



THE PRESS...BYTERIAN

A Publication of the Presbyterian Congregation
Union and Water Streets
Middletown, PA 17057

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February, 2007

Church School and
Adult Forum-
Sundays at 9:15 A.M.

Worship Service-
Sundays at 10:30 A.M.

Rev. Donald E. Potter, Minister

Rev. and Mrs. Caleb Johnson
Kykotsmovi, Arizona
Personal Interest Partnership

Greeters:

- Feb. 4 Alison Dixon and Diane Kleinfelter
Feb. 11 Mark, Jodi, Rhiannon and Vanessa White
Feb. 18 Myrna Matesevac and Carol Wilsbach
Feb. 21 Margo Mathias and Alyssa Stillwell (ASH WED.)
Feb. 25 Jim and Hannah Sours

Bulletin Dedications:

- Feb. 4 Presented in memory of Dennis Higgins by Ethel Higgins.
Feb. 11 Presented by Diane Rowe in loving memory of Bob Rowe, Sr.
Feb. 18 Presented by Gloria Elberti in loving memory of George Elberti.
Feb. 25 Presented by Don and Judy Packheiser in honor of their daughter, Abigail Luan Packheiser.

Nursery Duty:

- Feb. 4 The Packheiser Family
Feb. 11 The Stillwell Family
Feb. 18 The Wynn Family
Feb. 25 The Akakpo-Martin Family

Acolyte: Andrew Rowe

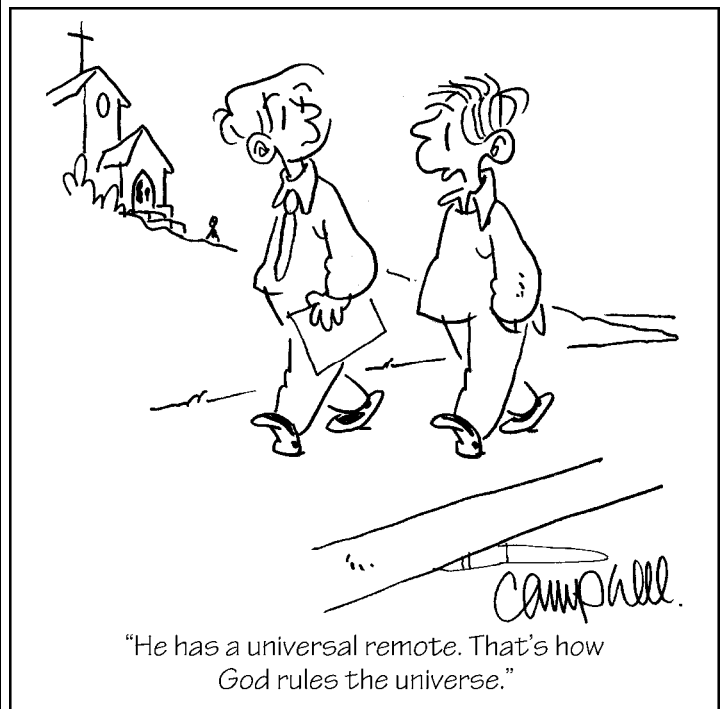
Ushers: Jay and Susie Burns, and Frank and Carol Waple

Join us in Fellowship Hall for **SOCIAL HOUR** following worship on **February 4**. Hostesses for February are Susie Burns, Judy Packheiser and Nancy Sours. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Food Pantry Collection Sunday is **February 4**. Please bring a non-perishable food item to the worship service that day and the Deacons will see that it gets donated to the Middletown Food Pantry. THANKS!!

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ADULT FORUM * February, 2007

You are invited!

Sunday mornings before worship in Fellowship Hall *
9:15-10:15 a.m.

If nursery is needed, please call Erika Lauffer
at 944-4713 a week in advance.

