

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
BROOKVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA
OCTOBER 2006

NEWSLETTER

Sunday, **October 1st**, will be a very busy day in the life of our church

Join us as we celebrate **World Communion Sunday** and receive the **Peacemaking Offering**. On this day we join with Christians around the world in celebrating the unity that we find at the Table of the Lord. We also receive the Peacemaking Offering to support the efforts of our congregation, our synod, our presbytery, and our denomination to spread the peace of Christ. Remember that 25% of the Offering will be used locally. An offering envelope is included with this Newsletter. Please take a few minutes to learn more about this special offering by reading the inserts in the Sunday bulletin.

Following worship our church has organized the 2nd annual **CROP WALK**. Our walk will be 5 miles in length, starting at the church and traveling up Valley Street, past the high school, across the boulevard to the Ruffner's house and then back to the church for refreshments and awards. CROP WALK is a program of Church World Service and the proceeds go towards hunger relief programs in the United States and abroad - and 25% of everything we raise will go directly to our own local food pantry! There is still time if you would like to walk (and incidentally the Steelers are not playing that day) to call the church office at 849-2413 to get a pledge envelope. Last year we had 51 walkers from our church and the surrounding area who raised a total of \$2,789 (remember 25% of that total went to our local food pantry). Let's make this year's walk an even bigger success.

WELCOME!!! Bruce and Judi Wohnseidler have been received into the membership, and family, of our congregation. Please take a few minutes and welcome them.

The Presbyterian Women's Fall Gathering will be held on Wednesday, October 4th, 10 a.m. in our church. The program is titled "Creation! Celebration!" If you plan to attend, please call the church office (849-2413) Joyce Johnson (849-4619) or Betty Grunstra (849-2785). Lunch is \$5. All women are invited to attend.

The regular monthly meeting of Presbyterian Women will be held on Thursday, October 12th, 11:30 a.m. in the education building. We will begin a new Bible Study entitled "In the Beginning Perspectives on Genesis." Lesson 1 is "Perspectives on Creation" based on scripture readings from Genesis 1: 1-2, 4a; 2:4b-25.

Best wishes to Amber Crissman and Terry (T.J.) Greeley who were united in marriage September 23, 2006.

Congratulations to:

Melorra and Keith Fleming on the birth of their son, Owen Reitz, born September 14, 2006.
Owen is the grandson of April Crance and Richard Reitz.

Sandy and Darren Hack on the birth of their daughter, Bethany Lynn, born September 17, 2006.

Bethany is the grand-daughter of Alberta and Mal Bowser.

NEW GROUP FORMING

Beginning October 3rd, there will be a Parenting Group forming facilitated by Juliet Parlette. The group will meet the first Tuesday of each month, at 7 p.m., upstairs in the education building for fellowship and mutual support as well as for an opportunity to discuss issues important to parents such as, but not limited to: values, discipline, communication and coping with the stress of being a parent from a Christian perspective. Future topics can be determined by the group's interest, and guest speakers are certainly a possibility. This group is intended for parents of young children and children are welcome to attend. Please call the church office to let us know of your interest - or call Juliet Parlette at 849-0858 - or just come to the first meeting.

Sunday Morning Adult Education

October 1 st	"God Sends Judges" Men's Class Women's Class	Judges 2: 16-23 Paul Gray Linda Taylor
October 8 th	"God Leads through Deborah" Men's Class Women's Class	Judges 4: 4-10, 12-16 Bill Kutz Judi Paden
October 15 th	"God Answers Samuel's Prayer" Men's Class Women's Class	1 Samuel 7: 3-13 Don Musgrave Carolyn Motter
October 22 nd	"God Covenants with David" Men's Class Women's Class	2 Samuel 7: 8-17 Jerry Paden Joyce Johnson
October 29 th	"God Grants Wisdom to Solomon" Men's Class Women's Class	1 Kings 3: 3-14 T.J. Parlette Nicole Johnson

ATTENTION STORYTELLERS

Our church's storytelling group is getting together on Saturday, October 21st at 4:30 p.m. in the parlor. We will be learning techniques and methods of telling stories, looking at

some biblical stories we would be interested in telling and discussing the possibility of an upcoming storytelling event or festival. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

Advent Class To Begin

Beginning on Tuesday, November 28th, Rev. Parlette will be leading a class entitled "Don't Know Much About Islam!" With the war in Iraq still going on, our involvement in Afghanistan continuing and situations in Iran and Israel heating up - it's imperative that we as Christians not only pray for peace, but act as peacemakers. One way we can do that on a local level is by striving to understand the fundamental nature of Islam. During these 4 sessions in Advent, we will be looking at the questions:

1. Where did Islam originate?
2. What do Muslims believe?
3. What similarities and differences are there between Christianity and Islam?
4. How can Christians and Muslims best relate to one another?

