

# The Presbyter

March 2016

## The First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit



## Worship with us for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter

It is our hope that you will plan to attend worship often during this Lent and Easter season, and that you will be blessed by what you experience.

- February 28 A Mending Service of healing and holy communion will be held at 4:00 p.m.
- March 20 On Palm Sunday, we will have two worship services at 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.
- March 24 We will observe Maundy Thursday at 7:30 p.m. with communion and Tenebrae.
- ♦ March 25 There will be a one-hour Good Friday service at 12 noon.
- March 27 We will celebrate Easter Sunday with two services at 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Our Next Arts Event -

## Electric City Swing Sunday, March 6, 2016 at 4:00 pm

We welcome The Electric City Swing, a wonderful group of musicians who will perform the music of the 1920's, 1930's, and 1940's in the style of hot



jazz or hot swing. Performers include NEPA all-stars Mark Woodyatt on violin, Tony Marino on bass, Nick Driscoll on reeds, Roy Williams on guitar, Anthony Hannigan on mandolin, Tom Kosic on guitar, and special guest violinist from France, Raphael Maillet.

Woodyatt's virtuosity on acoustic and 5-string electric violin has earned him high regard through our region. Tony Marino is well-known in the region and beyond for his masterful work on the bass. Hannigan appeared at FPC last year as leader of the Hickory Project, NEPA's top bluegrass band. Roy Williams writes music with a curious ear and an open mind.

This event is open to the public free of charge. A free-will offering will be taken to help defray our costs. For more information about the concert, call the church office at 570-586-6306 or visit www.fpccs.org

## SEE PAGE 4 FOR EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM. HURRY - DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 29!



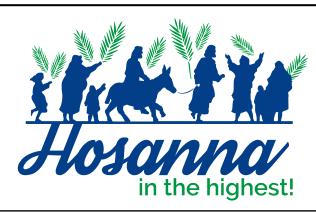
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## Notes from the Session Meeting on February 9, 2016

- 1. Chairs were pleased when \$406.72 was received for the Souper Bowl Offering taken on Sunday, February 7th.
- 2. Session is planning to have a Community Outreach program on Sunday, September 25, 2016. There is a planning meeting scheduled for April 4th at 6 o'clock with a light supper planned. If you are interested in coming to hear more about this program, please contact Diane Scheuer, Chair of Mission and Justice.
- 3. There will be two services for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, one at 8:30 a.m. and the second at 10:00 a.m.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2016

## **REVENUE**

Budget	\$	29,450
Actual Received	_	41,067
Difference	\$	11,617

#### **EXPENSES**

Budget	\$	29,367
Actual Expenses	_	30,689
Difference	\$	1,322
	==	

BUDGET VARIANCE \$ 10,295

#### PLEDGE INCOME

 Budget
 \$ 26,667

 Received
 31,543

 Difference
 \$ 4,876

Per Capita 2016 is \$32.00 per member. Total Received to date - \$2.218

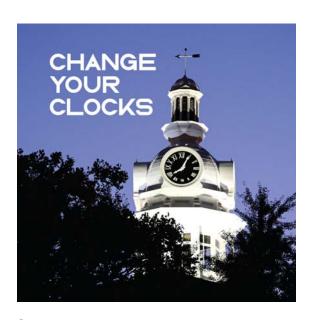
#### The Presbyter deadline for The April issue is March 18, 2016

<u>The Presbyter</u> is a monthly newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church, 300 School Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411.

All visitors are welcome to worship with us. Worship services are held on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Child care is available. Communion is observed the first Sunday of every month.

If you do not attend a church in this area, we invite you to any and all of the events, programs, and worship services described in this newsletter. Please call the church office to arrange child care. Our sanctuary and Fellowship Hall are both handicapped accessible.

