

NEW BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REDEEMING TIMES

JANUARY 2010



Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

We have begun a new year. It seem like just yesterday we left the 1900's and entered the 2000's. That is now a decade ago. Again and again ths past week I have heard the expression "Happy New Year." Allow me to ask you a question... how do you define "happy?" Is happiness a year when no major problems occur? Is happiness a year our children make correct choices? Is happiness a year no serious illness strikes the family? Is happiness a new job (or any job)? Is happiness a nice vacation? What is happiness? Allow me to share a thought I read in the magazine "Pulpit Helps."

So what's New---- So who's Happy (as in Happy New Year)

This is what's new...

There is only one point where the old becomes new: That was when Jesus Christ changed everything in this old world

This is what's new...

There is only one point where a person's calendar changes from old to new: That is when Jesus Christ becomes your Lord and displaces your self as master of your life.

This is Happiness

Happiness is that clean felling of having all your sin and guild entirely pain

Happiness is having Jesus Christ in control of your life

happiness is working hard to make the world the way God wants it

Happiness is serving a great victorious cause

Happiness is knowing that every single thing that will happen in this coming year is under God's complete control—for your benefit

So indeed have a "Happy New Year."

What new in my life? My ever growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Because of this relationship everything else is fresh and new.... even in the midst of difficult events in life.

Am I happy? I don't like the word.. The biblical word id joy filled. Joy is an awareness of Jesus Christ's presence even in the midst of negative feelings. Rejoice in the Lord... again I say rejoice. Share with me the joy of the Lord

Happy... or at least Joyous New Year!

In Christ,

Doug

SESSION NOTES

This Saturday, from 8:30A.M. - noon we will be having Elder Deacon Training for all elders and deacons. This is a meeting to set goals and make plans for the coming year.



LEADERFEST

Leaderfest is for new and continuing church officers and leaders. This year it will be held on January 16th from 8:30A.M. to 1:00P.M. at Westminster College Campus. Keynote speaker is Dr. Andrew Purves, Professor of Reformed Theology at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. The theme of his address is "Who Are You Lord and What Are You Up To?" There are many workshops to choose from. The cost is \$10.00 if you register before Monday January 11th and after that it will be \$15.00

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, January 24th following worship service. This meeting is for the purpose of reviewing all committee reports from 2009.

All boards and committees should be working on their reports to they may be compiled for the Annual Report which will be distributed at the Congregational Meeting on January 24th. **The deadline for having your reports included is Monday, January 18th.**

Newly elected officers will be ordained and installed on Sunday, January 17th.

Elder to be ordained is: Doug Houk
To be installed: Bob Bell, Brenda Hostetler, June Smith. Deacons to be ordained: Tom Tomko, Glenda Fulkman, Helen Bicehouse (2 year term)
Installed: Jane Eppinger, Debbie Pogozelec

At the last Session meeting the Session voted to buy new computer software for membership, Accounting and contributions.

Beginning next Sunday a Confirmation Class will be held for 8th graders and older during the Sunday School hour.



Offering envelopes are available in the vestibule on the table outside the office. Please pick yours up ASAP

Session approved the Benevolence Budget at the last meeting. (See Annual Report).

BIRTHDAYS FOR JANUARY

- 5-----Lois Adams
- 5-----Ashley Fox
- 5-----Philip Book
- 5-----Shirley Janoski
- 6-----Joel Phillips
- 6-----Nancy Bretz
- 8-----Loren Allison
- 8-----Marilyn Wallace
- 9-----Brenda Miller
- 12-----Diane McConnell
- 12-----Linda Feil
- 14-----Allen Jones
- 19-----Brenda Miller
- 19-----Brian Fulkman
- 20-----McKayln Duffy
- 20-----Amanda Miller
- 24-----Lori Smith
- 25-----Keith Fulkman
- 26-----Mike Duffy
- 26-----Mackenzie McCarthy
- 26-----Julie Whiting
- 27-----Morgan Whiting
- 28-----Taylor Allison
- 30-----Tiffany Bell
- 31-----Toni Reynolds



DID YOU KNOW

-The deacons packed 10 food baskets and over 30 fruit plates for folks in the community and our congregation.
-70 food vouchers and boxes of food were given out in December to folks in our community

-Meadow Whiting, Alexis Jones, and Madison Liddell learned all the books of the New Testament in Sunday School. Maybe you could ask them to say them for you.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Mary Beckman, Al Belgie, Ted Hilliard, Diane and Gerry McConnell and Ed Rudzik who help with Community food days.

