



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
34 Brinkerhoff Street
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

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ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

**World Communion Sunday,
October 4th
One Service at 11:30 a.m.**



pulse
October 2009

First Presbyterian Church
34 Brinkerhoff Street
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
518.561.3140

Interim Pastor
Rev. Virginia Murray
Pulse Editor
Jennifer Booth

Our Very Important Children

Which of our children are the very important ones? The answer is “all of them”! There is very little in our lives that outrank the importance of our little ones. Our church makes them a number one priority.

I would like to just highlight a few of the efforts we make to encourage their spiritual maturation, to keep them safe in all respects and to assure them a warm, loving environment in which to grow and develop.

Safety: *Forty plus people have completed the “Boundaries Awareness” training. This gives us a strong core of people ready, willing and able to provide a safe environment while working with children and youth. These adults and older teens have committed themselves to observe stringent guidelines in their interactions.*

In addition to the training classes we also require the completion of an application which asks for references and names and addresses of other places worked. Plus, we arrange for background checks on anyone who will be working with children/youth. Persons who are interested in being volunteers must be a regular part of the church’s life for six months prior to taking on children/youth responsibilities.

Spiritual Development: *We have graded Sunday School classes for all ages staffed by enthusiastic teachers. We also have weekly youth group meetings for the older children. And we have two children’s choirs.*

On Sunday morning we provide experienced, trained child care for our youngest ones. For the older ones there is Small Talk during the early part of the 9:30 a.m. worship service and a story time led by a different adult each week so the kids get to know a variety of the older folk in the congregation.

These opportunities are supplemented by other experiences that occur on an occasional basis such as Vacation Bible School.

Please encourage any families you know to feel bring their children to church knowing they will be loved and well cared for.

Come One, Come All!

First Presbyterian Church
All Church STEWARDSHIP Evening



The Essence of Stewardship

You are invited to join us for an evening of singing, sharing a meal together, and discussing our commitment to Stewardship for 2010 at 1st Presbyterian Church, Plattsburgh.

SUNDAY EVENING NOVEMBER 1ST, 2009

HYMN SING (Sanctuary)	5:30
MEAL (Fellowship Hall)	6:00
SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS	6:30
DESSERT	7:30

You will be receiving in the mail an invitation and an RSVP post card. **Please complete the card whether you plan to attend or not.** If attending, we will need your name and the number of family members attending with you. Please check whether you are bringing a SOUP or a SALAD to pass. Bread and dessert will be provided by the Stewardship and Fellowship Councils. Also please check if you require either "taxi" or "babysitting" services for the evening. It is very important to the Stewardship Council that you call, mail, bring in to the office, or drop in the offering plate your card by Sunday, October 25th, 2009.

Youth Activities *Youth Activities*

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

CROP Hunger Walk Sunday, October 4th

Meet at 1:30pm at the Methodist Church with your sponsor sheets, money, and walking shoes.

Hike Silver Lake Bog Saturday, October 10th

Meet at the church at 10AM. Bring lunch, snacks, water, and wear appropriate clothing and shoes for the hike. Open to friends, families and dogs. Difficulty rating: Very easy

High Ropes Course Monday, October 12th

4th-12th grade youth of our church are encouraged to join us for a day of high ropes challenges at Adirondack Experience in Saranac Lake. If you want to attend, you **MUST** sign up due to limited space. Meet at the church at 9:00 am. Friends will be welcome if space allows.

Corn Maze Sunday, October 18th

Meet at the church 2pm. We will carpool up to the corn maze in Chazy. Open to friends, families, but no dogs. Cost is \$4

Halloween Party Friday, October 30th

6:00-7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Wear a costume, play games, eat goodies and have lots of fun.

CALLING FOR SHOEBOXES!

Youth Groups are collecting shoeboxes to pack up gifts for Operation Christmas Child. The best shoeboxes are ones with detachable lids because it is easier to wrap lids that are not attached to the boxes. No boot boxes, please. Last year our youth groups put together 5 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child and hope to double that this year. Shoeboxes are filled with toys, candy, hygiene products, school supplies, a \$7 shipping donation, and will be collected the week of Nov 16. Visit www.samaritanspurse.org for more information.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS (Continued from previous page)

Place orders with Nancy Groves in the church office 561-3140, Dotte Buchanan 561-4823, or Nancy Olsen 561-0189. Please order early and make it easier for us to plan and order materials. Call Dotte if you can help decorate in the morning or afternoon of the 21st and plan to come for lunch.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to have a beautiful wreath and support the Presbyterian Women's mission program.

