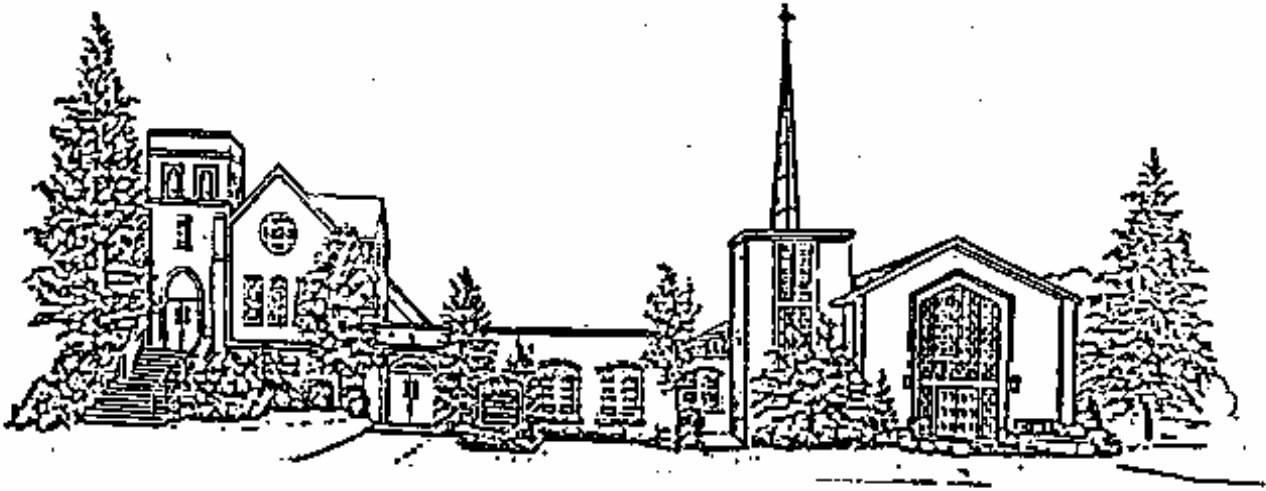


TIDINGS

JANUARY 2011



**Welcoming and Supporting Individuals and
Families to grow in Faith!**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**717 St. Luke's Place
Baldwin, New York 11510**

**Church Office Telephone Number: (516) 223-2112
Church Fax Number: (516) 223-0866
Church Website: www.firstpresbyterianbaldwin.org
Pastor's Blog site: www.baldwinpresby.blogspot.com**

**Church e-mail: baldwinchurch@verizon.net
Pastor's e-mail: thepastor3@verizon.net**

Ministers: All the People of the Church

**The Rev. Adrian J. Pratt, Pastor
Yvonne Pratt, Secretary
Ksenia Lowenfels, Music Director
Edward Hansen, Sexton**

ADRIAN'S ANECDOTES ...

New Year



There is something about a New Year that is refreshingly different. It marks the opportunity of new beginnings. Like a notepad we have yet to write upon or a blank canvas waiting for the application of paint, the New Year spreads out before us.

Many of us even go as far as making resolutions indicating our good intentions for the year to come. Others of us are a little more hesitant and preface our resolutions with a 'maybe'. Some of us see the New Year in with great celebration, whilst others are content to let it gently roll over us!

Folk will make their predictions. Almanacs will attempt to guide us through the seasons. We will plot our course by filling in desktop calendars and personal planners. We may even have a list of what we 'want to do' or 'want to see' in 2011.

And yet... it is all so excruciatingly unpredictable. The fact is that it may bring us the good we seek or it may hold unexpected hurdles. Probably a bit of both! For sure we can say farewell to whatever the past year has held for us, but some of it, we may not want to let go.

One of my favorite New Year's hymns is Isaac Watt's paraphrase of Psalm 90;

*"Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:
Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same."*

In the midst of everything around us that can change, there remains the unchanging love of God towards us. God's promises remain the same in a New Year. Through Jesus Christ, God promises to walk with us every step of the way. Through the Holy Spirit God promises to empower us for those times we cannot face in our own strength.

Indeed, if you haven't made any resolutions I'd like to suggest one. Play an active part in your faith community. It will bless you and it will bless them! It's a win-win commitment.

