



# Presbyterian “Connection”

February 2009 Volume 16 Issue 2

by Rev. Mark Lenneville

Translators and Guides

While in China a couple of years ago to pick up our adopted granddaughter, I was able to worship two times at a Christian church. (If anyone thinks that the church is “underground,” then the definition of “underground” needs to be changed. Several blocks away I could hear the message at an early service being preached over loudspeakers strategically stationed outside the church.)

We were accompanied to the church by our guide and translator Rue (pronounced Ray). She was a delightful young lady. What we saw when we entered the church was a 400 seat sanctuary filled to overflow with standing room only for both services. The female minister wore a Geneva gown and spoke from behind the pulpit. The choir was robed and accompanied by a very accomplished organist. There was a communion table and baptismal font in prominent places, as well as paraments, ushers, classical hymns out of a standard hymnbook, the Lord’s Prayer, Apostle’s Creed, Doxology, Biblical passages on the walls (John 3:16), pictures of Jesus, visitor’s registration pad, bulletin with inserts, and an offering plate at the entrance. A large wooden cross mounted on the wall behind the preacher was central in the worship space. If it wasn’t for the language difference, we would have thought that we were in Bull Shoals.

The guide/translator was essential for us to get the gist of the message. The first service focused on it being stewardship Sunday. At the second service the preacher spoke about the centrality of Christ in our families and the larger human family. The preacher said (as best as I could determine through the translator), “If you call yourself a Christian then you must walk the talk.”

For me to get this message though, I needed Rue. I needed a translator or guide... not to enter and sit down and enjoy the hymns and be spiritually present, but to get the core message and hear the centrality of the Word read and proclaimed. I needed someone familiar with Chinese and English who was able to bridge the gaps in order to share the images of the powerful message and symbols used in the Chinese language that are strange to the Western mind.

I think that this same issue is present in the mainline church today. There are many in our culture for whom going to church is like entering a foreign space where the language and words demand interpretation. Sure they can enter, sit and be spiritually present, but things that are very familiar to us as “church-going folk,” oft times need to be interpreted and translated.

There are those in our culture fluent in the “language of faith” and what happens each Sunday during the worship time. But in our culture, inside and outside the church, there are those who need a guide or translator if what occurs on Sunday is to have any relevancy. Whether it is a visitor with a long church history, a teen struggling with growing up issues, a person who has never set foot in a church, a person who has been abused in other church settings, the same thing applies. Each will probably need a guide or translator.

This is where the members of the church takes on the critically important role of making sure that they are attuned to folks that might be in need of some translation assistance. The task of all Christians is “passing on the faith.” We do this through being a translator or guide. Wear your name tag as evidence that you would like to be a translator or guide so that everyone will Encounter God in meaningful ways.

## **CHURCH USHERS AND GREETERS**

**February 1 — Faye Brackett, Gail Sanderson and Bob & Gloria Wiles**

**February 8 — Tywllah Schauer, Randi Saba, Irene Bere and Nancy Soares**

**February 15—Esther Roberts, Bonnie Reeves, Irene Bere and Betty Aaron**

**February 22—E. Pemberton, Mirta Van Gorden, Peni Lloyd and Harry Van Gorden**

## **WEST ENTRANCE GREETER**

**Sandy Erickson**

## **PRAYER LIST FOR CONGREGATIONS, PRESBYTERY OF AR.-2008**

<b>February 1</b>	<b>First, Jacksonville</b>	<b>Presbyterian Disaster Assistance</b>
<b>February 8</b>	<b>Woodlands, Hot Springs Village</b>	<b>Holiday Island Church</b>
<b>February 15</b>	<b>Second, Little Rock</b>	<b>First, Yellville</b>
<b>February 22</b>	<b>Walnut Grove, Farmington</b>	<b>First, Mena</b>

**PLEASE NOTIFY IRENE BERE IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO SHOULD BE ON OUR PRAYER LIST.**

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**Every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m.— Bible Study**

