



THE PRES

The First Presbyterian Church Pleasant Valley
Vol. 13 No. 11
December 2012

Greetings in the name of the LORD Jesus Christ,

How meaningful to write those words from Jesus' homeland. Soon we will enter the Advent season, when we will once again track the story of our LORD'S conception and birth. It is an exceptional story with a personal message for every individual on this earth. Imagine that--a special message just for you! How exciting! After experiencing the ruggedness of his homeland, I am ever more awed by the magnitude of the Christ story from inception to death and resurrection.

This year, as we prepare for his coming, our services will take a different format with many members of the congregation as participants. The emphasis will be preparation for the coming of the wee babe that will save us all. If you would like to be a participant in the services, please let me know.

Come, join us and take a fresh look at a very familiar story. We would love to see you.

Behold, a virgin shall bear a son, and he shall be called Emmanuel (which means God with us).

Matthew 1:23 RSV

Grace and peace,
Pastor Shawn



Christmas Eve Services
7:00 p.m. & 11 p.m.
All Are Welcome!
Invite Friends & Family

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**ACTIVITY
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Sunday, December 2nd: First Sunday in Advent

9:30 am Worship Service, Sunday School & The Lord's Supper
10:30 am Coffee Hour/Wreath Making

Sunday, December 9th: Second Sunday in Advent

9:30 am Worship Service and Sunday School
10:30 am Coffee Hour/Wreath Making

Sunday, December 16th: Third Sunday in Advent

9:30 am Worship Service and Sunday School
10:30 am Coffee Hour

Sunday, December 23rd: Fourth Sunday in Advent

8:45 am Students in their classrooms
9:30 am Sunday School Pageant.
Refreshments will be served afterwards in Fellowship Hall.

Monday, December 24th: Christmas Eve

7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service
11:00 pm Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 30th:

9:30 am Worship Service
10:30 am Coffee Hour

**Friendship Callers
December 18th @ 9:30 a.m.**

**Christmas
Cookies**



On Tuesday, December 18th, the Friendship Callers will be taking cookies to our shut-ins. Would you be willing to help by making some cookies and/or making a delivery visit? We will meet in the Yellow Room at 9:30 a.m. to package the cookies. Any questions please call Joan Smith.



SNOW CLOSINGS

www.cancellations.com

Or

94.3 FM, 101.5 FM,
97.7 FM

January PRES

All articles and information for the January PRES must be given to Wendy by January 1st. Articles may be emailed to the church email address: secretary@pvpresby.org.



Coffee Fellowship

COFFEE & CONVERSATION
EVERY THURSDAY

At 10 a.m.

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



Session Update

1. Pastor Shawn thanked the congregation for the opportunity to visit Israel for her study leave. She planted a tree there to honor the congregants of our church. She will plan a program to share her experiences and photos with the congregation, probably in January.
2. Finance Chairperson Dick Walker reported on the preliminary budget for 2013.
3. Stewardship/Church Growth Chairperson Jerry Conklin reported that his committee considered promotional materials to attract new members. He reported that 40 pledges have been received for 2013.
4. Worship Chairperson Greg Clark and Pastor Shawn explained that the worship services during Advent will have a different format with members of the congregation participating. After discussion, it was decided to have the Christmas Eve services at 7:00 and 11:00.
5. Personnel Chairperson Deborah Murray reported that her committee will meet on Sunday to finalize staff salaries for the 2013 budget.
6. Nominating Chairperson Edith Keck reported that there is a full slate of officers for 2013.
7. Pastor Shawn thanked Edith Keck for the beautiful display of vegetables that graced the Communion table for Thanksgiving. There were many compliments on this addition to the worship service.

DECORATING DAY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1st at 4 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. We are in need of strong men to help put up the tree. Come and have a nice afternoon of fellowship while preparing our church for the Advent season!



Remember Those in the Military



December Birthdays

Kalie Albrecht, Lisa Albrecht,
Steven Albrecht, Tyler Albrecht,
Brandon Baker, Carol Belton,
Reno Belton, Morgan Bucey, Jan Buell,
Kathi Clark, Alta Conklin, Alina Fouts,
Peter Keck, Matthew Marino,
Peter Morey, Stephanie Morey,
Steven Morey Jr., Garrett Murray,
Skyler Rubin, & Jeffrey Russell



Wise Men and Women Still Seek Him

Attention! Your Help is Needed!

