



THE PRES

The First Presbyterian Church Pleasant Valley
Vol. 14 No. 10
November 2014

Greetings in the name of the LORD Jesus Christ,

With apologies to Charles Dickens:

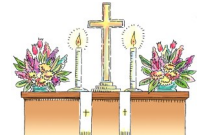
It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to heaven, we were all going direct the other way - in short, the period was so far like the present period, that some of its noisiest authorities insisted on its being received, for good or for evil, in the superlative degree of comparison only.

The very society in which we currently reside echoes the sentiments that Charles Dickens wrote so many years ago. We are a people caught in the never-ending battle between good and evil. We live in times of great turmoil, both here at home, and throughout the world. People are nervous and frightened, uncertain about what the future might hold. People of faith ask and wonder, "Are we living in the end times? Is the book of Revelation coming to fruition?"

Our country is embroiled in a miasma of "political correctness." Many among us no longer recognize the right of the "other" to hold differing political, theological or social views. Discourse, debate, and personal growth are stifled by ideologues who would silence any voice but their own. Long held moral values are cast aside for new age "virtues" that pander to narcissism, egoism and individual desires. Religion and faith have become words of derision, and our society increasingly declares that God is an unnecessary antique.

There is so much horror and naked hatred in our world and in our institutions of faith that the questions arise, "Why doesn't God stop this. Why doesn't God intervene?" The following response was given by Billy

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27	28	29	30			

Pastor's Article Continued:

Graham's daughter, Ann Graham Lotz, when asked a similar question on the *Today* show:

For years we have told God we [don't] want him in our schools. We [don't] want him in our government and we [don't] want him in our finances – and God, being a perfect gentleman is doing just what we ask him to do. We need to make up our mind – do we want God or do we not want Him?

If we Christians do not speak for the gospel message of our LORD and Savior Jesus Christ – soon, and very soon – we will no longer have the right to do so.

Jesus says,

"Here I am! I stand at the door ..."

Revelation 3:20

My question to you is this,

"Do you want Him?"

Faithfully,

Pastor Shawn



In celebration of Jack & Joan Smith's 60th Wedding Anniversary, their family will be hosting the Nov 16th coffee hour. Please enjoy some refreshments as we all congratulate and celebrate with Joan & Jack on this very special and blessed occasion.



Sunday, November 2nd: **Stewardship Sunday & Dedication of the Sanctuary**

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

Sunday, November 9th:

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

Sunday, November 16th:

- 9:30 am Worship Service & Sunday School
- 10:30 am Coffee Hour to Celebrate Jack & Joan Smith's 60th Wedding Anniversary!
- 11:10 am Bible Study

Sunday, November 23rd:

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

Sunday, November 30th: First Sunday in Advent

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



Session Update

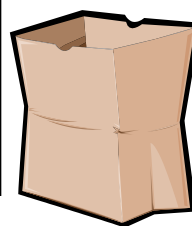
1. Pastor Shawn reported on members who are sick or in the hospital.
2. Clerk Marilyn Brands reported that Erika VanDeWater has completed her audit of the Treasurer's books and all is in order. All present expressed their appreciation of the work done by Wayne Sauer and Roland Neumann on church finances. A thank you letter was received from the Harriet Tubman Academic Skills Center for our church's donations to their summer tutoring program.
3. Finance Committee Chairperson Dick Walker has resigned from Session due to his move to Montana, planned for November. He stated that he has enjoyed his work on Session and formerly on Trustees. Pastor Shawn and the elders thanked Dick for his dedicated service to this church. Dick reported that he has the budget request forms ready to give out; Wayne Sauer has prepared a new form that should make it easier for committees to plan for next year.
4. Stewardship/Church Growth Committee Chairperson Jerry Conklin reported that the stewardship letter has been mailed to members. Pledges will be received on November 2 during worship, with board members presenting their pledges first. The concert by Jim Hendricks was enjoyed by all who attended.
5. Personnel Committee Chairperson Gary Murphy reported that Melissa Palestro has resigned as Christian Education Coordinator now that she has full time employment in the Arlington School District. A motion was made by Gary Murphy, seconded by Steve Albrecht, and passed unanimously to accept her resignation with regret and appreciation. Gary will set up a meeting with the Personnel Committee.
6. Christian Education Committee Chairperson Karen Haight reported on the committee meeting which dealt with handling the transition after Melissa's resignation. Committee members were assigned to take over some of the tasks of the CE Coordinator. On Columbus Day Gary Murphy and Charlie Traver led the high school class on a hike. There will be a confirmation class this year.
7. Worship Committee Chairperson Judy Brandow will have the informational pamphlets for visitors updated for the next meeting, to be reviewed by Session.
8. In New Business, new choir robes are being considered. Sue Morey has been researching this.



