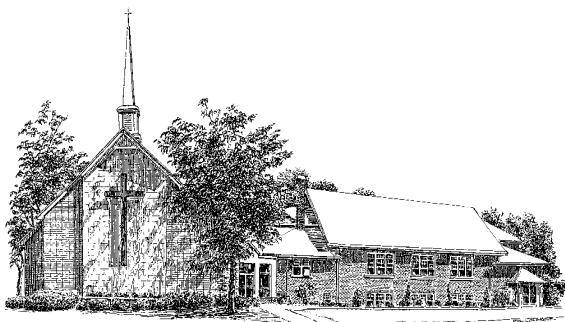


First Presbyterian Church of West Seneca

2085 Union Rd.

West Seneca, NY 14224

716-668-1115



The CELEBRATE February/March 2007

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

February Highlights

February 11th ~ 10am

Boy Scout Sunday

February 13th ~ 7pm

Session Meeting

February 18th ~ 10am

Ordination & Installation of Elders & Deacons

February 21st ~

Young at Heart Luncheon ~ 12pm

Ash Wednesday Worship Service w/ Communion ~ 7pm

February 28th ~ 7:30pm

Lenten Journey @ St. Bonaventure RC Church

March Highlights

March 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th ~ 7:30pm

Lenten Journey (see inside for locations)

March 7th & 21st ~ 12pm

Young at Heart Luncheons

Dear Friends:

I have started this article several times already and, for many and varied reasons, I find myself making changes or starting all over again every time I come back to it. With the season of Lent beginning on February 21, Ash Wednesday, I want to say something about Lent. And yet I realize that in our Presbyterian tradition we are only beginning to rediscover the unique spiritual opportunities we are afforded during this season.

Far too many of us have thought that basically Lent is to be endured. We don't want to do what "others" do, such as give something up for Lent. But then it seems that there is nothing that we "do" instead.

I guess that is why I have been mentally playing around with the word "surrender" and its real meaning. For many of us, the word surrender means to give up as in "throw in the towel." But there is a huge difference between "giving up" and "turning something over."

Every Lent I like to think that I am turning over a part of my life to God in ways that I don't do during the remainder of the year. For a period of 40 days (excluding the Sundays that are IN Lent but not OF Lent) I dedicate my life to God in many and varied ways.

It might involve taking more time out for prayer. It could take the form of reading scripture or some other form of spiritual writing. It might be writing in a journal. It could be taking a walk out in nature. It could mean being actively involved in mission, in helping others. And it also might mean giving myself permission to do nothing – to take "small Sabbaths" each day and simply be with God.

In the process of "surrendering" to God, I give God some special time to work me over, so to speak. I listen more than I speak. Inevitably, in order to "surrender," I will probably have to let something go. And I often hope that this process of "surrendering" and "letting go" and "turning over a part of myself to God" will continue when Lent has ended.

This process is quite different that just giving something up for Lent, such as chocolate or desserts or alcohol. Noble endeavors, yes. But that isn't really turning anything over to God. That's just a program of self-improvement that becomes a kind of marathon to be endured. If disciplined enough, one can do it. One reaches Easter morning and rejoices not only in the resurrection, but also in the fact that one can begin to eat/drink again. I'm not quite sure how that brings one closer to God.

I also think that "surrender" means different things to different people. It is possible that in this process of turning one's life over to God in a special way that we will be challenged to take a good look at ourselves and see that there are areas

of our lives that need special attention. And we might need help in working on those areas. We all have rough edges that need “smoothing out.” We all have areas in which we can grow and learn.

I invite you to “surrender” this Lent and see where that takes you. Allow God, allow yourself to take a good look at your life. And when the 40 days are over, ask yourself where do you want to go from that point? That may well be the most important part of all – what follows!

Blessings,

Pastor Herb

FOLLOW THE LECTIONARY

February 2007

<i>February 4th</i>	Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13) Psalm 138 I Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11	<i>February 18th -</i>	Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 99 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)
<i>February 11th</i>	Jeremiah 17:5-10 Psalm 1 I Corinthians 15:12-20 Luke 6:17-26	<i>February 25th</i>	Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13

March 2007

<i>March 4th</i>	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35	<i>March 18th</i>	Joshua 5:9-12 Psalm 32 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
<i>March 11th</i>	Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm 63:1-8 I Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9	<i>March 25th</i>	Isaiah 43:16-21 Psalm 126 Philippians 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8

WORSHIP & MUSIC

The Christmas decorations have all been put away. We have vacuumed up the last of the needles (we hope) and prepare for the next liturgical season. Easter is a little over 2 months away as this is being written. Ash Wednesday is the 21st of February. There will be a service on Ash Wednesday @ 7:00pm which will include communion and the receiving of ashes. This year we will not host the Lenten journey and the pastor will not have to preach a sermon. On April 1st, which is Palm Sunday, we will receive palms in church. April 8th is Maundy Thursday with a church service at 7:00pm with communion. Sunday April 8th is Easter Sunday, the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We will receive communion during this service.