We are seeking people - ALL AGES - to participate in the 7:00 p.m. Service on Christmas Eve. We need: Readers*, Tableaux Players, Candle Lighters, Coordinators for Candle Lighters and Costumes. (*Let us know if you can translate and read scriptures in a foreign language.) Don't wait! Volunteer now! Contact us either at church or at home (635-8178). Thank you!

~The Conklins



"HERE WE COME A-CAROLING!"

Share the Christmas Spirit! Join the Christmas caroling caravan, as we visit the homes of some friends who are not able to get out often. Can't sing well?...Bring your sunny smile and happy heart. Don't know the words?...We have song books. We will meet at the church on Friday, December 21st at 6:15 pm to arrange carpooling. We will then travel to the homes of some friends who may enjoy a touch of Christmas brought to them. Refreshments and fellowship will complete the evening. Please contact Helen Traver at 635-8192 if you plan to attend or if you (or someone you know) would welcome our gifts of song and good cheer. Come on out! You will go home with a warm heart even if the night is cold!



STEWARDSHIP

Jesus Christ is the Reason for the Season! God gave us His son! A reminder: If you have not yet pledged your gift for 2013, please do so as soon as possible. We would like to receive All pledges by the end of 2012. We can then plan our programs for the year 2013.

Thank you for prayerfully making your pledge to aid in the many endeavors of our church.



WREATH MAKING IS IN FULL SWING!

If you would like to help or would like to learn how to make a wreath, this is your opportunity. Wreath making will take place in the fellowship hall on Saturdays from 9 - 12 noon. We will also be meeting on Friday evenings at 6 p.m. Work sessions are scheduled on the following dates: November 30th, December 1st, December 7th & 8th, and December 14th & 15th. If you have greens to donate, we will pick them up. Please call the Murphys at 845-868-7298 to donate greens or pre-order your wreath! We look forward to many helpers making this fun activity also a profitable one for our operating budget.

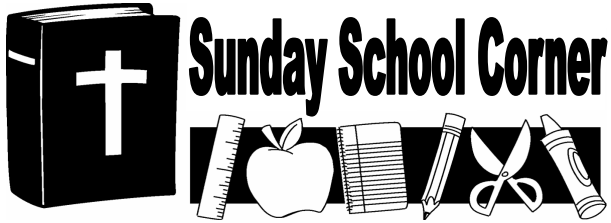
PW MEETING

Wednesday, December 5th
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!



By Melissa Palestro, CE Coordinator
PVChristianEd@gmail.com



Advent is a busy and exciting time in the Sunday School! We're getting ready for our annual Children's Christmas Pageant and our cookie sale. I'm so excited at the commitment of the Sunday School students as we prepare a Christmas Program that is a little different than years past. I hope everyone will join us on Sunday, December 23 at 9:30 a.m. as the Sunday School children present 'Twas the Night Before. We will have full cast rehearsals on Saturdays December 15 and December 22 from 9 – 11. Additional rehearsal times for grades 3 and up are listed below. First grade Shepherds are welcome to join us for the evening rehearsals, but it is not required.

 Please mark Saturday, December 15 from 10-2 on your calendar for our annual cookie sale. Come purchase delicious cookies, candies, cakes, pies, muffins and breads. Debi Tyger is heading the bake sale and is looking for volunteers to help at the sale and for bakers, lots of bakers. If you have any questions, please contact Debi or myself. Sign up during coffee hour to help or bake.

This season we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Claudio Cares Foundation. Items will be collected at the Saturday, December 15 Children's Christmas Pageant rehearsal and during the cookie sale and at the Sunday, December 16th service. Donations will also be accepted anytime the office is open.



Mark Your Calendars!

Thursday, December 13th

Pageant Rehearsal 6:30 - 7:30pm in the Chapel (grades 3 and up)

Saturday, December 15th

Pageant Full Dress Rehearsal 9- 11 am in the Sanctuary

Cookie Sale 11am -1 pm in Fellowship Hall

Thursday, December 20th

Pageant Rehearsal 6:30-7:30pm in the Chapel (Grades 3 and up)

Friday, December 21st

Caroling meet at the church at 6:15 pm

Saturday, December 22nd

Pageant Full Dress Rehearsal 9-11 am in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 23rd

Children's Christmas Pageant all students should be in their classrooms by 8:45 am

Monday, December 24th

Christmas Eve Church Services 7 p.m. & 11 p.m. in the sanctuary.



Holiday Bake Sale

**Sunday School
Holiday Bake Sale
Saturday, December 15th
From 10 am - 1 pm.**

Avoid the holiday baking frenzy and come purchase festive holiday cookies, candies, pies, muffins and breads!