O Come, All Ye Faithful

(young and old, big and small)

Since we will not be having a Sunday School Pageant this year, we would like to invite our young people to participate, with the adult volunteers, in the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. There will be spots for readers, pageant players, candle holders, and singers. Please call Jerry and Alta Conklin at 635-8178 if you are interested and available.



The Holiday Auction Committee is asking for paper bags to be used during the Silent Auction. They can be left in the kitchen or church office! Thank you!



Holiday Auction

HOLIDAY AUCTION Sat. Nov. 22, 2014

Viewing of all items, as well as the Silent Auction, begins at 4:30; Children's Auction at 6:45; and Live Auction at 7:00. Since this is the beginning of our Anniversary Year, workers and anyone else who cares to, is encouraged to come in old-fashioned dress!

Although the collection of Silent Auction items ended on November first, still needed are: home cooked dinners for 6 or 8 people, baked goods, and someone to provide babysitting 7-9pm. We have an ENORMOUS number of Silent Auction selections this year – something for everyone!

PARTIAL LIST OF **LIVE** AUCTION ITEMS

Queen size brass bed, antique highchair, gas powered leaf blower, Keurig coffee maker, golf pkgs. (for Copake, McCann and Vassar College courses), cut your own Christmas tree, historic church and village plates, 1959 Farm Journal Cookbook, framed needlework country scenes, downhill skis, case of wine, holiday decorated dishes, gift baskets, small oil paintings by Emma Felter and Virginia McWilliams, porcelain doll, 48"x 38" Ansel Adams print, Mikasa crystal pieces, Christmas decorations, glassware and much, much more.

Bring the children, bring a friend, enjoy fine refreshments and lively entertainment, and maybe bring home a gift for someone special or a keepsake for yourself!

December PRES

All articles and information for the December PRES must be given to Wendy by November 21st.

Articles may be emailed to the church email address: secretary@pvpresby.org.



Friendship Callers

November 18th 9:30 a.m.

The Friendship Callers will meet on Tuesday, November 18th 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



Birthdays & Anniversaries

November Birthdays

Courtney Albrecht, John Barden,
Judy Brandow, Linda Halliday,
Tracy Keck, Andrea Kirchhoff,
Kyle Kirchhoff, Lois Miller,
Sue Moore, Justin Newman,
Don Traver, & Ryan VanDeWater

November Anniversaries

Jack & Joan Smith

Presbyterian
Women

PW MEETING
Tuesday,
December 3rd
7 p.m.



Election of Officers We will also be holding our annual Christmas Cookie Swap. You do not have to bring cookies to attend the meeting! Please come either way!



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29th
at 4:30 pm

We are in need of many elves to decorate the church for Advent. After we are done decorating we will have a light supper of soup and sandwiches. There will be a sign up sheet during coffee hour for refreshments. Come and have a nice afternoon of fellowship while preparing our church for the Advent season!

Anniversary Christmas Ornament

Our first anniversary souvenir has arrived in time for Christmas. An ornament commemorating our church's 250th Anniversary will be offered for sale during Advent, beginning with the November 30 Coffee Hour. The price is \$5.00.



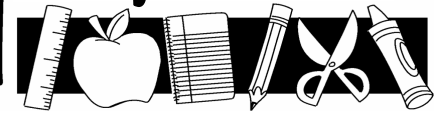
PV Food Pantry



The Food Pantry will be making holiday baskets. Each church has been assigned an item. Ours is boxed stuffing. They are also in need of quality tuna, bar soap, and mayonnaise. Please place items in the basket in the sanctuary or outside the CE Office.



