

First Presbyterian Church of Braidwood

January 2008 Newsletter

Happy New Year to one and all!! The clock keeps ticking, time keeps rolling on and a new year has arrived.

Have you looked back on 2007 and reviewed all that has taken place? How did you do with last year's resolutions? Have you accomplished what you set out to achieve?

2007 was indeed a wonderful year for our congregation. We have certainly been blessed by the addition of three new families who joined in December, and the many exciting programs that took place over the months. God is moving in the life of this church.

In the life of our church I believe that we have only just begun to accomplish the countless opportunities that lay before us. We still have a lot of time coming up this year. In fact we have one extra day in 2008. But we must continually seek God's direction and guidance in our efforts.

You may have good intentions for this New Year. In 2008 you may resolve to be a better parent, a better employee, a more regular church attendee, or spend more time in prayer or reading your Bible. These are great things, which we ought to strive to improve upon.

There is one thing we often overlook in our hectic lives however, and other things suffer as a result. Read what Paul writes in Philippians 3:8-10. (I'll wait here while you look it up!)

Paul sought above all else to obtain a greater knowledge of his Savior, to draw closer and become one with Jesus Christ. This affected every other aspect of his life.

If you truly want positive change in your life this year, follow Paul's example. Resolve to know Christ better today and throughout the year. It will positively affect your life and the life of our church.

Happy New Year and blessings to all!!
Pastor Dale



Bible Verse of the Month

I have learned how to get along happily whether I have much or little. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. For I can do everything with the help of Christ who gives me the strength I need.
Philippians 4:11-13

Maggie Wojciehowski

The youth in Linda's class are continuing to ask for your help. They are answering the challenge to help the Wojciehowski family by collecting pop tabs. Please save all of your pop tabs between now and May 1st. You may turn them in to Linda or any of our youth at any time between now and then.

We have collected nearly a gallon jug full so far. Let's keep it up. Thank you for your help with this most worthy cause.

Another fresh new year is here ...

Another year to live!

To banish worry, doubt, and fear,

To love and laugh and give!

This bright new year is given me

To live each day with zest ...

To daily grow and try to be

My highest and my best!

I have the opportunity

Once more to right some wrongs,

To pray for peace, to plant a tree,

And sing more joyful songs!

William Arthur Ward

January Birthdays:

- 2 Sarah Bauer
- 3 Michael Kilpatrick
Kathy Patterson
Sondra Lee
Jeanne Venturini
- 8 Leo Fatlan
- 10 Mary Maly
Dean Gjerde
- 11 Bill Neumann
- 20 Gary Weathersby
- 22 Yvonne Kilpatrick
- 28 Cara Vandermyde
- 29 Joe Wood

January Anniversaries:

- 28 Jim and Martha Patterson
- 30 Ron and Mary Maly

Greeter's Schedule:

- January 6 Helen Salzman
- January 13 Cece Weathersby
- January 20 Donna Blackwell
- January 27 Bill Brockman

Family Night

Don't forget about family night. January 9th - starts at 6pm since Dale is already at the church. But feel free to arrive when you are able. It's not the time you arrive that's important. It's your presence with us that makes it special. Remember it's a casual time of fun, games and fellowship. Come when you can, leave when you need to.

Newsletter Information

If you have something you would like included in the February newsletter, please write it down and put it in the box marked "newsletter" that is located in the narthex. Deadline is January 23rd.

Christmas Mitten Tree

Thank you to all who helped with the mitten tree this Christmas. It was a beautiful addition to our sanctuary and the gifts will serve to help local families in need. Thanks for your generosity.

Per Capita???

What in the world is "per capita"? For some it is a dirty word. Some refer to it as our membership "tax" or "dues" for being a part of the Presbyterian Church. Every church has some form of the same thing but perhaps by a different name.

Let's take a closer look. Each year every "active member" is asked to contribute an amount toward "per capita". This money is used to support the work of Presbytery, the Synod, and the General Assembly. Supporting these offices is important and part of our "Church life". Per Capita is how these groups operate.

Per Capita contributions to the church are over and above our regular pledge, yet are optional to the individual members. Some grow angry just discussing it.

However, whether every member donates Per Capita or not, the church is still obligated to submit the funds according to our active member roll. This money then comes out of our operating fund.

Per Capita for 2008 is \$28.98 per member. Won't you prayerfully consider making this contribution this year?

"The pastor's opening story made us roar,

The closing one was fine.

*But of the speech that came between,
I can't recall a line!"*

Jim Reed

Meet the Member(s)

In the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, we were not able to interview anyone for the January newsletter. Keep your eyes posted here for the featured member(s) in February.

January Happenings:

- 1/2 - Pastor in office
- 1/6 - 9am Sunday School resumes
- 10:00 Worship/Communion
- 1/9 - Pastor in office
- 6:00 Family Night
- 1/13 - 9:00 Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship
- Fellowship following service
- 1/16 - Pastor in office
- 6:30 Session meeting
- 1/20 - 9:00 Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship
- 11:15 Congregational meeting
- 1/23 - Pastor in office
- 1/27 - 9:00 Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship
- 1/30 - Pastor in office

Updates Needed

We would like to update our birthday and anniversary lists. If you would like to be added to our list, please write down your special day and drop it off in the church office on Pastor's desk.

Share a Poinsettia

Our thanks to those who shared a poinsettia in December.

Poinsettia donated for our worship services.....

In memory of:

Earl and Jean Freckelton

By Tim and Sandy Freckelton

In memory of:

Grammie and Poppie

Grandma Jan and Grandpa Bob

Grannie and Grampie

Grandma and Grandpa Rogers

By Paige Burbach

In memory of:

Loved ones.

By A. and H. Salzman

In memory of:

George and Barbara Boyd

Alice Nielsen

By The Bolatto's

In memory of:

Ron Maly, Jr.

By Mom and Dad

In memory of:

David Marchi

Caroline Knapp

Caroline Venturini

Salvatore Venturini

By Marchi Family

and Jeanne Venturini

In memory of :

Glenn, Myrtle & Carl Schifler

Ina Ruth Bartling

Doris Erdmann and Dennis Erdmann

By Joyce Bauer

In memory of:

Loved ones

By Cece and Gary Weathersby

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**Happy
New Year**