

January - February, 2007 Newsletter

Winter Carnival

Byron Presbyterian Church

Saturday, January 27, Noon - 4 pm

Games with great prizes for all ages!

Fantastic Food!

Incredible auction items!

*Have a great time on a cold winter day, and
support the summer mission plans of the
Byron Youth Group*

INSIDE: PEOPLE, NEWS, EVENTS!!!

Church Information

Sunday Worship & Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Church Office: 548-2800 [byronfpc@localnet.com]
Church Web Page: www.byronfpc.org
Pastor: James Renfrew (548-7704 home, 494-1847
Stone Church, 548-2800 Byron Church)
[jrenfrew@rochester.rr.com]
Clerk of Session: James Lundmark (948-9336)
[jdlundmark@yahoo.com]
Treasurer: Robin Glazier (548-2625)
[rglazier@brockport.edu]
Music Director: Elizabeth Weber (494-1545)
Youth Ministry: Valerie Liles (356-4193)
[cliles@rochester.rr.com]
Board of Trustees: Ron Glazier (548-2625]
Sexton: Luan Riner (548-2428)
Secretary: Janet Pike (548-7132)
[jpike2@rochester.rr.com]

Healing Prayer

On Sunday mornings in worship we are delighted that so many offer prayers of hope and healing for friends and relatives. When our pastor and church volunteers visit folks in the hospital in the days that follow the news that the whole congregation is praying becomes a powerful source of encouragement.

Our Prayer Chain is ready to generate that kind of encouragement: to pray for you, to pray with you, for your family, for our community, and for the whole world. You can initiate the Prayer Chain anytime by calling Laura Platt (548-2245) or Jean Roda (548-2417).

Choir



Choir rehearsal is at 9:00 AM every Sunday morning. Please be prompt! We are always interested in adding musical instruments to the singing. Call the church office for more information.

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Annual Meeting Sunday, January 21st

Sunday, January 21, 9:45 AM - The 2006 Annual Meeting will immediately follow the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to receive committee and financial reports from 2006, review the 2007 Budget, elect new elders, deacons and trustees, elected congregational representatives to the 2007 Nominating Committee, and act to adopt the church's new "Vision Statement".

Welcome to our Church!!!



By looking around, you can see that our church has been here a very long time; it was built long before any of the people you see around here were born. This congregation was formed by enthusiastic, energetic people of faith who met in a farm house to dedicate their lives to Jesus Christ. But the faith that guides our lives in 2007 is not an ancient heirloom; it is a fresh vision, renewed each day as we receive inspiration from our Lord. We appreciate our past and those who have come before us, but your eyes are always on the future, and the new things Christ is doing in our hearts and community.

Preaching Themes for January & February

JAN 7	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	<i>Your Hope Rising</i>
JAN 14	John 2:1-11	<i>His First Sign to You</i>
JAN 21	Luke 4:14-21	<i>Our Vision (pt 1)</i>
JAN 28	Luke 4:21-30	<i>Our Vision (pt 2)</i>
FEB 4	Luke 5:1-11	<i>Pushing and Shoving</i>
FEB 11	Luke 6:17-26	<i>Jesus Levels With Us</i>
FEB 18	Luke 6:27-36	<i>Enemies! (and what to do about them)</i>

From the Pastor



Dear Friends,

A lot of big changes are coming our way as we begin a New Year!. Robin and I are moving into a new home in Clarendon during the last week of December. It's a beautiful place, and we hope to have everyone over for a visit when we get everything settled. Although we visited nearly twenty homes in and around Byron, this was the first one that we saw, and we were fortunate that our offer was accepted.

As I write this I am surrounded by dozens and dozens of boxes to get ready for the move. Though we made our offer back in October, I always knew that the closing date would be right on top of Christmas!

Please make note of our new telephone number: 638-____. Calls between Clarendon and Byron are toll calls, unless you have one of the unlimited call plans. We are signing up for that kind of plan so our calls to Byron will be free. If this is a toll call for you, please feel free to call my cell phone 813-2934. My e-mail address will remain the same.

To make matters even more of a challenge, the condo in Washington DC where Robin rents a room during her work week has been suddenly sold, requiring her to vacate in January. On short notice, she has found a great package deal at a Bed & Breakfast near the Washington Zoo, but she will no longer have a permanent place of her own, so sometime around Christmas and the New Year we will rent a truck and transport her furnishings to our new home. She will continue to work in Washington 3 days each week.

Meanwhile, my son Roberto is getting ready to enter the Iroquois Job Corps Center in Medina. Let's pray that all the paperwork gets submitted in a timely manner!