May God Bless you and yours in 2011 ☺

-Rev. Adrian J. Pratt



PRAYER CONCERNS

To all our members and friends who are going through difficult times or are unwell or recovering from illness or surgery at this time, we send you our heartfelt concerns and prayers and wish you all a speedy recovery.



“IN LIEU OF FLOWERS”

The Memorial Fund is a viable alternative for those of us who wish to honor and remember a close friend or acquaintance or perhaps a distant relative when the donation of flowers, fruit, etc. is just too much.

Instead of a mass card or one of Hallmark’s finest, why not a modest donation to our Memorial Fund when you really “... care to send the very best?”

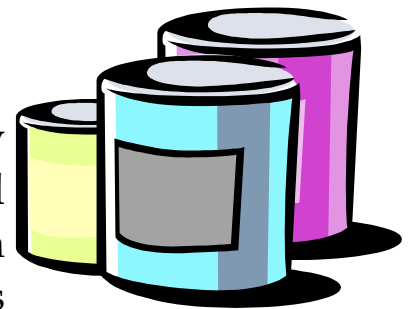
Memorial Packets include an announcement card to the decedent’s family with a plain envelope and an envelope addressed to the church with a card for your donation. These packets are available in the Narthex or at the church office.

First Presbyterian Church of Baldwin is grateful for all the donations received for The Memorial Fund.



JOINT OUTREACH COMMITTEE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE!

I want to thank the Congregation and the Sunday School for their generosity in regards to the Holiday Food Drive. We had about 8 cartons of food to pack. We have a small church with a big heart. This is my last project as Chairperson and I want to thank my committee for all their help. The biggest thank you is for the congregation. When asked to help you really come through. Thank you.



-Bert Person, Chair

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3

- Not much sleep, but a big success!



Our third youth sleepover at church took place on December 3rd-4th. We had 12 youth and 3 adults in attendance and enjoyed an evening full of games, snacks, conversation and fun before settling down to a late night movie ... and eventually getting some sleep. Thanks to all for the delicious snacks, the wonderful and welcome breakfast, and the loan of the Big-screen projector. Thanks to all the youth for not keeping their pastor awake for the whole night! A great time was had by all. As we look forward to 2011 there are even those who are hoping Mission Impossible 4 will feature on the calendar. Which ... of course... it probably will!

Youth Group will kick off in January with a planning meeting on **Sunday, January 9th at 7:00 p.m.** - See you there!



KINGDOM KIDS

"Kid's of the Kingdom"



Kingdom Kids is an opportunity for 2nd through 5th graders to get together on Tuesdays, from 4:00-5:00 p.m. We enjoy games, stories, crafts, snacks and fun, fun, fun!

Reminder: If there is no school due to inclement weather, there will be no Kingdom Kids that day either.

Kingdom Kids will resume on **January 11th, 2011.**

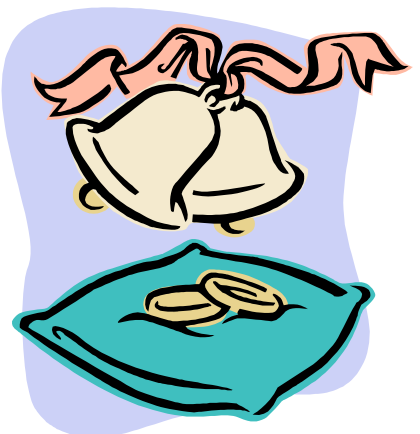


WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations to Caroline Boss and Stuart Steele who are to be married in Westbury on Saturday, January 8, 2011. Rev. Pratt will officiate the ceremony.

God Bless you both.

Also, Congratulations to Emily Williamson, daughter of Kent and Nancy Williamson and granddaughter of Janet Kempner. Emily married Jared Ziegler on November 6, 2010 in Maryland. *Every blessing for your future together!*



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BALDWIN, NY
STATED SESSION MEETING SUMMARY
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2010

The minutes of the Stated Session Meeting of Wednesday, November 10, 2010 were read and approved as submitted.