**Church Office** (570) 586-6306 (570) 587-3784 Fax Web Page www.fpccs.org **Pastor** William G. Carter **Administrative Assistant** Nancy Owens Treasurer Wayne Griffiths Editor Lindsey Hardy Clerk of Session Beverly Bright **Director of Music** Frank Jones **Director of Bells** Richard Cochrane **Director of Chapel Choir** Kay Ten Eyck **Organist** Kay Ten Eyck Sexton John Conklin



Set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 12th. Daylight Savings Time begins on March 13th!



## From the Pastor

William G. Carter

Dear Friends.

This year as we move into Lent and prepare for One Great Hour of Sharing, I remain grateful for the transformation made possible through this special offering. In places like Kitui, Kenya, Asheville, North Carolina, and Iona, Michigan, those most in need are finding hope and help through the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, the Self-Development of People program, and their partners in ministry. In this media-driven environment of "the next big story," it is easy to become distracted from the reality faced by our brothers and sisters around the world where poverty, disaster, and war cause displacement and suffering.

This is why we continue to give to One Great Hour of Sharing. When we give this year, we give in faith—knowing that staff in the three One Great Hour of Sharing programs will be responding in Christ's name to the cries of our sisters and brothers throughout the next year. We trust that they will respond as they did in West Africa in the wake of the devastating Ebola crisis: immediately, directly, and through our partners wherever the emergency occurs. But equally important, we know that they will remain in areas of devastation long after the news cameras have moved elsewhere as they continue rebuilding both lives and communities.

Feeding the hungry, helping people build up their own livelihoods, responding to disasters—these are all ways that your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing are changing lives, changing communities, and changing the world. We'll read about examples of this in bulletin inserts leading up to the Offering. God does some amazing work through this offering!

I want to extend a challenge to you this Lent. Visit the One Great Hour of Sharing website (www.presbyterianmission.org/oghs) to find out more information on how your support of OGHS helps people all over the world. Then make a generous gift—or a series of generous gifts—to advance this special offering. Special envelopes are available in pews, as well as in the offering envelope boxes.

I hope you will join us each Sunday in March. Let's open our hearts to witness tangibly to the abundant love of God through One Great Hour of Sharing.

Yours in the love and grace of Jesus Christ,

Rev. Bill Carter



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## **Board of Deacons**

Care Team Ministry Coordinators are:

Independent & Assisted Living: Sara Ann Hosier 587-0371

Deacon Meals: Donna Kepler 587-2729

Time of Loss:

Emergency Home Repair/ Joe Waters 586-7233 Maintenance: Greg Matthews 587-2644

Please let the Board of Deacons Care Team Coordinators or the church office know if anyone is in need of care.

We're here to care for FPC members and friends and we count on all of you to let us know when help is needed. This is our ministry and our Christian privilege to care for you.



The 2016 flower calendar is posted in the hallway next to Rev. Carter's office. If you would like to provide flowers for a Sunday worship service, please indicate this on the flower calendar and you will be contacted

## **Easter Flowers Order Form**

By the time you receive this newsletter, the deadline will have ALMOST passed, but not quite! **February 29** is the deadline set by our florist for us to order our Easter flowers.

We are ordering lilies, tulips, and mums. Each plant wil	II cost \$8.00.		
Please complete the following information:		•	
Flowers are given by			11
(as it should appear in the flower insert)			3
In memory / honor (select one)		A	
of			
What flowers would you like to order? How many?			
Lily MumsTulips			·
Will you take your plant(s) home on Easter Sunday? Or	yes	no	
Should we give the plant(s) to someone on your behalf?	?		

Please enclose cash or check for flowers at \$8 each; checks are payable to First Presbyterian Church.



Once again I would like to thank all the people who kept me in their prayers, sent cards, and saw that I was well fed as I recovered from my recent surgery. I know it is with your love and God's grace that I am doing so well. I am truly grateful to be part of this church family.

Judy Cutler

Thank you to everyone who assisted with the meal following Jo Conklin's memorial service. Your energy and willingness is a significant ministry and is greatly appreciated.

