

First Presbyterian Church of Braidwood

May 2008 Newsletter



FROM THE PASTOR

Most of you have met the new addition to our family. Pam and I have adopted “Molly” – a three month old Japanese Chin, puppy. She is a trip and a blessing for us (not to mention cute as a button). So here we go again, training a puppy, AAGGH!!

Proverbs 22:6 says – “Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Now I probably won’t be training Molly in the way to a Godly life, but I will be showing her the way to the back yard!!!! This text says that we are to bend our children into a pattern of righteousness. We need to start them at an early age and they will pass this life on to their own children.

Here are some childlike thoughts: 1. If I like it, it’s mine. 2. If it’s in my hand, it’s mine. 3. If I can take it from you, it’s mine. 4. If it’s mine, it must never appear to be yours in any way. 5. If it looks like mine, it’s mine. 6. If you put it down, it automatically becomes mine. 7. If it’s broken, it’s yours. Maybe you’ve seen these things in your own children.

This is obviously just for fun, but it illustrates that God’s way for our children (and for us adults), goes against our inherited sin nature. They (and we) must learn to control our own nature in order to allow God’s Holy Spirit to guide us in righteousness. I’m not talking about “being good” but rather “letting go and letting God.”

God gave us biblical guidelines for our life and daily walk for our good. They help make us effective followers of Christ. In fact these guidelines give us the freedom to seek

God’s best for our lives. Molly too has to learn her guidelines so that our time together will best the best for all of us. If only I were as trainable as she is!

It is better to train and build strong children than to try to repair adults. But it never hurts for us to examine our lives in relation to Christ’s and maybe do a little remedial “training” ourselves. If you are struggling with your own kids, or struggling with your own faith, you’re not alone. We have one another in the church and the power and the love of God to help us grow in righteousness. Together in the body of Christ, we can build and shape the future.

God’s love and peace to all,
Dale

EOBO

Each One Bring One. Be a friend to someone. Invite a neighbor to church. They’ll love you for it.

Verse of the Month

Glorify the Lord with me, and let us praise his name together. Psalm 34:3



Pentecost
May 11



Birthdays This Month

- May
- 8 Tyler Bumgardner
 - 12 Raime Vandermyde
 - 13 Kristi Wood
 - 14 Ted Glidden
 - 15 Nick Jedryck
 - 16 Charles Maly
 - 20 John Kilpatrick, Tony Neven
 - 22 Brandon Gill
 - 25 Edith Veldman
 - 36 Adam Gill
 - 28 Rebecca Marchi
 - 29 Carol (Patterson) Bissell
 - 30 Jim Neumann

April Anniversaries:

- 28 Jack and Shirley McElroy

Ruth Writes:

Will you recycle with me? Plastic coffee cans are used for "Mom's Cookies" (especially 2 lb. size). New greeting and note cards are also used by "Mom's." Used greeting cards are used for activities at Nursing homes. Campbell Soup labels (smiling face and bar code) and box tops for education are collected in the Narthex. Proceeds go to Kemmerer Village at Assumption. Pennies are collected for the "Fellowship of the Least" to help hospitals in 3rd world countries.

Every little bit helps! Thank you for your consideration.
Ruth Bauter.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We're gearing up for Vacation Bible School. This year's theme will be Rainforest Adventure. Once again we will work in concert with the members of the Catholic Church and will utilize both facilities.

Mark your calendars for the week of June 23 thru June 27, from 9:00 til noon. Bring your kids and let them know that they are able to invite their friends too! It's a great time to make new friends and to learn about Jesus' love for us. See you there!

By the way, Moms and Dads, you're welcome too and we will probably ask you for some help too. Won't you join in the fun too?

Family Night

Family night is May 14th, starting at 6:00. The Marshall family is hosting this month. Feel free to arrive when you are able. Your presence makes it special. Join us for a casual time of fun, games, food and fellowship. Come when you can, leave when you need.

Hosts are still needed for August thru December. Please consider signing up.

Witness Commission

The Witness Commission has got a lot going on this spring and summer with fundraisers and community events. The first is the hanging flower basket sale, which took place this past weekend on Red Carpet Corridor weekend. The Witness Commission would like to thank everyone that supported and helped with this fundraiser. It was a BIG success!!

The Garage Sale is next.

June 13th and 14th (same as the town wide sale)

What better way to start the summer than to have clean closets, a clean garage or a clean attic. Start saving your items. We will let you know as soon as you can start bringing things to the church. If you need something picked up, please call the church and leave a message or contact Josh Bolatto or let Pastor Dale know and he will pass the message on. A sign up sheet will be posted for any volunteers to help at the sale and also in the food stand. It was a great fundraiser last year and a BLAST working.