CLERK'S REPORT:

1. Since the last meeting, there were **NO Transfers or Deaths**. There was one member **Wedding**, Emily Williamson on November 6, 2010 in Maryland. There were 12 **New Members** received into membership on November 14, 2010, the Confirmation Class: Valerie Achille, Shannon Bowman, Dan Nolan, James Nolan, Alyssa Nolan, Nicole Nolan, Andrew Olsen, Ryan Olsen, Kendra Segelken, Christian Tessitore, Gianna Tessitore, and Audrey Wilson. There was one **Baptism**, Confirmand Audrey Wilson during the Membership ceremony on November 14, 2010.
2. Communion was served on Sunday, December 5, 2010.
3. Correspondence we received:
 - From Elder Mary Jane Kearns, an email request for the use of the Sanctuary and Beyer Hall on Saturday, June 18, 2011 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. for a Baldwin Association of Girl Scouts Awards Ceremony and reception. They expect 300 to 400 people. This was referred to the Buildings and Grounds Committee to verify the legal capacity of the Sanctuary and Beyer Hall, and to then grant the request, subject to the group's agreement to not exceed our stated capacities.
4. Worship attendance since last meeting:

November 14	122	(Confirmation)
November 21	72	(Margaret Cook)
November 28	82	(Thanksgiving Weekend)
December 5	81	

PASTOR'S REPORT:

- Officer training was held Tuesday evening, November 30, 2010. In 2011, Presbyterian workshops will be available for further training.
- The Bible Study group completed their first session. The 2011 session begins January 18 and 20.
- The Kingdom Kids group completed their first session. The 2011 session begins January 11.
- The Joint Nassau Youth Retreat at the Presbyterian Camp in Holmes, NY was November 12-13, 2010 with 7 youth, and 2 Adults from our congregation attending.

Continued...

- The Baldwin Youth Sleepover was December 3-4, 2010 with 12 youth, and 3 Adults attending.
- The 2011 youth program begins Sunday, January 9, 2011 with a planning meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Rev. Pratt noted that the second Wednesday of March 2011 is Ash Wednesday. Consequently, it was agreed to hold our March Session Meeting on the first Wednesday, March 2, 2011.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Adult Education Committee: The Committee will be meeting soon to schedule Adult Forums for the first quarter of 2011.

Christian Education Committee: The Halloween Candy tithe for the benefit of our college student congregants was very successful. ♦ The food drive run jointly with the Outreach Committee has collected generous amounts of food, and distributed some of it. The final distribution will be next week, as the final day for contributing food is this coming Sunday, December 12, 2010. ♦ New Sunday School curriculum materials are being ordered for 2011.

Buildings and Grounds Committee: The final fall grounds cleanup is scheduled for later this week. ♦ The semiannual meeting with the Community Nursery School is scheduled for Thursday, January 6, 2011. ♦ Fluorescent tubes have been replaced in the upstairs Community Nursery School classroom. ♦ A reported dishwasher leak was checked, and no problem found. ♦ Second floor storm windows were closed and/or secured. ♦ A need for additional signage has been identified: Wheelchair entrance, maximum capacity, and evacuation map signs are all needed.

Website Committee: Our Facebook page, and the Matt Wilson concert have increased the number of visits to our website.

Fellowship Committee: The Baldwin High School theater presentation of Jekyll and Hyde, and “afterglow” at the Angelillo’s house were both wonderful. ♦ The Christmas Dinner, including the musical, “A Shepherd’s Story” will be this Sunday evening, December 12, 2010.

Stewardship and Finance Committee: The monthly financial report presented and discussed. ♦ The Fall Stewardship Campaign for 2011 pledges is almost complete, with only a few more pledges expected. ♦ The Committee presented and discussed a proposed budget for 2011, including the Pastor’s Terms of Call. The Personnel Committee had already agreed to the Terms of Call, and presented them to Rev. Pratt.

Continued...

