

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BRAIDWOOD

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MARCH 2010 NEWSLETTER



FROM THE PASTOR

I don't know about you but I have just about had it with Winter. Spring has to be just around the corner, and thoughts of Spring cleaning too. That's the time when we go through the stuff we've been accumulating. Things we may want to take back to the store. Maybe a few boxes from our Christmas gifts. Definitely stuff we just keep moving around from here to there and back again. And, of course, those things which we just can't seem to let go of. It's so easy for our closets, attics, basements and garages to get cluttered.

Our spiritual "closets" - our lives, can have a lot of clutter too. It may some nagging little habit, some activity or quirk that keeps us from being more effective for God, but we just can't seem to let go. Maybe there is an area in your life that you have not fully surrendered. So we go on living cluttered, incomplete and even frustrated lives.

That's kinda what Lent is all about. We are given this time to un-burden our lives and toss out those big things that bog us down. But maybe more important is the free ourselves from the little nagging things that we keep tossing around every day. We should seize the opportunity to free ourselves, to pick up and throw out those little things once and for all before life circumstances force us to.

You might say that Lent is God's way of making room for more of him in our lives by helping us to get rid of those things that keep us from seeing God. May this be your prayer today - O God, help me to identify and remove the clutter that robs me of a more fruitful relationship with you.

Peace to all,
Dale

Bible Verse of the Month

Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is pleasing whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Phillipians 8:8



Please visit our website at www.firstpresbraidwood.com
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MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 6 Craig Bauer | 7 Karen Bunting |
| 11 Cecelia Weathersby | 14 Trent Bumgardner |
| 15 Shirley Cooper | 16 Dena Lamb |
| 21 Austin Blackwell | 24 Paul Rackouski |
| 26 Helen Saltzman | 30 Albert Crater, Jacob Bolatto, Rebecca Marchi |

**Session Meeting highlights
 January 20, 2010**

The regular meeting of session was called to order by Pastor Dale Tolly (moderator) and opened with prayer at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Present: Dennis Malher, Joyce Bauer, Hope Cathelyn, Cece Weathersby

Excused: Josh Bolatto, Gregg Stephens, Kevin Marchi, Susan Marchi

Action item: The motion was made, seconded and carried to receive the Pastor's report.

Action item: Session approved the minutes from the December, 2009 session meeting.

Treasurer's Report: The 2010 budget was presented and discussed. Session approved the 2010 budget "as is" reflecting an increase in Pastor Tolly's compensation package. Further discussions may require budget/contract modification at a later date.

Action item: Session voted to approve treasurer's report a summary of which follows:

Mazon Checking - 1,842.47; CD 16583 - 3,864.42; CD 16627 - 4,001.72;

Mazon Savings #1 - 9,595.99; CD 16582 - 4,575.23; CD 16672 - 3,924.48;

Mazon Savings #2 - 28,022.90; CD 16626 - 3,924.48; CD 16673 - 3,972.17;

CD 16708 - 3,900.33; CD 16709 - 3,925.48; CD 16726 - 3,900.33;

CD 16727 - 3,925.67; CD 16742 - 3,907.07; CD 16743 - 3,941.52

Total Assets: - \$87,224.26

With no other business, Session voted to adjourn. The meeting closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Stephens, Clerk

**"The church that does not pay attention to its youth need
 not worry about its future ... there won't be one!"**



Maundy Thursday is a day of fasting. Join us April 1st at 6:30 P.M. to "break the fast" at our evening worship followed by our Passover meal w/communion.

First Presbyterian Church
KID OF THE MONTH
For March 2010

ZADIE SIMS

Zadie is a kindergartener at RCPS and is a student in her mom Jessi's Sunday school class.

What is your favorite color?

Purple

What is your favorite food?

Cheesecake

What is your favorite Bible story?

The burning bush

What is your favorite animal?

Horse

What is your favorite sport?

Soccer

What is your favorite subject in school?

Music

What is your favorite part of church?

Vacation Bible School

What do you want to be when you grow up?

An artist and/or a scientist

What is your favorite board game?

Raggy Ann (A Little Folks Game)



A banker was on the phone with a customer: "You say you want to convert your bonds?
Don't you mean you want to redeem them?"

The customer responded: "Who am I talking to? The First Baptist Church or the First National Bank?"



We are forming a choir for Easter. Please contact LuAnn Bolatto.

Read ahead:

Pastor Dale uses the Revised Common Lectionary for his weekly scripture readings and sermons. Here are the listing for March and April. These are also available on our website.

*Texts for 3/7/10 Lent 3

Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

*Texts for 3/14/10 Lent 4

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

*Texts for 3/21/10 Lent 5

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

*Texts for 3/28/10 Passion/Palm Sunday

Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23 or Luke 23:1-49

* Texts for 4/4/10 Easter/Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12; Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 114; Luke 22:14-23 or Luke 23:1-49

*Texts for 4/11/10 Easter 2

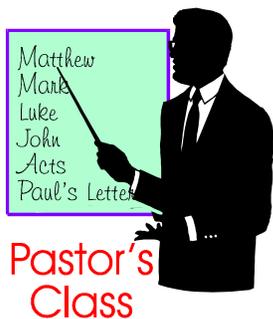
Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-29 or Psalm 150; Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

*Texts for 4/18/10 Easter 3

Acts 9:1-6(7-20); Psalm 30; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

*Texts for 4/25/10 Easter 4

Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30



Our new members/confirmation class continues through March. We will be welcoming this new group on Easter Sunday.

We will also install three brand new elders to the Session this year. Congratulations to Mary Maly, Jesse Sims, and Donna Kalebich.

