

*Wayside Presbyterian Church Of Erie*

1208 Asbury Road

Erie, PA 16505-1304

(Return Service Requested)

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 21

Erie, PA

Wayside Presbyterian Church

# Inside Wayside

VOLUME 47, NO 1

January 2008

*This month at Wayside:*

- January 2 - WOW Fellowship Dinner
- January 9 - 6:30 p.m. "Taking Down of the Greens"
- January 20 - Annual Meeting, Soup Sunday

## FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends:

Part of a pastor's role in a community is to pray publicly. To some extent he or she becomes the "designated prayer" (if we can borrow a little baseball terminology) at all kinds of community events. On many of these occasions prayer plays a natural role. However, there are times when it can be a bit awkward and a tougher fit.

I know of a pastor who was invited to a neighborhood New Year's Eve party, but there was one unusual stipulation: "At midnight, we want you to offer a prayer. It is something we always do at these parties." The occasion was not one at which the pastor felt comfortable; there was much drinking and boisterous partying. But indeed just before midnight the host sought out the pastor and said, "I'll get them quiet and you have the prayer."

Fortunately the pastor had prepared well. He first read two verses from the book of Lamentations: "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." (3:22-23) Then he prayed.

"O God, who reads our hearts before we speak our words, we stand on the cliff of a new year. The view from this height is gorgeous with possibilities, but the dangers at this height are many. The year comes with more questions than answers, but we declare one gift of sureness: your love.

As we look ahead we pray that you will forgive us when we turn side from your love or pretend that it is only for those whom we love. Forgive us for the casualness with which we may treat sacred relationships. Forgive us for the ways in which we measure life by self and not by service.

O God of new creation, move us toward new beginnings. In this moment of silence, hear the promise of each heart for the new year. (silent prayer) When we fail to bring our best, remind us of the promise here made, and with the brightness of your light, shine upon the paths of the days ahead. Great is your faithfulness. Amen"

If we didn't include prayer in our own New Year's festivities, this one might be a good addition as we begin 2008.

See you in church.

Peace,

Jim

Jim

**Inside this issue:**

<i>Second Saturday Work Project</i>	2
<i>Annual Meeting</i>	2
<i>Officers' Retreat</i>	3
<i>Lunch Bunch</i>	4
<i>Soup Sunday</i>	4
<i>Worship In January</i>	5
<i>Adult Ed Schedule</i>	6

**Financial Report**  
 Financial Statement as of November, 2007.  
**Receipts:**  
 Month .....\$24,050  
 Year-to-date .....\$338,967  
**Expenses:**  
 Month .....\$35,073  
 Year-to-date .....\$348,795



Phone: 814-833-7653  
 Email: wpc@wayside-erie.org

1208 Asbury Rd.  
 Erie, PA 16505  
 James Haas, Senior Pastor  
 Keith Sundberg, Associate Pastor  
 Conrad Steinhilber, Pastor Emeritus  
 Dawn Weborg, Directors of Music/Organist  
 Ernie Enssle, Sexton  
 Sally McCulloch, Anne Shenk, Sally DeWitt, & Shirley Diller, Newsletter Coordinators

WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**"MISSION STATEMENT"**  
 Wayside Church is a welcoming, caring community of God's people committed to developing Christian disciples.  
 We gather for worship, study, fellowship, and prayer. We seek to reach out with Christ's love to our community and the world.

## MANY THANKS

The Board of Trustees would like to express its genuine gratitude to several people.

Special thanks to:

- to all those who have provided care, comfort and nurture for Waysiders who have been on our prayer list in recent months
- to all those who lent their gifts and time and talents to our many Advent and Christmas programs and activities
- to Becky Worthington for designing and creating the beautiful stained-glass window that adorns the door of the Prayer Room.

There are many others who contribute generously of their time and efforts in support of the church; we are grateful to all of them.

## SECOND SATURDAY PROJECT IN JANUARY



The Outreach Committee has scheduled the first Second Saturday Project of the New Year at the Kid's Café on Saturday, January 12 from 9 a.m. until noon. We will plan to do some cleaning and provide other assistance as needed. We would love to have you volunteer to help.

If you would like to be part of our work crew, please sign up in the Lobby.



## 2007 CONTRIBUTIONS

Important Notice: To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2007 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the church. Some of your contributions may not be tax-deductible if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church. Statements will arrive during the month of January.

## MUSIC NEWS...

A very special thanks to the WOW choir for their musical presentation of "No Phibbin' Mephisheth". Also, beautiful Christmas Eve music was presented by the Primary, WOW, Senior WaYouth and College Choirs at the Family Carol Service. The Chancel Choir and Sanctuary Bells provided a wonderful program of Christmas music at the late service. A special thanks to instrumentalists and soloists: Ron May, Tim Lasher, Devin Johns, Amy Hamilton, Michelle Loesel and Hannah Haas.