And there's more! At the end of November I gave notice to the people at Stone Church that after sixteen years I will be concluding my quarter-time ministry there at the end of June 2007. The Byron Session is looking for ways to increase my position here to full-time, but that may take some time to work out over the course of the coming year.

The chief benefit of this change is that my vocational life as a pastor will no longer be so

"schizophrenic". I also look forward to being more available on Sunday mornings for activities following worship.

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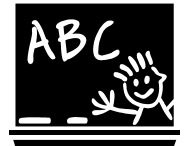
As you may have heard, the congregation recently approved the sale of the Manse on Bank Street. The proceeds from the sale will be placed in a designated account, the interest of which will be used each year to partially offset the pastor's housing allowance. In the next few months Trustees will be working to prepare the manse for sale. Keep an ear open for announcements about some of the carpeting, painting and other projects that will need to be completed in order to sell the Manse.

Thanks to everyone for your encouragement and support as we begin the New Year!

Jim Renfrew, Pastor

Deacons

Please continue your contributions using the Emergency Food Alphabet! On the dates shown bring in a food item that begins with the letter shown! JAN 7 "M", JAN 14 "N", JAN 21 "O", JAN 28 "P", FEB 4 "Q", FEB 11 "R", FEB 11 "S", FEB 18 "T", FEB 25 "U". Contributed food items are delivered to the emergency food program of Genesee County Churches United at Salvation Army in Batavia.



Bible Study for Young & All

We are continuing with the Bible Study we began in the spring. We are using the Presbyterian Church's "I Know My Bible" curriculum. It is the same study that teens have been using in their after school meetings.



New participants are welcome at any time. Please join us for this exploration of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation! We meet downstairs in the Fellowship Hall, right after church for one hour. Each participant receives a study manual and there is no mandatory homework! At the end of each unit you will receive a special bookmark for use in your Bible that reminds you of what to find

in each book of the Bible. You can be a silent participant or an active one - it's designed for all! [Christian Education Committee]



Make a Joyful Noise!

We have enjoyed the music presented by the "Joyful Noise Choir" during the past year. In this new season we are looking for youth of all ages to participate with instruments and voices. Please contact *Tamara Hillabush-Walker* (548-7303) if interested. Practices follow Sunday worship, for about 15 minutes.

Resource Saturday

AT THE PRESBYTERY RESOURCE CENTER
Saturday, January 13, 2006

TO REGISTER: Call Susan Orr, Coordinator for Educational Resources at 242-0099 or email sorr@pbygenval.org. No Registration Fee!

Copyright Law and the Church: What Should I Know? (Susan Orr, Coordinator for Educational Resources), 9:30 - 11:00 AM. Copyright laws affect all areas of the church. What must we know to be responsible stewards? It takes care and planning to be certain we follow these laws. Some of the new concerns for churches are the laws around the World Wide Web, and continuing concerns about music and video/movie use.

The Paper Trail: Handling Your Church Documents (James Leach, Regional Archivist, Documentary Heritage Program), 9:30 - 11:00 AM. What types of church records should be preserved? How does a congregation preserve its historical documents? How does one "clean house" without losing important things? What methods of preservation are affordable to congregations, large and small? Every congregation deals with the tension between those who want to throw everything away and those who can't bear to throw away a thing. Join us as we delve into the basics of church document preservation, with plenty of time to answer your own questions on this very important topic.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR ALL COURSES: Thursday, January 11th. All courses are free; however, pre-registration is requested. The Resource Center will be open from 9am-1pm for browsing!

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

January Birthdays

- 3 Amanda Dodson
- 4 Whitley Stefaniak, Sandy Johnson
- Roberto Renfrew-Marquez
- 6 Kati Stanton
- 8 Lynn Beglinger
- 10 Jan VanWyngaarden
- 11 Darlene Stanton
- 13 Sarah Mattle, Amanda McLaughlin
- 16 Kylie Britt, Stanley Truax
- 17 Billy Tyler
- 18 Mary Ann Blair, Samantha Walker
- 20 Wendy Schelemanow
- 21 Alaura Rehwaldt
- 23 Matthew Glazier
- 24 Nicole Stanton
- 25 Connor Holly
- 27 Jared Holly
- 28 Don C. Britt, Karen Liles
- 31 Everett Roda



February Birthdays

- 1 Frank Swanson
- 5 Faline Tyler
- 7 Melanie Nesbitt, Michaela Kenward
- 9 Dave Liles, Joan Carr, Tiffany Platt
- 11 Rachel White
- 12 Mallory Lynch
- 14 Valerie Liles
- 20 George Hillabush, Brendan Fuller
- 25 Gwendolen Shepard
- 26 Doug Platt
- 27 Rebecca Gouger, Shirley Liles, Matt White

Anniversaries

- January 15: Wayne & Judy Holly
- January 31: Gene & Vicki Austin
- February 4: Paul & Luan Riner
- February 26: Don & Marilyn Britt



Did we leave you out by mistake? Did we forget a member of your family? Please leave your birth dates and anniversary dates at the church office, and we will be sure to include you next time!

