

Tidings

January 2012

Presbyterian Church of Palatine

New Officers Serve Our Church in 2012

On Sunday, December 11, 2011 the congregation elected the following new officers:

Clerk of Session: Nancy Barkman

Elders Class of 2014: Allan Garraway, Bob Klassy, Lyn Nawrot, Lisa Taylor

Class of 2013: Howard Huneke

Youth Elder (1 year term): Josie Mitz

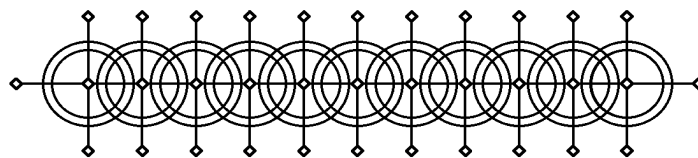
Deacons Class of 2014: Steve Berg, Joe Brand, Kevin Delzell, Lizanne Lehman, Davis Taylor

Class of 2012: Pam Brokaw, Wendy Denton

Youth Deacon (1 year term): Kara Strickland

Our church is blessed to have these people who have agreed to serve as officers of the church. On Sunday, January 8, our new officers will be ordained and/or installed during worship. In the Presbyterian Church, we believe each one of these people has been called by God, through their discernment and through the discernment of the nominating committee, to serve the church in these roles. During the installation ceremony, it is you, the congregation, who will confirm their calling and confer authority on them to serve Christ within this community of faith. Please regularly pray for them during the year and give them encouragement when you see them. We are blessed with their leadership.

We are also grateful for those elders and deacons who have completed their terms of service: Elders Steve Berg, Charles Johns, Sheila Schneider and youth elder Blake Benzo; Deacons Elaine Schmucker and Kathy Winters.



The Presbyterian Church of Palatine
800 E. Palatine Road Palatine, IL 60074
Phone (847) 358-4650
Fax (847) 358-4652

Interim Pastor, Dr. Don Dempsey
revdempsey@sbcglobal.net
Tidings Editor pcoptidings@gmail.com
Church Office prespal@sbcglobal.net
Church Website www.pcop.us

Christian Education: 8:45-9:45 AM

Worship Service: 10:00 AM

Fellowship: 11:15 AM



Happy New Year 2012

Five months ago I began my work here at PCOP as your Interim Pastor. We now begin a new year together and as we begin, Meg and I wish to thank you all for making these past five months truly meaningful for us. You have welcomed us, and as you live in this “in-between” time we feel blessed to be with you.

We just completed a very meaningful Advent season of worship, song, and praise which included the lighting of the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Our Advent season concluded with the lighting of the Christ candle on Christmas Eve and the light from all those candles leads us into this New Year!

Let us follow that light, let us be true to that light, and let us be guided by that light as we begin together this New Year.

It is an exciting time in the life of this church and let us all re-dedicate ourselves to our common mission and ministry: to celebrate God, to grow in Christ, and to extend the Spirit.

I continue to be grateful to be with you. We are all truly blessed. We were so clearly reminded of that during the Advent season, it was a time of joy: our children lighting the advent candles each Sunday, the singing of familiar hymns and carols; the music of the choir; the spirit and the excitement of presenting the live nativity, and it was culminated on Christmas Eve as we gathered for our candlelight service of holy communion. All these shared experiences lead us to sing out loud:

“Joy to the World, the Lord has come!”

All these shared experiences lead us to proclaim that:

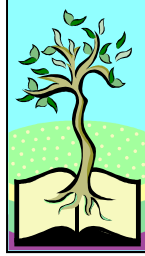
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all humankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1: 1-5)

Let us follow that light, it is the true light that enlightens us all!

Peace and love,

Dr. Don

HAPPENINGS IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Sunday School

After a two week holiday break, Sunday school classes resume again on Sunday, January 8, 2012! Our dedicated teachers and the CE Ministry team have wonderful opportunities planned for 2012. We pray that you will consider attending Sunday school as an opportunity to live out our vision statement: Celebrate God, Grow in Christ, and Extend the Spirit!

As a reminder, students meet in grade-based classrooms the first three Sundays of the month. The fourth and occasional fifth Sundays are devoted to large group, mixed grade, mission and service activities. Join us!

Adult Education, Sunday January 8 through Sunday, February 19.

On Sunday January 8 at 8:45 a new adult education class will begin as we read and discuss Marcus Borg's new book, *Speaking Christian*. Dr. Dempsey will lead the discussion and all are encouraged and invited to attend.

Between now and then please stop by the church office and pick up your copy of the book (\$15.00) so that you can begin reading this interesting and thought provoking book.