**Every Thursday at 10:00 a.m.— Coffee & Fellowship in Memorial Hall**

**Every Thursday at 11:00 a.m.— Bible Study on Women of the Bible led by Laura Lenneville in Memorial Hall.**

**Every Thursday at 6:30 p.m.— Choir Practice**

**Sunday, February 8— Communion Worship Service and Congregational meeting with brunch.**

**Saturday, February 14— Valentines Day! Do something you normally wouldn't do to show how much you love Jesus!**

**Monday, February 16— President's Day**

**Friday, February 20 and Saturday, February 21— 110 Stated Presbytery mtg. at the University of the Ozarks, Clarksville.**

**Wednesday, February 25— Ash Wednesday (Lent begins)**

**Friday, February 27— 9:00 a.m. Session Meeting in Christian Education room.**

## **BIRTHDAY WISHES**

**2 Linda Rensing**

**7 Paula Sheppard (1962)**

**11 Doris Coley (1950)**

**14 Dorie Black (1926)**

**17 Dacia Brown**

**22 Shirley Jensen (1931)**

**23 Jon-Luc Heroux (1995)**

**27 Bob Richardson (1929)**



## **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

**February 14– Bob & Rebecca Koellner**

**February 21- James & Phyllis Rowe**

# LIBRARY LINES

We have some new books: A new series by Jan Karon called “Father Time Series” and book one is HOME TO HOLLY SPRINGS. We also have the last three books, 5,6&7, in the Joan Medlicott series called “Ladies of Covington.” The books are titled: AT HOME IN COVINGTON, TWO DAYS AFTER THE WEDDING, and AN UNEXPECTED FAMILY.

The book of the month is HOME TO HOLLY SPRINGS by  
Jan Karon.

“Thirty-eight years have passed since Father Tim Kavanagh left his Mississippi hometown, determined not to return. Then he receives a handwritten note postmarked Holly Springs. Cryptic and unsigned, it says only *Come home*. These two words compel him to make the most challenging journey of his life. They also lead him to a truth that will change his life--forever.”

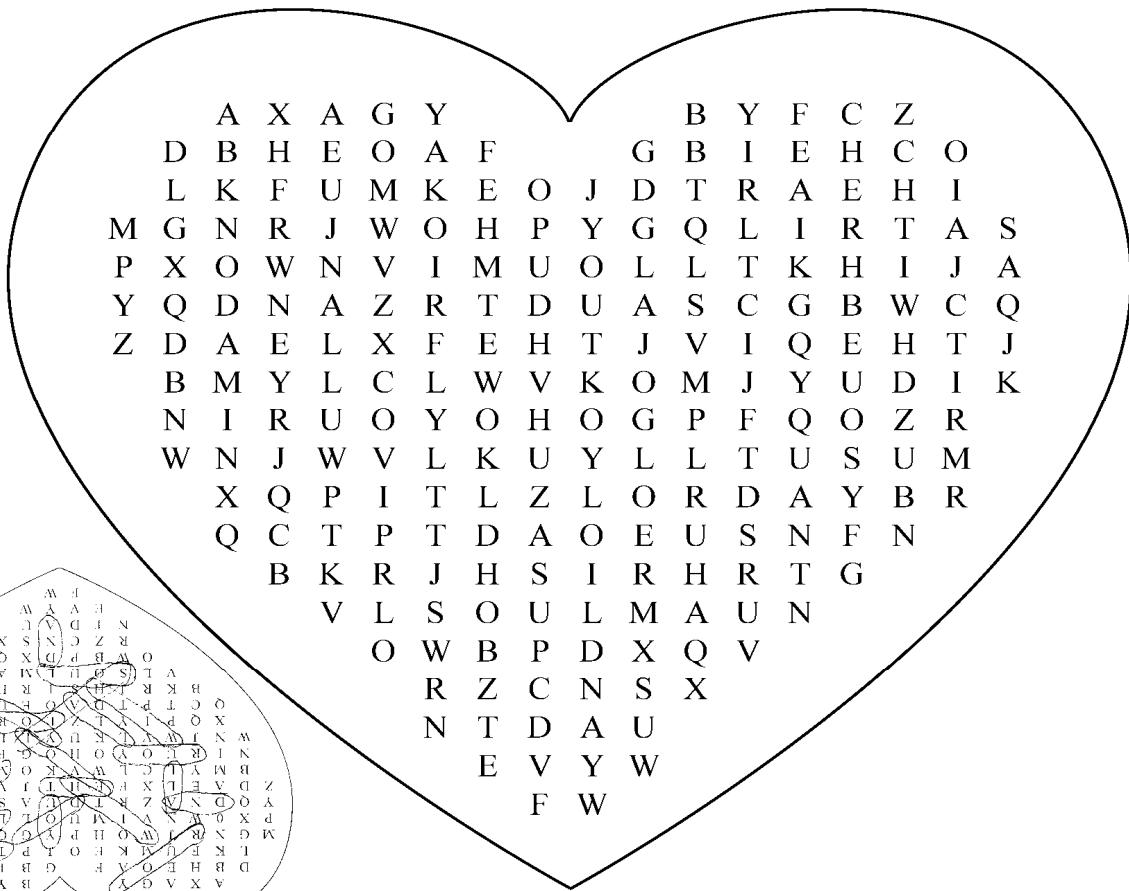
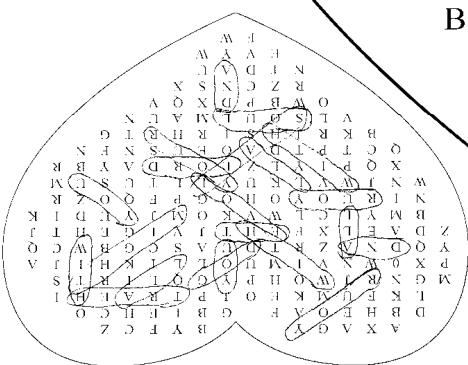
Enjoy the books. Faye Brackett, Librarian