After discussion, it was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the proposed budget for referral to the Congregation for their vote, allowing the Committee up to 1% adjustment, if necessary as pledges are finalized, and budget lines refined. ♦ A Congregational Meeting to approve the 2011 budget, and the 2011 Pastor's Terms of Call was tentatively scheduled for Sunday, January 9, 2011, immediately following the Worship Service. ♦ **After discussion, it was moved, seconded, and approved to give the Church Secretary and the Sexton each a Christmas Bonus of \$125.**

General Mission Committee: November disbursements included \$3,000.00 to Unified Mission Support, \$17.60 for Mission Yearbooks, and \$582.56 for Peacemaking 2010. ♦ The Christmas Joy Offering will be taken up on Sunday, December 19, 2010.

Invested Resources Committee: The Fund balance as of December 7, 2010 was \$331,454.

Outreach Committee: About \$700 has been spent on postage for mailings to addresses on the New Families lists. Our 15-month subscription to the address lists cost about \$450. We mail to an average of 65 to 70 families per month. ♦ The Committee extends thanks to the congregation for their generous response to the food drive.

Worship and Music Committee: It was agreed to serve Communion at the 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship Service by traditionally passing plates, and not by Intinction.

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept all Committee Reports as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next scheduled Stated Session Meeting will be 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 12, 2011.
2. The next scheduled Presbytery Meeting will be Saturday, January 29, 2011 at Community Presbyterian Church in Deer Park. Elder Bill Hodges will attend as our delegate.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m. with prayer by the Moderator.

-Kent R. Williamson, Clerk of Session

WORSHIP SERVICES FOR JANUARY, 2011

January 2 – (Communion) John 1:1-18
“Wishing You a Grace Filled Year” - Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

January 9 Matthew 3:13-17
“What are you doing here?” - Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

January 16 John 1:29-42
“What are you looking for?” - Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

January 23 Matthew 4:12-23
“Where are you going?” - Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

January 30 Matthew 5:1-12
“What drives you?” - Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

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## MISSION TRIP TO WEST VIRGINIA 2011

**Monday, June 27th through Saturday, July 2nd (or parts thereof!)**

Tentative plans are being laid for a youth mission trip to West Virginia. (Youth must be 14+) Adults will also be welcomed! (A minimum ratio of 1 adult to every 5 youth is required). The trip is being arranged through the Nassau County Joint Youth ministry project that involves the Presbyterian churches at Baldwin, Garden City, Glen Cove, Malverne, Massapequa and Freeport.

We will be working with WVMAW (West Virginia Ministry of Advocacy and Workcamps). WVMAW are a Presbyterian ministry that offer the opportunity for discipleship by partnering with those in need whose lives have been devastated by natural disasters or by the disaster of poverty in areas of West Virginia. The work may involve working on light construction or environmental projects. In addition there will be a fun day that is likely to involve white-water rafting.

We are still working out the financial details. There is a charge (which goes to cover materials used in the projects) of \$210 a person per week, plus the additional cost of transportation. We are exploring our options for the latter!

If you are interested please speak with your pastor. For more information on WVMAW visit their website: <http://www.wvpresbytery.org/Ministries/WVMAW/tabid/68/Default.aspx>

## SEASON OF HOPE

We would like to thank the Congregation for the true spirit of Christian Giving that it has exhibited during the Stewardship Pledge Campaign. The Session is recommending a 2011 Budget which will be brought to the Congregation in January for approval. We thank you for your continuing and necessary support. It is greatly appreciated.



We wish you a Happy and Blessed New Year.

*-The Stewardship and Finance Committee*

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CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING 2010: Share a Gift for Christmas...



Thank you to all who contributed to December's "Christmas Joy Offering".
To date, a total of \$514 has been raised.

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## YOGA – New Year's Resolution?

Don't forget Kundalini Yoga takes place here at the church facility under the leadership of Laura Williams. Classes are on Monday mornings from 9:45-11:00 a.m., in the Sunday School room on the second floor. The cost is \$12 a class, or 10 classes for \$100.

In one class, you will work on the whole you: strengthening and toning your body, keeping your mind clear and focused, and awakening your soul.

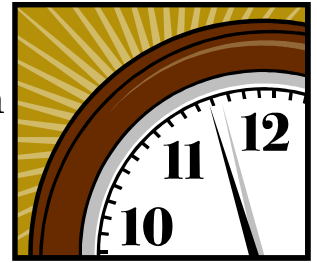
For more information, please For more information, call the church office 223-2112 or email Laura at:

[laurawilli@gmail.com](mailto:laurawilli@gmail.com)



## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Church Office hours are: Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. *Note:* The office is closed on Fridays.