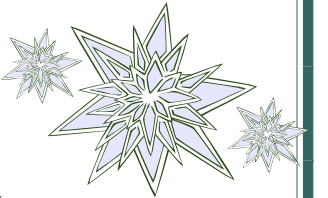
## ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR JANUARY 20th

The annual Meetings of the Congregation and Corporation will be held at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, January 20th in Fellowship Hall. The Annual Report will be reviewed, the pastors' compensation will be voted upon, and any other business rightly presented will be conducted. Copies of the Annual Report should be ready for distribution on January 13th.

## CONFIRMATION/COMMISSIONING CLASS TO BEGIN

The 2008 Confirmation/Commissioning Class will begin at the end of January. Following the 11:00 a.m. service on the 27th, all youth 9th grade and above who haven't already completed the program are invited to meet with Rev. Haas and Rev. Sundberg in the Parlor. At least one parent of each youth is required to join us for this session only. We will meet briefly to outline the course and try to identify the best weekly meeting time. If you have any questions please call the Church Office.

# JANUARY 2008



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 4:00 p.m. WOW 5:30 p.m. Primary Choir 6:00 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Middler WaYouth 6:45 p.m. Adult Study 7:00 p.m. Deacons Orientation 7:30 p.m. Deacon's Meeting 7:30 p.m. CDN	3 7:15 P.M. Chancel Choir	4	5
6 8:30 a.m. Early Celebration of Worship 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Celebration of Worship 12:00 Fellowship 5:00 p.m. Bell Choir 5 - 6:30 p.m. Senior Highs at Sundbergs' home	7 Annual Reports Due to church office 7:00 p.m. MEDS	8 Noon - Martha Circle	9 4:00 p.m. WOW 5:30 p.m. Primary Choir 6:00 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Middler WaYouth 6:45 p.m. Adult Study 7:30 p.m. Session	10 7:15 P.M. Chancel Choir 7:30 P.M. Prayer Shawl Ministry	11	12 Second Saturday Work Project - Kid's Cafe 12:30 p.m. Lunch Bunch
13 8:30 a.m. Early Celebration of Worship 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Celebration of Worship 12:00 Fellowship 5:00 p.m. Bell Choir	14 Noon - Trustees 7:00 p.m. MEDS 7:30 p.m. Outreach	15	16 4:00 p.m. WOW 5:30 p.m. Primary Choir 6:00 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Middler WaYouth 6:45 p.m. Adult Study	17 7:15 P.M. Chancel Choir	18	19 Officer's Retreat
20 8:30 a.m. Early Celebration of Worship 9:15 ANNUAL MEETING 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Celebration of Worship 12:00 Fellowship 5:00 p.m. Bell Choir	21 FEBRUARY Newsletter Deadline 7:00 p.m. MEDS	22 WaYouth Retreat & Ski Trip	23 Noon - Naomi Circle 4:00 p.m. WOW 5:30 p.m. Primary Choir 6:00 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Middler WaYouth 6:45 p.m. Adult Study 7:30 p.m. W,M, & FA	24 Noon - Elizabeth Circle 7:15 P.M. Chancel Choir	25	26
27 8:30 a.m. Early Celebration of Worship 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Celebration of Worship 12:00 Fellowship 5:00 p.m. Bell Choir	28 7:00 p.m. MEDS	29	30 4:00 p.m. WOW 5:30 p.m. Primary Choir 6:00 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Middler WaYouth 6:45 p.m. Adult Study	31 7:15 P.M. Chancel Choir		

WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## WOW KIDS CLUB

- January 2 Game Day
- January 9 Sledding
- January 16 Good Grief!
- January 23 Funeral Home Visit
- January 30 Lenten Centerpieces for the Church



## MIDLERS GET TOGETHER

Our first meeting of the New Year will be on Wednesday, January 9 from 6:30 to 7:30 at the church. We will be playing some games and doing some creative planning. We will go over details of the upcoming ski retreat, the fast, and the New York Mission Trip.

## SENIOR HIGH GET TOGETHER

We will meet Sunday evening, January 6, at the Sundberg home from 5:00 to 6:30 to plan the projects and programs for the second half of the year. Dinner will be served. Bring ideas for speakers, retreats, educational trips, and fun activities.