Theme: Violence in Our Midst & the Jesus Alternative

In February we conclude the **seven week series** confronting the violence we encounter in our homes, schools and community along with actions being taken to counter the violence (3 weeks) AND a fresh look at Jesus' way of dealing with conflict and violence (4 weeks).

Jesus' Way of Nonviolence (4 weeks)

January 28 - What do the Gospels say?

Dr. Robert Webber, Professor of New Testament Emeritus, Lancaster Theological Seminary, and a well known teacher and workshop leader in the Mid-Atlantic region, will lay out the scriptural basis and a conceptual framework for looking at Jesus' way of nonviolence.

February 4 - Consider Jesus Once Again

John K. Stoner, a member of Akron Mennonite Church, founder and coordinator of the six year old ecumenical Every Church A Peace Church, will address the question, "What if every church lived and taught as Jesus lived and taught?" from a peace church perspective

February 11 - Presbyterian and Peacemaking: Mixed Messages

The Reverend Joy Kaufmann, former Associate Pastor of Market Square Presbyterian Church and now General Presbyter of Huntingdon Presbytery, will bring us Presbyterian and reformed church perspectives.

February 18 - "Blessed are the peacemakers..."

Bobbie Kitzmiller, member of Camp Hill Presbyterian Church, Co-Chair of Carlisle Presbytery Peace Advocates and Chair of Synod of the Trinity Peacemaking Network will share stories of the rich variety of ways that Presbyterians are doing justice and working for peace while being encouraged and challenged by the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.

A 5 week Lenten series on the book of Mark will be led by Phil Susemihl and Don Potter beginning on February 25.

Souper Bowl Sunday is February 4th.

Please be ready and willing to drop your donation into any one of the soup kettles that will be placed in the entry ways of the church on February 4th. This annual event sponsored by PYC (Presbyterian Youth Connection) benefits the Interfaith Food Pantry of Middletown.

Since 1990, SOUPER BOWL OF CARING has raised more than \$33 million for individual charities across the USA. Started by a Presbyterian youth group in South Carolina, SOUPER BOWL OF CARING helps feed hungry people. In 2006 PYC raised \$213...and with your help we can surpass that total this year. SO...do a nice deed, help someone in need on February 4th!!

PYC NEWS...

All 6th - 12th grade youth are welcome to the Presbytery sponsored SOUPER BOWL PARTY at our church, **February 4** from 2-4 PM in Fellowship Hall. We are pleased to host this event with youth from our sister Presbyterian Churches attending. There promises to be games, food, laughs and even a special mission project. So, bring a friend and come along.

February 25: PYC meets from 6-7:30 PM at the church. We will have a special guest with us - Atah Akakpo-Martin, who is an officer with the Harrisburg Police. Come and join us as we hear about the work (and risks) Atah confronts in his daily work. Refreshments will also be served. Bring a friend, too.

A WORD ABOUT STEWARDSHIP...

Members and friends of the church are reminded that regular, systematic giving to the mission of Christ through the church is crucial. Programs and outreach efforts of the church depend on each of us keeping current in our financial commitment. Together we can do great things for Christ and we thank you for your prayerful stewardship participation.

THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE met to make plans for events for 2007. We had a good year in 2006. We were able to give almost \$2900 to the church from our various dinners and sales events. Many thanks to all who participated in these activities and keep in mind, we will be planning more of them.

February will bring a soup sale by the Fellowship Committee. The committee will be selling beef vegetable soup as a money making project. It will be made on February 23 with pickup on Saturday, February 24 from 10 AM - 12 Noon. We had a lot of raves last year so buy a quart for lunch and put a couple in the freezer for later on. Cost will be \$3.50 per quart.

The cookbook sale will go on until all are sold. We have had a lot of positive comments about it and members have found some excellent recipes. Buy one for yourself and several for friends and relatives. It is a three ring book and sells for \$11.00. Anyone interested should contact Donna Thompson, 944-4492 or Rose Ann Yeich, 939-6834.

