



THE PRES

The First Presbyterian Church Pleasant Valley
Vol. 15 No. 1
January 2015

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ,

Now is the winter of our discontent (with apologies to the Bard), but in the LORD do we find our *hope*. This is a truth of our faith. While the winter may have us in its grip, and sickness is abundant, the Lord remains steadfast by our side. God is our strength when we are weary, and our light in the dark spaces of life. In God alone do we *hope*.

Upon this hope was the First Presbyterian Church of Pleasant Valley founded, and in faith we continue. As we look forward to celebrating our 250th anniversary during this coming year, let us remember that it was with *faith* and *hope* this congregation was founded; and with *faith* and *hope* we continue to serve God and God's creation. Truly, we are blessed.

“Hope”

“Hope” is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -

And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -

I've heard it in the chillest land -
And on the strangest Sea -
Yet - never - in Extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me.

BY EMILY DICKINSON

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
Romans 12:12

I look forward to seeing you in church!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Shawn

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| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your good wishes and for the Christmas gifts. As most of you know, I have been ill since before Christmas, and some of the cards and gifts became mixed up on Christmas Eve. If I have missed thanking you personally, please know that I am very appreciative of your thoughtfulness toward me and my family.

A special thank you goes out to Jean Albrecht for arranging the removing of the greens, and to Jerry Conklin for handling the dress rehearsal...Also to Denny and Rich, and whomever helped them break down the sanctuary for the concert. Also, a word of apology to Wendy, and my gratitude, for delaying the publication of THE PRES so I could speak with you this month.

I am blessed to serve such a competent and caring congregation.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart...

Philippians 1:3-7a

Blessings,
Pastor Shawn



Worship Schedule

Sunday, January 4th:

9:30 am Worship Service
10:30 am Coffee Hour
11:10 am Bible Study

Sunday, January 11th:

9:30 am Worship & Sunday School
The Lord's Supper
10:30 am Coffee Hour
11:10 am Bible Study

Sunday, January 18th:

9:30 am Worship Service & Sunday School
10:30 am Coffee Hour
11:10 am Bible Study

Sunday, January 25th:

9:30 am Worship Service & Sunday School
10:30 am Congregational Meeting



Coffee Fellowship

COFFEE & CONVERSATION
EVERY THURSDAY

At 10 a.m.

At Panera Bread, On Route 44
Across the street from Adam's.

The Annual Meeting of the congregation and the corporation of the First Presbyterian Church, Pleasant Valley, New York is called for Sunday, January 25, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to hear reports, elect elders, deacons, and trustees and deal with any other business that may properly come before the meeting.



Session Update

1. Pastor Shawn reported on members who are sick. She will be on vacation December 31 through January 6; Arlene Wilhelm will fill the pulpit on January 4.
2. Pastor Shawn presented member Ben Sung, who explained to the Session that he feels called to ministry. He has completed seminary and additional courses, and is presently working on his application to Hudson River Presbytery. Session voted unanimously to sponsor Ben in this endeavor.
3. Stewardship Committee Chairperson Jerry Conklin reported that as of December 17, 2014, pledges have been received for \$100,394 for local mission and \$18,966 for mission.
4. Christian Education Chairperson Karen Haight reported that the Holiday Cookie Sale will be held on December 20. Session approved Debi Tyger's request to donate the profits to Presbytery Disaster Assistance, the Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Food Pantry, and our own youth for their programs. Sunday School students will take part in the 7:00 Christmas Eve service as shepherds and angels, and the Junior Choir will sing.
5. Worship Committee Chairperson Judy Brandow set up Communion assistants for January 11 (when

Pastor Shawn will be back) and February 1.

6. Nominating Committee Chairperson Greg Clark reported that a full slate of officers is ready for presentation at the Annual Meeting on January 25.
7. In New Business, Steve Albrecht reported that Brian Rawls of Fabulous Firs donated the trees for the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Clerk Marilyn Brands will write a thank you note.

WREATH MAKING!



THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the wreath fundraiser this year! We brought in over \$4400 this year! A big THANK YOU to the Murphys for organizing this fundraiser each year!



Friendship Callers

January 20th 9:30 a.m.

The Friendship Callers will meet on Tuesday, January 20th to go visit our shut-ins. All are welcome. We meet in the Yellow Room at 9:30 a.m.

Any questions please call Joan Smith at 635-3687.

SNOW CLOSINGS

www.cancellations.com

Or

94.3 FM, 101.5 FM,
97.7 FM



Happy Anniversary, First Presbyterian Church of Pleasant Valley!