*Gluten Free items will be available too!
Enjoy a savory cup of hot cocoa or coffee while you shop!*

Proceeds will go to support our youth mission programs.

Wanted: Bakers to donate homemade cookies, candies & breads. Contact Debi Tyger (677-4307) or look for the sign up sheet after church!



Prayers of Praise for the safe return of **Nick Becker!**

Prayers for **Jane Smyth** who is having surgery on her hand.

Prayers for **Roger Morse** who is struggling with health issues and is in St. Francis Hospital (no visitors please.)

Prayers for **Lee Budley.**

Prayers for the **Franks family.**

Prayers for **Heather** (Pastor Shawn's daughter) who has lost vision in her left eye from MS.

Prayers for **Lee Ann, Jim, Colin & Madeline Eckhardt.** Jim is recovering from a traumatic brain injury.

Prayers for **Tom Albrecht** who is stationed in Kyrgyzstan for 7 months.

Prayers for **Ben Brands** who is stationed in Afghanistan.

Prayers for **Laura Rouse and Harriet Purhamus** who are at Lutheran Care.

Prayers for **Butch Hollingsworth.**

Prayers for **Ian Adams & family** (friends of the Albrecht Family.)

Prayers for **Rick Fay, Sally Lashway, Edith Provencher** (Donna Sheak's mother), **Peter MacWilliams** (Donna Mears brother), **Walter Knapp** (Traci Haight's grandfather), **Alan Arnfield** (Evelyn Frank's father), **Bert** (Karen Haight's Uncle), **Rev. Tom & Eiluned Aikman, Sue Morey, John & Jane Barden, Carl Freiberg, Carla** (a friend of Pat Zerbe), **Jesse** (Karen Haight's niece), **Wylee Marie Spera** (granddaughter of Frank & Cindy Spera), **Nan Ritchie** who are all struggling with health issues.

Prayers for **Don Taylor, Janet Arms, William Ritchie, Shirley Kinne** (Steve's sister), **Jennifer** (Karen's Cousin), **Anita Wolf** (Roxanne Wolf's mother), **Iris Riccardi, Cassidy Way, June, Steve, Matt, Pattie Thomas** (Judy Brandow's cousin), **Trisha** (Kathi Clark's sister-in-law), **Jean Armstrong, Gina Beckman, Charlie Haight, Cindy DeGarmo, Gary Guido,**

Mike Wetzel, and Zachary Cookinham who are all battling cancer.

Sympathy prayers for **Dara Brands and Family** on the death of her grandmother, Louise Zigrossi.

Sympathy prayers for the family of **Viola Kenyon** who passed away on October 22nd. A memorial service will take place on Dec. 8th. Time to be announced.

Sympathy prayers for the family of **Claudio Coppola**, a Junior at FDR High School who was killed in a car accident. The family owns Coppola's Restaurant in Hyde Park.

*To add names to the prayer list, submit a written request to the pastor, or call the Church Office. Names will be on for a month, but a request may be renewed. Please use this list in your daily prayers.



**THINK OUTSIDE
THE GIFT
WRAPPED
BOX THIS
CHRISTMAS**



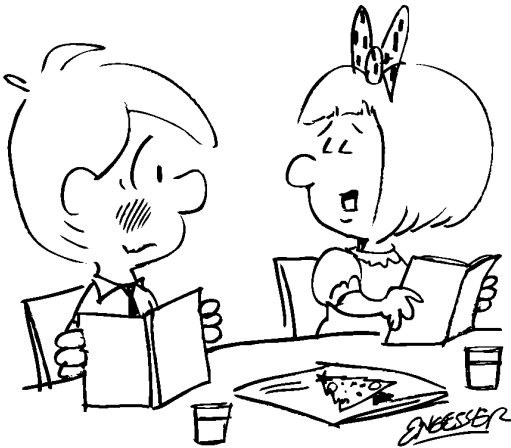

“Like” us on Facebook
First Presbyterian Church
of Pleasant Valley!



Meal for the Homeless Shelter December 11th

We will be preparing a meal to take to the homeless shelter on December 11th. Items needed for the meal are 9 cups cooked, diced chicken; 6 boxes of penne pasta; 6 cans of chicken broth; 6 cans of cream of chicken soup; and 3 packages of frozen peas & carrots. We also would like 15 dozen cookies and are in need of 2 people willing to deliver the food. Please sign up during coffee hour.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



"Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse' is NOT a Bible verse!"



