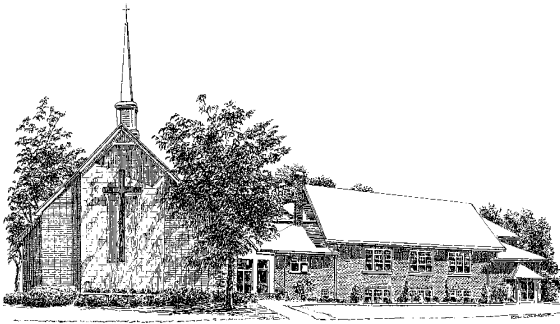


First Presbyterian Church of West Seneca

2085 Union Rd.

West Seneca, NY 14224

716-668-1115



The CELEBRATE December 2007/January 2008

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

December Highlights

December 1st ~ 11am

Decorate the Sanctuary

December 2nd ~ 10am

Worship with Communion 1st Sunday of Advent

December 5th & 19th ~ 12pm

Young at Heart Luncheon

December 16th ~ 5pm

Christmas Play and Potluck

December 18th ~ 7pm

Session Meeting

December 24th ~ 7pm

Christmas Eve Worship Service

January Highlights

January 6th ~ 10am

Worship with Communion

January 8th ~ 7pm

Session Meeting

January 16th ~ 7pm

Worship & Music Meeting

A NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Friends:

For those of you who may not have seen my words of thanks in the bulletin, I just thought I would share them again with you here in the Celebrate.

Many, many thanks indeed for the wonderfully heart-warming send off that you gave to me and to my family on my final Sunday with you, back on October 28th. The luncheon was delicious, the gifts were much appreciated, and the kind words expressed very touching.

As I have said before, you will always remain close to my heart and present in my prayers. I wish and pray you all the best, as friends and as a church.

I thank God for the time that I spent with you as your pastor. I know that God is with us all in these coming days of waiting, made all the more poignant as the season of Advent begins.

I hope you had a wonderfully joyous Thanksgiving. May the Advent and Christmas seasons be holy times for all of us. And may God's richest blessings fall on all of us in the upcoming New Year.

Thank you again from the bottom of my heart – and until we meet again, may God be with us all.

Peace and blessings,
Deb, Craig, Stephanie, and Kristen Wright

FOLLOW THE LECTIONARY

December 2007

<i>December 2nd</i>	Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 22 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44	<i>December 23rd</i>	Isaiah 7:10-16 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25
<i>December 9th</i>	Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12	<i>December 24th</i>	Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)
<i>December 16th</i>	Isaiah 35:1-10 Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:47-55 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11	<i>December 30th</i>	Isaiah 63:7-9 Psalm 148 Hebrews 2:10-18 Matthew 2:13-23

January 2008

<i>January 6th</i>	Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12	<i>January 20th</i>	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42
<i>January 13th</i>	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17	<i>January 27th</i>	Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1,4-9 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Worship and Music Committee – Come join us decorating the sanctuary for Advent and the Christmas Season on Saturday, Dec 1st at 11:00 am. We'll be hanging greens, setting up candles, and even taking a break for coffee/juice and goodies. The decorations are sure to get you in the Christmas spirit and hopefully you will join us throughout Advent as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. The Rev. Dr. Lance Brown and Richard Petersen will be guest preachers during Advent. The Christmas Eve service will be a “Lesson in Carols” and is scheduled for December 24th at 7pm. Wendy Warren is preparing special music to play prior to the service, so come early to enjoy the celebration. We have gotten great feedback when Richard Jones filled the pulpit and he will be preaching on December 30th. We will be moving into a new year with Gladys Gifford and Carla Kline as guest preachers. Please feel welcome to join us for our Worship/Music committee meetings set for December 12th and Jan 16th. We normally meet the 3rd Wednesday each month (in December we moved it up so it's not so close to Christmas). We welcome your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions. It's not too early to be planning for Lent and Easter!

MEMBERSHIP

Membership, evangelism & congregational care will hold a meeting on Wednesday December 5th at 7pm to discuss some of the issues that came up at the town hall meeting. Anyone interested please contact Shaun Wilson at 668-1115 or see him after church.



YOUNG AT HEART

First of all I would like to thank all of the Young at Heart people for their cards and phone calls while I was sick. I am sorry that I had to cancel the November lunch but I was not up to it at the time. We will resume our lunches in December. Our first lunch will be on December 5th and then on December 19th. In January we will only have one luncheon, which will be on January 16th. So mark your calendars for the following dates:

DECEMBER 5TH
DECEMBER 19TH
JANUARY 16TH

We look forward to seeing you all at this time.
Your Happy Cooks
Dick & Edie Fischer

FAITH EDUCATION

Attention all children: If you missed our first play practice it's alright! You can still be part of our Christmas play. We will have practice after church in the sanctuary on December 2nd, 9th, and 16th. Please come and join us. This is a great way to share your time and talents with your church.