Betty Keen, Deacon

First Presbyterian Church needs to be congratulated on the way it takes care of members who need some tender loving care.

From the pastor to the deacons and other members, I shall never forget the hospital visits, calls, food and flower deliveries that certainly speeded up my recovery. I hope I'll be able to reciprocate. Sincerely, Gayle Hamilton

## Dear Friends,

It took a while for me to get my thoughts together to tell you how thankful I am for being a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit. Jo's service was truly warm, heartwarming and as near perfect as any service I've attended. This was because of all of you. I have had many compliments concerning the beautiful church itself and the warm welcome extended to everyone who entered the church. The choir, and Kay, outstanding...the solo by Frank Jones, some asked if they could take him home. *Kleenex* e-mailed me thanking me for the boost you gave in their stock.

#### I have to thank:

- the Deacons for their help in making my day easier, their kindness in helping to both serve the meal and to clean up after,
- Stan and Gwynne Gilbert for ushering and making every stranger who entered feel comfortable and welcomed, and
- all who brought the delicious, home-made desserts.

Last but not least, thank you to Bill Carter who gave the most warm personal service that made everyone know how precious Jo was to me and to all of you.

Lastly.....attending services and events here with Jo I can tell you that, though she was not a member of our church, Jo loved our church and our teachings. Thank all of you for everything you do for Jo and myself. You are First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit.

Sincerely, John Conklin



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Christian Education

It's for life!

THE W.A.Y.

The Wednesday Adults and Youth Christian Education

"I am the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE"

Supper, 5:00 \* Classes for all ages, 6:15

## **Important Date:**

Sunday, March 20 we will have a Holy Week program after worship. All are welcome.

**Spark** (Newborn - 3 year old) enjoy Bible stories, songs and games in the nursery. Stories this month are Jesus blessing the children, Jesus healing two blind men, Holy Week, and the empty tomb.

**Power Xpress (4 year old - Grade 5)** will participate in one combined classroom for the winter and experience Bible stories through interactive classes. In March we will journey to the cross and learn about the resurrection.

We Believe: With All Boldness and Freedom (Grades 6-8) Room 209. Students are working through the New Testament to gain the overall picture of the life of Jesus and the early church. This month we will learn about the gift of the Holy Spirit and the work of Peter and other early believers.

**PresbyYouth (Grades 9-12 and college-age adults)** are encouraged to either join an adult class or participate in the middle school class.

Adults: Dr. Charlie Pinches leads a weekly class on "Highlights in the Bible" for adults and teens in Room 210 through March. He says, "The class is open to all who want to brush up on the Bible and keep their stories straight."

**Rev. Bill Carter** will lead a group for adults called **"Practicing the Presence of God."** The group will explore poetry, meditative prayer, guided imagery, and reflective listening to music as ways to welcome the presence of God in our lives. On March 2 and 9, we welcome **poet Dawn Leas** as our special guest.

Also for adults, **Char Lyon** and **Tyler Kusma** will lead a six week study of the **Parables of Jesus**, based on the video teaching of Ken Bailey. This class will meet in Room 206 until March 24.

Christian Education is an important part of who we are and what we do...and we need *YOU* to make it happen. How? You can enrich your own faith and help our church grow in Christ by:

- ♦ Attending the W.A.Y. for dinner, classes, and choirs...we want to see you here!
- Bringing a friend...new faces are always welcome.
- Volunteering to teach...at any grade level for any amount of time, you can help our children and adults learn and grow. Please prayerfully consider helping with this important ministry.
- Helping to set up for, cook, and serve our weekly meal...our church family loves to eat.
- ◆ Joining the CE committee...our group meets the first Thursday of each month to plan the W.A.Y., youth group, special events, and more we're always looking to hear from new voices.



## **Wednesday Supper Reservations**

**Light Supper** is served before The Way classes from 5:00-6:10 for those with **reservations**. Suggested donation: \$3 per person.