It is January, 2015, and the beginning of our church's 250th Anniversary year. We are off to an auspicious beginning with a successful Holiday Auction that featured vintage items and auctioneers in old-fashioned costumes. Our first souvenir, a Christmas ornament, was available for sale throughout Advent. Now we are looking forward to all the events planned by our Anniversary Committee. Two books have been prepared for publication. Joan Traver's updated history of the church is in the hands of the printer, Central Press of Millbrook. Kathi Clark has created a beautiful black and white coloring book that explains the history of the church in language and pictures geared toward children. Watch the PRES and Sunday bulletins for the arrival of these books. These will be treasured reminders of our church's 250 years of serving our Lord.



SPECIAL FOOD COLLECTION FOR THE FOOD PANTRY DURING 2015!

This year we would like to tie the collecting of donations for the Food Pantry with our anniversary celebration. We hope to donate a total of 250 food or personal care items that the pantry has in limited supply. Each month 1 or 2 items will be specified. For January the items are toothpaste and toilet paper (individually wrapped rolls). Items may be placed in the basket in the back of the Sanctuary or outside the CE Office. Each month the total collected for that month and the next month's item will be announced. Thank you for your support.

Anniversary Christmas Ornament



It is not too late to purchase our anniversary Christmas ornament. It is blue with white imprinting which includes a picture of our church, the dates 1765-2015, and a Bible verse. The cost is \$5.00. We sold 78 during Advent and we have only 22 left. We would love to sell them so we do not need to find storage space. If you are interested, call Marilyn Brands at 223-5717 or the church office at 635-3289. If you are unable to come to church to pick up an ornament, arrangements will be made to deliver one to you.



A Special
THANK YOU



THANK YOU from David and Marilyn Brands

We have no words to thank our church family for your loving concern after David was hit by a car after the Christmas Eve service, but we have to try! Thanks to Jeff Traver who was first on the scene and persuaded David to sit down until the ambulance arrived, and who spotted his glasses on Route 44 (good as new with a new side piece). Thanks to Wayne Sauer who comforted both of us during the ride to the hospital and to Wayne and Missy who remained with us at the hospital until midnight and took Marilyn back to Pleasant Valley to get her car. Thanks to Pastor Shawn and Wendy who called to see what they could do even though they were sick themselves. Thanks to Joan Smith and Lois Miller who called to offer equipment. And thanks to all who sent cards, called, and prayed for us. It's as if God caught David and kept him safe, and our family and church family have upheld us ever since. We may have missed Christmas, but we feel as if Thanksgiving came again.



January Birthdays

Jim Albrecht, Kyle Albrecht, Nathan Albrecht, Carol Carnell, Jack Lashway, Zoe Naselow, Jill Palmiotti, Cody Perotti, Ginny Rossway, Malene Rubin, Wayne Sauer, Missy Sauer, Donna Sheak, Karen Sheer, Carol Smith, Amanda Smith, Jaiden Thomsen, Matt Thurston, Theresa Traver, Debbie Traver, Debi Tyger, and Kristina Wenzel.



250th Anniversary Celebration!

Anniversary Committee Meeting

**Friday, January 23rd
9:30 am
In the Church Parlor**

February PRES

All articles and information for the February PRES must be given to Wendy by January 27th. Articles may be emailed to the church email address: secretary@pvpresby.org.



CHRISTMAS EVE THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Christmas Eve Services. Both services were made very special by your willingness to tell the story of the birth of our Savior.



To add names to the prayer list, submit a written request to the pastor, or call the Church Office. Names will be on for 4 weeks and then removed. You may request to have a name put back on the list. Please use this list in your daily prayers.

Prayers for **Pastor Shawn** who has been ill.

Prayers for **Paul Haberstock** (Church florist) who is undergoing chemotherapy treatments.

Prayers for **Neil Rossway** (Ginny Rossway's son) who is recovering from open heart surgery.

Prayers for **Angie Nobile** (Iris Riccardi's sister) who is hospitalized while recovering from a car accident.

Prayers for **Gladys Zanicky** (Pastor Shawn's mother-in-law) who underwent heart surgery and is undergoing treatment for esophageal cancer.

Prayers for **Sue Zanicky** (Pastor Shawn's sister-in-law) who is in the hospital battling cancer.

Prayers for **Burveau Noble** (Chesney Baker's cousin) for support and healing as he deals with health issues.

Prayers for **David Brands** (member) who is recovering from being hit by a car after the Christmas Eve 7 pm service and struggling with health issues.

Prayers for **David Morse** (Irena Morse's brother in law) who is undergoing medical procedures.

Prayers for **Sue Moore** (friend of the church) who is recovering from surgery.

Prayers for **Margaret Traver** (member) who is in Lutheran Care Center, Room 103 South.

Prayers for **Grace** (Hilde's McQuillan's sister-in-law) who is battling breast cancer.