March 11 will bring a congregational meeting with a dinner following the church service. The meal is a paid dinner consisting of spaghetti and meatballs, salad, breadsticks, dessert and drinks. Prices are \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. Tickets will go on sale the end of February. Don't miss out on this delicious meal!

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP
February 21, 7:30PM

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. All are invited to begin this season of penitence and prayer with worship on February 21. This is a solemn time for us to reflect on our mortality and sinfulness. Ashes will be imposed on the forehead or on the back of the hand for those who wish to come forward. In addition, the Lord's Supper will be celebrated and served at the front of the sanctuary by intinction (persons will break a piece of bread from the loaf and dip it in the chalice of wine). Do plan now to attend. This service has been sparsely attended in the past, but is a helpful way for us to keep in perspective the meaning of Christ's sacrifice for us.

First Sunday In Lent Communion
February 25

As we begin the journey with Jesus to the cross, it is fitting for us to gather at the Lord's table on Sunday, February 25. You are cordially invited to come and share in worship as we remember what love made Jesus do for our salvation. Join us and bring a friend, too.

Music Notes...

During February, the choir will sing African-American spirituals and gospel songs to celebrate Black History Month. Christyan Seay, renown tenor, will be featured during worship on Sunday, February 18. He will sing solos during the prelude, anthem and offertory. As a special treat, he'll teach a song to the children during the children's conversation. Mark your "be at church" calendars for this special event!

The ST. OLAF CHOIR conducted by ANTON ARMSTRONG will perform at the Central Dauphin High School on Tuesday, February 6 at 7:30PM. Tickets are available at the Central Dauphin High School Box Office or by calling 703-5360, ext. 410.

The St. Olaf Choir, the widely acclaimed ensemble and longtime creative influence behind the a cappella choral tradition, has toured annually since 1912, when it was founded by F. Melius Christiansen. The 1920 tour to the major music centers of the East Coast sowed the seeds of the ensemble's national reputation - and established its unaccompanied style of singing as a significant force in American choral music.

A FEW REMINDERS:

Please send payments for Chancel Flowers to the church office. Make checks payable to The Presbyterian Congregation. THE COST OF CHANCEL FLOWERS IS \$22.50 PER ORDER. THANK YOU!

Deadline for articles for the MARCH issue of the Press...byterian is FEBRUARY 15. Please place your articles or information either in the offering plate (mark it "newsletter"), in the church mailbox marked Newsletter, or Email patricestillwell@hotmail.com.

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2007 Stewardship Program

As of December 31st, fifty-eight (58) Estimate of Giving Cards, amounting to \$116,620, have been received towards this year's Stewardship program. This money will be used to support our church's programs and activities. Your gift will make possible our church's ongoing mission, outreach and ministry programs.

Session wants to personally thank each one of you for your participation in this stewardship program. God Bless!

2007 vs. 2006 BUDGET

As people of God, we need to be prudent stewards of our "limited" resources and prioritize our needs in conjunction with our church's long range plan. We have a responsibility to serve the local community, as well as the larger community as a whole.

As reported at the January 14th Congregational Meeting, our church budget figures for 2006 and 2007 are as follows:

	2006		2007
	(Budgeted)	(Actual)	(Budgeted)
Expenses	\$254,142	\$241,596	\$236,815
Income	<u>\$187,683</u>	<u>\$207,041</u>	<u>\$174,300</u>
Deficit/Shortfall	(\$ 66,459)	(\$ 34,555)	(\$ 62,515)

In 2006, \$60,000 was transferred from the church's endowment funds (New Covenant) to balance the 2006 budget. Fortunately not all this money was utilized; therefore the balance of these monies will be used to limit the "anticipated shortfall" of \$62,515 in the 2007 budget. As of December 31, 2006, approximately \$405,800 is invested in the

New Covenant Funds. Only \$140,000 of this sum remains in the "unrestricted" trust monies.

As a people of God, we need to live within our monetary means in order to survive and prosper in the future. Session's goal is to have a balanced budget within the next 4 years. With your help we can accomplish this task.

