

"GLAD TIDINGS"

WYSOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JULY 2015

Blessed to be a blessing

God promised Abram, "I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you . . . so that you will be a blessing" (Genesis 12:2, NSRV) Especially on the Fourth of July, we in the United States remember that God has blessed us as a nation, too.

That isn't to say everyone here has an equal share of resources. Our Government isn't perfect, and our land isn't necessarily more beautiful than any other place on earth. It doesn't mean we alone model "liberty and justice for all" -or that we do so flawlessly.

Rather, God's promise to Abram and us means we aren't to hoard our blessings. We are to share our wealth generously, cultivate liberty, and justice, and pass on to the world the gifts we enjoy in this land.

Fun Discipleship

We often imagine Jesus straight-faced because he came to do such serious work. Yet he also enjoyed fun times. One was the wedding celebration at Cana, which had wine in abundance. When it ran out, Jesus miraculously produced more (see John 2:1-11).

Jesus also welcomed children (see Mathew 19:13-15). Picture Jesus lifting an infant into the air or tickling a giggling youngster while another child, grinning, climbs on his back.

Because summer allows more time for fun and play, use it to teach the kids in your life - and to remind yourself - that Jesus came in love so our "joy may be complete" (John 15:11). Laughing, playing, having fun, relaxing and enjoying life are all part of living as faithful disciples.



Some Dates to Remember . . .



July 3rd – Veterans Dinner at the First Presbyterian Church, 4–6 pm. Veterans who plan on attending are asked to pick up a free ticket at one of the local merchants, Ben Franklin Crafts, Community Cup, T-Town Bakery or the Keystone Theatre. A donation for anyone accompanying a veteran will be appreciated.



July 4th – Independence Day



July 5th – Communion

July 12–15 – Community Vacation Bible School at the St. Agnes School from 6–8 pm. The following supplies are needed: yarn, fine tip markers, tissue paper (various colors), tape, glue, and ribbon. Also needed are some tents and artificial Christmas trees to ensure the camp theme looks authentic. A work bee is scheduled for Saturday, July 11th at 10 am at the St. Agnes School for anyone that would like to come and set up their tents. For more information, please contact Rick Schmiege at (607) 398-4577 or rschmiegr@comcast.net.



No Session Meeting in July

The Elders for July are Deb King and Loretta Stevens

Pastor Jira will be on vacation from July 15–30.

Mission . . .

Happy Summer to All,

I would like to thank all of you that have donated can goods for Grace Connections, many cans have been collected. Grace Connection is still in need of sleeping bags. If you have any old ones lying around, please consider donating them. Ladies if you are out to yard sales and see sleeping bags consider buying them and donating them.

Christmas in July: We will begin filling boxes for Operation Christmas Child. There will be boxes in the rear vestibule ready for you to take and fill with little items that you might see while out shopping this summer.

While most of us recycle these days, do you wonder what to do with the lids of cans and bottles? While helping the ladies I learned that 4-H collects screw off lids. So instead of tossing them in the trash there will be a container in the rear vestibule that you can toss them in when coming for worship. They have to be screw off and can be metal or plastic. Lets help save our Mother Earth for our next generation.

Blessings to all



Prayer Circle . . .

CHURCH CHAT . . .

Our thanks to Phyllis Mulcahy for planting petunias in the planter on the memorial wall at the back of the church. Phyllis was seen being sure they were kept moist; however due to the recent rainfall she will have a break from watering. Great job! They look lovely!!

PRAYER CIRCLE BANQUET . . .

We had a delightful banquet on Wednesday June 17th at the Towanda Gun Club. We were joined by many of our friends and neighbors.

Martha Vincent served as mistress of ceremonies and Rev. Jira Albers gave the invocation. After a scrumptious dinner we were entertained by Sara Romanik, who played her keyboard and sang several of our favorite songs. Many were tapping their toes, and singing along.

Betty Conner gave a reading about a boy and a puppy. Cheryl Rowlands entertained us with a review of the Bible and important people in the Bible through the eyes of a child.

Nannette Light read the list of our departed members, which was lengthy. Sara then sang a lovely hymn. Pastor Jira had a meaningful prayer for all our departed friends. Marion Lent, who was the oldest in attendance, was presented with a plant. Marion reminded us of the many we have lost through the years, and advised the group that the Prayer Circle is still going strong; however with only 3 members. The flowers which adorned the tables were presented to the winning ladies. A special hanging basket was presented to Wilmer and Phyllis Gilpin. We were so glad they were able to attend after some health concerns.

We were pleased that the ladies of the Monroeton Methodist Church were able to attend. In past years they attended as Red Hatters; however this group has not reorganized for the summer season as yet. Thank you Monroeton ladies, we appreciated your attendance. We were also happy to have our Church Secretary, Julie Jennings join us. Our youngest person in attendance was, Ember Albers, with her Mom, Randeale, the Pastor's wife and daughter. What a joy to have you here!! We always enjoy seeing you.