# Word Find

Find the words from Deuteronomy 6:5 in the heart shape.

YOU  
SHALL  
LOVE  
THE  
LORD  
YOUR  
GOD  
WITH  
ALL  
YOUR  
HEART  
AND  
WITH  
ALL  
YOUR  
SOUL  
AND  
WITH  
ALL  
YOUR  
MIGHT



# Unscramble

Read Matthew 22:39 and unscramble this commandment.

U Y O

A S L H L

O E V L

O R U Y

E G B R O H I N

S A

S Y E O L U F R

Matthew 22:39  
Answer: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

# **MISSION MINUTE**

**By , Faye Brackett Mission Co-Moderator**

We would like to thank all those who supported the Christmas Card Tree and the Joy Offering again this year. The Christmas Card Tree collected \$165.00 for the Food Pantry, and the Joy Offering collected \$534.00 for distribution between racial ethnic schools and colleges and to the Board of Pensions assistance programs.

Submitted by the Mission Committee

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## **Why did Jesus fold the linen burial cloth after His resurrection?**

**Submitted by Chet Walker**

**The Gospel of John (20:7) tells us that the napkin, which was placed over the face of Jesus, was not just thrown aside like the grave clothes.**

**The Bible takes an entire verse to tell us that the napkin was neatly folded, and was placed at the head of that stony coffin.**

**Early Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, 'They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and I don't know where they have put him!' Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb to see. The other disciple outran Peter and got there first. He stooped and looked in and saw the linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in. Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying to the side.**

**Is that important? Absolutely! Is it really significant? Yes!**

**In order to understand the significance of the folded napkin, you have to understand a little bit about Hebrew tradition of that day. The folded napkin had to do with the Master and Servant, and every Jewish boy knew this tradition.**

**When the servant set the dinner table for the master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the master wanted it.**

**The table was furnished perfectly, and then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the master had finished eating, and the servant would not dare touch that table, until the master was finished.**

**Now if the master were done eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his fingers, his mouth, and clean his beard, and would wad up that napkin and toss it onto the table.**

**The servant would then know to clear the table. For in those days, the wadded napkin meant, 'I'm done'. But if the master got up from the table, and folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would not dare touch the table, because.....**

**The folded napkin meant, 'I'm coming back!'**

**He is Coming Back!**

# Ferncliff Summer Camp Registration Is Open

Over the past decade, our own Ferncliff has been one of the fastest growing Presbyterian camps in the nation. Ferncliff has grown by 300% in the past decade as parents and children have discovered it to be a great place for spiritual growth and outdoor education. The youth camp facilities are some of the best in the country and this year's summer staff will be one of the largest ever including a number of international counselors.

