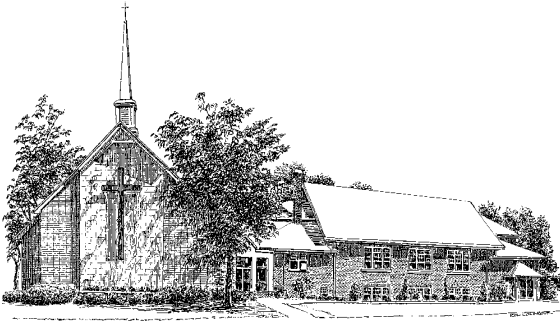


First Presbyterian Church of West Seneca

2085 Union Rd.

West Seneca, NY 14224

716-668-1115



The CELEBRATE October/November 2006

*"We humbly yet boldly step into the future, following
in the footsteps of Jesus on our journey of faith."*

October Highlights

October 1st ~ 10am

World Communion Sunday, Peacemaking Offering collected

October 10th ~ 7pm

Session Meeting

October 15th ~ 1:30pm

CROP Walk

October 28th ~ 10am

Joint Boards Meeting

October 29th ~ 5pm

Halloween Potluck

November Highlights

November 5th ~ 10am

All Saints' Sunday – Worship with Communion

November 14th ~ 7pm

Session Meeting

November 19th ~ 10am

Fall Harvest of Gifts

November 21st ~ 7:30pm

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service @ First Presbyterian

PASTOR'S PLACE

Dear Friends:

Happy autumn to you all! I thought I would take this opportunity to answer a few of the most frequently asked questions that are posed about me. I can't answer all of them in this letter, but at least I can get a start on a few of them.

Recently one of the most asked questions has been about my day off. What day do I take off each week? It's a good question because even I'm not sure what the answer is. In this Presbytery, there is an understanding that pastors try to take off Saturday and then one other day. Few of us are able to manage a full day off on Saturdays because we are usually putting the finishing touches on our sermons and worship services. And Saturdays frequently get consumed by weddings, Presbytery related meetings, and memorial services. But, on average, Saturday tends to be more "laid back."

As for the "other" day of the week, I haven't really found one yet that works for me and my family. Monday worked well for me during the summer when I didn't have the Adult Forum during the evening. But I have never been very good at taking a day off when I know I have to go out in the evening. And my husband can't take off on a Monday regularly. The same is true for Friday. I don't usually have a commitment on Friday evenings (though there are occasionally weddings and/or wedding rehearsals), but my husband is not off and I always seem to have something left undone that cannot wait until Saturday or Sunday afternoon.

In a perfect world, I would take off a portion of each day because that arrangement best suits my personality. But it is almost impossible to enforce boundaries with a schedule like that. And given that I am out three or four evenings almost every week, that schedule isn't very practical.

For the moment I am trying to guard as many Saturdays as possible and take portions of Monday and Friday off (usually Monday morning and then Friday afternoon.) We'll see how that goes and I'll keep the congregation posted.

The other question that I have been asked recently is how I get all my work done in eight segments, which represents not quite three-quarter time. This answer is simple. I can't get it done in eight segments. If I were to stick to eight segments every week, I would never have time to write a sermon. I am always well over that number and, as I report every month to Session, I am using my time the best way that I know how. To that end, I am striving to "re-set" some of my boundaries, "rearrange things on the platter," and extricate myself from some responsibilities outside of the church. But the reality is that First Church West Seneca regularly "demands" my attention for 11-13 segments each week. Session and I will be working on this, but there are no easy answers. All pastors expect to work "overtime" from time to time. But to do this on a regular basis and to have it be an "expectation" of the congregation simply cannot continue. We (Session and I) welcome all creative answers some of you might have out there! At the very least, keep us in your prayers.

I think that's enough for this month. From time to time I'll try to do this so you can be informed about what I am doing. And, as I said in a recent sermon, there is always another lesson to learn. It's true for me and it's true for all of you as well!