Pastor Jira dismissed us with prayer.

Another year has passed by, hopefully we will meet again next June.



Prayer Circle . . .

Prayer Circle Listing

ANGEL LIST

Mackayla Evans
Mason Barto
Ashley Weed
Abbriella Brown
Marisa Ivey
Shawn Mastrantonio
Betty Miller
Andrew Pardoe
Deb Mathers
Caiden Irvine
Lee Light
Jan Stoddard

CURRENT LIST

Tom Jennings
Carol Wright
Gladys Derr
Wilbur Beers
Linda Simko
Jerry Smith
Richard Hollenback
Our Nation
Richard Schmieg
Bob Soper
Tom Johnson
John Essep
Angelina Miele
Danny Schmeckenbecher
Betty Cook
Ben Kopetan
Frank Lindsey
Jan Allen
Tiffany Walters
Wilmer Gilpin
Mark King
Dorothy Murry
Kenneth Williams
Gary O'Conner
*Robert Kunkle Family
*Kathy Zdon
*Jim Ennis
*Leonice Jones
*Arlene Browning Family

*Please keep those listed above in your thoughts and prayers
and also remember our loved ones in the Personal Care Homes
and all service personnel.*

Sewing Society . . .

We had a wonderful crowd for our Tuesday Dinner, even though it was a stormy day. We had many compliments.

Many thanks to all who donated dishes and pies and to all who worked. We couldn't do it without all the help we receive.

Our deepest sympathy to Walt and Midge Brown and to Tim Brown on the loss of Otto. He was a special boy.

We wish Wilmer Gilpin a speedy recovery and to tell you we miss you.

Thanks to Phyllis Mulcahy for planting the flowers in the memorial garden. Great job and it looks so nice.

Hope to see you in July when we will be serving Roast Beef.

*You are not loved by God because you are valuable,
You are valuable because you are loved by God*



WYSOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SESSION MEETING

JUNE 8, 2015

The regular meeting of the Session of the Wysox Presbyterian Church was called to order by Pastor Jira Albers on June 8, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Wysox Presbyterian Church.

Opening devotions and prayer led by Michelle Irvine

Elders Present: Mary Bruce, Vaughn Hollenback, Deborah King, Ronald Irvine, Michelle Irvine, Dody Savercool and Shelly VanDerMark

Elders Excused: Lori Blascak, David Blascak, Wilmer Gilpin, Loretta Stevens and Kim Barnes.

Elders Absent: None.

Guests Present: None

ORDER OF THE DAY:

The Docket for the meeting was approved on a motion by Elder R. Irvine and seconded by Elder M. Irvine.

On a motion by Elder M Irvine and second by Elder Hollenback the minutes of the Session Meeting on 5/11/15 were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

No income correspondence to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Music & Worship: Elder Savercool reported:
 - Martha Kress will be singing next week.
 - Dave Rowlands will be filling in for Pastor Jira when he is on vacation in July.
 - The group Redeemer's will be in attendance on July 19 services.
2. Membership & Evangelism: Elder Bruce reported for Elder Stevens:
 - Members list being reviewed by Julie.
3. Christian Education: Elder King reported:
 - Children's Sunday School is closed for the summer.
 - Children's Sunday School in the fall will be consolidated into 1 group.
4. Mission: Elder M. Irvine:
 - Donations are being accepted for sleeping bags and pop top cans for the homeless in our area.
 - Discussion about helping with the Vet Picnic on July 3rd in Towanda.
 - Christmas in July for a mission.
5. Memorial: Elder Bruce:
 - Memorial for Warren DeWitt discussed.
6. Property: Elder R. Irvine reported:
 - Discussion of the floor replacement with bids read for the Ferguson Hall.
 - Discussion of the fire extinguisher inspections, the ServeSafe food permit and child clearances for Bible study teachers.
7. Personnel: Elder Ron Irvine:
 - Julie requesting additional work.
8. Finance & Investments: Elder Lori Blascak - none
9. Recognition: Elder Mary Bruce - none

SPECIAL REPORTS

1. Treasurer's Report: Presented and reviewed the report submitted by Lora Schmieg
 - The monthly financial report was accepted on a motion by Elder Hollenback, seconded by Elder R. Irvine.
2. Pastor's Report: Pastor Albers shared his report of activities for the past month. Also made note that he will be on vacation in July and possibly August.
3. Lackawanna Presbytery: none

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Continue discussion regarding PCUSA and other options.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. None

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.
Closing Prayer lead by Pastor Jira Albers

Next Session Meeting: August 11, 2015 @ 7:00pm

Respectfully recorded and submitted:

Shelly VanDerMark on behalf of Kim Barnes, Clerk of Session

FAITH
is like Wi-Fi,
it's invisible but
it has the power
to connect you to
what you need.