Eddie Fischer

YOUNG AT HEART

I hope everyone had a joyous and happy New Year. The young at heart lunches have resumed for 2007. We will be meeting twice in February and March. The dates are as follows:

February-7th & 21st

March- 7th & 21st

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO LUNCHEONS DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL BUT THAT THEY WILL START AGAIN ON MAY 2ND.

We will be taking some vacation time during April.

Your Happy Cooks: Dick & Edie

CHURCH & SOCIETY

GARAGE SALE ~ SATURDAY, APRIL 28TH

Publicity – Tim Miller & Linda Barrows

Upstairs kitchen – Carol Vaughan

Downstairs kitchen – Deb Wilson

Pick up of leftovers – Barb Kissel

Bake Sale – Sue Boulter

- ❖ Table Rentals - \$15 for first table, \$10 for each additional table. We still need a chairperson for this, but for now see Diane. Church members and friends come first.
- ❖ Items to be donated to the church for the sale can be put in the old session room (next to the counting room off fellowship hall). Please no shoes or stuffed animals unless new or like new. Clean sellable clothes only. No broken or chipped glass.
- ❖ Save brown tops bags & plastic bags – fold them and place them neatly in another bag (this helps when we set up)
- ❖ We are still in need of a chairperson for a small theme basket table. See Diane if interested
- ❖ Watch for a sign up sheet in early April for the day of the sale.

FEBRUARY 2007

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3 Special Presbytery Meeting
4 10am Worship w/ Communion Faith Education 11am Fellowship Time	5 Monday Night Adult Forum & Discussion Group 7pm	6	7 Young at Heart Luncheon 12pm	8	9	10
11 10am Worship – Boy Scout Sunday Faith Education 11am Fellowship Time	12 Monday Night Adult Forum & Discussion Group 7pm	13 Session Meeting 7pm	14 Worship & Music Meeting 7pm	15	16	17
18 10am Worship – Ordination & Installation of Elders & Deacons Faith Education 11am Fellowship Time	19 Monday Night Adult Forum & Discussion Group 7pm	20	21 Young at Heart Luncheon 12pm Ash Wednesday Worship 7pm	22	23	24
25 10am Worship Faith Education 11am Fellowship Time <i>1st Sunday in Lent</i>	26 Monday Night Adult Forum & Discussion Group 7pm	27	28 Lenten Journey Service @ St. Bonaventure 7:30pm			

MARCH 2007

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri	Sat.
				1	2	3
4 10am Worship w/ Communion Faith Education 11am Fellowship Time <i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i>	5 Monday Night Adult Forum & Discussion Group 7pm	6	7 Young at Heart Luncheon 12pm Lenten Journey Service @ St. John's 7:30pm	8	9	10
11 10am Worship Faith Education 11am Fellowship Time <i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i>	12 Monday Night Adult Forum & Discussion Group 7pm	13 Session Meeting 7pm	14 Lenten Journey Service @ Queen of Heaven 7:30pm	15	16	17
18 10am Worship Faith Education 11am Fellowship Time <i>4th Sunday in Lent</i>	19 Monday Night Adult Forum & Discussion Group 7pm	20	21 Young at Heart Luncheon 12pm Lenten Journey Service @ Ebenezer	22	23	24
25 10am Worship Faith Education 11am Fellowship Time <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i>	26 Monday Night Adult Forum & Discussion Group 7pm	27	28 Lenten Journey Service @ St. Catherine's 7:30pm	29	30	31 Presbytery Meeting 10am @ Williamsville North Presbyterian Telecky Wedding