Please return reservation slips no later than **Monday**. Slips can be placed in the **basket near the phone in the kitchen** or in the **offering plate**. You may also **call the church office** to make reservations.

## **Chapel Choir Notes**

submitted by Kay Ten Eyck

Our March 13th anthem, "Create in Me a Clean Heart", is based on Psalm 51. We look forward to sharing this beautiful text and music with the congregation for Lent.



We are very happy to be a part of such vibrant music ministry. We look forward to having Tom Heinze play the service music for March 6th, the same Sunday our Bell Choir will provide special music. Our Adult Choir has uplifting music planned for Palm Sunday and Easter.



Would you like to sing or ring? Talk to one of the directors; we'd love to have you join us!

## **Choir Rehearsal Schedule**

**Chapel Choir** ~ Kay Ten Eyck, Director ~ rehearses Wednesday evenings 5:30 to 6:10 ~ sings about once a month

**Adult Choir** ~ Frank Jones, Director ~ rehearses Wednesday evenings 7:15 to 8:25 ~ sings about three times a month

**Bell Choir** ~ Richard Cochrane, Director ~ rehearses Wednesday evenings 8:30 to 9:15 ~ rings about once a month

## **Youth Fellowship**

All youth grades 4-12 are invited to join us on the following dates:

Friday, March 4
Friday, March 18
Friday, April 8
Friday, April 22

Youth group meets from 6:30-8:30.

## **Helpers Needed!**

The W.A.Y. is looking for people to help with our meals. You are welcome to help once in a while, once a month, or whenever you are able!

## You can help by:

Cooking or helping to cook a main dish

Providing a salad Providing a dessert

Helping with setup Helping with cleanup

If you can contribute, please contact Jana Schillinger or any member of CE committee.

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March will find us at Nancy London's home on March 31st. Come join us as we discuss The Lowland by Jhumpa Lahiri. But for its lyrical, evocative scenes of life in the Calcutta neighborhood in which her heroes grow up, Jhumpa Lahiri's The Lowland could be set anywhere, in almost any time. At the center of this heartbreaking story are two very different brothers. Udayan, the younger by 15 months, is passionate, idealistic and ripe for involvement in the political rebellion in 1960s India (not all that different from his American counterparts of the same era.) Subhash is the "good brother," the parent-pleaser, who goes off to study and teach in America. But when Udayan, inevitably, ends up a victim of his self-made political violence, Subhash steps in and marries his dead brother's pregnant wife. His is the proverbial good deed that will never go unpunished; Subhash soon becomes a victim of his own goodness. As always, Lahiri's prose is lyrical and rich and her story is steeped in history, but in this book (more perhaps than The Namesake, her other novel) the issues raised are more universal and the plot more linear. Competitive siblings, parental love, commitment to belief and family, these are the topics one of our most brilliant writers addresses in what is at once her most accessible, and most profound, book yet.



## What Is Stephen Ministry?

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2, NRSV).

Stephen Ministry is the one-toone lay caring ministry that takes place in congregations that use the Stephen Series system.

Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting.

If you are interested in learning more about the Stephen Ministry, contact one of our Stephen Leaders, John Conklin, Judy Cutler or Rev. Bill Carter.



### **MISSION AND JUSTICE**

Lent and One Great Hour of Sharing go hand in hand. Last year we contributed a little over \$6,000 to help people in need around the world and at home. In keeping with our suggestion to increase pledges by 10%, this year's goal is \$6,600. OGHS is a 3 pronged approach - disaster assistance, hunger relief and self development of people.

Plan to give generously.



# MY BROTHERS' KEEPER QUILTING GROUP

In early February, the Lackawanna County Commissioners proclaimed the MBK project a local "Good Works" and presented the founders, Flo, Jim, and Len Wheatley, as well as Marie Cochrane of FPCCS, and Lucas Taylor of Keystone College, with Certificates. Our copy is on the bulletin board by Rev. Carter's office.