IMPORTANT: Due to patient privacy laws United Memorial Medical Center does not contact clergy when patients are admitted. The hospital suggests that families notify clergy when a family member is

admitted. For an elective procedure patients should call their church office prior to admission.

Stewardship Report

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow!"

The Stewardship Committee is very pleased to report that the church has received estimates of giving for 2007 totaling \$57,000. This marks a ___% increase over 2006. The result speaks volumes about the generosity of members and friends of the church as we consider the various strains that the economy places on all of us these days. If you have not yet submitted an "Estimate of Giving" card for 2007, please contact any member of the Stewardship Committee, or the church office. [*Don Engle, Harley George, Marilyn Britt, George Hillabush*]

2007 Offering Envelopes

A box of offering envelopes, and periodic financial statements, are made available at the end of December to all who submitted an "Estimate of Giving" card during our Stewardship effort.

Please note that in each box there is an envelope marked "*Per Capita*". Per Capita, set at \$24.75 in 2007, represents each church member's fair share of the administrative expenses of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley, Synod of the Northeast, and the Presbyterian Church (USA). Members typically contribute this amount during January.

We are happy to provide a box of offering envelopes to any adults or youth who wish them. Please note that if you did not submit an Estimate of Giving card, an annual financial statement (useful for tax purposes) can be provided only if you notify the church office during January that you would like us to keep track of these contributions.

Church Officer Orientation

A special joint meeting of the three church boards will take place on Thursday, January 25th, beginning at 7:00 PM. The purpose of the meeting is to provide orientation to those who will be installed as new elders, deacons and trustees, as well as to review the purposes, responsibilities, and tasks of each board. Incoming and outgoing board members are all encouraged to attend. The combined meeting will last 45 minutes, then each board will meet separately. [*James Lundmark, Clerk of Session*]

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Church Leadership Development Day Saturday, Feb. 10 at GCC

For new or experienced leaders in Presbyterian Churches! Courses for Elders, Deacons, Clerks, Treasurers, Christian Educators, and Pastors are offered in this annual program of the Presbytery, which is being held at nearby Genesee Community College. The courses run from 8:30 AM until 12:00 PM, plus nine special working lunch courses from 12:15-1:45 PM. Box lunches may be pre-ordered for \$8.00 by calling 242-0080. Our church will cover the \$5 registration fee. A detailed brochure is available from the church office.

Church & Community News

We are praying for *George Toal* (at UMMC), *Doris Fuller* (on-going medical treatment), *Ruth and Jerry McCracken* (on-going medical care), *Jim Moore* (Helen's husband receiving medical care), *Mary Barnard* (medical care), *Nelson Stamp* (medical care), the family of *Sharon Keller* (Liz Weber's sister-in-law died before Christmas after a long illness). And prayers for *Jan VanWyngaarden* (at GCNH), *Erma Weldon* (at LeRoy Village Green), *Beverly Dusing* (Valerie Liles' mother at the Village Green), *Everett Roda* (at home after recent surgery), *Dick Haslett* (Cheryl Toal's father in North Carolina recently had a stroke), *Jim Lundmark* (recovery from knee surgery)

We continue to pray for *PFC Susie Blair*, daughter of Lee & Mary Ann Blair, and *Michael Welch*, son of James & Patty Welch, serving in Iraq.

Mission Committee

Thank you to all those who generously gave of their time during the busy holiday season to ring the bell for Salvation Army. The time you spend, an hour or two, makes a huge difference in the lives of the many who benefit from the various Salvation Army programs. The following were our bell ringers on Thursday, November 30: Don & Marilyn Britt, Luan Riner, Laura Platt, Faline Tyler, Audrey Prue, Chrystal & Kylie Britt (joined by the Sloat girls), Melanie and

Connor Nesbitt, Gwen & Harley George, and The Kenward Family. [*Pam Kenward*]