**NOTE:** The Church office will be closed between **Christmas and New Year and on Monday, January 17th** in observance of the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.

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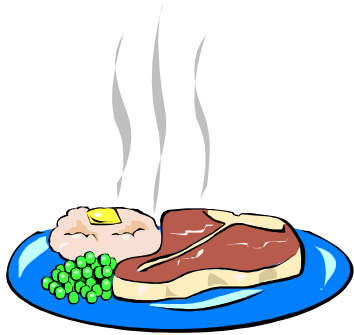
OFFERING ENVELOPES

If there is anyone that doesn't have offering envelopes but would like them (adult or child), please see Howard Batsford or leave a note in the office. The advantage of having envelopes is that you will get a statement of giving – handy for tax purposes.

If any of you have not yet picked up your box of envelopes for 2011, please do so as soon as possible. They are located in the Narthex.

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## MEN'S WEDNESDAY DINNER



Join the **Men of the Church** for their monthly dinner out, on the **third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.** You'll enjoy great food, lovely company and discussions relative to family, friendship, religion, work, sports, hobbies, retirement, etc. This would be a great way for our church family to grow. Interested? **Next dinner is Wednesday,**

**January 19th.**

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UPPER ROOM DEVOTIONALS

The **January/February, 2011** issue of the Upper Room Devotionals are now available in the Narthex. Please feel free to take one.



Focus on Fellowship 2011

JANUARY 2011	FEBRUARY 2011	MARCH 2011
1/18 Women's b'fast	2/15 Women's b'fast	3/04 CWU World Day of Prayer
1/19 Men's Dinner	2/16 Men's Dinner	3/09 Soup Supper (Ash Wednesday)
1/23 Bowling and Pizza	2/23 Women's Dinner (tentative – as it's Winter Recess)	3/15 Women's b'fast
1/26 Women's Dinner		3/16 Men's Dinner
		3/23 Women's Dinner

UPCOMING DATES FOR FEBRUARY 2011

Tuesday, February 1st	Evening Bible Study
Wednesday, February 2nd	Prayer Shawl Circle
Thursday, February 3rd	Morning Bible Study
Wednesday, February 9th	Session
Monday, February 14th	Valentine's Day
Monday, February 14th	Deacons
Tuesday, February 15th	Deadline for March Tidings
Tuesday, February 15th	Evening Bible Study
Thursday, February 17th	Morning Bible Study
Monday, February 21st	Office Closed – Presidents' Day
Monday, February 28th	Cook for the INN

(Note: Winter Recess for CNS: February 21st through 25th)



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

ACTIVITIES FOR PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

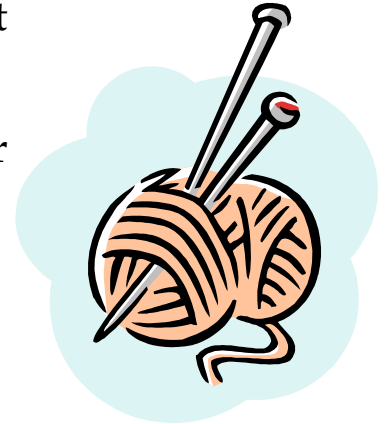
PRAYER SHAWL CIRCLE

"Calling all knitters and crocheters!"

The Prayer Shawl Circle will meet regularly on the **First Wednesday of each month** in the church parlor. Our next meeting will be **January 5th, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.**

Bring yarn and needles and crochet hooks or a prayer shawl you already have in progress.

For more information, call the church office
223-2112



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB



The Presbyterian Women's Breakfast Club meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m., at the Baldwin Coach Diner. This is an opportunity to fellowship with other women from First Presbyterian Church and enjoy good food and conversation. Their next meeting is on **Tuesday, January 18th**. For more information, call the church office 223-2112

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WOMEN'S DINNER

The women of First Presbyterian Church of Baldwin are planning a evening of food and friendship at Nick's Pizza in Rockville Centre on **Wednesday, January 26th at 7:00 p.m.** All women are invited to attend. If you need more information. For more information, call the church office 223-2112 . We look forward to seeing you there.