Prayers for **Lee Burgess** (Friend of Karen Haight) who is battling pancreatic cancer.

Prayers for **Nathan Wells** (Friend of Irena Morse) who was diagnosed with a brain tumor.

Prayers for **Rick Fay** (member) who is struggling with health issues.

Prayers for **Bob & Carol Belton** (member) who are struggling with health issues.

Prayers for **Eiluned Aikman** (member) who is struggling with health issues.

Prayers for **John & Jane Barden** (member) who are struggling with health issues.

Prayers for **Jesse** (Karen Haight's niece) who is struggling with health issues.

Prayer for **Jennifer** (Karen's Cousin) who is battling cancer.

Prayers for **Anita Wolf** (Roxanne Wolf's mother) who is battling cancer.

Prayers for **Iris Riccardi** (member) who is battling cancer.

Prayers for **Gina Beckman** (friend of Andrea Kirchhoff) who is battling cancer.

Sympathy prayers **Rich Murray and family** on the death of Rich's uncle.



What a blessing we had at the bake sale. We made \$900 and sold out of cookies! This year we are making donations to Sunday in the Country Food Drive, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Typhoon Haiyan, the Deacon's fund, Hudson Valley Food Bank, and our Youth mission (ASP). THANK YOU to everyone who baked, helped to set up or clean up, and worked the bake sale! We wouldn't be able to do it without you!



January

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| | | All church events are in Bold . | PVN = Pleasant Valley Nursery School | 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY | 2 closed PVN | 3 |
| 4 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11:10 Bible Study | 5 8 - 3 pm PVN 7 pm Bell Choir | 6 8 - 3 PVN 10:30 am Brain Games 7:30 pm NA | 7 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 - 1 Bargain Basement 6:30 pm Grange Dinner | 8 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 5:45 pm Jr Choir 6 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Sr Choir | 9 8 - 3 pm PVN 11 am PW Bible Study 7 pm Voices of Glory Concert | 10 10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement 5 pm Mid Hudson Deaf Club |
| 11 9:30 am Worship, The Lord's Supper & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11:10 Bible Study | 12 8 - 3 pm PVN 6:30 pm Kids Stamping with Lisa 7 pm Bell Choir | 13 8 - 3 PVN 7:30 pm NA | 14 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 - 1 Bargain Basement 7 pm Session Mtg 7 pm Trustees Meeting 7:30 pm Lyme Disease Group | 15 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 5:45 Jr Choir 7 pm Sr Choir | 16 8 - 3 pm PVN | 17 10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement |
| 18 9:30 am Worship & Church School 10:30 Coffee Hour 11:10 Bible Study | 19 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday closed PVN 7 pm Bell Choir | 20 8 - 3 PVN 9:30 am Friendship Callers 7:30 pm NA | 21 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 - 1 Bargain Basement | 22 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 5:45 Jr Choir 6:30 pm Jr Grange 7 pm Sr Choir | 23 8 - 3 PVN 9:30 am Anniversary Committee Mtg 11 am PW Bible Study | 24 10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement ?CPR Class |
| 25 9:30 am Worship & Church School 10:30 Coffee Hour & Congregational Meeting | 26 8 - 3PVN 7 pm Bell Choir | 27 8 - 3 PVN 7:30 pm NA | 28 8 - 3 PVN 7 pm Prayer 101 | 29 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 5:45 Jr Choir 7 pm Sr Choir | 30 8 - 3 pm PVN | |

Our Church Staff & Committee Chairs

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Pastor's Study | Reverend Shawn Zanicky | 635-3289 ext. 11 |
| Pastor's Residence | | 723-4419 |
| Office, Secretary | Wendy Cady | 635-3289 ext. 10 |
| | Fax Line | 635-3382 |
| Bell Choir & Sr. Vocal Choir | Jerry Conklin | 635-8178 |
| Jr. Vocal & Bell Choir Directors | Alta & Jerry Conklin | 635-8178 |
| Organist | Alta Conklin | 635-8178 |
| Clerk of Session | Marilyn Brands | 223-5717 |
| Sexton | Keith Daley | 635-3194 |
| Treasurer | Wayne Sauer | 635-1533 |
| Mission Treasurer | David Brands | 223-5717 |
| Coordinator Christian Ed. | Melissa Palestro | 635-3289 ext. 12 |

Committee

Christian Education
 Finance
 Personnel
 Stewardship/Church Growth
 Worship
 Nominating
 Technology

Chair

Karen Haight 635-2632
 Gary Murphy 868-7298
 Gary Murphy 868-7298
 Jerry Conklin 635-8178
 Judy Brandow 635-2045
 Greg Clark 849-2199
 Kenneth Brands 632-1714



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