Blessings,

Pastor Deb

FOLLOW THE LECTIONARY

OCTOBER 2006

<i>October 1st</i>	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22 Psalm 124 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50	<i>October 22nd</i>	Job 38:1-7 (34-41) Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45
<i>October 8th</i>	Job 1:1, 2:1-10 Psalm 26 Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16	<i>October 29th</i>	Job 42:1-6, 10-17 Psalm 34:1-8 (19-22) Hebrews 7:23-28 Mark 10:46-52
<i>October 15th</i>	Job 23:1-9, 16-17 Psalm 22:1-15 Hebrews 4:12-16 Mark 10:17-31		

NOVEMBER 2006

<i>November 5th</i>	Ruth 1:1-18 Psalm 146 Hebrews 9:11-14 Mark 12:28-34	<i>November 19th</i>	1 Samuel 1:4-20 1 Samuel 2:1-10 Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25 Mark 13:1-8
<i>November 12th</i>	Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17 Psalm 127 Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44	<i>November 26th</i>	2 Samuel 23:1-7 Psalm 132:1-12 (13-18) Revelation 1:4b – 8 John 18:33-37

GHOSTS & GOBLINS BEWARE



On Sunday, October 29th we will be having a Halloween/Potluck Party. It will begin with a 5pm potluck dinner, followed by a parade and then let the games begin. Each little pumpkin will receive a treat bag, so we are asking for donations throughout the month October, but no later than Sunday, October 22nd. Diane Molnar will be putting the bags together the week before! Robin & Tim Miller will be planning the games. Diane is looking for someone to organize the potluck. Also, if anyone has a few adult games, please see Diane. WEAR a costume & bring a dish to share! A sign up sheet will be in the entryway on October 1st. REMEMBER your recycling materials for the Abitibi bin.

NOTE FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Well here we are again preparing to look for people to be Elders and Deacons. The nominating committee has had its first meeting to look at the names of possible candidates. We will need 3-4 people for Elders and 2 people for Deacons. So we ask that you prayerfully consider the possibility of serving if you are approached by one of the members of the nominating committee. We are hoping to have the same success that we had last year of having people accept the opportunity of serving the Lord and the church with their time and talents.

The Nominating Committee

YOUNG AT HEART

We have had our first luncheon and had a great turnout. The dates for the October and November luncheons are as follows:

October 4th – visiting after lunch

October 18th –Guest speaker

November 1st –Erie county& senior volunteer program

November 15th – Annual Thanksgiving lunch with our guests from St. John's Church

Keep these dates open and come and enjoy lots of food and a very friendly atmosphere.

The happy cooks: Dick & Edie

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Oct. 1st World Wide Communion Sunday Peacemaking Offering

Oct. 15th Crop Walk

Oct. 22nd Charlie Scarpine Mission Speaker from IHN

Oct. 29th Reformation Sunday

Nov. 5th All Saints Sunday Communion

Nov. 12th Carla Kline preaching

Nov. 18th 9:30 till 11:30 AM Please come and help the Worship Committee decorate the sanctuary for the Fall Harvest of Gifts.

Nov. 19th Fall Harvest of Gifts Sunday

Nov. 21st 7:30 PM Thanksgiving Eve Service at First Presbyterian Church. Reception following service in Lischer Hall



We will celebrate All Saints' Day on **Sunday, November 5th**. During worship we will read the names of our departed loved ones during the serving of communion. If you want to have the name of a loved one who has passed away read out loud during the service please write it down and leave it in the mailbox of the secretary or the pastor.

This year the churches in Gardenville will be holding the Ecumenical Thanksgiving service on Tuesday, **November 21st at 7:30pm**. The service will be held here at First Presbyterian.



FALL HARVEST OF GIFTS

Please mark the weekend of November 18 and 19 on your calendar and join your church family in a harvest celebration of thanksgiving. On Saturday the 18th, we will meet at the church at 9:30 am to decorate the sanctuary. All are invited. Please bring your gourds, pumpkins, cornstalks, apples and anything else that will add to the thanksgiving harvest theme. Cider, donuts and coffee will be served. Then on Sunday, join us in church for the continuation of our celebration. We will offer up to God a portion of our time, talents and gifts. This will include the offering of our 2007 pledges to God through this church. Hope to see you there!

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

We held another successful IHN during August. Kathy Doll took to heart the words to the hymn, "Here I Am Lord" and volunteered to help with the dinner. We had a mom with a chatterbox 15 month old and a very sleepy 3 yr. old. They were a good reminder of what is in store during the next several years for Grandma Kathy.

The next hostings are scheduled for October 21st – November 4th 2006
January 13th – January 20th 2007

However, please remember that the dates do sometimes change. The correct dates will always be in the bulletin.

Again, thanks so much for your support. IHN is successful because of volunteers like you.

UPCOMING MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

We are in that time of year that we ask you to open your hearts (and, YES, wallets) to others. It is sometimes hard to remember that people right here in WNY need our help. And, many of them are children.