FISCAL FACTS

FISCAL FACTS End of Year December 2006			
Church Assets as of January 1, 2006		\$86,926.67	
Church Assets as of this month		\$95,788.89	
Operating Budget	Year to Date	Budgeted to Date	Difference
Pledges	\$95,174.50	\$96,716.00	(\$1,541.50)
Loose Offering	\$4,971.73	\$4,500.00	\$471.73
Initial Offering	\$127.00	\$200.00	(\$73.00)
Per Capita Offering	\$1,769.00	\$1,000.00	\$769.00
Miscellaneous	\$5,594.66	\$5,000.00	\$594.66
Roll over from previous year	2,786.35	2,786.35	0
Total Income	\$110,423.24	\$110,202.35	\$220.89
Presbytery Related Mission	\$6,432.84	\$6,432.88	
Per Capita Apportionment	\$5,103.96	\$5,104.00	
Salaries & Session Misc.	\$35,859.21	\$35,347.50	
Pastor Related	\$36,954.68	\$38,132.97	
Faith Education	\$437.63	\$270.00	
Young at Heart	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Worship & Music	\$497.69	\$590.00	
Church & Society	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Membership & Evangelism	\$0.00	\$124.00	
Stewardship Expenses	\$181.70	\$260.00	
Office Expenses	\$4,313.19	\$4,345.00	
Building Costs	\$15,517.85	\$19,720.00	
Total Expenses	\$105,298.75	\$110,202.35	
Difference	\$5,124.49		
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX		
Non Budgeted Items	Year to Date		
Income	\$14,295.91		
Memorials	\$633.95		
Missions	\$2,483.82		
Faith Ed. Offering Expenses	\$0.00		
Youth Fellowships	\$118.98		
Miscellaneous	\$3,999.56		
Total Expenses	\$7,236.31		
Difference	\$7,059.60		
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX		
Yearly Savings Gain or Loss	\$4,705.43		
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX		
Capital Fund Drive Income	\$241.48	Per Capita 2006	\$35.00
Capital Fund Drive Expenses	\$777.00	Per Capita 2007	\$37.00
Capital Fund Drive Balance	\$3,480.96		

In The Life of The Church

FEBRUARY & MARCH BIRTHDAYS

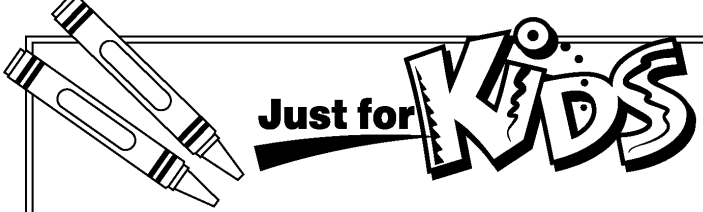
February	4 th	Bill Seifert
	7 th	John Christmann
		Nancy Kester
	8 th	Evan Reed
	13 th	Myrt Halligan
	15 th	Helen Sommer
	18 th	Lindsay Hanna
	19 th	Tom Vaughan
	21 st	Ron Piersa
	22 nd	Jon Piersa
	22 nd	Karen Sadovsky
	26 th	Crystal Giammarise
	28 th	Wendy Warren
	29 th	Sandy Fiegl

March	1 st	Sue Boulter
		Lynn Mohr
	3 rd	Cheryl Wilczak
	4 th	Sandy Perillo
	10 th	Ollie Hanna
	11 th	Morgan Rodgers HAPPY 1 ST BRITHDAY
	12 th	Sue Piersa
	12 th	Hillary Stoklosa
	15 th	Megan Barnhart
	16 th	Denny Bengert
	17 th	Karen Lindak
	20 th	Amber Messori
	22 nd	Ed Gutowski
	23 rd	Karen Malyszka
		Betty Rasp
	25 th	Gracie Shurr HAPPY 1 ST BIRTHDAY
	26 th	Robin Miller
	28 th	Maureen George
		Tom Wilczak

PRAYER CONCERNS

Bill Baco (Sandy Pakenham) ♦ Amy Balon (Nancy Galley) ♦ Matt Bove (Richard Jones) ♦ Caryn Brown (Leona Wojcik) ♦ Andrew Derrick (BJ Rustic) ♦ Clara Cieslinski ♦ Kathy Miler Colmerauer (Jane Lankes) ♦ Dan & Judy Cravotta (Janice Jones) ♦ Steve Dalin (Karen Cieslinski Dalin) ♦ Pauline Deletti (Sandy Fiegl) ♦ Linda Dories (Sandy Fiegl) ♦ Jessica Grazen (The Fischers) ♦ James Groves (Nancy Lesakowski) ♦ Ed & Dorothy Gutowski (Ed Gutowski) ♦ Harold Hanna ♦ Nancy Hay ♦ Janet H. (Nancy Galley) ♦ Esther Hiller (Sandy Pakenham) ♦ Jill Miller-Kisker (Jane Lankes) ♦ Ben Klinshaw (Rita Hanna) ♦ Marguerite Kobel (Dennis Fiegl) ♦ Lee Kruszka (the Fischer's) ♦ Lynn Labby (Marion Labby) ♦ Sibby Mielcarek (Marge Christmann) ♦ Josh Misko (Sue Piersa) ♦ BJ Rustic ♦ Bill Seifert ♦ Paul Sipos (Sue Maciejewski) ♦ Joan Shockey (Dennis Fiegl's sister) ♦ The Weez (Dennis Fiegl) ♦ Aaron Miechurski (The Halligan's) ♦ Kyle James Smyntek (The Fiegl's) ♦ Partick Weir (Sandy Pakehnam))

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



*But the **Greatest** of These Is **LOVE!***

God shows love to us every day and in many ways. Fill in the blanks below with the missing letters to see how God loves us perfectly!