Thank You to the choir, bell choir and all those who prepared special music for the Christmas Season.

Thank You to the Deacons for ordering the poinsettias for the poinsettia tree and the ones placed in the Sanctuary. They were beautiful!

SYMPATHY

Our congregation extends sincere sympathy to the Hilliard family at the death of Peg's brother James last month.

Our congregation extends sincere sympathy, love and support to the Beckman family at Ed's passing. Ed served as Elder, Sunday School teacher and on various committees in the church.

We extend our support and sympathy to the family of Irma Tryon who entered her eternal rest last week. Irma served as our church Librarian for several years up until her death

We extend our sympathy to Harry and Juanita Cornman at the death of her sister Kathy Ruth who lived in Virginia.

Word was received in the church office this morning of the death of Charlene (Snyder) Boyer. Charlene has been ill for some time waiting for a liver transplant. She is the daughter of George and Marie Snyder. May you be sustained in the knowledge that having "run the race"...looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith" your loved one now in rest, awaits the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The sewing group that meets weekly to make lap robes will begin meeting on Wednesday, January 20th



(weather permitting). If you do not sew there are other jobs for you such as cutting and pinning. All helpers are welcome.

They make lap robes for shut-ins in our church and community and also or the V.A hospital. For more information call Shirley Snyder at 964-8364.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. John Curran (Amber Shaffer) on the birth of a son, Cameron Michael born January 3rd in North Side Hospital. Keith and Jeannie Shaffer are the proud grandparents and Jack and Jeanine Keesey are the great grandparents. John is serving with the United States Air Force and is stationed in Quater, Afghanistan. Hopefully he will be home by the end of the month.

We thank everyone who remembered us with cards, call, expressions of sympathy and for all the kindness shown our family at the time of Ed's passing. We thank the Deacons for preparing the meal. Thanks to Pastor Doug for his visits and to members and friends of this congregation for all the love, support and concern show us during his illness and at the time of his passing.

Mary Beckman and family

We would like to thank all of you for your love, support and prayers during Irma's illness and for your thoughtfulness and expressions of sympathy after her recent passing. Your kindness during this time has meant so much to all of us. Thank You so much

Cal Tryon and the entire Rowan family



YOUTH NEWS

The past month was very busy for our youth groups as I'm sure it was busy for everyone. However; we rejoice in the good news of the birth of our Savior. I pray that each one of us will have the same "New Year's Desire". I pray that each one of us will want to grow closer in 2010 to our Lord, Jesus Christ.

The Jr./Sr. High youth groups began December with our monthly youth worship service. A big thank you to Dan and Gisela Dieter for delivering God's message. I would also like to thank all the kids who brought new toys as an offering. The toys were donated to the Women's Shelter.

This month's youth worship service was changed to Sunday, January 10th. The kids who went to the youth conference in Niagara will be speaking about the highlights and things that touched them. I would encourage all youth AND adults to attend. Are you aware that 88% of all youth who attend church through high school will leave the church when they enter college? What a sad statistic!! Please come next Sunday night to here more about this and what YOU can do as a member of Christ's church to prevent this. The service will begin at 6PM.

On Sat., Dec. 19th, the Sr. High Youth group had a Christmas Dinner at Geniene's and on Sun., Dec. 20th, the Jr. High Youth group had a Christmas Dinner at Geniene's.