## WaYouth RETREAT/SKI TRIP

- For: Middlers and Senior Highs
- When: Sunday and Monday, January 20-21
- Where: Overnight at Mission Meadows Camp and Ski Trip at the Peak
- How Much:
  - Overnight at camp, dinner and breakfast \$40
  - Lunch on Monday is not included, bring \$10
- Skiing Costs:
  - Beginners Package; skier or snowboarder: \$48
  - Lift Tickets for 8 hours: \$46 (\$34 if age 11)
  - Ski Rentals: \$23 (\$18 if age 11)
- Applications are at the Information Table or by request through the church office.
- Scholarships are available. Everyone can go!

## ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

### Adult Bible Study

Reading and studying the lectionary lessons each week increases class members insight into the worship at Wayside each week. Join Don Worthington in this meaningful study.

### Family, Faith and Fellowship Calendar

The FFF meets in the new classroom adjacent to the Prayer Room. This group shares joys and concerns each week and engages in conversation relating to family life and faith in today's world.

### Issues of Faith Calendar

- January 6 Business and Faith: Kurt Duska
- January 13 Business and Faith: Dr. Jim Dunn
- January 20 Annual Meeting of the Congregation

No adult classes will meet today

January 27 Business and Faith: Keith McGarvey

### MEDS

Monday Evening Discussions will begin on January 7<sup>th</sup> and continue the discussions of Bruce Feiler's book, Where God was Born. Rev. Tom McLaren leads this engaging program from 7:00 to 8:30 in the parlor.

### WOW for ADULTS

Wednesday discussions will start up again on January 2 following dinner. Rev. Jim Haas will start a new series in the New Year.

### Wayside Presbyterian Church Email Devotional Ministry

If you would like to receive the listings of lectionary lessons and reflections each week, please sign up in the church office or send your email address to [wpc@wayside-erie.org](mailto:wpc@wayside-erie.org) or [Karen@wayside-erie.org](mailto:Karen@wayside-erie.org).



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REFLECTIONS

Dear Friends,

Sunday School for adults is a hard sell. It conjures boring memories of childhood and experiences of some teachers jamming pabulum down our throats. At Wayside we don't allow Sunday school for children or adults to be either. Subjects are, by design, engaging and opinions are always diverse.

A healthy Presbyterian church relies on a well educated adult population. We don't have bishops to give us answers from on high. Our insight to applying our faith to our culture comes from discussion among members. We rely on the Holy Spirit working in each of us to understand how our faith needs to be reinterpreted for this day and age. The pastors' sermons and prayers alone are not intended to be our only reflections or academic pursuits.

Even if individuals' faith education is supplemented with reading outside of worship, there is a void in experiencing the dialogue generated by our diverse backgrounds. All of us are created in the image of God and thus each of us reflects our particular gift of insight into the Almighty. Not that we define God or even have a corner on such descriptions but we are all used by God to communicate wisdom. In the New Year, I urge you to venture into a Sunday School class again or for the first time. The CE Committee and class leaders have planned some fascinating speakers and subjects. But what waits for you cannot be planned by humans for the Spirit moves among us as It wills.

Peace, Keith

## PRESBYTERIAN HOMES/CRUISE

A Canada/New England Fundraising Cruise  
October 9 - 18, 2008

Nine nights on RCCL's Explorer of the Seas  
Visits to Quebec and Nova Scotia

Reservations: Jan at Carlson Wagonlit Travel 838-7669 or  
Diana Ziemniak at Caring for Life 868-1258

## MANY THANKS

Thanks to everyone who bought Christmas gifts for the women and children at the House of Healing and Community Shelter Services. Your continued support of the Deacons' Angel Tree project was truly appreciated by both agencies. Sister Stephanie from the House of Healing wrote: "As always, we are very grateful for your generosity. We have come to depend on Wayside as our Christmas Angel". Thank you for your kindness to those in need. May the peace of the Christmas Angel be with you throughout the coming year.

Melissa Buseck

## GREATER GIFT SALE



Thanks to all who participated in the Greater Gift catalogue sale. Presbyterian Women's profits were approximately \$170, which goes to various PW mission projects. Special thanks to Karen Dunn and Brenda Harcourt who assisted Holly Skala with the sale.

## OFFICERS' RETREAT

Just a reminder that the annual Officers' Retreat will be held on January 19, beginning at 9:00 a.m. All currently-serving officers as well as those who just concluded terms are invited and encouraged to participate.

Watch the weekly bulletin for further details.

## SINGERS

New singers are welcome in all of our choirs following the Christmas Season as well as new bell choir members. The Thursday evening Chancel rehearses each Thursday at 7:15p.m. Babysitting services are provided during rehearsal time.