“For God so lo __ ed the world,
that he g __ ve
his on __ y
begott __ n
So __,
__ hat whosoever
believeth __ n Him
should __ ot perish,
but have __ verlasting life.

—John 3:16, KJV

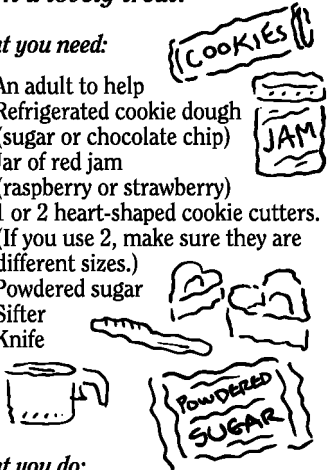
Answer: valentine

LOVE TREATS

Show others love by baking them a lovely treat!

What you need:

- ♥ An adult to help
- ♥ Refrigerated cookie dough (sugar or chocolate chip)
- ♥ Jar of red jam (raspberry or strawberry)
- ♥ 1 or 2 heart-shaped cookie cutters. (If you use 2, make sure they are different sizes.)
- ♥ Powdered sugar
- ♥ Sifter
- ♥ Knife



What you do:

1. Follow the cookie dough directions for rolling out the dough.
2. If you are using one cookie cutter, cut out the heart-shaped cookies and transfer to a baking sheet. Try to have an even number of hearts when finished.
3. If you are using two cookie cutters, cut out the large hearts. Take half of the hearts, and cut out a small heart window in the center with the smaller cookie cutter. Now you have a heart inside another heart.
4. Have an adult help you bake the cookies according to the dough directions.
5. After baking, place the cookies on a cooling rack.
6. When the cookies are cooled, make cookie sandwiches by spreading jam onto the flat side of half the cookies, and then placing another cookie on top of each one. (If you made cookie windows, use those for the tops.)
7. Sprinkle powdered sugar over your heart sandwiches with a sifter.
8. Share the cookies with the people you love.



A PRAYER REMINDER

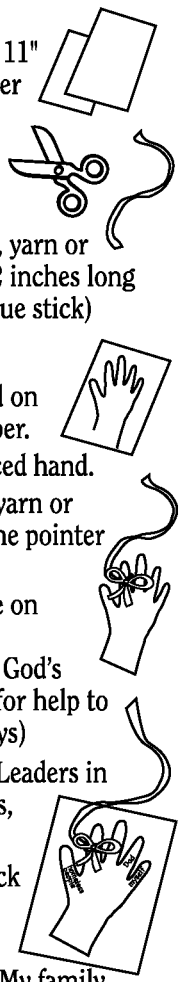
Many times we fold our hands together to pray. Here is a "handy" craft that can help you remember what to include in your prayers.

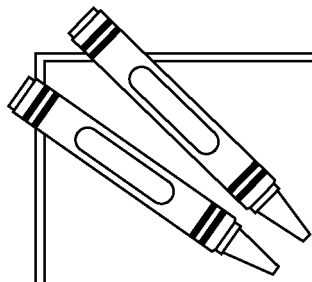
What you need:

- 2 sheets of 8½" x 11" construction paper (different colors)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Crayons
- 1 piece of ribbon, yarn or string about 6-12 inches long
- Glue (white or glue stick)

What to do:

1. Trace your hand on one sheet of paper.
2. Cut out the traced hand.
3. Tie the ribbon, yarn or string around the pointer (index) finger.
4. Write a message on each finger:
(*Pointer finger*) God's guidance (pray for help to follow God's ways)
(*Middle finger*) Leaders in my life (teachers, pastors, etc.)
(*Ring finger*) Sick and old people
(*Pinky finger*) Myself(*Thumb*) My family
5. Glue the hand onto the other sheet of paper.
6. Start with the ribbon finger and pray for God's help. Then pray for all the people on each finger.





Just for **KIDS**

Remember to Pray

There are many verses in the Bible that talk to us about prayer. Solve the puzzle below to see the lesson Paul teaches about prayer in Philemon 1:4. Think about your own life and your prayers.



Use the alphabet code to fill in the blanks, and then read Paul's message.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
Z Y X W V U T S R Q P O N M L K J I H G F E D C B A

" R Z O D Z B H G S Z M P N B

T L W Z H R I V N V N Y V I

B L F R M N B K I Z B V I H"

... Philemon 1:4, NIV

Answer:
I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers

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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 2008 Bob Barnhart Karen Malyszka Kathy Saeli	Class of 2009 Tom Kalinowski Shaun Wilson Wendy Warren	Class of 20010 Dawn Corless DebbieGoggins Erik Rowe
Deacons		
Class of 2008 Sandra Fiegl Lisa Shriver	Class of 2009 Craig Wright Bruce Barrows	Class of 2010 Denis Fiegl Richard Jones