This class is free of charge and is open to anyone with an interest in learning more about Islam. We will meet on Tuesday nights, beginning November 28th and concluding on December 19th, at 7 p.m. in the education building. Please call the church office if you plan to attend so that we may have sufficient materials available.

The church quilt group will be meeting in the education building Monday evenings in October and November at 6 p.m. Beginner and master quilters are welcome!! If you have any questions, please call Susan Benton.

The telephone **Prayer Chain** has been ongoing in our church for several years now. Since its inception we have received numerous requests for both members and non-members. We currently have 2 "call lines" which are in need of revision. If you have been thinking about joining the Prayer Chain, now would be the perfect time. So.... anyone interested in joining the Prayer Chain, or if you have a prayer request, please call the church office Monday - Friday (849-2413); or evenings and weekends call Judy Greeley (849-6762) or Joyce Johnson (849-4619).

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO SERVE?

The Nominating Committee has already begun its work on preparing a slate of officers for presentation at our November semi-annual meeting. If you would be interested in serving on one of the boards, or you know of someone you feel should be considered, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee. Committee members are: Georgi Fitzgerald, Dave Ray, Gretchen Dinger, John Pozza, Don Musgrave, Jim Rhodes and Kay Ruffner. Each position carries unique and important responsibilities in the life of our church, and each affords the opportunity of serving Christ through working actively in our ongoing programs and mission efforts. Duties of the various offices are:

ELDERS - are responsible for the administrative and spiritual oversight of the congregation. As a Session, the elders give direction to our Christian Education program, worship, mission outreach, and membership affairs. They establish the annual budget. They choose our commissioners to Presbytery.

DEACONS - serve in the compassionate ministry and in fellowship concerns for our congregation.

They prepare and host our coffee hours on Sundays, and carry primary responsibility for our church picnic, Advent dinner, etc. They deliver flowers to at-home members, set-up communion and clean up afterward.

TRUSTEES - are those who concern themselves with our physical property and its maintenance. They also serve on certain of the Session committees such as Personnel and Finance.

DEACONS PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

Set up for the October 1st communion will be Saturday, September 30th, at 9 a.m.

FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Applying Bible Principles

When he was president of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Gordon MacDonald said, "One of the greatest teachings missing in the American church today is the reminder to men and women that nothing we have belongs to us."

We own nothing. We have been given material means to use, but not to own. All that we have belongs to God. He is our Source according to Psalm 62:5. We are only managers and stewards of what He has entrusted to us.

Because all that we have belongs to God, and because He gives us the ability to obtain wealth, every spending decision is in reality a spiritual decision. According to 1 Corinthians 10:31, our constant goal must be to glorify God in all of life, including how we use His resources.

Stephen Olford wrote this: "...man's chief end is 'to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.' We are to glorify God by our worshipful praise (Psalm 50:23). We are to glorify Him by our consistent fruitbearing (John 15:8). We are to glorify Him by our spiritual unity (Romans 15:6). We are to glorify Him by our entire dedication (1 Corinthians 6:20). And we are to glorify Him by our good works (Matthew 5:16). In this last category is included the matter of giving. Only in this way can we provide for 'honest things in the sight of the Lord.' The glory of God should motivate us to give and to give our best."

If our goals and ambitions are truly set on spiritual things, if our emphasis in life is to glorify God, we will use the funds He has "loaned" to us on a temporary basis to glorify Him. We will put His money and possessions to good use by giving to His work and by storing up "treasures in heaven" (Matthew 6:19-21).

There are two key questions to be asked concerning money and possessions: First, are you glorifying God in how you are using the money and possessions He has entrusted to you? And second, are you viewing these things as yours or as His.

The Presbyterian Church of Brookville Mission Statement

As a congregation challenged, comforted and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to:

- **WORSHIP and CELEBRATE** the Triune God by:
Proclaiming God's word, offering our time, our resources, our prayers and our music and, celebrating the sacraments of Baptism and Communion.

- **EQUIP and RENEW** God's people on their journey of discipleship through:
The study of God's word and through a warm and caring fellowship that supports long-standing friendships, while inviting others to join us on the journey.

- **REACH OUT and SERVE** our community and our world by:
Sharing the Good News of God's unconditional love, embodied in the life and ministry of

Jesus Christ.

To Worship and Celebrate ... To Equip and Renew ... To Reach Out and Serve

REMINDER: Daylight Savings ends Sunday, October 29th.
Turn your clocks back one hour before retiring Saturday evening.