Sunday School Corner



By Melissa Palestro, CE Coordinator
PVChristianEd@gmail.com

Save the date!

The Sunday school cookie sale and Christmas Pageant rehearsal will be Saturday, December 20. Time TBD. This year the Sunday school students will participate in the Christmas Eve program.

Sunday School Substitutes

Occasionally our Sunday school teachers have other commitments or get sick and we need someone to fill in. If you are interested and available to be a Sunday school teacher substitute please let Melissa Palestro know.

As many of you heard on Sunday, I am stepping down from my position as Christian Education Coordinator. I am thankful for my time in this position. I enjoyed working with the wonderful group of Sunday school teachers, awesome Sunday school students and so many dedicated and talented volunteers. Thank you to everyone for all your support.

~Melissa Palestro



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 **Skip & Dick Walker** who will be moving to Bozeman, Montana. Their new address will be 1201 Highland Blvd., D-301, Bozeman, MT 59715.

Prayers of Thanksgiving for **Jack Kessinger** (Barbara Huneke's brother-in-law) whose cancer is now in remission.

Prayers for **Gladys Zanicky** (Pastor Shawn's mother-in-law) who was recently diagnosed and is undergoing treatment for esophageal cancer.

Prayers for **Jane Barden** (member) who is now in Lutheran Care (Room 216 North) after a fall at home.

Prayers for **Charlotte DeGross's son** (member's son) who is hospitalized with a blood clot in his leg.

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 struggling with health issues.

Prayers for **Andrea Kirchhoff** (member) who is recovering from surgery.

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

Prayers for **Sue Moore** (friend of the church) who will be undergoing a medical procedure on Tuesday, November 4th.

Prayers for **Margaret Traver** (member) who is in Lutheran Care Center, Room 216, 2 North.

Prayers for **Jason Dunn** (Phyllis Menzenski's son-in-law) who is recovering from back surgery.

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 **Bob Cleary** (Karen Albrecht's father) who is now at River Valley, Room 306, 140 Main Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

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 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 for **Greg Clark and family** on the death of Greg's brother, Bruce.

Sympathy prayers for **Dick & Skip Walker and family** on the death of their nephew, Peter, who will be laid to rest on October 31, in Washington, N.J.

Wendy, Stewardship Committee Members and so many of you in the congregation, I say THANK YOU for your help in the production of the Jim Hendricks Concert. Although we wish we had made a larger profit to give to the food pantry, we are grateful for the monies received as well as a fantastic performance by Jim Hendricks. A standing ovations to all!

Thank you! Jerry Conklin
P.S. Yes, you can still contribute to the food pantry. Use a pew envelope, make the check payable to First Presbyterian Church and put PV Food Pantry in the memo!

PIANO CONCERT



Join Us!



Coffee Fellowship

COFFEE & CONVERSATION EVERY THURSDAY

At 10 a.m.

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



NOVEMBER



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement
2 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY & DEDICATION OF THE REFURBISHED SANCTUARY 9:30 am Worship, Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Hour	3 8 - 3 pm PVN 6 - 9 pm Stamping Class 7 pm Bell Choir	4 closed PVN 10:30 - Noon Brain Games Group 7:30 pm NA	5 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 - 1 Bargain Basement	6 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 5:45 pm Jr Choir 6:30 pm Jr Grange 7 pm Sr Choir	7 8 - 3 pm PVN	8 10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement 5 pm Mid Hudson Deaf Club
9 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11:10 Bible Study 1 pm Stamping Class	10 8 - 3 pm PVN 7 pm Bell Choir	11 closed PVN 7:30 pm NA	12 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 - 1 Bargain Basement 7 pm Trustees Meeting 7:30 pm Lyme	13 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 5:45 pm Jr Choir 7 pm Sr Choir	14 8 - 3 pm PVN 11 am PW Bible Study 6:30 pm Stamping with Lisa 7pm Prayer 101	15 10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement NA Thanksgiving
16 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour to celebrate Jack & Joan Smith's 60th Wedding Anniversary 11:10 Bible Study	17 8 - 3 pm PVN 7 pm Bell Choir	18 8 - 3 PVN 9:30 am Friendship Callers 7:30 pm NA	19 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 - 1 Bargain Basement 7 pm Session Mtg	20 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 5:45 Jr Choir 6:30 pm Jr Grange 7 pm Sr Choir	21 8 - 3 pm PVN	22 10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement HOLIDAY AUCTION
23 9:30 am Worship & Church School 10:30 Coffee Hour 11:10 Bible Study	24 8 - 3 pm PVN 7 pm Bell Choir	25 8 - 3 PVN 7:30 pm NA	26 closed PVN 10 - 1 Bargain Basement 7pm Prayer 101	27 closed PVN THANKSGIVING	28 closed PVN OFFICE CLOSED	29 4pm Hanging of the Greens
30 9:30 am Worship & Church School 10:30 Coffee Hour 11:10 Bible Study	All church events are in Bold.					
		PVN = Pleasant Valley Cooperative Nursery School				