Would you like to spend an evening with family and friends remembering what Christmas is all about? Then join us on Sunday, December 16th at 5pm as the children of our church share with you "The Christmas Story." Bring your favorite dish to share and drop it off in Fellowship Hall, then join us upstairs in the sanctuary. We need to know how many to set up for so please sign up before or after church on Sundays. The sign up sheet is on the table in the entryway. The children have been working hard on the play, so please come out and support them. We hope to see you there. If you have any questions please see Dawn Corless.

UPCOMING EVENT: The Faith Education Committee is planning a Game Night to take place early in the new year. Watch your bulletin for details about this activity.



Please note there will be no Faith Education Committee meeting in December. We want our committee members to spend this time with their families. At the January meeting (date to be announced) we will be planning our game night.

DECEMBER 2007

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
						1 Decorate the Sanctuary
2 10am Worship w/ Communion Dr. Lance Brown preaching 11am Fellowship Time Play Practice <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	3	4	5 Young at Heart Lunch 12pm Membership Meeting 7pm	6	7	8
9 10am Worship Richard Petersen preaching 11am Fellowship Time Play Practice <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	10	11	12 Worship & Music Meeting 7pm	13	14	15
16 10am Worship Richard Petersen preaching 11am Fellowship Time Christmas Raffle 5pm Play & Potluck <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	17	18 Session Meeting 7pm	19 Young at Heart Lunch 12pm	20	21	22
23 10am Worship Dr. Lance Brown preaching 11am Fellowship Time <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	24 Christmas Eve Worship 7pm	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26	27	28	29
30 10am Worship Richard Jones preaching 11am Fellowship Time	31					



FINAL DATE FOR PLEDGES AND PER CAPITA

The final date for paying your 2007 pledge and per capita is SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30th if you want to be able to use the deduction for your 2007 income taxes.

Edie Fischer: Financial Secretary

JANUARY 2008

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2	3	4	5
6 10am Worship w/ Communion Dr. Lance Brown preaching 11am Fellowship Time	7	8 Session Meeting 7pm	9	10	11	12
13 10am Worship Gladys Gifford preaching 11am Fellowship Time	14	15	16 Worship & Music Meeting 7pm	17	18	19
20 10am Worship Carla Kline preaching 11am Fellowship Time	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 10am Worship Carla Kline preaching 11am Fellowship Time	28	29	30			

SPAGHETTI DINNER UPDATE

Our first Spaghetti Dinner & Theme Basket Auction was a success. Thanks to everyone's hard work, we were able to raise \$1017.00 - 10% will go to Renaissance House. So many people played a part in making this a success that I could not possibly name everyone, so I just want to say THANK YOU!!!
 God's Peace,
 Dawn Corless

In The Life of The Church

DECEMBER & JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

December	1 st	Richard Jones
		Tim Miller
	3 rd	Nancy Galley
		Marion Labby
	5 th	Amber Wurl
	8 th	Mary Kate George
		Pearl Weber
	9 th	John Lindak
		Barb Kissel
	11 th	Bob Barnhart
		Carol Vaughan
	12 th	Donna Cieslinski
	13 th	Paul Rasp
	22 nd	Ethan Rowe
		Tom Wilczak
		Jim Wojcik
	24 th	Kristen Wright
	25 th	Jason Perillo
	26 th	Deanna Pagliaccio
	20 th	Elizabeth Marrero Happy 1 st Birthday!

January	2 nd	Amanda Bohin
		Heather Malyszka
	4 th	Ashley Bohin
		Russell Molnar
	9 th	Bruce Barrows
	11 th	Ellyn Reed
	13 th	Deb Wright
	14 th	Vincent Pagliaccio
		Chris Saeli
	15 th	Margie Christmann
	19 th	Justin Wurl
	22 nd	Sam Corless
	24 th	Mary Gutowski
	26 th	Thom George
	27 th	Lill Kieffer
	28 th	David Bohin

NOTES OF THANKS

I would like to thank all of my church family for the cards and phone calls that I received during my illness. It was humbling to know that so many people had me in their prayers. So once again thank you every one.

