



# THE PRES

The First Presbyterian Church Pleasant Valley  
Vol. 15 No. 5  
May 2014

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

My husband and I are at Starbucks assiduously working for our congregations – he studying and I writing the letter for *The PRES*. As I desperately try to gather my thoughts into some form of cohesiveness surrounding conversations encroach upon my concentration. The harder I try not to hear them, the more intrusive they become. (Bob does this all the time – how does he function like this?)

The young man dressed in his natty work uniform behind me is bragging to his female companion about how he has put his “boss” (*that jerk thinks he’s going to tell me what to do*) in his place. This youngster goes on a long soliloquy about the day’s events, and how he has made “the man” look small by ignoring his boss’ instructions and basically doing what he wants. He has been on the job a week. My inner disdain is beginning to leak through my pores and I get up to freshen my coffee.

There is a well-dressed middle-aged woman sitting at the counter diligently typing away on her laptop, seemingly oblivious to her environs. Not far from her are some young men dressed in very casual apparel who have pulled several chairs around a table so they may converse together. Actually, they look pretty disheveled and unkempt, but in passing them I catch a phrase from Shakespeare and then one of them (obviously a mathematician) quotes Euclid ... suddenly I am in heaven, and wishing I could join in the conversation. It is fun to hear them discussing and bantering about these two great thinkers (a most preferable conversation).

As I continue on my way to the coffee counter Barbara Brown’s Taylor’s book, *An Altar in the World*, comes to my consciousness and returning to my seat I take a second look at those around me ... an incredibly diverse group of people. Silently I ask for forgiveness as I see the face of the young braggart for the first time. Quite visible are the worry creases in his young forehead, and the shaking hand as he raises a coffee cup to his lips. His visage belies the bravado of his speech, and I wonder if the young woman notices. My earlier irritation dissipates.

The middle-aged woman at the counter has tears streaking her cheeks, and her typing has become halted. The young students’ conversation is becoming more animated and their laughter cuts through this “new” awareness with cyclonic potency. Suddenly I view this place of business as another’s of God’s altars in the world, a place to reverence all of God’s creation...the braggart, the disheveled, the oblivious and the pained.

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**The Pastor's Article Continued:**

Occasionally God taps me on the shoulder and says, "Look beyond the surface, I am there. Hear me in the noise and the quiet, for I am there. I am everywhere." Shamefaced, for not recognizing the obvious, I bow my head and seek His presence.

I am grateful for God's reminders, although sometimes they catch me off guard. Much like many of you, once the day is planned I am anxious to get moving and fulfill my obligations. Sometimes, when I am caught up in the busyness of the day, I sense a prodding and I hear that inner voice ... *"I know you've been busy, but have you taken notice of what is before you? You know, we haven't connected much today. Let's talk."* *"Speak, Lord. I am listening."* Once more He teaches me the meaning of "holy" and shares the sacredness of the ordinary, which surrounds us each day.

Have you taken the time today to notice all of the sacred spaces and people in your life; spaces filled by the Holy that are all around you? Have you spoken to the LORD today, or even taken a moment to slow down and listen for God's voice? Like young Samuel, we all could do well to echo his words:

*Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.*

1 Samuel 3:9

Faithfully,  
Pastor Shawn



Worship Schedule

**Sunday, May 4th:**

- 9:30 am      Worship Service, Holy Communion & Sunday School.
- 10:30 am    Coffee Hour
- 11:10 am    Bible Study

**Sunday, May 11th: Mother's Day**

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

**Sunday, May 18th:**

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

**Sunday, May 25th: Memorial Day**

**Weekend**

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

**June PRES**

All articles and information for the June PRES must be given to Wendy by May 27th. Articles may be emailed to the church email address: [secretary@pvpresby.org](mailto:secretary@pvpresby.org).



**Friendship Callers**

**May 20th  
9:30 a.m.**

The Friendship Callers will meet on Tuesday, May 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.



### Session Update

1. Pastor Shawn reported on members who are sick. She will be on vacation May 28 to June 7.
2. Clerk Marilyn Brands thanked Gary Murphy for attending Clerks' Day on April 6. Session approved a request for our church to participate in the Pleasant Valley Weekend parade, and gave approval for reupholstering the Communion chairs.
3. Members of the Communicants class were present: Aaron Traver, Angelika Wenzel, Evan Palmiotti, Garrett Burnett, Kyle Traver, Layla Kirchoff, Paige Daley, Shaun Morey, and Zachary Traver. They shared their individual statements of faith and told how they hoped to participate in the life of the church. Session enthusiastically voted these nine young people into membership. They will be publicly received during worship on Maundy Thursday.
4. Jean Albrecht was present to explain that a new committee has been formed to run the ecumenical Pleasant Valley Food Pantry. There will be an effort to include more people to help with the food pantry, and a brochure has been proposed to give information about the 4 Pleasant Valley churches. Jean and Edith Keck work at the Food Pantry the second Wednesday of the month. Steve Albrecht, Jerry Conklin, and Don Traver have offered to help transport food.
5. Stewardship Committee Chairperson Jerry Conklin reported that the One Great Hour

of Sharing Offering will be collected through Easter. His committee arranged for publicity of Holy Week services in the newspapers.

