

October 2013



WYSOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Glad Tidings”

The New Consecration “Giving” Program

A mark of Christian maturity can be found in a person’s willingness to selflessly give of themselves, their time, and their money. Let me be clear that giving is not a commandment that needs to be followed in order to be a “good Christian.” We are saved by grace. However, giving is a sign of Christ’s activity within a person’s life. In a way, we desire to give because Christ gave his life for us. Giving is a desire within the Christian, not a requirement of the Christian.

The New Consecration Sunday giving program is different from other stewardship programs in that it does not focus on the church’s need for more money (the church will always work with the gifts it has been blessed with by God), rather, it focuses on the need of the giver to give. Christ has sparked in you a desire to give and the New Consecration Sunday giving program helps you to develop that gift from God.

Sunday, November 10th 2013 following worship will be our New Consecration Sunday celebration meal. This is a catered meal and you can expect to be contacted about meal reservations. During worship that day you will be challenged to write down your weekly “giving intent” to Christ’s ministry here in Wysox, PA. If you have strong negative feelings regarding filling out a “Giving Intent” card, please come to worship and the meal anyway. The cards will be done in such a way as to not draw attention to any particular individual. This is, after-all, a decision that is between you and God. You will receive your Celebration Meal Reservation Card in the coming weeks. Mark your calendars now.

The Question Box

(Questions About Our Christian Life)

“Should we even talk about money in church?”

Though we have been trained by the culture not to talk about money and politics in church, to fail to do so would be to teach our children that God has nothing to say about these subjects. But, Jesus has a lot to say about money and how his disciples handle it. Theologian David Lose has a thought on this for your consideration: *“Most of us have been trained since childhood to believe that money is personal, private, no one else’s business, and that it’s something polite people don’t talk about. Which of course makes talking about money at church very, very hard. At the same time, one of the things many of us report needing help with is precisely thinking about money from the perspective of faith – how much is enough, how much should we share, how do we teach our children, grandchildren, and the emerging generation Christian values about handling money?... ..I know this is hard stuff to talk about. We tend to derive so much of our identity – too much of our identity! – from the money we have and spend. But if we keep silent, we pretty much reinforce the idea that our faith really doesn’t have anything to say to the economic realities and challenges that we all face and can give us no guidance when we think about making, sharing, spending, and using money. Do we really want the coming generation to grow up in a church like that?”* Money should be a part of the faith conversation. – Pastor Jira

Sewing Society

We had a great group of patrons for our Tuesday dinner. Lots of fun and fellowship.

Many thanks to all who provided food and worked. We could not do our many projects without your help. Our big project is to install air conditioning/heating units in Ferguson Hall for the comfort of the public.

We enjoyed our August picnic. It was held at the Towanda Gun Club and was catered by them. Good job David and Chrissy.

Hope you are able to join us in October when we will be serving roast beef.

*If God love you enough to give his son for you,
you can believe he loves you enough to meet your needs.*

A Tribute to Rodney...by The Prayer Circle

The NE corner of our church will not be quite the same. There is going to be a large void that cannot be filled. Our beloved Rodney Montgomery, who with his devoted wife, Margaret, were always sitting in that corner of our church every Sunday. Now Margaret is sitting alone.

Rodney had a wonderful life, and anxiously looked forward to celebrating his 90th birthday. He was a faithful past Elder, and former Superintendent of our Sunday School. He was also active in the Masons, and Odd Fellows organizations until his eyesight failed.

They had both of their mothers living with them for several years, and lovingly cared for them.

The past few months Rodney had been coming into the church by the front door, as he no longer would come up the back steps, and since he was "too young" to ride the chair lift, he found coming in the front easier. Rodney was always the same, and cheerfully greeted everyone every Sunday.

He was so proud of his 2 daughters, Amy, and Lora, and son-in-law Rick, but he nearly burst his buttons over his 3 grandsons, and no one could blame him. They are wonderful boys!

Rodney loved his Lord, his wife, his family, and his historic "old brick church", his community, and his church family.

Rodney, we are thankful to have been a part of your life, and we will cherish our fond memories of you. May you rest in peace, and we shall meet again some day. God Bless!

Peacemaking Offering

As we enter the season of peace, in the midst of challenge and violence, we're called to help by giving hope, locally and abroad through our Peacemaking Offering. Your contributions will be used to help transform cultures of violence into communities of peace. Please consider giving to this cause to help create hope in others. A Peacemaking envelope has been enclosed for your convenience. Contributions can be dropped of in Sunday collection or mailed to the church.

Prayer Circle

Our Prayer Circle is studying the book of Genesis. Wow!! It is so interesting and Pastor Jira is such a great educator, you will be sorry you missed it. We meet every Wednesday morning at 9:30 where we have Bible study, prayer, and sign our many cards, which we send to those needing comfort. We are saying goodbye to Judy McLinko, who is heading for the Florida sunshine. We wish her a safe trip and a healthy winter. We'll think of her when we are shoveling that white fluffy stuff!!! Please plan to join us, we would be pleased to see you.

