-26

We invite everyone to join us for our One PBC Weekend, which takes place from Friday evening, 3/24, through Sunday morning, 3/26. Here's what is on the agenda:

- **Connecting**—the goals we agreed on for PBC in 2023 last fall include connecting more deeply with each other. During that weekend, we will have fun activities, we will eat meals together, we will plan worship together, and we will have significant conversations about our identity.
- **Projects**—there are several good projects for us to work on during the afternoon on Saturday, which include creating a meditation trail in our woods (power tools invited), organizing and labeling items in closets, and painting our new Quiet Room.
- **Children/Youth/Young Adults**—you're invited to spend Saturday night together up at Eagle Eyrie for some fun time focused solely on you!
- **Core Values**—between now and 3/24, you will be given information (see article on p. 2) about the core values being discussed in your Congregational Council. We will take time to discuss our values and identity together on Saturday morning.



Food for Thought

We will pack our Food for Thought bags on **Sunday, February 5th, right after**

Worship in our Fellowship Hall. These bags go to students at E. C. Glass High School who might be food insecure during the weekend. Reminder: you can donate 8-pack boxes of Single serving, microwavable Mac & Cheese in the blue tub outside the sanctuary any time. Thank you!

Care Groups and One PBC Weekend

There is no cost for the One PBC Weekend, but we are asking Care Groups to each cover one meal:

Dinner—Friday Evening—Dinner Care Group

Breakfast—Saturday —Searchers Care Group

Lunch—Saturday—Choir Care Group

Dinner—Saturday—Under 50 Care Group

Breakfast—Sunday—Missions Team Care Group

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44ACAC2CA2F8C70-onepbc>

February Events

Feel the Love February—All Month

- 2—Brown Bag Lunch
- 5—Communion/Food for Thought Bags
- 11—Movie Night— “The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse” and “Everything Everywhere All At Once”
- 14—Westminster-Canterbury Lunch-11:30am
- 20—Office Closed for President’s Day
- 22—Ash Wednesday Stations—All Day—
Fellowship Hall—Lent Season Begins
- 26—Lenten Classes—4pm

Office Schedule—February

Martha—M-Th-9-5pm-day off: Friday
marthakearse@peaklandbc.org

Martha out—Feb. 19

Leslie—M-T and Th-F—9am-2pm—day off: Wed.
pbcoffice@peaklandbc.org

Susan—available by email any time:
pbcfinance@peaklandbc.org

February Birthdays

- 1 Samuel Redd
- 3 Ashley Dietz
- 6 Kendall Woody
- 6 Sandy Garrard
- 11 Anne Lewis
- 12 Will Lewis
- 15 Michael Colucci
- 15 Elaine Moody
- 18 Richard Bergman
- 25 Pat Lovern
- 27 Bala Dandapani
- 28 Rob Feuerstein
- 28 Victoria Riordan
- 28 Dennis Taylor



Classes for Lent

This year, to facilitate connections and spiritual growth through Lent, we are offering two classes:
—Our neighbor, Monica Prahinski, is an Integrated Nutrition and Wellness Coach whose services I (MDK) found extremely helpful. Her course is called **On Thought Optimization**:

We give meaning to our circumstances through our thoughts. Circumstances are fact and thoughts are subjective. We can’t change our circumstances, but we can change our thoughts about them.

Cost for **On Thought Optimization**: \$250 for 4 weeks + one individual session with Monica

— **Finding Your Narrative**—Martha Kearse

What we tell ourselves about our lives and what the events in our lives mean becomes the focal point for emotions and actions. This course invites learners to explore their narrative about their lives through writing, storytelling and other art forms.

Cost for **Finding Your Narrative**: Coffee/Lunch w/ MDK

Dates: Feb. 26, March 5, 26 and April 2



PBC Core Values

Last fall (2022) the PBC Congregational Council began conversations about how best to invite new people to come to our church. That conversation led us back to the issue we’ve been working on for quite some time: our identity as a church. In 2019, PBC reaffirmed the Four Baptist Freedoms as part of our core values:

- Bible Freedom (the freedom to read and interpret the Bible for ourselves);
- Church Freedom (the autonomy of the local church)
- Religious Freedom (the separation of the church from any outside influence or authority);
- Soul Freedom (the freedom of individuals to have their own relationship with God with out any intermediary).

The other two proposed values would be **Spiritual Journey** (that is, our purpose for existing is to each walk our own spiritual journey, at our own pace, and our purpose together is to facilitate each other in the process of walking our spiritual journey); and **Hospitality** (the readiness, welcome, inclusion and protection we provide for all who cross onto our property).

Our pastor, Martha Kearse, proposed that we use the shape of our building and our logo (the triangle) to adopt three core values that became our shared identity and could be used to evangelize the good news of our church. As Baptists, we do not have creeds or statements of faith, but these core values would provide guidance for understanding why we exist, what we are here to do and what we will expect of each other as we do what we have come here together to do.

So our values would be:



In the March Messenger, we will share a finalized version of the proposed language around our core values. Then, at our One PBC Weekend, we will spend some of our time together talking about the language of these values and begin the work of fine-tuning what we say about ourselves in ways that represent consensus from all of us together on who we would like to be.

In the meantime, you are invited to begin having your own conversations about these values. It would be a wonderful conversation topic for Care Groups as you connect with each other over the next month. Talk to someone on the Congregational Council about the values and ask them why they voted to propose these three concepts as our shared values.