Our group has been busy since September, making over 25 quilts to date. This is possible because of the generous donations from our members - stuffing material, sheets, blankets, towels, gloves, socks, clothing, personal hygiene items – they all make our ministry possible. Thank you for your help!

We would like to invite anyone interested to join us in fellowship hall for our annual MBK Sewing Workshop on March 8. From 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM we will concentrate on making quilts for the homeless. As part of the fellowship, we will lunch together. Hope to see you there.

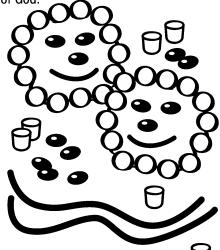


STATE HOSPITAL
LUNCHEON—April 5<sup>th</sup>, Noon
Join us for lunch and fellowship
with our guests in Fellowship
Hall. You do not have to be a
circle member to come and
Men are always welcome.

Presbyterian Women

# LITTLE LAMBS

Make these cute treats as a reminder that Jesus our Savior is also the Lamb of God.

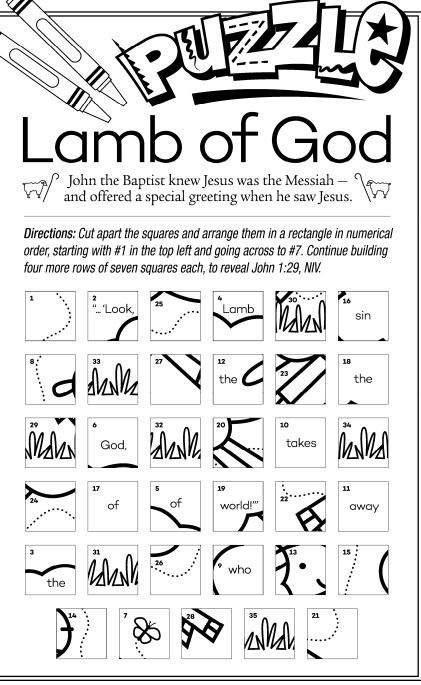


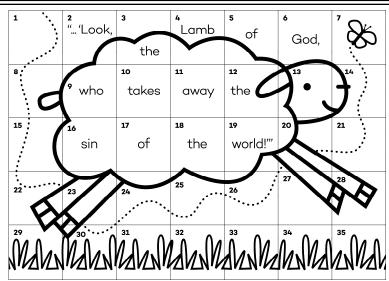
## What you need:

- Vanilla cupcakes
- Vanilla frosting
- Butter knife
- Mini marshmallows
- Jellybeans
- Red licorice

## What you do:

- 1. Bake and frost the cupcakes.
- 2. Place marshmallows around the edge of each cupcake.
- 3. Cut green or blue jellybeans in half and place two on each cupcake as eyes. Cut pink jellybeans in half and place one below each pair of eyes as a nose.
- 4. Cut thin strips of licorice, and place one on each cupcake as a mouth.
- 5. Enjoy!





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## **Joys and Sorrows**



The Sympathy of the Congregation is extended to:

- Vi Dygert and family on the passing of her husband, Bob Dygert on February 3, 2016, and
- Diane Keller and family on the loss of her cousin, Emil Klatt on February 6, 2016.



## Lectionary Readings

## March 6, 2016 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

## March 13, 2016 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

## March 20, 2016 Passion/Palm Sunday

Palm: Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1 -2, 19-29

Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56 OR Luke 23:1-49

## March 27, 2016 Easter

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; Luke 24:1-12

#### **USHERS FOR MARCH**

Laura Schillinger Marsha Parrish

### **WELCOMERS**

March 6 – Chris, Jen &

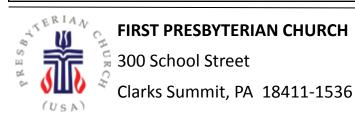
Crosby Sekol

March 13 - Nancy London

March 20 - Janet Dobson

March 27 - Rob, Anne & Nick

Deremer



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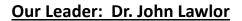


Announcing this year's Janson Lecture . . .