The Sanctuary Bell Choir meet for rehearsal each Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

## FAMILY NEWS



### Birthdays:

1st - Paige Peasley, Ashley Weber  
 2nd - Jay Jenkins, Michael Paris, Barry Stamm  
 4th - Joseph Turner, Spencer Wallwork  
 5th - Natalie Teubner  
 7th - Denise Borowski, Lorah Momeyer, Brian Sundberg  
 8th - Shirley Diller  
 9th - Richard Moore  
 10th - Marjorie Masse, Greg Minnick, Michele Reed, Marty Roth  
 11th - Elana Dolan  
 13th - Dale Cage, Rob Harcourt  
 16th - Karen Carpenedo  
 18th - Erin Wolford  
 19th - Halle Murabito

20th - Trevor Grode, Suanna Mitchell  
 21st - Greg Miller  
 23rd - Maia Edwards-Borowicz  
 25th - Jack Bestwick, Kevin May  
 26th - Tom Fye  
 27th - Bobby Knarr, Debbie Smith  
 29th - Jillian Englert  
 30th - Jackie Cross, Samantha Momeyer  
 31st - Devin Johns, Sam Knarr, Sheena Rice

### Anniversaries:

David & Jill Abbott 1/2  
 Ed & Jan McEllroy 1/9  
 Andy & Molly Allen 1/22  
 Jim & Edythe Endean 1/29

### Deaths:

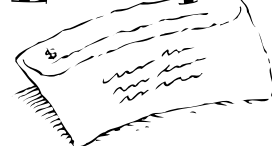
Rev. Conrad Steinbrenner  
 December 21, 2007



## OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please make a practice of using your offering envelopes when contributing to the church. It is helpful for the office staff as they enter data into the computer and keep track of giving.

## Offering Envelopes



## TIME FOR SOUP AGAIN!

Soup will be made by the Deacons on Sunday, January 20 for the Emmaus Soup Kitchen.

Check the list below, and bring the needed items to the church kitchen between 9:30 and 11:00 am.

Adults & Senior High - uncooked meat (if frozen there is no need to thaw it), beef stock

Nursery & preschool - corn; K-1 - corn, carrots (cleaned and sliced) 2-3 - beans, canned tomatoes; 4-5 - chopped onion, celery, peppers, canned tomatoes; 6-8 - tomato juice, potatoes, cleaned & sliced carrots

## LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS RECOGNIZED AND THANKED

In early December we were blessed to have representatives of a number of community programs present with us for worship. During the late service on the 10<sup>th</sup> financial gifts of support were given to each agency from our mission budget. These programs were among those considered by the Outreach Committee before a recommendation was made to the Session for final approval.

Recognized and thanked during worship that day were representatives from St. Paul's Neighborhood Free Clinic, the House of Healing, Case Management, Transitional Living Center, Presbyterian Homes, Erie Homes for Children and Adults, Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity, the Kid's Café, Second Harvest, Habitat for Humanity, Inter-Church Ministries, and Community Shelter Services.

## LUNCH BUNCH IN JANUARY

This month the Lunch Bunch will meet at the Bel Aire at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 12, 2008.

To make reservations please call Peggy Bules 836-0096 or Annette Rothschild, 836-0835.

## WORSHIP IN JANUARY

Our worship in the first month begins just where it should – as we gather to celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. That same day we will ordain, install, and recognize our new church officers.

January 6<sup>th</sup> Celebration of Holy Communion and Service of Ordination & Installation

Text – Isaiah 60:1-7; Matthew 2:1-12

Title – “Nine Miles South”

Our culture encourages us to appreciate the glitz and the glitter, the bright lights and the loud music. By that standard we should all be moving to New York or LA or some place similar to seek our fame and fortune. But as we all know, good things sometimes come in surprising packages. That is true for our faith as well.

January 13<sup>th</sup>

Text – Isaiah 42:1-9; Matthew 3:13-17

Title – “Mishpat and Other Good Stuff”

The voice from heaven that speaks at Jesus' baptism echoes the voice spoken in Isaiah 42. These are words that proclaim the mission of God's beloved servant to restore justice. The faithful servant will bring God's hope and healing to the world. It is the same calling that faithful Christians share today.

January 20<sup>th</sup>

Text John 1:29-42

Title: “Hello Self, This is Jesus”

Jesus asks the first disciples “What do you seek?” The passage in John cleverly sets up an illustration that Jesus is the one who John the Baptist was seeking. And then it raises the question: “Is He the one the disciples were seeking?” and more directly, “Is He the one I am seeking?”

January 27<sup>th</sup>

Text – Matthew 4:12-23

Title – “A Kind of Fish Story”

Early in Matthew's gospel the author marks the time that Jesus begins to preach and gather disciples. The arrest of John the Baptizer is a pivotal moment. Upon hearing this news Jesus withdraws to Galilee, settling in Capernaum, from where he begins to teach and preach. The call to change directions and journey with God becomes his message, starting with a bunch of fishermen.