Borg urges readers to consider whether we can be Christian without sharing God's passion for transformation of ourselves and the world. His unequivocal answer is no; being Christian includes "speaking Christian." To that end, Borg offers a way to redeem Christian language by reading Scripture through a "historical-metaphorical lens." Doing so matters not only because the language of the Bible is extraordinarily rich and wise, but also because how we speak and understand Christian language can revitalize Christianity and change the world.

In *Speaking Christian*, Borg delivers a language for twenty-first-century Christians that grounds the faith in its deep and rich original roots and allows it once again to transform our lives.

Please plan to attend this lively discussion as we to seek to Celebrate God, Grow in Christ, and Extend the Spirit.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

9:30 – 11:00 AM

January 12 – February 16 (6 weeks)

Paul's letter to the Galatians



This study will cover the book of Galatians, a letter written by Paul encouraging the Christians in Galatia to return to the freedom that is found in a right relationship with Jesus. He was calling them back to a life of grace where they could choose to truly live out their faith in love.

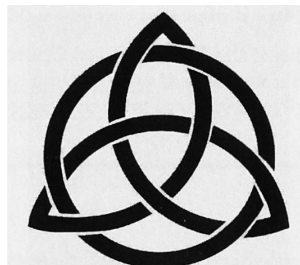
Over our six weeks together we will hear again the liberating message that we are justified not by observing the law, but by our faith in Jesus Christ. This time of study will allow us to engage with the Bible in a way that incorporates the power of a small group experience as we interact with the transformative nature and power of God's word.

Come and be a part of this six week Thursday morning Bible study; no previous Bible knowledge is necessary; all questions are good ones; just show up; bring your Bible, and be present with us. The class will be led by Dr. Dempsey.

* Child care is available; please call the church office (847-358-4650) if you anticipate needing child care.

DEACON MINISTRY

The Deacons have had another successful year of offering fellowship and assistance to Church members and extending the Spirit with community mission projects. Marge Pearson spearheaded our Thanksgiving baskets program for eight families and Kathy Winters coordinated the Adopt A Family project of providing Christmas gifts for three families. The Deacons ushered at the Nativity Church service and at the Christmas Eve service. We look forward to the January Annual Meeting and the brunch which we will be providing for our members. We hope everyone had a joyous Christmas and will have a happy new year.



NOTES FROM THE MISSION MINISTRY TEAM

We celebrate God out of gratitude for the abundance of God's gifts to us. In December, thirty Christmas stockings, filled to overflowing by young and old alike with items donated by the congregation, were delivered to the Chicago Night Ministry for distribution by the Health Outreach Bus to those desperately in need.

Over \$1500 offered by the congregation in the form of animals - chickens, bees, water buffalo, rabbits, llamas, sheep, goats, pigs - and seedlings will be given worldwide through Heifer International to extremely poor families and will transform lives. As the first offspring of these animals will be passed on to other needy families, the transformation of lives will continue with a ripple effect. What an awesome way to share the wonder of God's creation and to be a part of the co-creation of God's kingdom on earth!

It is in serving others that we serve God. We are blessed to be a congregation where so many feel called to serve in so many different ways. ***Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill to all people.***

Kathy Ekeberg, Mission Team Moderator



PW would like to thank all of the bakers for donating their talents (goodies) and those who didn't bake but donated ingredients or funds to purchase ingredients for our annual Cookie Walk. We would also like to thank those who stood in line to purchase our cookies. We hope to see you next year for more delicious home-made cookies. We raised \$1500 to be distributed to our mission projects.

Save the dates:

Women's retreat: March 23-25, 2012 at St. Mary's of the Lake in Mundelein, IL

Churchwide Gathering at Gaylord Palms, Orlando, FL, July 18-22, 2011. More information has been received and more to follow. Think about attending this wonderful event of PW Worldwide. Some scholarship money is available. Registration cost is \$440, plus room and transportation. Talk to Coleen Benzo, Lisa Taylor or Kathy Ekeberg for more information.

Our next program will be dinner and a movie. Plans are underway for a great evening of film, food, and fellowship. Watch for more details in the Weekly Bulletin!

THE GARDEN MISSION



Boy Scouts Raised Bed Garden Eagle Project Complete

Brian Kadowaki, Eagle Scout candidate, completed the planning, fundraising and work portions of his Eagle Project on Sunday November 27, 2011. Brian identified an improvement to the PCOP Garden as his project: to raise the garden beds about 8 inches and to add two additional beds. Each garden bed is about 20 feet by 5 feet in area and there are now 8 of them. By raising the beds, the garden growing season will actually be extended about 3 weeks, and adding 2 additional beds, should result in an increase of about 50% in the produce grown and supplied to the Palatine Food Pantry from the PCOP.

Mark Hamlen, the PCOP garden guru, worked closely with Brian in guiding his efforts. Over \$450 and 10 cubic yards of soil was donated to the project. On Saturday November 26, twenty volunteers showed up to begin work. Half the raised frame beds were fabricated and the two new garden plots located and turned over. Work continued for more than 4 hours, even during a significant rainfall. On Sunday, November 27, all work was finished with the help of 12 volunteers. The other 4 frames were built and 10 cubic yards of dirt were moved to the garden beds.