The 2009 theme is "Live the Word – Change the World!" The curriculum has been custom designed for Ferncliff. Young people will experience the Bible coming alive to serve them as the best tool for personal change and carrying that change into the world. Campers will learn about specific young people who are making a difference and about cutting edge organizations through which they can channel their passion to follow Jesus in reaching out to others.

Camps run for eight weeks during June and July. Most weeks have camps for a wide variety of age levels from elementary through high school. Sign up early before your favorite camp fills up. The summer's schedule, online registration, and scholarship forms are available at [www.ferncliff.org](http://www.ferncliff.org)

## Ferncliff's Peace & Reconciliation Tour of Ireland

Ferncliff is sponsoring an exciting 11 day, custom designed tour of Ireland and Northern Ireland open to Presbyterians. Participants will depart Little Rock on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and return on May 14<sup>th</sup>. The trip will go from Dublin to Belfast to Londonderry to Galway. The group will visit historic sites, visit with locals in pubs and parishes, and talk with people involved in the reconciliation between Protestants and Catholics. George Hankins-Hull, Belfast native and Director of Clinical Pastoral Education at UAMS will serve as a trip leader along with Ferncliff Director David Gill. The group will travel by private coach and stay in hotels including a night at Presbyterian affiliated Corrymeela Peace Centre. The cost will be about \$3,600 per person with the final cost determined by the number of participants. Reservations by 2/23 if you are interested in joining the group. For a brochure and itinerary, call (501-821-3063) or email Ferncliff ([ferncliff@gmail.com](mailto:ferncliff@gmail.com)).

# CHECKING IN

Time for an update on Dorie, and I have a quick request.

Dorie remains in the Alzheimer's unit at the local nursing home. And the disease continues a slow advance. She hardly remembers recent events at all, has a hard time with most everyone's name, and communicates much less now. She barely initiates a dialog anymore, choosing mostly to answer with a single word reply. She's at a point where the thoughts that she wants to express can't make it to the part of the brain that forms the appropriate words to say it. It's sad to see it continue to progress in spite of the medications that they are trying. But she remembers old-time events. I can show her a photo from her teenage years and she will remember the names of most everyone in the photo, and what was happening then. She remains in good health otherwise, very active and friendly.

So, share any of this with the congregation or friends that she had. And please ask them to remember her birthday on February 14 with a simple card and note. A photo, or Xerox copy of a photo, would also help her remember that person.

Thanks for everything you and the congregation did for Dorie,

Address remains,

Dorie Black

2319 McConnell Ave

Auburn, NE 68305

Thanks,

Tom Black

Auburn Nebraska



To All,

Thank you for all the lovely cards and your phone calls and prayers.

The holiday tray was beautiful and much appreciated.

Hope to be back soon,

Ellie Heydt



A special thank you to all hosts and hostesses for the 2008 year of the Family Night Suppers and After Church Coffee. I am hoping that in doing this you have met someone new and enjoyed the comments about your wonderful meals and goodies. It takes everyone working together to make these events grow.

You have helped in our Vision for 2008, now we move forward to 2009.

Thank You, Moderator--Tywllah Schauer

# DEACON'S CORNER

Subject: 2008 Deacons Annual Report To Session

To: The Session, Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals

This 2008 Deacons report is submitted in compliance with the Book of Order.

We, the Board of Deacons believe we have faithfully fulfilled the responsibilities of the Deacons as outlined in the Book of Order. Acting as Guardian Angels to our church members and friend during 2008 we made 4600 contacts as follows.

Personal visits to the sick or ailing in the hospital, nursing homes, and shut ins or others in need.—323

Angels On Wheels assisted those in need of transportation.—96

Made telephone calls to let our church family know we were there for them or to offer assistance.—2099

Sent personal notes or cards on birthdays and Anniversaries and most importantly to those who were sick or who had lost loved ones.—1855

Sent “We Care Cards” signed by the congregation to those in nursing homes, shut-ins, on the special prayer list, and those who were sick or disabled or had lost loved ones.—226

Notes cards were mailed to visitors and new members.—A personal note and worship folder was sent each week to our sister churches on the prayer list. Worship folders were sent each week to church members missing church service on a Sunday.

The telephone prayer chain is administered by the Deacons. We are known as a “Praying Church” with the Prayer Chain being activated approximately 45 times during 2008. These Prayers were both for church family members and other outside the church family.