Prices for Undecorated Wreaths

14" Small \$14.00

16" Large \$18.00

18" Extra lg. \$22.00

Prices for Decorated Wreaths

14" Small \$16.00

16" Large \$20.00

18" Extra lg. \$24.00

Submitted by: Nancy Olsen

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The first PW meeting of the Fall was convened on Sept. 19 in the Fellowship Hall. We previewed a very busy Fall and will be calling on many of you to help. On Saturday, October 17 we will be hosting the Presbytery PW at which time we will be providing Friday night accommodations, morning refreshments, worship service and lunch. We will need lots of helpers. Will you be a volunteer?

Our next PW business meeting will be held on Saturday, November 21 at 9:30 am prior to providing lunch for all the "wreath makers" at noon.

The Tea & Bazaar will be held on Dec. 5. We will need everyone; men, women and children, to help in that. We raised over \$7,000 for mission last year!

The new officers have been elected and will be installed in January: Marjorie Mapstone, Moderator; Sharon Chaney, Secretary; and Linda Gonyo, Treasurer.

Submitted by Nancy Collin, Moderator

***“ For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but may have eternal life. John 3: 16***

This is an exciting time for us at 1st Presbyterian Church, Plattsburgh as we anticipate the completion of the search and then the eventual call of a new pastor to lead our community of faith. What spiritual gifts will this person bring to our table? Paul reminds us in his letter to the Corinthians, *“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.”* **Each of us is called to minister as we volunteer and commit to serve.** We can call a new pastor who will bring his/or her spiritual gifts to our table. However, we need to join with this person and bring our gifts as well. Christ's Church is a community of believers. The Stewardship Council is sponsoring a "Service Fair" during Coffee Hour to be held in Fellowship Hall on November 1st between the two services. It will be an opportunity for you to learn about the various service opportunities and to reflect upon your Time & Talent Pledge for 2010. As the annual Stewardship Drive approaches, please be in prayer as you search for your call to ministry and service to Christ. **Which gift and service will you commit for 2010?**

Submitted by the Stewardship Council

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS BULLETIN BOARD

The bulletin board in Fellowship Hall is now being updated by Janet Deeb and Phyllis Wells. These items will be mostly things that do not go in the history scrapbook. If you have something to contribute, please leave in Phyllis' folder in the office.

Submitted by: Phyllis Wells

LATEST FROM THE PNC

We have entered the next phase! We are now conducting phone interviews with the top candidates, a process that will be completed the first week in October. After that we will begin meeting with the top pastors of that group. Please keep us in your prayers.

Submitted by Janora Stone, PNC Co-Chair

NOVEMBER FAMILY PROMISE HOSTING WEEK

Our congregation will once again be welcoming homeless families to stay with us, beginning on Sunday afternoon, November 1st through Sunday morning, November 8th.

Whether you haven't yet had a chance to serve in this on-going mission, or are an experienced "veteran", we encourage you to volunteer for this important ministry. The sign-up on the poster will show up in the fellowship area Sunday, October 18th, with multiple announcements to follow.

There are always a variety of opportunities and times to serve. We need supper meals prepared on an evening of your choice. Or, you could be a host for an evening and interact with the families. We also need two members, male and female; to spend the night each evening our guests stay with us. Finally, laundry always needs doing at the end of the week, and can be returned at your convenience one of the following Sundays.

These are all easy tasks, but they all need willing volunteers. We hope you will consider serving in one or more of these capacities. If you have any questions about how the program works, what a particular opportunity is like, or want to be teamed up with someone with more experience, please call Frank or Sandy at 561-4265. We're looking forward to hearing from you!

Frank and Sandy Baehre
Family Promises Coordinators

PILLARS LUNCHEON

Due to a calendar conflict the luncheon will not be October 17th, but the first weekend in November. As soon as we find entertainment we will provide more details. Thank you for your understanding.

Submitted by Janora Stone, Deacon Co-Moderator

World Communion Sunday

Remember one service at 11:30 on October 4th

CHRISTMAS TEA AND BAZAAR

What can you do to help?