So, first comes the Angel Basket. Hats, mittens, socks, and undies for all ages and genders will be collected from **10/29-11/19**. As usual, everything goes to City Mission for the gents and Cornerstone Manor for the ladies and kids. Of course, our own children helped to decorate the basket.



Second comes our Christmas families. This year (if things work out as panned) we will have two small families. One will be an IHN mom with a four year old girl and a 18 month old boy. We first met this family when the boy was only 8 months old so we sort of 'grew' with him. In addition, we will also be purchasing gifts for a local West Seneca family. Watch for sign up sheets starting **11/19**. All gifts must be in by **12/17**.



We cannot thank you enough for your efforts during this busy time of year. Somehow, you manage to come through and make the season more enjoyable for others. And, doesn't that make you feel good?

FAITH EDUCATION

Christmas Play & Potluck

Are you tired of commercials and sale ads distracting you from the true meaning of Christmas? Would you like to spend an evening with family & friends remembering what Christmas is all about? Then plan on joining us on Sunday, December 17th at 5pm as the children of our church share with you "The Christmas Story." Dawn Corless & Sandy Perillo will be working with the children to get ready for this evening. Since we cannot be in 2 places at once we are looking for a few individuals or families to take care of the potluck. If you can help, please call 668-1115. Watch the bulletin for more details about this evening.



OCTOBER

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1 10am Worship World Communion 11am Fellowship <i>Peacemaking offering</i>	2 Adult Forum & Discussion 7pm	3	4 Young at Heart Lunch 12pm	5	6	7
8 9am Deacons mtg. 10am Worship Baptism 11am Fellowship	9 Adult Forum & Discussion 7pm	10 Session Meeting 7pm	11 Worship Mtg. 7pm	12	13	14
15 10am Worship 11am Fellowship 1:30pm CROP Walk	16 Adult Forum & Discussion 7pm	17	18 Young at Heart Lunch 12pm	19	20	21
22 10am Worship Charlie Scarpine guest speaker 11am Fellowship	23 Adult Forum & Discussion 7pm	24	25	26	27 Molnar/ Schurr Wedding 5pm	28 Joint Boards mtg. 10am
29 10am Worship 11am Fellowship 5pm Halloween Potluck <i>Reformation Sunday</i>	30 Adult Forum & Discussion 7pm	31				

NOVEMBER

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 Young at Heart Lunch 12pm	2	3	4
5 10am Worship w/ Communion 11am Fellowship <i>All Saints' Sunday</i>	6 Church & Society Mtg. 7pm	7	8 Worship & Music mtg. 7pm	9	10	11
12 10am Worship Carla Kline guest preacher 11am Fellowship	13 Adult Forum & Discussion 7pm	14 Session Mtg. 7pm	15 Young at Heart Lunch 12pm	16	17	18 Decorate Sanctuary 9:30am
19 10am Worship Fall Harvest of Gifts 11am Fellowship	20	21 Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service 7:30pm	22	23 <i>Church office closed</i> <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>	24 <i>Church office closed</i>	25
26 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	27 Adult Forum & Discussion 7pm	28 Presbytery Mtg. @ Bacon Memorial 1pm	29	30		

FISCAL FACTS

August-06			
Church Assets as of January 1		86,926.67	
Church Assets as of this month		88,051.72	
Operating Budget	Year to Date	Budgeted to Date	Difference
Pledges	58,205.50	48,358.00	9,847.50
Loose Offering	3,405.85	2,250.00	1,155.85
Initial Offering	127.00	200.00	- 73.00
Per Capita Offering	1,329.00	1,000.00	329.00
Miscellaneous	3,924.66	2,500.00	1,424.66
Roll over from previous year	2,786.35	2,786.35	0
Total Income	69,778.36	57,094.35	12,684.01
Presbytery Related Mission	4,344.52	3,216.44	
Per Capita Apportionment	3,402.64	2,552.00	
Salaries & Session Misc.	23,919.03	17,673.75	
Pastor Related	24,781.07	19,066.49	
Faith Education	210.98	135.00	
Young at Heart	0.00	0.00	
Worship & Music	139.35	295.00	
Church & Society	0.00	0.00	
Membership & Evangelism	0.00	124.00	
Stewardship Expenses	181.70	130.00	
Office Expenses	2,661.93	2,172.50	
Building Costs	12,844.98	9,860.00	
Total Expenses	72,486.20	55,101.18	
Difference	- 2,707.84		
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXX		
Non Budgeted Items	Year to Date		
Income	9,703.85		
Memorials	149.00		
Missions	1,530.12		
Faith Ed. Offering Expenses	0.00		
Youth Fellowships	118.98		
Miscellaneous	750.99		
Total Expenses	2,549.09		
Difference	7,154.76		
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXX		
Yearly Savings Gain or Loss	5,295.04		
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXX		
Capital Fund Drive Income	241.48		
Capital Fund Drive Expenses	777.00		
Capital Fund Drive Balance	3,480.96	Per Capita	35.00