Brian is part of Boy Scout Troop #182, sponsored by PCOP. Matt McCall is the troop scoutmaster. We are grateful that Brian chose this project in support of the PCOP Mission to help feed the hungry in our community.



FROM THE STEWARDHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Finance Recap

INCOME

YTD Income = \$248,372

YTD Budget = \$262,077

Less than planned \$13,705

SPENDING

YTD Spending = \$251,036

YTD Budget = \$2268,104

Less than planned \$17,088

Year to date we have a shortfall of \$2,664 when comparing income to expenses. We planned to have a shortfall of \$6,027 at this time. Please keep current with your pledged offering as year to date pledged offering is \$10,714 less than expected.

The Annual Congregational Meeting of the Presbyterian Church of Palatine will be held Sunday, January 29, 2012, following worship.

Reports will be presented by our ministry team leaders.

2011 Annual Reports are due in the church office by Thursday, January 12.

Brunch, hosted by the Deacons, will be served following the meeting.

Copies of the Annual Report will be emailed to members of the congregation the week prior to the meeting; for those not having access to email, copies will be available beginning Thursday, January 26, here at the church and on Sunday at the meeting.



Worship & Music



The January / February / March issue of *These Days* and the January / February issue of *The Upper Room* are available under the bulletin board in the narthex. Please take one with our compliments.



Nursery Supervisor

We are currently looking for a warm, reliable and nurturing individual to serve as our Nursery Supervisor from 8:30am -11:30am on Sunday mornings, with opportunities to serve during special church functions such as Wednesday evenings during Lent, congregational meetings, etc. If you know of a non church member who might be interested in this paid position, please contact Michelle Johns at prespal-michelle@sbcglobal.net or 847-358-4650.

JANUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day	2 Office Closed	3	4	5	6	7
8:45-9:30 CE 10AM Worship 11:15-11:45AM Fellowship	10-11:30AM AA 7-8:30PM Boy Scouts Troop #182 7-8PM AA	7-9PM Mission 8:30-9:30PM AA	12:30-1:30PM Staff Meeting 6PM-12AM PADS shelter	12-7AM PADS 7-8PM AA	10AM-11AM AA	8-9AM Men's Group @ Billy's Pancake House
8 Communion Officer Installation	9	10	11	12	13 Office Closed	14
8:45AM CE 10AM Worship 11:15AM Fellowship 11:30AM-12:30PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30-9PM ALPHA Ministry	10-11:30AM AA 7-8PM AA 7-8:30PM Boy Scouts #182	7-8:30PM CE 7-8:30PM Facilities 8:30-9:30PM AA	12:30-1:30PM Staff Meeting 6PM-12AM PADS Shelter 6:30-9PM Board (Vittorios dinner)	12-7AM PADS 9:30-11AM Bible Study 7-8PM AA 7-8PM Admin/Personnel	10-11AM AA	8-9AM Men's Group 9-11AM Worship and Music
15	16	17	18	19	20 Office Closed	21
8:45AM CE 10AM Worship 11:15AM Fellowship 11:30AM-12:30PM Choir Rehearsal	10-11:30AM AA 7-8PM AA 7-8:30PM Boy Scouts #182	6:30-9PM Palatine Women's Club 7-9PM Deacons 7-8:30 Stewardship 7-8:30PM Membership and Outreach 8:30-9:30PM AA	9:15-11:15AM Grace Circle 11:30AM-2:30PM Lydia Circle 12:30-1:30PM Staff Meeting 6PM-12AM PADS 7:30-9:30PM Rebecca Circle	12-7AM PADS 9:30-11AM Bible Study 7-8PM AA	10-11AM AA 7-9PM Crafting Night	8-9:AM Men's Group 10AM-1PM Winston Market Day (Cosby Rm)
22	23	24	25	26	27 Office Closed	28
8:45AM CE 10-11AM Worship 11:15AM Fellowship 11:30AM-12:30PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30-9PM ALPHA Ministry	10-11:30AM AA 7-8PM AA 7-8:30PM Boy Scouts #182	7-9:30PM Session 8:30-9:30PM AA	12:30-1:30PM Staff Meeting 6PM-12AM PADS	12-7AM PADS 9:30-11AM Bible Study 7-8PM AA	10-11AM AA	8-9AM Men's Group
29 Annual Meeting	30	31				
8:45AM CE 10AM Worship 11:15AM Annual Mtg and Brunch 11:30AM-12:30PM Choir Rehearsal	10-11:30AM AA 7-8:30PM Boy Scouts #182 7-8PM AA	8:30-9:30PM AA				