Soda Pop Needed

Last year at our food stand for the garage sale days we asked for members to donate 12 packs or cases of pop and we had a GREAT turnout. With the Memorial Day holiday soon to be upon us a lot of the stores have pop on sale and it would be a great time to pick up an extra for the garage sale—any kind is fine. You can bring it to church any time and put it in Pastor Dale's office (there's 3 - 12 packs in already)

Summerfest is coming soon

Summerfest is scheduled July 17th thru July 20th. Along with that come a lot of work and A LOT of fun. Plans are being made to see exactly how our church will participate. We will need help selling tickets at the ticket booth, the church will get a donation for working in the booth, more information will be available as the time dates get closer.

Pastor Dale will again (this will be his 3rd year) participate in the Ecumenical worship service at the town park on Sunday morning. Please consider helping out this year, let's let the Braidwood community know that the Presbyterian Church is here.

Castle Tour Reminder

Have you ever seen the castle? Here's your chance. Mark your calendar. Our youth (and the young at heart) are taking a guided tour of the castle at Stronghold. Maps are available for those also wishing to walk the grounds.

The date is set for Saturday May 24, 2008. We will leave Braidwood around 9:00 or so. The tour will begin at 12 noon. There is a \$3.00 per person charge at the castle. Please contact Linda Bumgardner by May 10th if you are interested in going.

Monthly Newsletter:

Newsletter Information

If you have something you would like included in the May newsletter, please write it down and put it in the box marked "newsletter" that is located in the narthex. Deadline is May 21st – including Commission updates.

Pro Life Baby Shower

The Braidwood Knights of Columbus, 1574, is seeking any new or gently used baby items. (Cash is always welcome too!) There is a baby play pen in the Narthex where items can be deposited. The proceeds from this venture will be given to various Pro-Life centers in the area.

For questions please contact Ashley Vehrs 815 458-3165



Session Meeting

Session Meeting
March 19, 2008

* Pastor's Report: Pastor Tolly presented his report on his various activities throughout the month. He also reported that: 1) the payroll module for Church Windows software has been purchased; 2) Karen Bunting accompanied him to the last Presbytery meeting; 3) the dates for VBS have been set and the curriculum has been purchased; 4) he will be on vacation from 4/14-20; and 5) Susan Marchi has requested that the Girl Scouts be allowed to clean up the church yard.

-Session voted to receive the Pastor's Report.

-Session voted to approve the Pastor's vacation request.

-Session voted to approve the February session minutes.

* Treasurer's Report: Joyce Bauer reported that she has contacted all creditors to learn outstanding balance amounts and is in the process of catching up on late bills. We are currently \$2,700 in the red for the year.

-Session voted to approve the Treasurer's report.

* Nurture Commission: Joyce Bauer reported that the Sunday School children will perform their Easter program on 3/30; the Maundy Thursday service will be held on 3/20 at 7:00; the Sunrise Breakfast will be held on 3/23 at 8:30 a.m. before the Sunday service; Family Fun Night will be held on 4/9 and fellowship will take place after the Sunday service on 4/12.

* Personnel/Property Commission: Dennis Malher reported that the tax problem has been taken care of. Cece Weathersby reported that she knows of someone who may be interested in the janitor's position.

* Witness Commission: A plant sale will take place for Mother's Day at the Red Carpet Corridor event, followed by Garage Sale Days in June and SummerFest in July. Hope Cathelyn and Bob Marshall will be calling a meeting soon to discuss Mission and Stewardship endeavors.

* With no other business, the motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Stephens, Clerk

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, Bob Marshall, Cecelia Weathersby, Gregg Stephens.

Excused: Jeanne Venturini, Kevin Marchi, Josh Bolatto.

Receipts

Purchases made for the church need to have a receipt indicating what the purchase was for, especially charged items at Berkot's or Ace Hardware. Please see that these receipts are placed in the Treasurers mailbox in the church office



A Message from Streams of Hope U.M.C

Hopeful Hearts would like to welcome crocheters, knitters and other fiber enthusiasts to create items for the Family and Community Care Centers.

Meeting Every Third Sunday from 12 noon to 3pm, starting
5/18/08

Mason's Lodge
173 EastMain Street
Braidwood

For more information see the flyers that are on the bulletin board in the Sunday school rooms.

You're Invited!

The Church of Hope in Gardner
Jefferson and Monroe Streets
Invites you to their annual June Brunch
June 2, 2008 at 9:30 am
Jerri Smith will portray "Esther"