Our Church Staff & Committee Chairs

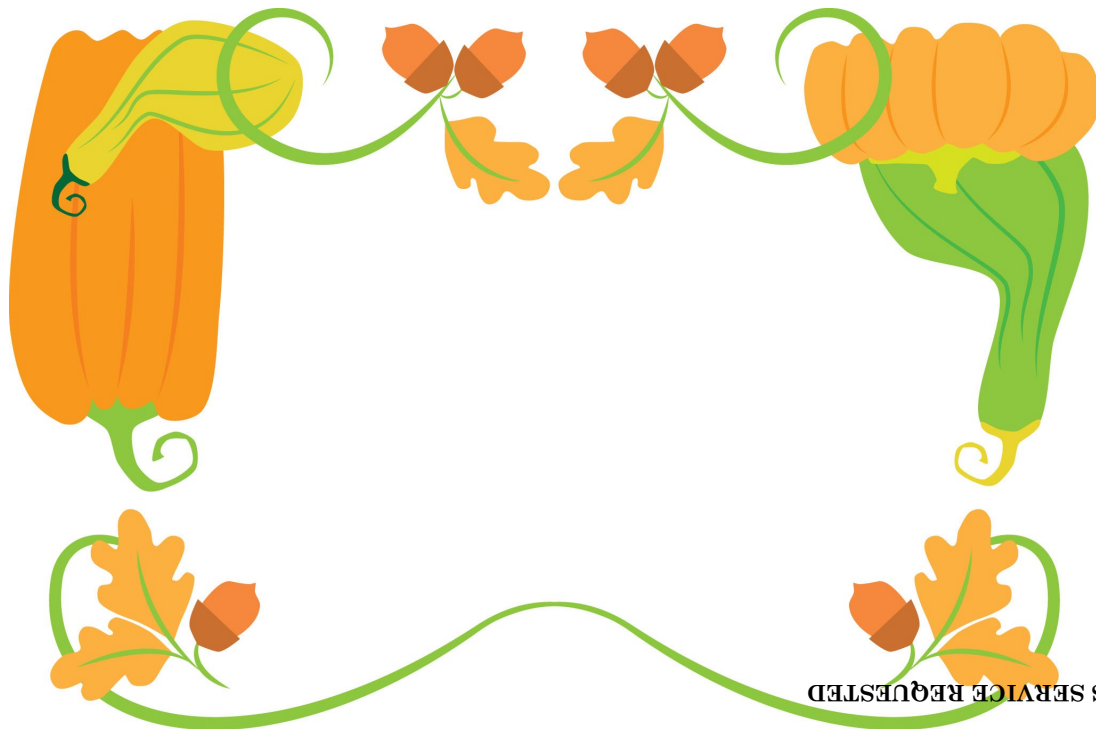
Pastor's Study	Reverend Shawn Zanicky	635-3289 ext. 11
Pastor's Residence		723-4419
Office, Secretary	Wendy Cady	635-3289 ext. 10
	Fax Line	635-3382
Bell Choir & Sr. Vocal Choir	Jerry Conklin	635-8178
Jr. Vocal & Bell Choir Directors	Alta & Jerry Conklin	635-8178
Organist	Alta Conklin	635-8178
Clerk 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

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 Pleasant Valley, NY 12569