6. Worship Committee Chairperson Judy Brandow assigned elders for Communion for May and June.
7. In Old Business, elders were given copies of the Presbytery's Disaster Assistance Plan suggestions. It was decided that Session and Trustees should work together on this plan.

### May Fest

Friday, May 9th

4:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 10th

9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



It's time for this year's May Fest! The success of this fundraiser depends on donations and people who come to shop. Please plan to attend, and browse at the booths, where you can find attic treasures, baked goods, books, toys and games for children, and plants.

After you have worked up an appetite shopping, sit down and enjoy delicious food from the Kitchen. On Friday, oven baked chicken will be available for dinner, as well as potato salad, tossed salad, 3 bean salad, meatball sandwiches, hamburgers, hot dogs, beverages, and ice cream. On Saturday you can find breakfast buns and coffee or tea to start your day, or hamburgers and hot dogs for lunch.

It will be a weekend of bargains, food, and fellowship. Don't miss it!



## **THE HISTORY CORNER**

By Joan Traver

### **Pews Old and Older**

The pews that were recently re-installed in our sanctuary date from 1905 when stained glass windows were also added in preparation for the church's 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In the 1940s, summer humidity caused the varnish to become sticky, sometimes leaving residue on clothing. Young people who belonged to the Christian Endeavor group at that time led the effort in removing the varnish using a mixture of "Gold Dust Washing Soda," ammonia, hot water and plenty of elbow grease. After the removal was completed, the pews were professionally re-varnished.

These pews replaced the old box style ones that were probably removed from the original church building before its demolition. This type of pew was enclosed, front and back at the base, to keep out drafts. They had a door that latched on the aisle side and were marked with the pew holder's name. The pews were screwed to the wall on each side of the room, with another section in the center, allowing for 2 aisles, rather than the center aisle we have today. There were apparently rows of "open pews" for those not paying the pew tax and therefore not owning a pew.

We are fortunate to have one of the original pew doors, rescued by David Greenwood before it could be discarded.

Correction in list of dates in the April Pres: Date elevator was installed - 2002

## **Prayer 101: What it Means to Me**

By Chesney Baker

*"Be joyful always; pray continually; Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"*

*1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

Prayer 101 meets twice a month, for an hour, in the church parlor. It is a time for fellowship, learning God's Word and prayer. For me it is a time to build and strengthen my relationship with God, My Father, as well as with my church family.

During our Prayer 101 meeting we pray for those in need and discuss ways to strengthen our personal prayer life. As a group, we have shared books, articles, music and other resources that help us grow in God's love. We also discuss how powerful prayer is in keeping our relationship with God strong. Jesus, our Lord and Savior, showed us the way to pray day and night without ceasing, in private communications with God.

*"As prayer warriors, we must remember that no matter how hopeless a situation may appear to us, God gives us power in prayer to do something about it. We may be overwhelmed by it, but God is not. We may not see a way out, but God can. Because of Him, we can make a difference."*

This powerful quote by Stormie Omartian sums up how I feel about being a prayer warrior and part of Prayer 101.

Come join us, we welcome you to our prayerful meetings. Watch your bulletin for upcoming meetings.

*"And I tell you more: whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For when two or three come together in my name, I am there with them."*

*Matthew 18:19-20*



**250th COOKBOOK!!**

Recipes are needed for 250th church anniversary cookbook! For your convenience, you can add recipes to our cookbook by typing them into our online account! Go to the website <http://www.typensave.com/get-started/> The church username is: **pvpres** and the password is: **6353289** . It is really easy to use and your contributions are greatly appreciated! YES, you can still submit recipes on a paper recipe form! They are located by the recipe collection box, at the church office or see Jean Albrecht, Barbara Huneke, Joyce Brower, or Tracy Keck.