When the family of a deceased member or friend requests, the Deacons prepare a “Celebration of Life” gathering following the service. Most of these require the preparation and serving of food and coffee. Celebration of Life gatherings held—3

The Home Maintenance Angel deacon assisted those members who may need help with minor home maintenance repairs.

A supply of soups or casseroles is available and delivered to members who cannot cook for themselves due to illness or released from the hospital etc.

Deacons assist the Pastor in providing Communion to shut-ins and those in nursing homes or assisted care.

At Christmas time, trays of cookies, candy and fruit were prepared and delivered to assisted living residents and to shut-ins.

The annual Golden Opportunity Days was held in May. We selected as our local mission outreach project Gamma House in Mountain Home, (*a transitional shelter for homeless women and their children*), which was in dire need of help of every kind. We spearheaded a successful drive to get other area churches involved in the major work that needed to be done at the House. Besides collecting hundreds of dollars worth of household items, etc., we adopted a room and painted , carpeted it, as well as making major electrical and outdoor improvements, all paid for by donations received from our church family and friends. In addition, we presented the Director of Gamma House a check for \$1095.69 designated to be used toward a badly needed new heating and cooling system.

In closing, we would like to recognize the faithful and caring ministry of Deacon Eileen Stewart who went home to be with the Lord on October 21, 2008.

Our tasks are many, and we are grateful for all the assistance, the support and the generous giving that we received during the year from our church family.

Respectfully, Patricia Erlewine, Moderator, Board of Deacons



P.W. usually does not have meetings in January, February, July and August, but the coordinating team decided to try and have a meeting January 6th, weather permitting. Icy roads were in the forecast but that morning was very nice and the roads were fine.

Thirteen Ladies attended. I did a short Devotion on “One Day at a Time”. Getting our priorities for the new year in the right order! You wouldn’t start the day without a good cup of coffee (at least I don’t), so how could you start the day off without the Lord?

The purpose of the meeting was to SPEND OUR MISSION MONEY! We sent the Christian Clinic \$400, Kindness Incorporated \$200, The Presbyterian Disaster Relief Fund \$100 and our Presbytery Least Coin Birthday Offering cents-ability offering which came to \$143.50.

We also discussed and voted to have a box set up in Memorial Hall for items collected for our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. These items will be taken to Commander Carol Buchta. She will oversee the mailing and the postage to our troops. A list of items is posted on the PW bulletin board. If you need a copy please see Betty Aaron. You can send names of family or friends who are stationed in the above areas and they will get packages. We encourage everyone to contribute to this worthwhile cause.

We also voted to purchase a new matching flag for Memorial Hall. The Christian Flag has a gold trim on it and is smaller. It will look very nice and match each other.

Our P.W. Thursday Bible Study held in Memorial Hall at 11:00 a.m. and lead by Laura Lenneville was very informative. It is on Women of the Bible. Come for coffee at 10:00 a.m. and then our Bible Study. Laura does a great job and we are so very happy to have her. Plan now to join us.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 3, 2009 in Memorial Hall at 10 a.m. Devotions by Irene Bere, hostesses Bonnie Reeves and Esther Roberts.

Happy Valentines Day!

Your Moderator in Christ, Elaine Matejka

# **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

The Christian Education Committee got two new adult Bible study groups started this year. The Wed. evening study about the New Testament is doing very well. Our teacher, Rev. Mark puts a great deal of interesting information into the study. This study is received well by all that attend.

The attendance is down in the Sunday Study Group & also the Wed. Evening Group during these winter months, but come spring will be up again. Praying you will be back with us.

Our committee will get started on new projects at our next meeting, which will be Friday Feb. 6th at 9:00 a. m. in the Christian Ed. room. If you want to join our committee, you are welcome.