On Sun., Dec. 27th, 4 high school students and 11 college-aged students boarded the bus to go to the Joshua Revolution youth conference in Niagara Falls. It was a wonderful time of praise and worship with speakers that touched many. Our youth groups would like to thank all those who support us through the pie sales, luncheons, and donations. If you noted the above statistic, you can see how important opportunities like this are. I'm amazed that we had 11 college kids go over there Christmas break. Praise God!! Each one of us in this congregation have a "purpose" to each one of our youth. Even if it is only words of encouragement!



The Jr./Sr. High youth have many events that are up and coming. We will not be going to Seneca Hills this year until next month. The dates are Feb. 26th-28th. It's not too early to begin inviting your friends.

I'm still trying to recover from Niagara so I don't have official dates; however, I'm in the process of planning a ski/tubing trip. I believe it will probably be at the end of this month. More details will be coming very soon. Be watching the bulletin and your e-mail. Also, I am looking at dates for a lock-in. Again, details will follow as soon as they are available.

Our youth groups would like to thank the Women's Association for donating \$500.00 to purchase a Wii system and an X-Box 360. These items have been added to the youth room and we also had enough to purchase 1 extra controller for each system. We also had another donation from a member so we will be able to add something else. Again, thank you for thinking of our youth!!



**Youth
Worship
Service**

We would also like to thank Brad and Marti Marshall for their dedication of feeding us in Niagara. They put in so much time and hard work immediately after Christmas and their commitment does not go



unappreciated!!! It's amazing that you can cook spaghetti and meatballs, ham and scalloped potatoes, BBQ ham and many other delicious meals in a hotel room!

KIDSZONE

KidsZone began December by going to the Shenango Home to sing Christmas carols.

We then went "Angel Tree Shopping" on Sat., Dec. 5th followed by a trip to Wendy's for lunch.

On Sun., Dec. 13th, the kids performed their annual Christmas Pageant following the church Christmas dinner. I thank each child who took their time to come to the practices. It was a wonderful presentation and the kids did a fabulous job. I would also like to thank the adults who helped and a special thank you goes out to Julie Whiting who directed.

The last KidsZone was Dec. 16th and the kids went Christmas caroling to our shut-ins. I'm very proud of each one of you for singing your little hearts out to those who needed cheering this Christmas season.



KidsZone begins again this Wed., Jan. 6th. We have lost a few of our college students due to scheduling conflicts. If you are able to help out in ANY way, please let Geniene know as soon as possible!!!!

Congratulations to Patty Mentzer and Andrew Wade who were married here at the church on Saturday, December 26. Andy is pastor of Wickliffe Community Church. Pat and Andy are both members of the PRAISE group along with Debi Fynes and Danny Mook.

Please remember the following people who are hospitalized, receiving treatments, recuperating at home, and those who have asked for prayer.

- Justin Dillon-----Home
- Verda Hepler-----Home
- Nancy Templeton-----Overlook
- Mrs. Bernice Chrobak-----Edison Manor
- Harvey & Dee Haines-----Home at Harvey Jr.
- Gertie Bretz-----Home
- Shirley Cramer-----Home
- Chuck Ruby-----Avalon Nursing Home
- Jo Ruby-----Home
- Jeanine Keesey----- Receiving Treatments
- Bill Miller-----Sharon Hospital
- George Snyder-----Home
- Bob Rishel-----Home
- Lauretta Black-----Jameson Health Place

A STATEMENT OF FAITH

A half century ago, Milward Simpson was the governor of Wyoming. He was a Christian who trusted God without question. He and his wife often shared this statement of faith.

The light of God surrounds us,
 The love of God enables us,
 The power of God protects us,
 And the presence of God watches over us;
 Wherever we are, God is.

Governor Simpson once told of flying in an airplane that developed engine trouble. Instead of giving in to fear, he and his wife held hands and together recited the words they tried to live by. The plane landed safely.

Having a positive statement of faith can be helpful in many situations. Why not create one for yourself and your family—or use the prayerful statement the Simpsons used.

