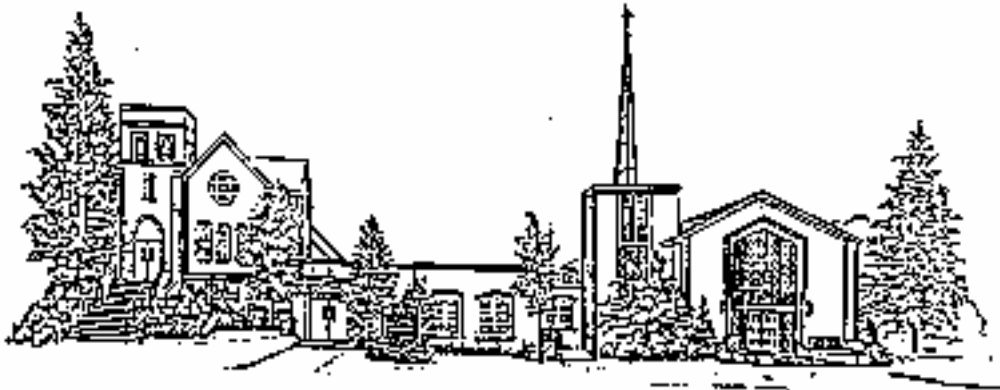


TIDINGS
MARCH 2011



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

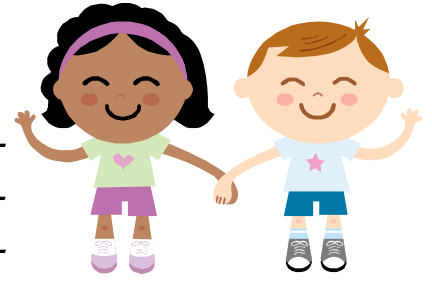
Ministers: All the People of the Church

**The Rev. Adrian J. Pratt, Pastor
Ksenia Lowenfels, Music Director**

**Yvonne Pratt, Secretary
Edward Hansen, Sexton**

ADRIAN'S ANECDOTES ...

NURSERY NEEDS



When a child is baptized we promise as a congregation to offer them the example of Christian faith and service and to assist in whatever way we can to help the parents bring their child up in the way of Christian faith. One practical way congregational members can fulfill that promise is through volunteering to help in the nursery on a Sunday morning.

Our budget restraints mean that we are unable to hire a person to take that role as we have done in the past. The responsibility therefore falls on all who are members to ensure our youngest ones are watched over during our times of worship. I invite you to prayerfully consider if you can help fulfill this obligation, which extends to every Sunday throughout the year.

Obviously we are not expecting any one person to sign up for 52 Sundays. Yet if 52 of you just signed up for ONE Sunday the problem would be solved. The sign up sheet is on the nursery door.

Towards the end of last year it seemed like every Sunday I was making an appeal for nursery help. I haven't been doing this verbally so far this year and hope that this written appeal will make such an announcement obsolete. Seriously... we need help with this issue!

We continue to advertise every week in our bulletin 'Nursery available'. Let us work together to make sure we are fulfilling our commitments. We have a great nursery room, stocked with toys. The service is transmitted through the loudspeaker so volunteers can still get an idea of what is happening in worship. And our families need the love and care we promise them at baptism.

Please prayerfully consider your response to our nursery needs. ☺

-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.



CONDOLENCES

The sympathy and concern of First Presbyterian Church of Baldwin is expressed to Genie Sime in the loss of her son, John Sime and to Kevin, David and Shaun Sime and families in the death of their father.

John’s father, Rev. Alexander Sime pastored this church from 1956-1970.

Pastor Adrian Pratt was privileged to officiate at the memorial service held at Macken Mortuary, Island Park, NY, on January 27th.

Also, we have heard that Harry Schneider Sr., passed away on February 7th, 2011 in Sedona, AZ, at the age of 94 years. He was one of our former members who helped build our current sanctuary. Our sympathy is expressed to his family and friends.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BALDWIN, NY
STATED SESSION MEETING SUMMARY
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2011

Following the cancellation of our January meeting due to the inclement weather, Session regrouped for their stated meeting on Wednesday, February 9 2011. After opening prayer, reports from Clerk, Pastor and Committees were received and approved. The bulleted list below highlight the business transacted;

- Congregational Meeting called for Sunday February 27th to receive 2010 annual reports.
- Financial Assistance of \$500 offered to support Daniel Portice who is currently pursuing Master of Divinity Program at Colombia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA.
- Seven adult children of members no longer residing in the area were moved to the inactive roll.
- The 2011 General Mission Budget was approved, along with four special offerings; One Great Hour of Sharing on Palm Sunday, April 17, 2011; Blanket Sunday on Mother's Day, May 8, 2011; Peacemaking on October 2, 2011; and Christmas Joy on December 18, 2011.
- Subscription of \$545.00 renewed to the Parish Resource Center in Elmont from Memorial Funds. Members were encouraged to make use of their resources.