- Bake - Home-made goodies from your favorite Christmas recipes. Fudge, yeast breads, coffeecakes, small (1 1/2") cookies are all very popular.
- Create - Knit, sew, create! Christmas items are always very popular.
- Cook a pot of soup - One of the most popular areas of the Bazaar. All homemade soups - do you have a special recipe for soup? Make us a pot.
- White Elephant table - Do you have good used items that you no longer need or use? The white elephant table is in need of anything attractive and in good condition.
- Used Books - New to the Bazaar this year is a used book sale. We are looking for books in good condition. Recently published books and classics sell well. We cannot use magazines, text books, encyclopedias, or books that are in poor condition.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer in a particular area, please look at the list of section chairs on the previous page and give them a call to see how you can help.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS

It's not too early to begin thinking about our beautiful fresh handcrafted Christmas wreaths for your home, business and as gifts for family and friends. The men of the church under Stuart Voss' guidance and instruction will create the wreaths suitable for hanging anywhere and everywhere.

The fresh Balsam greens will be gathered on Sat. Nov 14th and Friday November 20th. The wreaths will be made on Saturday, November 21st. The Presbyterian Women and friends will decorate the wreaths in two sessions on Saturday with PW providing a light lunch for all workers. Once again you can order a decorated wreath with natural pine or spruce cones and a red velvet bow tied by Kit Booth or just order a plain wreath to decorate as you wish. The sizes will be 14", 16" and an extra large wreath of 18".

(Continued on the next page)



CHRISTMAS TEA AND BAZAAR



The fall is here, the church season has begun and now it is only 2 months until the Annual Christmas Tea and Bazaar on Saturday, December 5, 2009. This successful fund raiser is sponsored by the Presbyterian Women, but it is a church-wide effort. Everyone is invited to participate and we hope you all will set aside some time to help. There are plenty of opportunities. You can get an idea of what interests you from the list of areas below:

Tea & Bazaar Co-chairs:	Linda Voss - 563-3057 Jennie Booth - 563-3809
Bake Sale Co-chairs:	Joy Mazur - 561-3875 Kathe Fairweather - 563-2680
Craft Co-chairs:	Janora Stone - 561-1230 Jackie Curilla - 561-4518
Mitten Christmas Tree Chair:	Meg Smith - 562-5437
Deli Chair:	Judy Bunnell - 561-8011
Book Sale:	Sonia Long - 561-3626
Cashier Chair:	Nancy Collin - 561-3877
Posters, Name Tags:	Judy Duken - 561-1616
Publicity co-chairs:	Jan Pauling - 561-4771 Sharon Chaney - 563-5145
Tea Sandwiches Co-chairs:	Susan Mikkelson - 561-7004
Tea Table Co-chairs:	Cathy Ellis - 493-6383 Barbara Thompson - 563-3825
White Elephant Table Chair:	Karen Merrill - 563-3285
Wreath-making Chair:	Stuart Voss - 563-3057
Wreath Sales Co-chairs:	Nancy Olsen - 563-0189 Dottie Buchanan - 561-4823

Please feel free to call any of the chairs to discuss how you can help with the Bazaar. Watch for further information in future Pulses and bulletins.

Submitted by: Jan Pauling, Publicity Co-chair

Christian Education

The *Devotional Classics* group under the leadership of Stuart Voss meets in Marianne's office at 10:45 am following Fellowship time. Using the *Devotional Classics* text edited by Richard Foster, we will continue studying the devotional writers chronologically from 331 AD and moving through the centuries ending with Annie Dillard and Kathleen Norris both born in the 1940's. We focus on a different writer each week and new participants are always welcome. The weekly readings are 4-5 pages of text followed by discussion. Nancy Groves will make 2 or 3 copies of the current selection and these may be picked up in the church office or at the class. Additional books can be ordered for a nominal cost.

Schedule of readings:

- October 11 - Lancelot Andrews b. 1555 "A Light That Never Sets."
- October 18 - Frances de Sales b.1567 "One True Devotion."
- October 25 - Brother Lawrence b. 1611 "An Habitual Sense of God's Presence."

If one or more of these writers pique your interest, please join us for this unique series of religious works. We hope that you will fit this interesting study group into your spiritual life and our life together. Please join with us on Sunday. For greater enlightenment feel free to look up the current writer: Google or bring a resource to share with the class.

"Oh, and bring your coffee and a friend or two.."

*Note. We do not meet on Communion Sundays, the first Sunday of each month. This modification affords class members more time in fellowship after the service and we can volunteer to host Fellowship coffee hour.

Submitted by Nancy Olsen