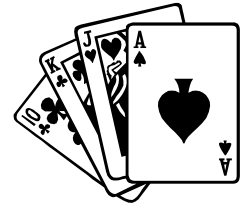
Sports Fest

Fun and Games Afternoon

When: Sunday, January 23, 2011
2:30-6:30 p.m.

What: Choice of

- Bowling for all . . .
- Bridge, Scrabble and other board games for adults at the Church . . .



. . . followed by Pizza Supper in Beyer Hall

Sign-up in the Parlor on
January 9th, 16th and 23rd, 2011

Cost for Bowling TBA
This includes 2 games and shoe rental



Everyone is invited to this fun-filled event!

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING 2011

More than 20 years ago, Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

“Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat.”

Since that day, more than \$71 million has been raised for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that is transforming the time around Super Bowl weekend into the nation’s largest celebration of giving and serving.

Through this mission, young people learn what it’s like to make a positive difference in the world – as they collect food, raise money and volunteer to work in charities that provide shelter to the homeless, food to the hungry and compassion to those in need.



We will be focusing on the Souper Bowl of Caring on **Sunday, February 6th**, when our youth will be on hand to receive monetary donations for our local food pantry.

Please give generously.

FIRST AND THIRD BIBLE STUDIES

"The Gospel of Matthew"



A new Session of adult Bible Study begins on Tuesday, January 18th at 8:00 p.m., and on Thursday, January 20th at 10:00 a.m. After that we hope to hold studies regularly on the **first** and **third** Tuesday evenings/Thursday mornings each month. The evening and morning studies will cover the same material, the theme of which for 2011 will be 'The Gospel of Matthew'.

The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday Night 8:00 p.m.

- January 18th
- February 1st
- February 15th
- March 1st
- March 15th

Thursday Morning 10:00 a.m.

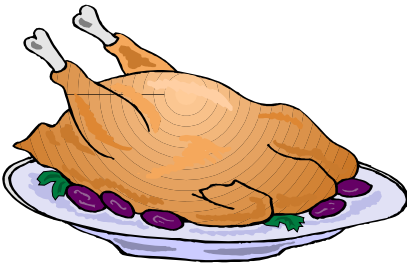
- January 20th
- February 3rd
- February 17th
- March 3rd
- March 17th

All members of the congregation are invited to attend. We look forward to seeing you there!



TURKEY DONATIONS NEEDED

If you have an **extra Turkey**, please bring it to the church. We need 36 for the whole year. They will be shared with the **Interfaith Nutrition Network** to feed hungry people in our community.



We will cook for the INN on **Monday, January 24, 2011** at 7:00 p.m., in Beyer Hall.



*To all members and friends at First Presbyterian Church of Baldwin
We wish you a healthy and blessed New Year!*

GROUPS THAT REGULARLY MEET AT FPCB
Check with the group leader/moderator for any changes

Alcoholics Anonymous groups meet regularly on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Bell Choir meets regularly for rehearsal on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

Chancel (Adult) Choir meets regularly for rehearsal on Thursdays at 8:00 p.m.

Deacons meet regularly on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Gamblers Anonymous group meet regularly on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Girl Scouts meet as follows: (Check calendar for exact dates)

Cadet Troop #2181 alternate Thursdays from 4:15-5:15 p.m.

Junior Troop #2445 alternate Thursdays from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Senior/Ambassador Troop #2106 Once monthly on a Monday 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Kingdom Kids group meet on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Prayer Shawl Circle meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Session meet regularly on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Yoga group meet on Mondays from 9:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Youth Group meet on Sundays at 7:00 p.m.

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Please refer to the **January Calendar** to keep in touch with the many activities that **First Presbyterian Church of Baldwin** has to offer.

**Also**, don't forget to check out our website from time to time as an up-to-date schedule is always posted there. [www.firstpresbyterianbaldwin.org](http://www.firstpresbyterianbaldwin.org)

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DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY 'TIDINGS' IS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 18TH

Please ensure articles are in the office on or before 1:00 p.m., on
Tuesday, January 18th for inclusion in the February 2011 *Tidings*.

Thanks so much!