Christian Education Committee

Many thanks to all of our Christmas carolers who went out on December 16th to sing for **Ruth & Jerry McCracken, Ole Stewart, Doris Fuller, Helen and Jim Moore, Lester and Mary Barnard, Jean and Everett Roda, and Nelson & Carol Stamp.** Singers and drivers included: *Lacey, Larisa, Jordan & Jeannie Sloat, Trisha Singleton, Chelsea Hartman, Alexandra & Samantha Walker, Tamara Hillabush-Walker, Kylie Britt & Crystal Britt, Erica, Jenica, Bradyn & Rhonda Hickey, Andrea, Eryn & Karen Singleton, Michaela & Pam Kenward, and Helen Hulburt.* Special thanks to *Marilyn Britt* for providing battery -powered candles, and *Laura Platt* for serving hot cocoa, marshmallows and cookies. Our singers enjoyed lots of goodies at the various homes we visited. [*Tamara Hillabush-Walker*]

Nursery School News



The Nursery School is having a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, February 18th, 8:30am - 1:00pm. Half of the funds raised will be designated for the Nursery School Scholarship Fund. Contact *Paula Hohn* at 548-9051 or *Laura Platt* at 494-2245 for more information about the Nursery School.

Our teacher, Roxanne Noeth, will be completing her final year with the Nursery School in the spring, so we are looking for a qualified teacher to serve as teacher for the 2007-2008 Nursery School year. If interested, please contact Laura Platt, 548-2245.

Thank You!

Many thanks to **Audrey Blount** for providing TWO Christmas trees, for the sanctuary and the Dining Room. They're beautiful!

Confirmation Class Announced

Our Pastor, Jim Renfrew, will be leading a Confirmation/New Member's Class on Saturday, February 10th, from 9:00 AM until Noon. This will be the main orientation meeting to begin the process. A few additional dates will be scheduled to fit the participants' schedules, but the majority of preparation will include one-on-one work with an adult mentor.

Welcoming new members through confirmation is essentially a process of helping young people express their Christian faith in their own words. Preparation for baptism will also be included in this process, for those who have not yet experienced it!

Youth in 7th or 8th grades are especially encouraged to participate in this opportunity, but older youth are welcome, too.

www.byronfpc.org



Find out the latest information about the Byron Presbyterian Church at our new web page. All you have to do is enter "www.byronfpc.org" in your computer and our church home page will appear.

The web page includes the latest news about church events and activities, photos, sermons, and historical items. There are e-mail links to the Pastor and Youth Ministry Coordinator. There is also a place where anyone visiting the web page can leave prayer concerns and comments.

Byron Youth Group

Valerie Liles, Youth Ministry Coordinator
Phone Numbers: 548-2800 office, 356-4193 cell
E-mail: cliles@rochester.rr.com
www.byronfpc.org

Byron Youth Group NEWS!

Sunday, January 14th - 1:00 PM -
Triennium Information and Nominating
Meeting - Parents and High School Students
in Grades 10-12. The Triennium happens
every three years, and is an incredible
gathering of over 6,000 Presbyterian youth
at Purdue University. Mallory Lynch and
Jared Johnson attended the Triennium in
2004. Jim Renfrew attended as a
chaperone in 2005. It's the opportunity of a
lifetime!

Friday, January 26th - 7:00 PM - Set Up
for Winter Carnival - FAMILIES are
NEEDED to help! This is a good fundraiser
for our Youth Mission Trips and Fun! Please,
plan on helping this weekend - it is a
wonderful community day in the middle of
our cold winters! This should take an hour if
we have enough helpers! THANKS IN
ADVANCE!

Saturday, January 27th - 10:30AM -
Arrive to set up and practice at your
stations for the **Annual Winter Carnival**
Youth Group Fundraiser from **NOON** to
4PM.

Saturday, February 10th - **Church
Leadership Development Day at GCC** -

**For new or experienced leaders
in Presbyterian Churches! Courses
for Elders, Deacons, Clerks,
Treasurers, Christian Educators,
and Pastors are offered in this
annual program of the Presbytery,
which is being held at nearby
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courses run from 8:30 AM until
12:00 PM, plus nine special working
lunch courses from 12:15-1:45 PM.
Box lunches may be pre-ordered for
\$8.00 by calling 242-0080. Our
church will cover the \$5 registration
fee. A detailed brochure is
available from the church office.**

Paper Retriever Program - we want
everyone's newspaper, magazines,
office and school papers, shopping
catalogs, mail, envelopes, folders,
fax and copy paper, colored
paper!!!! Can we collect 4 tons or
more per month????? We (the
youth group) get paid \$15 per ton -
it's **FREE MONEY!** Ask your family
and friends for **ALL OF THEIR
PAPER!**



Winter Carnival

*Sat., January 27th
Noon - 4:00 pm*

*Games, Food, & Auction
Help support youth
mission!*



Annual Meeting of the Congregation



*Sunday January 21st,
following worship*



*1st Presbyterian Church
PO Box 206
Byron NY 14422-0206*

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U.S. Postage
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