

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
BROOKVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA
NOVEMBER 2006

NEWSLETTER

WORRIED ABOUT COLDS and FLU?

Around this time each year, we all start to worry a little more about picking up a cold or the flu when we go out in public. During the worship service, when we "Pass the Peace," please be mindful of those who do not wish to shake hands. If you are concerned about illness, please know that a friendly word and a warm smile pass the peace of Christ just as well as a handshake. By "Passing the Peace," we want to encourage an open and friendly environment - we don't want anyone to go home sick.

Presbyterian Women will meet on Thursday, November 2nd, 11:30 a.m. in the education building. The Bible Study will be Lesson 2 "Perspectives on Sin - Adam and Eve" based on scripture readings from Genesis 3: 1-24. You may bring your Thank Offering to this meeting. ALL women are welcome!!!

Thank Offering 2006 - Since 1888, Presbyterian Women has funded aid programs through the Thank Offering. Eliza Clokey challenged women of the Women's General Missionary Society to give one dollar above each member's usual contribution as a "thank offering to her Lord." A day was set aside for meetings that were to be a "concert of prayer and praise and the gathering of the Thank Offering." The gifts presented at the annual convention represented much soul-searching and self-sacrifice on the part of many women. The impact they made was immeasurable. It has been said that women's giving saved the worldwide missionary movement at that time. The thrust of how and where the money was used changed over the years, but a "thank offering to her Lord" continued to be an important part of women's giving by United Presbyterian Women. This expression of thanksgiving is now an important part of Presbyterian Women. This year, we continue that tradition by supporting 47 projects from 108 requests received. Enclosed is a Thank Offering envelope. The offering will be received on Sunday, November 19th.

Best wishes to Heather Hulse and Cliff Whitcomb who were united in marriage October 28, 2006.

On October 15th it was our joy to share in the baptism of Megan Grace, daughter of Stephanie and Shane Parker, born June 13, 2006. Megan is the grand-daughter of Shelly and Ray Fitzgerald.

Nursery workers for November:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| November 5 th | Karen Ray |
| November 12 th | Sue Moser |
| November 19 th | Juliet Parlette |
| November 26 th | Ann Himes |

PARENTING GROUP

The Parenting Group will meet again on Tuesday, November 7th, at 7:00 p.m. upstairs in the education building. The theme of this week's discussion will be "teaching values to our children." If you have any questions, please call Juliet Parlette at 849-0858.

The church quilt group will be meeting in the education building Monday evenings in November at 6 p.m. Beginner and master quilters are welcome!! If you have any questions, please call Susan Benton.

Sunday Morning Adult Education

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|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| November 5 th | "Elijah Triumphs with God" | 1 Kings 18:20-24, 30-35, 38-39 |
| | Men's Class | Ed Kelso |
| | Women's Class | Linda Taylor |
| November 12 th | "Josiah Brings Reform" | 2 Kings 22: 8-10; 23: 1-3, 21-23 |
| | Men's Class | Paul Gray |
| | Women's Class | Sue Moser |
| November 19 th | "The People Go into Exile" | 2 Chronicles 36: 15-21; Psalm 137: 1-6 |
| | Men's Class | Bill Kutz |
| | Women's Class | |
| November 26 th | "God Offers Return and Restoration" | 2 Chronicles 36: 22-23; Ezra 1: 5-7 |
| | Men's Class | Don Musgrave |
| | Women's Class | Nicole Johnson |

CROP WALK UPDATE

Many **THANKS** to all of you who made our second annual CROP WALK a success. We had 40 walkers (and a couple of runners) with 200 pledges who raised \$3,124. That means that our local food pantry will be getting a check for \$781 (25% of the total raised). Many thanks and much gratitude to T.J. Parlette, Judy Greeley, Don Musgrave, Bob Tonkin, Phil and Kay Ruffner, Peggy Dillman, Geoff Seacrist, David and Susan Moore, Pat Ellis, Gretchen Dinger, Janet Dennison and Van Curll for their "behind the scenes" efforts in support of the CROP WALK. We look forward to next year!