**GOD BLESS YOU & MAY HE KEEP YOU IN HIS CARE.**

**Shirley Jensen, Moderator of The Christian Education Committee**

## **WHAT'S YOUR TESTIMONY?**

**Every one has one! We would like to add a testimony tab to the church web site and need YOU to submit a 3-4 sentence testimony about how being a part of this church has been meaningful to your life and what encounters with God you have had. We also would like your permission, if you would consent, to use your name and maybe even your picture too! Let's show the world how good God is to us!**

**Q: What does "Testimony" mean?**

**A: A testimony is a public acknowledgement of the ways God has changed a person's life.**

## ~~~~NOTES FROM SESSION~~~~

Session Minutes will be posted on the bulletin board in the office and on the church website after they are approved. You may come by to read them or we will make a copy if you wish. In the newsletter we will let you know the actions taken by the session at the previous meeting. All stated session meetings are open to the whole congregation for observation. You may address the session by letting the Clerk (Vicky Bair) know in advance and she will put you on the agenda. You may have a voice but no vote on actions. Remember that everyone is invited to be on any committee they feel called to serve on (where you do have a voice and vote as a member of this church). Committees bring items to the session for vote.

**December 19, 2008**

**It was voted (7 yea, 2 nay) that instead of having a monthly Friday Family Night Fellowship to have After Church Fellowship (date and time to be decided by the Committee) for a three month trial.**

**It was voted to accept Gail Sanderson and Joann Kahm as members of the Worship Committee.**

**It was voted (1 abstain, 6 nay, 2 yea) NOT to serve Communion every Sunday.**

**It was voted to approve the updated Secretary Job description.**

**It was voted effective December 31, 2008 that all employees will come under the Personnel Policy Procedures Manual (PPPM).**

**It was voted to approve the Standard Employee Contract with modifications as follows:**

**Delete wording after “Reporting to:” and change “per hour paid on a bi-monthly basis in arrears” to “per hour paid on a bi-weekly basis in arrears.”**

**It was voted to approve the Debbie Heroux’s Employee Contract as follows:**

Position: Secretary

Work Location: Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals

Reporting to: Rev. Mark Lenneville

Employment commencement date: January 1, 2009

Employment Status: Part time basis for 25 hours per week.

Hourly rate of pay: \$10 per hour paid weekly.

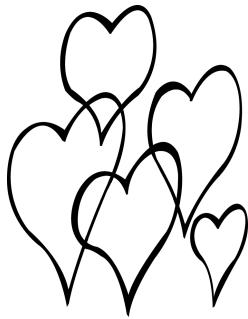
Paid Holidays include: Christmas thru New Year’s Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and the Friday following Thanksgiving.

Medical insurance: The Church will pay 50% of her premium.

Paid Vacation: NO

Paid Sick Days: NO

Continuing Education: Will not exceed 5 days. The Church will pay the annual Administrative Personnel Association (APA) dues.



# FEBRUARY 2009



EVERY Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Bible Study

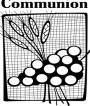
EVERY Thursday 10 a.m.—11 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship

EVERY Thursday 11:00 a.m.

Bible Study

EVERY Thursday 6:30 p.m.—7:30p.m. Choir Practice

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Groundhog Day 8 pm- AA	2	3	4	5	6
8 Communion / Congregational Mtg. & Brunch 	9	10	11	12	13	14 Valentines Day
15	16 President's Day 8 pm- AA	17	18	19	20	21 110th Stated Presbytery Meeting. Univ. of the Ozarks, Clarksville
22 Transfiguration of the Lord	23	24	25 Ash Wednesday	26	27 9 a.m.— Session	28

## THIS WE BELIEVE

February

And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun,  
and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.  
(Matthew 17:2-3)

### ~MISSION STATEMENT~

“We will be scripture-based to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and spiritually led to guide all people  
to be active doers of the Word” Approved by Session on November 16, 2007

### CHURCH STAFF

Minister: Rev. Mark Lenneville-Stated Supply, Church Secretary: Debbie Heroux  
Clerk of Session: Vicky Bair, Church Treasurer: Peni Lloyd  
Financial Secretary: Dick Sass, Asst. Financial Secretary: Elaine Miller

### DEACONS

<u>Class of 2009</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Nancy Soares	Jini Sass	Bill Kerr
Elaine Matejka	Gloria Wiles	Irene Bere
Pat Erlewine	Betty Aaron	Sandy Erickson

### THE SESSION

<u>Class of 2009</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Norm Hockley	Bob Wiles	Peni Lloyd
Randi Saba	Tywallah Schauer	Mary Kerr
	Harry Van Gorden	Al Holtkamp

Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals  
P. O. Box 687  
Bull Shoals, AR. 72619

STAMP