Christmas Cards

We are sure the Aikman's would appreciate some Christmas Cheer. Please send cards to the address below:

Tom & Eiluned Aikman
Ashlea House, Bracklin Road
Callander, Scotland
FK 17-8EH



Poinsettia Order



To the Glory of God and to celebrate Christ's birth, help beautify our sanctuary this Christmas Season! Orders are being taken now through December 9th for poinsettias which will decorate our church. Please use the tear off sheet below to place your order. You may send the order to the church office, or place it in the offering plate. Please make checks payable to: **First Presbyterian Church.**

Name: _____

No. of Plants at \$12 each: _____

Bulletin Information:

To the Glory of God and in honor of: _____

To the Glory of God and in memory of: _____

Other: _____

Please indicate:

_____ I will pick up my plant(s) after the candle light service on December 24th.

_____ I would like the Deacons to distribute my plant(s) to someone who is ill or shut-in.

Please include payment with your order and **Orders will not be accepted after December 9th!**

Thank you,
Pat Zerbe
286-0258





DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>30 1st Sunday After Christmas 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 pm Coffee Hour</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve!</p>				<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> All church events are in Bold. </div>	<p>1 9 - 12 noon Wreath Making 10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement 4 pm Hanging of the Greens</p>
<p>2 First Sunday in Advent: 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School, Holy Communion 10:30 Coffee Hour</p>	<p>3 8 - 3 pm PVN 6:15 Stamping Class 7 pm PVN Board Meeting 7 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p>4 8 - 3 pm PVN 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 - 9 pm Karate 7:30 pm NA</p>	<p>5 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 - 1 Bargain Basement 7 - 9 pm Karate 7 pm PW Meeting</p>	<p>6 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 5:30 pm Jr Choir 6:30 pm Jr Grange 7 pm Sr Choir</p>	<p>7 8 - 3 pm PVN 6 pm Wreath Making</p>	<p>8 9 - 12 Noon Wreath Making 10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement Memorial Service for Viola Kenyon</p>
<p>9 Second Sunday in Advent 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour/PW Meeting 1 pm Stamping Class</p>	<p>10 8 - 3 pm PVN 6:30 pm Stamping with Lisa for Kids 7 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p>11 8 - 3 pm PVN 4 pm Homeless Meal 5 - 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7 - 9 pm Karate 7:30 pm NA</p>	<p>12 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 - 1 Bargain Basement 6 pm Grange Dinner 7 pm Trustees 7:30 pm Lyme Group</p>	<p>13 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 5:30 pm Jr Choir 6:30 pm CE Pageant Rehearsal 7 pm Sr Choir 7 - 9 pm Karate</p>	<p>14 8 - 3 pm PVN 6 pm Wreath Making 6:30 pm Stamping with Lisa</p>	<p>15 9 - 12 Noon Wreath Making 9 - 11 am Pageant Rehearsal 10 - 1 pm CE Cookie Sale 10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement</p>
<p>16 Third Sunday in Advent 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>17 8 - 3 pm PVN 5:30 pm Girl Scout Unit Mtg 7 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p>18 8 - 3 pm PVN 9:30 am Friendship Callers 5 - 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7 - 9 pm Karate 7:30 pm NA</p>	<p>19 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 - 1 Bargain Basement Luncheon for Group Homes 7 - 9 pm Karate 7pm Session</p>	<p>20 8 - 3 pm PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 5:30 pm Jr Choir 6:30 pm CE Pageant Rehearsal 7 pm Sr Choir 7 - 9 pm Karate</p>	<p>21 8 - 3 pm PVN 6:15 pm Caroling Caravan</p>	<p>22 9 - 11 am Pageant Rehearsal 10 - 1 pm Bargain Basement</p>
<p>23 Fourth Sunday in Advent 8:45 am Children in their classrooms 9:30 am Sunday School Pageant 10:30 Coffee Hour</p>	<p>24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> 7:00 pm Service 11:00 pm Candlelight Service</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day!</p>	<p>26 closed PVN</p>	<p>27 closed PVN 10 am Coffee & Conversation 6pm NA Counselor Meeting</p>	<p>28 closed PVN 11 am Bible Study</p>	<p>29 9 - 2 pm RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE</p>

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

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	
Christian Education	Beth Murphy	868-7298
Finance	Richard Walker	635-2906
Personnel	Deborah Murray	635-8887
Stewardship/Church Growth	Jerry Conklin	635-8178
Worship	Greg Clark	849-2199
Nominating	Edith Keck	635-8413
Technology	Kenneth Brands	632-1714



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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