

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2007

Issue No. 10 Published Monthly

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 White Street

BROOKVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

WORRIED ABOUT COLDS and FLU?

Around this time of each year, we all start to worry a little more about picking up a cold or the flu when we go out in public. During the worship service, when we "Pass the Peace," please be mindful of those who do not wish to shake hands. If you are concerned about illness, please know that a friendly word and a warm smile pass the peace of Christ just as well as a handshake. By "Passing the Peace," we want to encourage an open and friendly environment - we don't want anyone to go home sick.

Presbyterian Women will meet Thursday, November 8th, 9:30 a.m. in the education building. We will begin a new Bible Study entitled "Above and Beyond Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth." Lesson 1 is "Reading Jonah and Ruth for All They're Worth" based on scripture readings from Jonah and Ruth. REMEMBER - **ALL WOMEN** are welcome!!!

Thank Offering 2007 - Since 1888, Presbyterian Women has funded aid programs through the Thank Offering. Eliza Clokey challenged women of the Women's General Missionary Society to give one dollar above each member's usual contribution as a "thank offering to her Lord." A day was set aside for meetings that were to be a "Concert of prayer and praise and the gathering of the Thank Offering." The gifts presented at the annual convention represented much soul-searching and self-sacrifice on the part of many women. The impact they made was immeasurable. It has been said that women's giving saved the worldwide missionary movement at that time. The trust of how and where the money was used changed over the years, but a "Thank offering to her Lord" continued to be an important part of women's giving by United Presbyterian Women. This expression of thanksgiving is now an important part of Presbyterian Women. The theme this year is "Increase the Harvest ..." (2 Corinthians 9:10). The offering will be received on Sunday, November 18th.

The **semi-annual meeting** of the congregation/corporation will be held Sunday, November 18th, immediately following worship. The purpose of this meeting is to elect church officers and receive the budge for 2008.

The annual **Community Thanksgiving worship service** will be held Sunday, November 18th, 7 p.m. in our sanctuary. Rev. Parlette will be the speaker.

Everyone is invited to attend.

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR LOFT

Calling all former high school or college band members!

Go up to your Mom's attic and find your old clarinet, flute, trumpet or sax and dust it off. I like to use music that calls for instrumental accompaniment.

We also need bell ringers. If you can read music that would be helpful to you but certainly not necessary for ringing.

There is also an open invitation to anyone who would like to join the vocal choir. The holiday season is fast approaching and that is a perfect time to try the choir if you have been considering it.

Since the Hymnal is relatively new to the congregation, the choir will be introducing some new hymns and congregational responses in the coming months. The hymns will be introduced as choral introits and offertory anthems. I was delighted to see the hymnal when I started as Music Director and while many of the hymns may be unfamiliar at first, the choir and I will do our best to help you learn them.

Please feel free to contact me either by phone or e-mail with requests, suggestions or yes, complaints.

Your new Music Director,

Elaine Thomas

379-3844

thomlain@usachoice.net

WELCOME TO OUR NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

After an exhaustive search, the Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that we have hired Judi Paden to take over as our Administrative Assistant beginning on January 1, 2008. When all was said and done, we had over 60 people express an interest in the position and we reviewed 40 applications. Of those applications, we scheduled interviews with the 6 strongest candidates. All the candidates were highly qualified, but we felt that Judi would best fit our needs. Judi will begin a one month training period beginning Monday, November 26th, and assume full responsibility when Judy Greeley officially retires at the end of this year.

WELCOME, Judi and we look forward to many rewarding years.

ALSO FROM THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Lisa Fenstermaker, our Coordinator of Christian Education, has submitted her resignation effective December 31, 2007. We appreciate all the time and effort Lisa has put into our program over the last 3 years. She has touched many lives, and we offer our thanks. Over the next two months, the Personnel Committee will be working closely with the Christian Education Committee to assess our needs and determine the best course of action.

ADVENT STUDY

This year's Advent Study will begin on Tuesday, November 27th, at 7 p.m., in the education building and will be a Bible study based on Charles Dicken's "A Christmas Carol." Over the course of four sessions, we will consider the character of Scrooge and his attitude of selfishness; Marley and

the Ghost of Christmas past and the theme of regret; the Ghost of Christmas present and our need to repent; and the Ghost of Christmas future and celebrate the salvation of Scrooge. Around the world, two Christmas stories are most beloved - the story of the Birth of Christ and Charles Dicken's Christmas Carol. Come join us for a series of interesting evenings.