In The Life of The Church

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

October	1 st	Amy Wilson
	2 nd	Judy Chrynowicz
		Edie Fischer
	12 th	Katelyn Gutowski
	16 th	Colleen George
	18 th	Jean Bengert
	21 st	Elise Lesakowski
		Brendan Wilson
	25 th	Patti Piersa
		Sharon Rowe
	28 th	Debbie Ball

November	4 th	Marge Edington
	7 th	Dustin Chrynowicz
	14 th	Al Lesakowski
		Stephanie Wright
	21 st	Lisa Shriver
	23 rd	Wasele Sadovsky
		Lou Wright
	26 th	Sandy Pakenham
	30 th	Bob Bengert

NOTES OF THANKS

Dear Pastor Deb & Congregation,

I just want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart, for your generosity and kindness. This church and congregation has helped me in so many ways throughout the years. You provided me with the ideal place to work, so close to home, and you gave me the opportunity to accept such a flexible job, every high schoolers dream. The kindness you've shown made this building a happy place to be, keeping a smile on my face. And now, as I leave to start the next chapter in my life, you open your arms and send me out with happiness and your blessings. I can't thank you enough for the wonderful, heartfelt gift you have all given to me. I thank you and will always treasure your generosity.

Love,
Elizabeth

Dear Members of First Presbyterian & Pastor Deb,

Now it's my turn to say thank you. For the last three years you have shown my daughter the same caring and kindness you have always bestowed upon me. We are very lucky employees to work for such caring people. I know she has thanked you for your generous gift, but I also need to thank you because it has helped her tremendously in her first semester at school. It was put to good use when she got her supply lists for her two art classes. She initially panicked when she went to buy her supplies. She has never had to spend that amount at one time on her own, but the fact that she had the money available helped ease her anxiety. As a mom I can't tell you how much I appreciate how your gift helped her.

She is settling into college life well. She is happy and enjoying all of her new experiences. Her only complaint is the food (she hates it), but I guess the lure of a home cooked meal is one way to get her to want come home every now and then.

Thanks again from the bottom of my heart.

Corinne

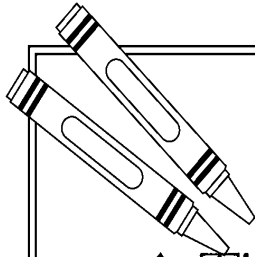
PRAYER CONCERNS

Bill Baco (Sandy Pakenham) ♦ Andrew Derrick (BJ Rustic) ♦ Michelle Campbell (Sandy Fiegl) ♦ Clara Cieslinski ♦ Dan & Judy Cravotta (Janice Jones) ♦ Steve Dalin (Karen Cieslinski Dalin) ♦ Pauline Deletti (Sandy Fiegl) ♦ Linda Dories (Sandy Fiegl) ♦ Mary Flemming (Sandy Fiegl) ♦ Jessica Grazen (The Fischers) ♦ James Groves (Nancy Lesakowski) ♦ Dorothy Gutowski (Ed Gutowski) ♦ Harold Hanna ♦ Esther Hiller (Sandy Pakenham) ♦ Lillian Kieffer ♦ Jill Miller-Kisker (Jane Lankes) ♦ Ben Klinshaw (Rita Hanna) ♦ Marguerite Kobel (Dennis Fiegl) ♦ Dee Dee Labby (Marion Labby) ♦ Sibby Mielcarek (Marge Christmann) ♦ Jake Miszko (Sue Piersa) ♦ BJ Rustic ♦ Bill Seifert ♦ Paul Sipos (Sue Maciejewski) ♦ Joan Shockey (Dennis Fiegl's sister) ♦ Dick & Helen Sommer ♦ The Weez (Dennis Fiegl) ♦ Aaron Miechurski (The Halligan's) ♦ Kyle James Smyntek (The Fiegl's) ♦ Marv & Nancy Weber ♦ Partick Weir (Sandy Pakehnam))