**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**May Birthdays**

Steve Albrecht, Claire Burnett,  
 Jacob Burruby, Pam Cady,  
 Kim Daley, Thomas Doyle,  
 Rick Fay, Jon Gilroy, Wyatt Keck,  
 Hunter Miller, Hope Murphy,  
 Betty Palmquist, Mary Perdomo,  
 Brittany Perotti, Margaret Russell,  
 Joan Smith, Carol Traver,  
 & Alexis Zimmer

**May Anniversaries**

*Tim & Lisa Albrecht*  
*Matt & Wendy Cady*  
*Brian & Evie Franks*  
*Tom & Linda Halliday*



**COFFEE & CONVERSATION  
 EVERY THURSDAY**

At 10 a.m.  
 At Panera Bread, On Route 44  
 Across the street from Adam's.

**June Plass Sherow Memorial  
 Scholarship Fund**

Each year, the Christian Education committee invites church members who are pursuing post-high school education to apply to the June Plass Sherow Memorial Scholarship Fund. This fund provides financial aid for the purpose of higher education. Interested people must meet the following requirements:

- Be actively involved in the life of the church through Church School and Worship.
- A high school senior who is beginning accredited post-high school education (such as college or trade school).
- OR an adult beginning accredited study for the first time after high school graduation.

Application Deadline is May 15, 2014.  
 Please return any applications to the church office, attention CE Committee.

**APPLICATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Year you joined the church: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a brief description of your education plans.

**Pleasant Valley's  
First Presbyterian Church's  
Famous Chicken BBQ**



**Saturday, June 14th  
4:00—6:30 pm**

**Family Style Menu Includes:**

BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Tossed Salad,  
Potato Salad, Beverages & Homemade  
Desserts!

Adults—\$12.00

Seniors (65+) & Children (6-12) - \$10.00

Under 6 free

Tickets available at the door or **SAVE \$1** on each ticket by  
purchasing or RSVPing to the  
church office (635-3289) by Tues, May28th!

**HELP NEEDED, FUN GUARANTEED,  
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED to**

help with the Chicken BBQ on June 13th(set-up and prep), and  
June 14th (day of BBQ). Sign up in Fellowship Hall!



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 **Bob Cleary** (Karen Albrecht's father) who  
was severely injured in a fall.

Prayers for the **Joseph Family**.

Prayers for the **Carey Family**.

Prayers for **Bob Beverly** (religious counselor) who is  
recovering from surgery.

Prayers for **Monica Scharff** (Karen Haight's son-in-law's  
mother).

Prayers for **Gabby Wilkins** (Friend of Linda Halliday)  
who is undergoing surgery.

Prayers for **Ken O.** (Jim Tyger's brother) who is  
struggling with many health issues.

Prayers for **Josie** (Dara Brands's Aunt) who is a  
caregiver for her mother and experiencing the  
everyday challenges of being a caregiver.

Prayers for **Dan Forward** (Harriet Mark's son-in-law's  
father) who is battling bone cancer.

Prayers for **Shirley Kinne** (Harriet Mark's son-in-law's  
sister) who is battling cancer.

Prayers for **Dick Walker** (member) who is home  
recovering after a medical procedure.

Prayers for **Jack Kessinger** (Barbara Huneke's brother  
-in-law) who is being treated for lung cancer.

Prayers for **Skip Walker** (Member) who is home  
recovering from hip surgery.

Prayers for **Brittany Sullivan Albrecht** (Jean's 21 year  
old granddaughter in-law) who is receiving  
radiation treatment.

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

Prayers for **Vicki** (Chesney's mom) who is struggling  
with health issues.

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

Prayers for **Bob Belton** (member) who is struggling  
with health issues.

Prayers for **Edith Provencher** (Donna Sheak's mother)  
who is struggling with health issues.

Prayers for **Alan & Ruth Arnfield** (Evelyn Frank's  
parents) who are struggling with health issues.

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

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

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

Prayers for **Carl Freiberg** (past member) who is  
struggling with health issues.

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

Prayers for **Wylee Marie Spera** (granddaughter of  
Frank & Cindy Spera).

Prayers for **Sandy Holdiman** (Jack Smith's sister) who  
is battling cancer.


Prayers for **Georgina Sorcie** (friend of Brian Franks)  
who is battling cancer.

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.



# Sunday School Corner

By Melissa Palestro, CE Coordinator  
 PVChristianEd@gmail.com

**Reminders:**

There will be no Sunday school on Sunday, May 25.

The second and third grade class continues to collect pull-tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Tabs can be dropped off in the Sunday school office or to any second or third grader.



Recipes are still needed for the 250<sup>th</sup> cookbook. Please encourage your child to add his or her favorite family recipe to the collection.

**Save the date!! Children's Sunday**  
**June 8, 2014**



**VBS July 7-11!**  
**9 am – Noon**

Calling all crazy creatures! Come join us this summer for Vacation Bible School's exciting new Weird Animals—Where Jesus' Love is One-of-a-Kind! At Weird Animals VBS, kids will experience and be empowered by all of the unexpected and, yes, weird ways that Jesus demonstrated unconditional love.

