

“Glad Tidings”

NOVEMBER 2013

Church Calendar for the Month of November 2013

November 3rd - All Saints Sunday

What is All Saint's Day?

In early Christian tradition, saints' days began as a way to mark the anniversary of a martyr's death – his or her “birthday” as a saint. By the middle of the church's first millennium, there were so many martyrs (particularly due to the persecution of Diocletian) that it was hard to give them all their due. All Saints' Day was established as an opportunity to honor all the saints, known and unknown.



For All the Saints

All Saints' Day has a rather different focus in the Reformed tradition. While we may give thanks for the lives of particular luminaries of ages past, the emphasis is on the ongoing sanctification of the *whole* people of God. Rather than putting saints on pedestals as holy people set apart in glory, we give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of the believers in this and every age. This is an appropriate time to give thanks to members of the community of faith who have died in the past year. We also pray that we may be counted among the company of the faithful in God's eternal realm.

All Saints' Day has been celebrated on November 1 since the year 835. Previously it had been connected with the Easter season as a feast of all martyrs.

On All Saint's Sunday/Memorial Sunday we will honor and remember those among us who have passed.

November 10th - Consecration Sunday

Stewardship Dinner and Program. The catered dinner will be after services in Ferguson Hall. Reservations for the dinner are required. Please contact the church office (570) 265-6199 for further inquires.



Thanksgiving Service

November 27th - Thanksgiving Eve Service

This years Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held at 6:00 pm in Ferguson Hall. Everyone is invited to attend this special service which includes a simple dinner of soup and sandwiches followed by a short service led by Pastor Jira.

November 3rd - Daylight Savings Time Change - remember to put your clocks "BACK" on Saturday evening.

Committee Highlights and Upcoming Activities...

Mission Committee

The Peacemaking Offering has been collected and distributed. Operation Christmas Child has begun. If you have not gotten your box yet, please take one from the front or rear vestibule. The filled boxes must be back to the church by November 17th with \$7.00 to cover the cost of shipping. If you have any questions about what can and cannot be included in the boxes, please refer to the website www.operationchristianchild.com or you may contact the church office.



We will again this year be filling the shopping cart with Thanksgiving donations. Please consider picking up a few extra grocery items during the month of November to fill the cart. All food items will be donated to Taco.

For the Christmas season we will be sponsoring a family from Grace Connection. Watch for the trees with the cards which will be placed in the front and rear vestibules.

Christian Education

Sunday School is up and running. The high school class is being led by Deb King. Destiny Barto is covering the children's class with Barb King as her aide. Destiny is doing a fantastic job and Barb does yummy snacks. So if you have been thinking about bringing your little one, now is the time. There are bible lessons, praise music and a snack. Come join the fun.

The Adult Sunday School is enjoying the fellowship and study of James McDonald "Developing the Disciplines of a Sincere Faith." The class meets at 9:45 am and all are welcome to join this lively group.

HOT HOT HOT

Are those ladies hot ??? Yes those ladies are hot. !!! The campaign for collecting funds for the new downstairs air conditioners have begun. Christian Ed has graciously started the campaign by donating \$1,000.00. Please consider how you can help make this campaign a success. Donations can be placed in the collection plate or dropped off at the church office. You should soon see a thermometer displayed to show and track the progression of the campaign.



Choir

Choir continues to work on fall music as well as preparing for the Christmas Cantata which will be a combined program with the Lutheran Church. There is always room for more and we would love to have you join us. Also a special thank you to the soloists who round out our music program which is a special part of our worship service.

On Sunday, October 27th, we celebrated our 50 plus year members. Members that attended the ceremony were (front row, left to right) Delores Barto, Marion Lent, Dorothy Schmieg and James Schmieg. (Back row, left to right) Betty Cook, Barb King, Andrew Springer, Jan Allen and Margaret Gordon.



Pastor Jira helped lead the singing at a retreat for the Towanda Area Clergy held at the Spiritual Life Center in Standing Stone.



Sewing Society

It was a beautiful fall day for our Tuesday dinner and we served 109 patrons. Lots of compliments...

Thanks to all who brought in food and who helped serve. We couldn't do it without you.

We are having a good response to our call for donations for our air conditioning/heater project. We appreciate it as it will be a big asset this coming season. Thanks to all!

Hope to see you in November when we will be serving baked ham.

The heart sings a song of joy when it is in tune with its creator.

Least Coin

Keep that change coming!! We sent a check for \$100.47 for our collection from 10-01-12 to 09-30-13. Last year it was \$87.71 and the year before that it was \$86.55. Keep up the giving!!! God Bless!

Thank You!

Disciples of Wysox Presbyterian.

I would like to thank you, the congregation, for your love and shared ministry throughout the past year. I would also like to thank everyone for your celebrations of Pastor Appreciation Month, for the gift of the tickets from session, for the gift card from the Prayer Circle and Sewing Society, for the pie, cake, and cards from the congregation, and for the love of everyone in general. Wysox Presbyterian Church is a special place and I am so thankful to be doing Christ ministry with you.

Thank You!

Pastor Jira Albers



DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME ENDS

Please note that daylight saving time ends this weekend. Don't forget to set your clocks back before you go to bed on Saturday, November 2nd.

