

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BRAIDWOOD

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APRIL/MAY 2009 NEWSLETTER



FROM THE PASTOR

Spring has sprung, and then came the snow! Don't you just love this time of year? From one day to the next we never know what to expect. Sounds familiar doesn't it? Kind of like the journey Jesus took his disciples on. As the end of our Lenten journey is drawing near, we are faced with Palm Sunday and Holy week – one of the most disturbing and confusing for Jesus' followers. "What's all this talk about dying?"

The Lenten season is a reminder that none of us are able to stand on our own merit in God's presence. We need someone to make things right. This Lenten practice has been for us our opportunity to start with a clean slate. We don't have any legal paperwork to file, or do community service. We simply apply the merits of the Cross. The penalty for our sin has been stamped "PAID IN FULL," signed in Jesus' precious blood.

This is the holiest week of the year. Let's not rush through it hoping to get to Easter faster. Let's take the time to slow down enough to remind ourselves of the price that Jesus paid for our salvation. Let's reflect on the meal that Jesus shared with his disciples, his betrayal in the garden, the trials, the lashings and his crucifixion. Together we can thank God for forgiveness, our clean slate through the Savior's atoning death.

But wait! There's more! Jesus' death grants us forgiveness, but his resurrection promises us LIFE. That's the glory and the promise of Easter. Hallelujah! We've already read the story, the part the disciples didn't understand at the time. We serve and follow a risen Savior. CHRIST IS RISEN! Here is our promise, from the Lord himself – "For God so loved the world (YOU) that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

Now that's something to get excited about! Happy Easter!
Peace to all,



Please visit our website at
www.firstpresbraidwood.com
Or email: bdwd1stpres@sbcglobal.net

ANNIVERSARIES

APRIL 30TH Mark and Sherry Boyer
May 28th Jack and Shirley McElroy



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

6TH Jim Patterson
7th Martha Stahl
9th Chris Patterson
10th Nate Marshall
16th Kent Lee
20th Allison Gjerde
Roger Patterson
22nd Doris Glidden
Greg Stephens
24th Amber Luhrsen
26th Julie Botta

MAY BIRTHDAYS

8TH Tyler Bumgardner
12th Raime VanDermyde
13th Kristie Wood
14th Ted Glidden
15th Nick Jedryck
16th Charles Maly
20th John Kilpatrick
Tony Neven
15th Edith Veldman
26th Adam Gill
28th Rebecca Marchi
29th Carol Bissel (Patterson)
30th Jim Neumann



B.C.



by Johnny Hart





The cherished tradition of providing Lilies to adorn our worship space is upon us again. We are in need of flowers for Easter Sunday. Anyone wishing to provide a lily in memory of or in honor of someone, can do so signing the sheet placed in the Narthex. We will compile that list for future announcement. Or, if you would just like to share a Lily to help decorate the church for Easter (or any other flower), Please bring them to the church by Friday April 17.

Flowers can be taken home after worship on Easter.

News from the Witness Commission

April, May, June and July are going to be very active months for the witness committee as well as the members of the church. Here are some dates to keep in mind.

April 28th Beef dinner fundraiser 4-7pm. We will need help with the kitchen, servers, and more.

May 2nd & 3rd Hanging flower basket sale at Rt. 66 Red Carpet Corridor event. We will do the same as last year with out booth at the flea market area. Watch for pre-sale order forms in the coming weeks.

June 12th & 13th Garage Sale Days. We will be having a garage sale, vendors and a luncheon. When doing your spring cleaning, remember to set aside items for the garage sale.

July 16th thru 19th Summerfest. We will be doing some fundraisers during the festival as well. Watch for more updates to come.

Suzie Marchi has agreed to head up the missions portion of the commission. We are hoping to rekindle our outreach to Kenya as we have done in the past.

The Witness Commission is planning additional fundraising meals this year – and yes, we will be seeking help from members, family, and friends to lend a hand. The goal is to build up dedicated funds for the purpose of updating kitchen equipment so we will always be in compliance with County Health guidelines, enabling us to utilize the kitchen for future programs and fundraisers.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"What I like best about Easter Sunday is the candy, and Jesus not bein' dead anymore."

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General Fund Balance

January 1-February 28, 2009

INCOME: \$8049.00

EXPENSE: \$8541.57

Current General Fund Deficit:

(\$492.57)

MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION



The Session has voted to declare Thursday April 9th a day of fasting. The fast will commence on Thursday morning until we gather for worship, at table at 6:30 Thursday evening. We will “break the fast” during the meal to be held as part of our worship.

REMEMBER FAMILY NIGHT

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month starting at 6:00 (or come whenever you are available).

SESSION MEETINGS 6:30

April 15th

May 20th

WITNESS COMMISSION MEETING

April 14th 6:30pm

Easter

SUNDAY SERVICES

Join us for Easter breakfast at 8:30 Easter morning - April 12th

Stay for our Easter worship service at 10:00

While you're at it, why not invite someone to join you?