Come join us for a week full of fun, fellowship, activities, snacks and crafts! Registration forms available in the Christian Education Office, Church Office

and this issue of the Pres! Send one in now, spaces fill up quickly!

Vacation Bible School is right around the corner! We are still looking for some volunteers! Please prayerfully consider helping us this summer! Please contact us if you would like more information or if you are available to help. You don't need to be available all week, we need daily help too! Any time you can give, we'll take! A huge thank you to everyone who has already signed up to help!



This year's VBS Directors are:  
 Melissa Palestro 635-3289 ext. #12  
 Beth Murphy 868-7298  
 Marilyn Brands 223-5717  
 Wendy Cady 635-3289 ext. #10

We'll be posting a wish list of supplies soon. Right now we know we need 8 oz bottles of water to help keep our VBS children and volunteers hydrated. If you'd like to donate some 8 oz bottles of water, drop them off in the CE office. We also need some new first aid kits this year. We need kits that contain bandages, disposable gloves, antibiotic ointment, and instant cold packs.



**Jonathan's New Address for the Next 2 ½ years:**



Jonathan Wolf-Davidson  
 Marine Corps Security Force  
 Battalion  
 1061 USS Tennessee Ave.  
 Kings Bay, GA 31547



**Vacation Bible School Registration Form**  
 First Presbyterian Church of Pleasant Valley  
 July 7– 11, 2014  
 Ages 4–12



Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Numbers:**

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Work #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell#: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies/Medical Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contacts:**

1. Name/Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name/Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

List the names, phone number, & relationship of the people who may pick this child up from VBS each day: \_\_\_\_\_

Any other information that you feel the directors need to know about your child: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to the church office.







# May



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
PVN = Pleasant Valley Cooperative Nursery School	All church events are in <b>Bold.</b>					
<b>4</b> 9:30 am Worship, Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11:10 Bible Study 1 pm Stamping Class	<b>5</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 6 pm Stamping Class 7 pm Bell Choir	<b>6</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 7:30 pm NA	<b>7</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN <b>10 - 1 Bargain Basement</b> 7 pm Prayer 101	<b>8</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 5:45 pm Jr Choir 6:30 pm Jr Grange 7 pm Sr Choir	<b>9</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 11:00 am PW Bible Study 4:30 - 8 pm <b>MAYFEST</b> 3 - 5:30 pm Bargain Basement	<b>10</b> 9:30 - 1 pm <b>MAYFEST</b> <b>10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement</b> 5 pm Mid-Hudson Deaf Club
<b>11</b> 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11:10 Bible Study	<b>12</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 7 pm Bell Choir	<b>13</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 7:30 pm NA	<b>14</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN <b>10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement</b> 7 pm Trustees & Session Mtg 7:30 pm Lyme Disease Grp	<b>15</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 5:45 pm Jr Choir 7 pm Sr Choir	<b>16</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 3 - 5:30 pm Bargain Basement PVN Yard Sale Set-Up	<b>17</b> <b>10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement</b> PVN Yard Sale
<b>18</b> 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11:10 Bible Study Palmquist Party	<b>19</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 7 pm Bell Choir	<b>20</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 9:30 am Friendship Callers 3:30 - 5 pm Girl Scouts 7:30 pm NA	<b>21</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN <b>10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement</b>	<b>22</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am C & C 5:45 pm Jr Choir 6:30 pm Jr Grange 7 pm Sr Choir	<b>23</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 11:00 am PW Bible Study 3 - 5:30 pm Bargain Basement	<b>24</b> <b>10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement</b> <b>Burruby Wedding</b>
<b>25</b> 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour 11:10 Bible Study	<b>26</b> OFFICE CLOSED closed PVN 7 pm Bell Choir	<b>27</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 3:30 - 5 pm Girl Scouts 7:30 pm NA	<b>28</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN <b>10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement</b> 7 pm Prayer 101	<b>29</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am C & C 5:45 pm Jr Choir 7 pm Sr Choir	<b>30</b> 8 - 3 pm PVN 11:00 am PW Bible Study 3 - 5:30 pm Bargain Basement	<b>31</b> <b>10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement</b>

**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  
 Richard Walker 635-2906  
 Gary Murphy 868-7298  
 Jerry Conklin 635-8178  
 Judy Brandow 635-2045  
 Greg Clark 849-2199  
 Kenneth Brands 632-1714



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

First Presbyterian Church  
 PO Box 664, 1576 Main St.  
 Pleasant Valley, NY 12569