Session Minutes

WYSOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION MEETING SEPTEMBER 9, 2013

The regular meeting of the Session of the Wysox Presbyterian Church was called to order by Pastor Jira Albers on September 9, 2013 at 7:00 pm at the Wysox Presbyterian Church.

Opening devotions and prayer led by Elder Dody Savercool

Elders Present: Lori Blascak, Mary Bruce, Betty Conner, Michelle Irvine, Ron Irvine Jr., Dody Savercool and Loretta Stevens

Elders Excused: Kim Barnes, Deborah King

Elders Absent: Dave Blascak, Julie Palmer

Guests Present: None

ORDER OF THE DAY:

1. The Docket for the meeting was approved on a motion by Elder M. Irvine and seconded by Elder R. Irvine Jr.
2. On a motion by Elder Savercool and second by Elder Bruce the minutes of the Session Meeting on 8/12/13 were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Letter of engagement with Stephen A. Webster, CPA
- Historical information related to Wysox Presbyterian Church
- Gideons annual pastor recognition

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Music & Worship: Elder Savercool reported:
 - a. Oct. 6 All Presbyterian Day at Camp Lackawanna - worship to be held Sat. evening
 - b. Elders for the month of October will be Michelle Irvine and Ron Irvine Jr.
 - c. Vacation for Pastor Jira Albers on October 6 was approved on a motion by Ron Irvine Jr. and seconded by Michelle Irvine. Communion will be held Oct. 13

- d. 10/27/13 Membership Recognition Sunday with a dinner following
 - e. 11/3/13 Membership Sunday and All Saints Day
 - f. 11/10/13 Consecration Sunday with catered dinner
 - g. Choir is in full swing
 - h. Work continues on the Cantata
2. Membership & Evangelism: Elder Stevens reported:
 - a. Final work is being done on the membership plaque
 - b. A card was presented and congratulations were extended to Pastor Jira at the celebration held for the 10th year anniversary of his ordination
3. Christian Education: Elder M. Irvine reported:
 - a. Leadership is still needed for the children’s Sunday School
 - b. Adult Sunday School is in session
4. Mission: No report
5. Memorial: Elder Bruce reported:
 - a. A gift will be given for Rodney Montgomery’s memorial
6. Property: Elder R. Irvine reported:
 - a. Work continues on the water hook-up issues
 - b. Ron will address the bad step in the back stairwell
7. Personnel: Elder R. Irvine:
 - a. Nothing to report

8. Finance & Investments: Elder L. Blascak reported:
 - a. Presented and reviewed the report prepared by committee member Frank Hoffman
 - b. The Finance Committee inquired about any major changes in the budget before their meeting with the broker – no major changes were noted.
9. Recognition: Elder Bruce reported:
 - a. Nothing to report

SPECIAL REPORTS:

1. Treasurer’s Report: Presented and reviewed the report submitted by Lora Schmieg
 - a. The monthly financial report was accepted on a motion by Elder Bruce and seconded by Elder Savercool.
 - b. It was approved on a motion by Elder R. Irvine and second by Elder Conner to move forward with consolidation of bank accounts.
2. Pastor’s Report: Pastor Jira shared his report of activities for the past month.
3. Lackawanna Presbytery: No report

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The membership plaque is being finalized.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. CPA Steve Webster’s recommendations and draft of employee timesheet were reviewed and approved.
2. On a motion by Elder Bruce and second by Elder Savercool approval was granted for Area Agency on Aging to use the Social Hall on 11/12/13 in the pm and all day on 11/13/13.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm on a motion by Elder M. Irvine and second by Elder Savercool.

Closing prayer was led by Pastor Jira Albers.

Next Session Meeting: October 14, 2013 @ 7:00 pm

Respectfully recorded by Elder L. Blascak

Prayer Circle

We are in Genesis, and have finished with Noah, and the flood. It is fascinating! We are learning so many things we never knew before. Pastor Jira is so well informed, and very patient with our thoughts, and many questions. He is great!!

We will soon be saying farewell to Pam Williams and we wish her a safe trip and a healthy winter in the sunny south.

We are very few in number; however we continue our very important ministry. We have sent many cards and have received some very serious replies. Please plan to join us. We meet every Wednesday morning at 9:30 in the conference room. We have Bible study, prayer and signing of the many cards we send. We hope you'll join us.

**The following were remembered on our Prayer List
September 11th thru October 23rd
Prayer Circle Listing**

Angel List

Makayla Evans
Mason Barto
Ashley Weed
Marisa Ivey
Betty Miller
Nancy Irvine
Andrew Pardoe
Deb Mathers
Shawn Mastrantonio
Abbriella Brown
Caiden Irvine
Carolyn Russell

Current List

Whitney Rockwell	Bill Bub Anderson
Hunter Shaw	Marty Coates
Danny Schmeckenbecher	Carol Clark
Thomas Schmeckenbecher	Jim Christini
Marion Lent	Sally Groff
Robert Allen	Rev. Dwight Albers
Otto Brown	People of Syria
Gladys Derr	Virginia Anderson
Colleen Close	Richard Hollenback
Elsie Zurn	Barb Bailey
Bart Young	Diane Place
Mike Randall	Dody Savercool
Our Nation	Bob Soper
Donna Ayers Family	Gladys Groover Family
Frank Browning Family	Tom Jennings
Doug Clapper Family	Shirley-John-Warren Strohl