Dick Fischer

PRAYER CONCERNS

Bruce Barrows ♦ Marion Bartnik (The Fiegls) ♦ Bill Baco (Sandy Pakenham) ♦ Caryn Brown (Leona Wojcik) Erna Burdick (Sue Piersa) ♦ Clara Cieslinski ♦ Kathy Miller Colmerauer (Jane Lankes) ♦ Dan & Judy Cravotta (Janice Jones) ♦ Steve Dalin (Karen Dalin) ♦ Pauline Deletti (Sandy Fiegl) ♦ Linda Dories (Sandy Fiegl) ♦ Lorraine Fularon (Cheryl Wilczak) ♦ Cathy Fularon (Cheryl Wilczak) ♦ Jessica Grazen (The Fischers) ♦ James Groves (Nancy Lesakowski) ♦ Ed & Dorothy Gutowski (Ed Gutowski) ♦ Harold Hanna ♦ Nancy Hay ♦ Esther Hiller (Sandy Pakenham) ♦ Jill Miller-Kisker (Jane Lankes) ♦ Ben Klinshaw (Rita Hanna) ♦ Marguerite Kobel (Dennis Fiegl) ♦ Lee Kruszka ((The Fischer's) ♦ Sue Maciejewski ♦ Sibby Mielcarek (Marge Christmann) Steve Milley (Leanne Wurl) ♦ Josh Miszko (Sue Piersa) ♦ Sandy Northem ♦ BJ Rustic ♦ Bill Seifert ♦ Pam Setzer (The Fiegls) ♦ George Shaffer ♦ Paul Sipos (Sue Maciejewski) ♦ Joan Shockey (Dennis Fiegl) ♦ The Weez (Dennis Fiegl) ♦ Aaron Miechurski (The Halligan's) ♦ Kyle James Smyntek (The Fiegl's) ♦ Patrick Weir (Sandy Pakehnam)

OUR SERVICE MEN & WOMEN

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 ⊛ Russell Molnar ⊛ Pat McCullough ⊛ Ryan M. Ratigan ⊛ Larry Lloyd ⊛ Joshua Feldman ⊛ Dan Dudziak ⊛ David Ferg ⊛ Zachery Goggins ⊛ Alison Lankes

PAPER BAG LUMINARIAS

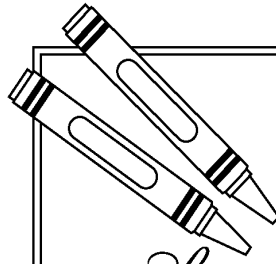
Lead your family and friends to your house this holiday with luminarias celebrating Jesus' birth.

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Pencil
- Brown paper lunch bags
- Hole punch, tack or pushpin
- Sand
- Votive candles or tea lights

WHAT YOU DO:

- 1 Draw a simple picture, word or symbol of Jesus' birth on the bag; for example, a star, a manger, a heart, a lamb, a wise man or the word "JOY."
- 2 Using a hole punch or pushpin, punch holes along the drawing, leaving a little space between each hole. Punch all the way through both sides of the bag so you end up with the same design on both sides when the bag is opened. When using a pin, place a piece of cardboard under the bag or work on carpet so nothing gets damaged.
- 3 Open the bag and fill each luminaria with about two inches of sand. Then sink a votive candle or tea light in the center of the sand.
- 4 Place the luminarias along a walk, patio or porch. Have an adult light the candles.



Just for KIDS

The Son of the Highest

A new baby brings joy and the anticipation of what he or she will grow up to become. Jesus' birth was miraculous, but His life was prophesied and planned by God.

Unscramble the words below, matching them to their correct spelling. Then use the numbers to fill in the correct words to complete Luke 1:32-33 (NIV).

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------|------------|---------|
| 12. taerg | he | 2. noS | forever |
| 8. eh | Jacob | 11. seouh | end |
| 13. gHhi | father | 5. northe | Son |
| 7. aDvid | give | 1. roevefr | house |
| 10. bocJa | great | 6. dingmok | throne |
| 3. reafth | High | 9. den | kingdom |
| 4. vieg | David | | |

"He will be _____₁₂ and will be called the _____₂
of the Most _____₁₃. The Lord God will _____₄
him the _____₅ of his _____₃ _____₇,
and _____₈ will reign over the _____₁₁
of _____₁₀ _____₁; his _____₆ will
never _____₉."

Luke 1:32-33, NIV

Answers: 1. forever 2. Son 3. father 4. give 5. throne 6. kingdom 7. David 8. he 9. end 10. Jacob 11. house 12. great 13. High

The Celebrate
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First Presbyterian Church

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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 2008 Bob Barnhart Karen Malyszka Kathy Saeli	Class of 2009 Tom Kalinowski Shaun Wilson Wendy Warren	Class of 2010 Dawn Corless Debbie Goggins Erik Rowe
Deacons		
Class of 2008 Sandra Fiegl Lisa Shriver	Class of 2009 Craig Wright Bruce Barrows	Class of 2010 Dennis Fiegl Richard Jones