

# Staying CONNECTED

*Celebrating together  
the work God is  
doing in the PCA*

## Theology of Sport

*First Presbyterian Church  
Stanley, North Carolina*

Sports make up an enormous part of modern culture, in America and around the world, and many Christians recognize the potential for using all types of sports to share the gospel. But how should Christians fit competition into a biblical worldview? How should Christians view winning and losing?

Can a follower of Christ also be a die-hard fan or top-performing athlete? These are a few of the questions First Presbyterian Church is raising in a Sunday school class called Theology of Sport, where sports fans, players, and coaches will investigate the biblical responses.



## Better Understanding

*Lansdale Presbyterian Church  
Hatfield, Pennsylvania*

Understanding the perspectives and backgrounds of community members is essential to being a good neighbor and helpful when entering into spiritual conversations with those of another faith. Lansdale Presbyterian participates in one such opportunity for community dialogue called Meeting for Better Understanding (MBU), held in conjunction with a local mosque. The church meets for a time of prayer, and then heads to a presentation given by a Christian and a Muslim on a given topic from each faith perspective. Most recently, the presentation

and following discussion focused on the duty to one's neighbor.

## Evening Discipleship

*Redeemer Presbyterian Church  
Overland Park, Kansas*

Sunday evenings at Redeemer Presbyterian are a time of praise and worship for the entire church body. For the youth, the nights are also dedicated to discipleship. After a time of worship, the youth of the church break off from the congregation for a time of instruction. Redeemer's goal is to help students understand how to read and apply their Bibles in everyday life. Working through the book of John as a group, the youth are learning how to take a small

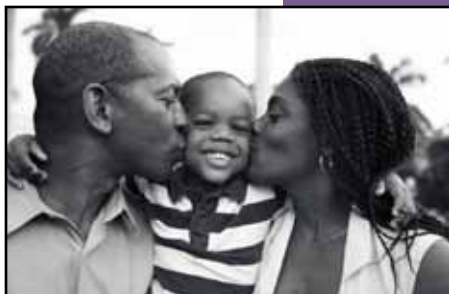
portion of Scripture, walk through the piece verse by verse and include prayer in the process.

## Praying the Psalms

*Fairview Reformed Presbyterian Church  
Industry, Pennsylvania*

The Psalms are divinely inspired prayers, covering a wide range of emotions, topics, and themes. This fall, Fairview Reformed Presbyterian will open each Wednesday night prayer meeting with the study of a psalm. The church believes that praying the Psalms will help its members to mature in their faith and broaden the topics on which they pray. After the study, members can stay for a time of prayer which focuses on incorporating

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the themes and topics of that week's psalm. People are welcome to pray silently on their own or in small groups out loud.

## Men's Campout

*Evangel Presbyterian Church  
Wichita, Kansas*

The men's ministry at Evangel Presbyterian Church is not just about the men. It's about the whole family. One Friday this fall, the men of Evangel are taking their children to the great outdoors. This one night camping trip at a local lake includes plenty of time for enjoying God's creation with activities such as fishing, as well as enjoying lots of fellowship together around the fire.

## Community Garden

*Sovereign Community Church  
Miramichi, New Brunswick,  
Canada*

There is more than one way to plant a seed. This past year,

Sovereign Community Church sponsored a community garden. Tilling plots, growing vegetables, and building relationships, volunteers from the church worked with other local volunteers to take care of the plot of land and neighbors in the process. The garden belongs to and is governed by all of the community volunteers, and the church's sponsorship and participation is just one way to connect with the broader community while providing nutritious food and beautiful green space for the area.

## School of Discipleship

*Redeemer Church of Knoxville  
Knoxville, Tennessee*

Redeemer Presbyterian Church is committed to helping people understand how the gospel applies to all

## Licensing Class

*Briarwood Presbyterian Church  
Birmingham, Alabama*

Becoming a foster parent or foster-to-adopt parent is not a decision to take lightly. It is a ministry opportunity that requires much prayer and consideration. Briarwood Presbyterian is making that process a little easier by offering a class for parents thinking about serving in this way and those wanting to provide short-term relief to foster families. This "GPS" (Group Preparation and Selection) course, which is required by the county for any individual or couple considering being a foster parent(s), is taught by a member of the Briarwood staff and a Department of Human Resources representative.

areas of life, no matter how uncomfortable the process may be. This fall, the church is answering some tough questions in an eight-week course for adults. Featuring different speakers each week, the class will walk through issues such as: Can we trust the Bible? What should be the church's response to homosexuality? Why are there no women pastors at Redeemer? Are Christians really supposed to change the world? Why do we believe in the doctrine of sovereign election? Notes from the past week's class are posted online for those who cannot attend.

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