Pat Gaskill and her family as they mourn the death of her grandson, Lance Somal
The family of Raymond Johnson as they mourn his death



Chris Kalinowski ⊛ Matthew Jones ⊛ Bill Cenknor Jr. ⊛ Patrick Baskerville ⊛ Sammy Russo ⊛ Kimberly Trudeau ⊛ Steve Odebralski ⊛ Jason Zimmerman ⊛ Andrew Zalikowski ⊛ Nick Turvey ⊛ Kristen Pelc ⊛ Ben Schauss ⊛ Phillip Schott ⊛ Josh Winkler ⊛ John Pirinelli ⊛ Kyle Ernst ⊛ Russell Molnar ⊛ Pat McCullough ⊛ Ryan M. Ratigan ⊛ Larry Lloyd ⊛ Joshua Feldman



Just for KIDS

A Time for Everything

In the fall we move our clocks back an hour. The weather gets cooler and it gets dark earlier. As the seasons change, we have faith that God's planning and timing is perfect. In Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NIV), God tells us there's a time for everything.

Fill in the blanks using the clock code below.

build	dance	die	everything	laugh	gather
⌚	⌚	⌚	⌚	⌚	⌚
give up	hate	heal	heaven	mend	
⌚	⌚	⌚	⌚	⌚	
peace	refrain	speak	throw away	uproot	
⌚	⌚	⌚	⌚	⌚	

There is a time for _____ ⌚
 and a season for every activity under _____ : ⌚
 a time to be born and a time to _____ ⌚
 a time to plant and a time to _____ ⌚
 a to kill and a time to _____ ⌚
 a time to tear down and a time to _____ ⌚
 a time to weep and a time to _____ ⌚
 a time to mourn and a time to _____ ⌚
 a time to scatter stones and a time to _____ ⌚
 a time to embrace and a time to _____ ⌚
 a time to search and a time to _____ ⌚
 a time to keep and a time to _____ ⌚
 a time to tear and a time to _____ ⌚
 a time to be silent and a time to _____ ⌚
 a time to love and a time to _____ ⌚
 a time for war and a time for _____ ⌚

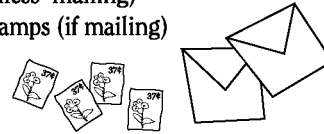
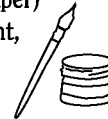
Answers: everything; heaven; die; uproot; heal; build; laugh; dance; gather; refrain; give up; throw away; mend; speak; hate; peace.

Say "Thank You!"

Have you ever sent a thank-you card to someone for a gift you received? You can send thank-you cards for things besides presents. There are many people around you who do very thoughtful things for you every day. Celebrate this Thanksgiving by sending homemade thank-you cards to the people you are thankful for.

What you need:

- A list of people to thank (as many as you want)
- Paper (colored construction paper or white copy paper)
- Crayons, markers, paint, stickers, etc.
- Envelopes (optional, unless mailing)
- Stamps (if mailing)

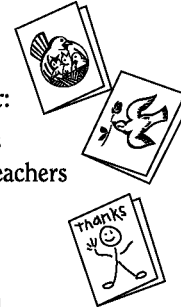


What to do:

1. Next to each name on your list, write something that person has said or done that was helpful or kind.
2. Fold each sheet of paper in half like a card. (If you're using an envelope, make sure it fits inside.)
3. Decorate the card's front with drawings, stickers, etc.
4. Write a short note on the inside, thanking the person for the thing he or she did or said.
5. Deliver the cards in person or by mail.

Some people you may want to thank:

- Family members
- Sunday school teachers
- School teachers
- Friends
- Neighbors
- People at church



The Celebrate
is published by
First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church

2085 Union Rd., West Seneca, NY 14224

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Rev. Debra Wright.....Pastor
George Shaffer.....Clerk of Session
Donna Cieslinski.....Church Treasurer
Edie Fischer.....Financial Secretary
Bob Barnhart.....Property Manager
Corinne Northem.....Secretary
Sue Maciejewski.....Organist/Choir Director
Pam Miszko.....Custodian

Elders

Class of 2007 Edythe Fischer Richard Fischer Cheryl Wilczak	Class of 2008 Bob Barnhart Karen Malyszka Kathy Saeli	Class of 2009 Tom Kalinowski Shaun Wilson Wendy Warren
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Deacons

Class of 2007 Judy Costa Leona Wojcik	Class of 2008 Sandra Fiegl Lisa Shriver	Class of 2009 Craig Wright Bruce Barrows
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