On October 14th it was our joy to share in the baptism of Rees Henry, son of Kristie and Chris Taylor, born July 25, 2007. Rees is the grandson of Linda

Taylor

and David and Cinda Taylor and the great grandson of Katherine Taylor.

Sunday Morning Adult Education

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|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| November 4 th | "Joseph's Dream" | Genesis 37: 5-11, 19-21, 23-24a, 28 |
| | Men's Class | Bill Kutz |
| | Women's Class | Judy Greeley |
| November 11 th | "Joseph's Dream Began to Come True" | Genesis 41: 25-40 |
| | Men's Class | Don Musgrave |
| | Women's Class | Judi Paden |
| November 18 th | "God Preserved a Remnant" | Genesis 45: 1-12 |
| | Men's Class | Paul Gray |
| | Women's Class | Carolyn Motter |
| November 25 th | "Jacob Blessed His Family" | Genesis 48: 11-19 |
| | Men's Class | Ed Kelso |
| | Women's Class | Joyce Johnson |

CROP WALK UPDATE

Many **THANKS** to all of you who made our third annual CROP Walk a success. We had 58 walkers (and a couple of runners) with 194 pledges who raised \$4,761. That means that our local food pantry will be getting a check for \$1,190.25 (25% of the total raised). Many thanks and much gratitude to all those who helped to make this year's walk a big success.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS for INMATES

Once again this year, our church will be ministering to those in prison by collecting boxes of Little Debbie snack cakes and 7 ounce Hershey's candy bars. On November 25th, we will receive the Little Debbies and on December 2nd, we will receive the candy bars. If you prefer, you may bring in your donation all at once to the church office. Thank you for participating in this Advent Mission project.

PAPER PRODUCTS for the FOOD PANTRY

On December 9th, we would like to invite you to bring some paper products (paper towels,

kleenex, toilet paper, napkins) with you to worship. Our Food Pantry is unable to find a supplier who will give them a good deal on these items and therefore has to pay higher prices for these items. To offset that cost, we are asking that you bring one or two items (more if you are able) of your choice to worship on December 9th.

Our donations will then be collected by the Food Pantry to assist our local brothers and sisters.

ADVENT IS COMING!!

Friday, November 30th

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Soup & Pie Luncheon | 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. |
| Live Nativity | 8:00 p.m. |
| Irving Berlin Presentation | 8:30 p.m. |

Sunday, December 2nd, we will celebrate the beginning of Advent with **communion**

Sunday, December 9th, **Advent luncheon** immediately following worship in the education building. Meat, potatoes, vegetable, rolls and beverages will be provided by the Deacons. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Applying Bible Principles

Many people >including Christians< sometimes end up in serious financial difficulty because they ignore this basic principle from God's Word: God wants us to know the state of our finances. Proverbs 27: 23-24 instruct us, "Know well the condition of your flocks, and give attention to your herds; for riches do not last forever, nor a crown for all generations."

In Old Testament times, livestock were one of the primary measures of a person's wealth. Today, we might be admonished, "Be diligent to know the state of your bank accounts and your possessions." Or as Proverbs 24: 3-4 says in a contemporary version, "Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts."

Why is this so important? As managers, we are responsible for what God has entrusted to us. Part of that responsibility includes monitoring the status of our possessions and making wise investments.

One of the best investments we can make is to send deposits to the "Bank of Heaven" by giving to the Lord's work here at The Presbyterian Church of Brookville. When we do that, we are not only exercising good stewardship, but we are also earning God's approval. There's no better return on an investment than that!

As you think about your life today, do you have a good picture of where you are financially? Are you keeping the commitments concerning giving which you have made to God?

Think about it: A dollar spent for lunch lasts about five hours. A dollar spent for a necktie lasts about five weeks. A dollar spent for an automobile lasts about five years. A dollar spent in the service of God last for eternity.

IN SYMPATHY

William Snyder, Jr.
A member of our congregation from
May 17, 1981 to October 18, 2007