The following were remembered on our Prayer List

August 21 thru September 11th

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
Hunter Shaw
Danny Schmeckenbecher
Thomas Schmeckenbecher
Marion Lent
Jim Allen
Walt Ellinger
Robert Allen
Otto Brown
Gladys Derr
Colleen Close
Marilyn Quiggle
Elsie Zurn
Bart Young
Mike Randall

Cindy Estelle
Bill Bub Anderson
Marty Coates
Carol Clark
Jim Christini
Sally Groff
Rev. Dwight Albers
Dorothy Benjamin
Eloise Bush
Todd McKernan Family
Rodney Montgomery Family
Gerard Corbett Family
Rexford Klineoer Family
People of Syria



October 6, 2013

Session Minutes

WYSOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION MEETING AUGUST 12, 2013

The regular meeting of the Session of the Wysox Presbyterian Church was called to order by Pastor Jira Albers on August 12, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the Wysox Presbyterian Church.

Opening devotions and prayer led by Elder Ron Irvine

Elders Present: Kim Barnes, Dave Blascak, Lori Blascak, Betty Conner, Michelle Irvine, Ronald Irvine Jr., Julie Palmer, Dody Savercool, and Loretta Stevens

Elders Excused: Mary Bruce, Deborah King

Elders Absent: None

Guests Present: None

ORDER OF THE DAY:

1. The Docket for the meeting was approved with one correction on a motion by Elder Ron Irvine and seconded by Elder Julie Palmer.
2. On a motion by Elder Lori Blascak and second by Elder Michelle Irvine the minutes of the Session Meeting on 06/10/2013 were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1 Community VBS Committee memo requesting church commitment/participation
- 2 Copy Source maintenance contract renewal agreement
- 3 St Pauly press release detailing the process used and benefit of the clothing collection shed
- 4 First Energy energy incentives application acknowledgement
- 5 NHS Human Services foster family solicitation
- 6 Various thank you cards and letters of appreciation

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Music & Worship: Elder Savercool reported:
 - a. Adult Sunday School and choir to start Sept. 8
 - b. Oct. 6 All Presbyterian Day at Camp Lackawanna
 - c. Oct. 27 Membership Sunday: presentation of membership certificates and 50 year + plaque
 - d. Stewardship Sunday set for Nov. 10; presentation on "Giving Intent" with catered dinner. Motion by Elder Ron Irvine, with a second by Elder Barnes to move forward with plans
 - e. Thanksgiving Eve service to be held
 - f. Christmas Cantata being done jointly with Trinity Lutheran choir, and performed at both churches.

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2. Membership & Evangelism: Elder Stevens reported:
 - g. Visits and outreach efforts continue
 3. Christian Education: Elder M. Irvine reported:
 - h. Leadership is needed for Sunday School this year. Without someone stepping up to fill this role, the ability to offer Sunday School classes is in doubt.
 4. Mission: Elder Palmer: Planned activities pushed back; hope to get back on schedule.
 5. Memorial: No report
 6. Property: Elder Ron Irvine reported:
 - i. Hook up to the new Wysox Township Municipal Authority water system completed.
 - j. Compressor on the air conditioner has been repaired.
 - k. Follow up on water softener system and back steps.
 - l. On a motion by Elder M. Irvine, with a second by Elder Conner, it was approved to support the fundraising efforts of Sewing Society for purchase of air conditioning units for Ferguson Hall.
 7. Personnel: Elder Ron Irvine
 - m. The cleaning position is filled and reports of a "job well done" have been made.
 8. Finance & Investments: Elder Lori Blascak:
 - n. Presented and reviewed the report prepared by committee member Frank Hoffman.
 9. Recognition: Elder Mary Bruce: No report
 10. Nominating: Elders M. Irvine, Savercool and Conner, along with members Margaret Gordon, Renee Arnold, and Mark King make up the Nominating Committee. Recruitment for new session members will get underway.

SPECIAL REPORTS

1. **Treasurer's Report:** Presented and reviewed the report submitted by Lora Schmieg
 - a. The monthly financial report was accepted, with noted correction, on a motion by Elder Palmer, seconded by Elder Stevens, and unanimously approved.
 - b. Meeting for Treasurer Schmieg and Elder Barnes to be set with Steve Webster, CPA
 - c. On a motion by Elder R Irvine, seconded by Elder Conner, it was approved to combine the general fund account with the payroll account, Lora Schmieg and Kim Barnes as signatories.
2. Pastor's Report: Pastor Albers shared his report of activities for the past month.
3. Lackawanna Presbytery: plans are underway for "All Presbyterian Day" at Camp Lackawanna on Oct. 6th.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Research by Elder Stevens continuing regarding the Membership plaque.
2. On a motion by Elder Palmer, seconded by Elder M. Irvine, the Social Hall Rental Policy was unanimously adopted. A copy is attached to these minutes and will also be published in the newsletter and available at the church office.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. None

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Closing Prayer lead by Pastor Jira Albers

Next Session Meeting: September 9, 2013 @ 7:00pm