CANNED FRUIT and VEGETABLE DRIVE for the FOOD PANTRY

On **November 12th**, we would like to invite you to bring some canned fruits or vegetables with you to worship. Our Food Pantry suppliers have been unable to get a good deal lately on canned fruits and vegetables - so the Food Pantry has had to pay higher prices for those items. To offset that cost, we are asking that you bring a can or two (more if you are able) of a canned fruit or vegetable of your choice to worship on November 12th. Our donations will then be collected by the Food Pantry to feed our local brothers and sisters.

The **semi-annual meeting** of the congregation/corporation will be held Sunday, November 19th, immediately following worship. The purpose of this meeting is to elect church officers and receive the budget for 2007.

The annual **Community Thanksgiving worship service** will be held Sunday, November 19th, 7 p.m. at the Evangelical United Methodist Church, South White Street. Pastor Jim Fillhart will be the speaker. Everyone is invited to attend.

Christmas Gifts for Inmates

Once again this year, our church will be ministering to those in prison by collecting boxes of Little Debbie snack cakes and 7 ounce Hershey's candy bars. On November 26th, we will receive the Little Debbies and on December 3rd, we will receive the candy bars. If you prefer, you may bring in your donation all at once to the church office. Thank you for participating in this Advent Mission project.

Advent Class To Begin

Beginning on Tuesday, November 28th, Rev. Parlette will be leading a class entitled "Don't Know Much About Islam!" With the war in Iraq still going on, our involvement in Afghanistan continuing and situations in Iran and Israel heating up - it's imperative that we as Christians not only pray for peace, but act as peacemakers. One way we can do that on a local level is by striving to understand the fundamental nature of Islam. During these 4 sessions in Advent, we will be looking at the questions:

1. Where did Islam originate?
2. What do Muslims believe?
3. What similarities and differences are there between Christianity and Islam?
4. How can Christians and Muslims best relate to one another?

This class is free of charge and is open to anyone with an interest in learning more about Islam. We will meet on Tuesday nights, beginning November 28th and concluding on December 19th, at 7 p.m. in the education building. Please call the church office if you plan to attend so that we may have sufficient materials available.

Advent is Coming Soon!!

Friday, December 1st

Soup & Pie Luncheon 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., education building
Live Nativity 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 3rd, We will celebrate the beginning of Advent with **communion**

Sunday, December 10th, **Advent luncheon** immediately following worship in the education building. Meat, potatoes, vegetable, rolls and beverages will be provided by the Deacons. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

Saturday, December 16th, Presbyterians at the Movies, "The Nativity Story"

On the first weekend of December, a new movie will be coming out depicting the birth of Jesus, called "The Nativity Story." Our church has arranged a date with the Pisgah Church to go see the movie together at the Destina Movie Theater in Clarion on the afternoon of Saturday, December 16th. We will know an exact time later in November. The cost will be \$7.50 per ticket and includes the movie, small popcorn and small drink. Child care will be available at the Pisgah Church. Please call the church office by Friday, December 8th if you would like to attend and if you will need child care. To view a trailer, visit www.thenativitystory.com.

FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Applying Bible Principles

Money is a neutral commodity, a means of exchange. It is neither inherently good nor evil. But a wrong view of money can become a problem to us.

In First Timothy 6: 9-10, Scripture warns about the dangers of a determination to get rich: "But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil; and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains."

When we have a consuming desire to get rich, when we are obsessed with money so that it becomes the focus of our time and attention, then we have made it the number one priority in our lives. In that spot, it replaces everything, including God. We begin to find our security in money, not in God and in God alone.

However, when our view of God is right and our view of money is right, we will realize that money cannot buy security; money cannot purchase happiness; money cannot guarantee peace or joy or contentment. God alone can provide these essentials as we ". . . strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness."

In his book, *The Gift of Giving*, Wayne Watts said this: "God always lovingly instructs us in the path that is in our best interest and which will bring us the greatest happiness in life. Therefore, for our good, He instructs us to put Him first in all things, and this includes how we use our money."

How do you view money? Is it at the center of your life, thereby perhaps replacing God's rightful role? And equally important, are you using the money God has given to you to advance His kingdom and His righteousness?