What Is The "Per Capita"?

Each year when members are given a new packet of offering envelopes, one of the first envelopes is labeled Presbytery Assessment. This envelope is for the per capita which pays the administrative costs of operating the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. Costs include such areas as staff salaries, office rent, supplies, insurance, committee meetings and other related expenses.

For 2007, the per capita is \$21.50 per member, which has been the same rate since 2003. For our church membership of 178, we pay \$3,827.00.

As members pay their per capita, Session will not have to take money from the budget to meet this commitment. We thank you in advance for your prayerful support of the per capita payment.

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Thank You from the Deacons

The Deacons express sincere thanks to members of the congregation for their generous contributions to the "Shut-In" Christmas baskets. The donations of homemade cookies, candy canes, cheese and crackers, hand lotion, raisins, mini-Kleenex packages, fruit, and home-made mini-bread loaves helped us to create beautiful baskets filled with delicious food and lots of love. The shut-ins were greatly appreciative of these lovely baskets.

The Deacons extend a warm welcome to our newest members from the class of 2009, Spencer Bevins and Virginia Olsen. We look forward to working with them in the upcoming months.

FEBRUARY 2007

Birthdays and Anniversaries

We would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to the following members:

Jim Baker	2/1
Robert Kleinfelter	2/3
M. Joe Mateer	2/4
Collin Swartz	2/5
Benjamin Felker	2/6
Margaret Kern	2/7
Donna Thompson	2/10
Dave Tobias	2/11
Sandy Warner	2/13
Jacob Felker	2/13
Evan Eberhard	2/13
Jim Sours	2/15
Corey Kean	2/15
Crystal Meashey	2/19
Abigail Packheiser	2/20
Barry Snook	2/22
Griffith Basehore	2/24
Warren Dodson	2/26
Melvin Layton	2/27
Melody Santor	2/28



*We would also like to wish a
Happy Anniversary to:*

Corey and Michelle Kean	2/8
Earl and Linda Balmer	2/13
John and Anna McDonald	2/14
Ken and Marie Leinbach	2/18
Carl and Kim Tosh	2/18
Garnet and Jane Zimmerman	2/24

krislund calendar...

Camp Krislund has some upcoming events that all are invited to attend:

- Feb. 3 Mission Group Workers
(introduction to mission opportunities in '07 and '80)
- Feb. 10 Valentines Banquet, 7PM
- Feb. 23-25 Krislund's Senior High Retreat
- Apr. 18-20 Youth Worker Retreat

For more information or to sign up, call 814-422-8878 or email kentrishel@krislund.org.

Camp **KRISLUND**

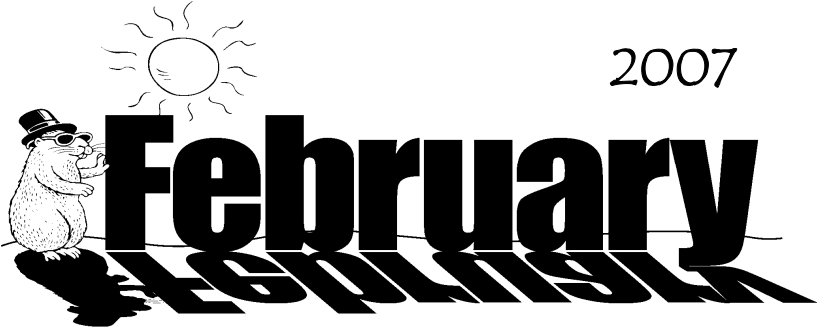


**DON'T MISS THE MEN'S BREAKFAST
ON SATURDAY, FEBURARY 10TH AT
8:00 AM AT THE BROWNSTONE. ALL
MEN OF THE CHURCH ARE WELCOME
AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.**

THE PRESBYTERIAN CONGREGATION
UNION AND WATER STREETS
MIDDLETOWN, PA 17057

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