Surveying the Land Between: The Role of Geology, Geography, History, Archeology, and Theology in Understanding the Land of the Bible and the Bible of the Land

Saturday, March 5, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit, PA





Dr. John Lawlor has taught Biblical Theology since 1970 at several seminaries and universities, most recently Grand Rapids Theological Seminary. He has spent the last 45 years in the study of Old Testament and the compositional strategy that informs the content, shape, and meaning of the books of the Old Testament. In addition to his teaching, he was involved in Archaeological Research in the Middle East (Jordan) from 1967-2004.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn about the Holy Land from this wonderful scholar. This is our fifth annual Janson Lecture, a day set aside for the study of scripture. In honor of Joyce and the late Roy Janson, First Presbyterian Church offers this event as a gift to the community. All are welcome to attend.

To register, send an e-mail to <u>office@fpccs.orq</u> and pay the \$10 registration fee at the door. Or you can complete the registration form available at the church, with a \$10 registration fee (checks made out to First Presbyterian Church).

# March 2016

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 8 9 1 14 15 16 1	V T F S 3 4 5 6 0 11 12 13	10:00 AM PW Executive Board 7:00 PM Session	2  10:00 AM Prayer & Share 5:00 PM THE W.A.Y. supper 5:30 Chapel Choir 6:15 Classes for all 7:15 Adult Choir 8:30 Bell Choir	3 8:30 AM Mens' Breakfast 4:30 PM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Counseling Support Group 7:00 PM Building & Grounds 7:00 PM Christian Education	4	5
10:00 AM Worship 4:00 PM Arts: Electric City Swing Band Lent 4	7 12:00 PM Weight Watchers 7:00 PM Mission & Justice	8 10:00 AM -2:00 PM PW Annual Sewing Project: sewing quilts for the homeless	9 10:00 AM Prayer & Share 10:00 LP Nominating 1:00 PM LP COM 5:00 PM THE W.A.Y. supper 5:30 Chapel Choir 6:15 Classes for all 7:15 Adult Choir 8:30 Bell Choir	10 5:00 PM Counseling Support Group	11	12 Spring forward 1 hour tonight.
13 10:00 AM Worship Daylight Savings Time begins Lent 5	14 12:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:30 PM Worship, Music & Arts	15 PW Circles: 10AM, 1:30PM & 7PM	10:00 AM Prayer & Share 5:00 PM THE W.A.Y. supper 5:30 Chapel Choir 6:15 Classes for all 7:15 Adult Choir 8:30 Bell Choir	8:30 AM Mens' Breakfast 5:00 PM Counseling Support Group 6:30 PM Fellowship	18 Presbyter Deadline	19
8:30 and 10:00 AM Worship Palm Sunday	21 12:00 PM Weight Watchers	22 10:00 AM MBK Quilts 7:00 PM Deacons	23  10:00 AM Prayer & Share 5:00 PM THE W.A.Y. supper 5:30 Chapel Choir 6:15 Classes for all 7:15 Adult Choir 8:30 Bell Choir	5:00 PM Counseling Support Group 7:30 PM Maundy Thursday Service	25 12:00 PM Good Friday Service Church Office closes at noon.	26
27 8:30 and 10:00 AM Worship Easter	28 12:00 PM Weight Watchers Church Office is closed.	7:00 PM Committee moderator meeting	9:00 AM Presbyter 10:00 AM Prayer & Share 5:00 PM THE W.A.Y. supper 5:30 Chapel Choir 6:15 Classes for all 7:15 Adult Choir 8:30 Bell Choir	5:00 PM Counseling Support Group - 7:00 PM FPC Book Group	S M T V  3 4 5 10 11 12	2016  W T F S  1 2  6 7 8 9  13 14 15 16  20 21 22 23  27 28 29 30