Thanks were received from Freeport INN, the Lutheran Counseling Center, St. Christopher Food Pantry; Bread for the World, and Souperbowl of Caring for our support. The next scheduled Stated Session Meeting will be 7:30 p.m., **Wednesday, March 2, 2011**. Elders are asked to note that this is a week earlier than our normal date due to our Ash Wednesday service.

-Rev. Adrian J. Pratt, Moderator of Session

John Sime, who passed away in January 2011, wrote this poem on the occasion of his father's death, Rev. Alexander Sime, and was made available from Marge Leverage as a tribute to both men.

TO MY DAD, ALEXANDER SIME – DECEMBER 3, 1993

When I think of the word "father"
And the myriad of definitions
That come to mind at a time like this,
I think of one in particular
"Teacher"

My father was a wonderful teacher.
He taught me so much!
He taught me about friendship
By watching him interact with people
I am very grateful!

He taught me about understanding,
As I watched him seek the true
Meaning of life's realities,
While other minds were blocked by prejudice and hatred
I am very grateful!

He taught me about compassion
As I watched him serve the sick and suffering
I am very grateful!

He taught me about positive thinking
As I watched him carry on against
What seemed like impossible odds
I am very grateful!

He taught me about self esteem
And the value of a job well done
As he rose every week in the pulpit
I am very grateful!

He taught me about acceptance
As I watched him deal with his frustrations
I am very grateful!

He taught me about laughter
As my house was always filled with his,
That shook the furniture and felt so good
I am very grateful!

Continued...

He taught me about serenity
As I sat with him next to a mountain lake
I am very grateful!

He taught me about faith
As I watched his faith never diminish
In the belief that God is always there
To guide and protect us
I am very grateful!

He taught me about courage
As I watched him take unpopular stands
On issues because he knew they were right
I am very grateful!

He taught me about God
As I watched him serve and devote his life to Jesus
I am very grateful!

He taught me about prayer
As I watched him speak to God
And the peace he found in doing so
I am very grateful!

He taught me about love
As he walked through his life
Loving me in so many ways
I am very grateful!

He taught me the importance of family
As I watched him always be there for
Mother and brothers, sisters and cousins
Nieces and nephews and always for us
I am very grateful!

He taught me about so much more
I am very grateful!

His last words to me were I'm so proud of you!
And with these words he taught me
About being a father
I am very grateful!

He came from love and has gone to love
He was love and I am so very grateful!

TAKE A BREATH

Lynn Smith kindly gave me a copy of this Japanese paraphrase of the 23rd Psalm. It's too good not to share. Enjoy!

-Secretary

23rd Psalm (Japanese paraphrase)

The Lord is my pacesetter, I shall not rush;
He makes me stop and rest at quiet intervals.
He provides me with images of stillness,
Which restore my serenity;
He leads me in ways of efficiency
Through calmness of mind,
And this guidance is peace.
Even though I have a great many things
To accomplish this day,
I will not fret, for His presence is here.
His timelessness, His all-importance,
Will keep me in balance.
He prepares refreshment and renewal
In the midst of my activity
By anointing my mind with His oils of tranquility.
My cup of joyous energy overflows.
Surely harmony and effectiveness
Shall be the fruits of my hours,
For I shall walk in the pace of my Lord,
And dwell in His heaven forever.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Thank you to all who contributed to February's Souper Bowl of Caring offering. A total of \$337.24 was raised for our local Freeport Food Pantry. Currently, the nationwide total of \$7,273,343.00 has been generated by 8212 groups. It's good to know FPCB made a difference.



THANK YOU!
First Presbyterian Church of Baldwin, NY
raised:
\$337.24

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

 **February 6, 2011**
tacklehunger.org

Tracy Bender
Tracy Bender
President and CEO
Souper Bowl of Caring



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight Savings Time begins on **Sunday, March 13, 2011**. Don't forget to turn your clocks **AHEAD ONE HOUR** before you go to bed on **SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2011**.



BREAD FOR THE WORLD ACHIEVES 2010 GOALS

December 2nd was a historic day for Bread for the World congregations. Congress passed back-to-back bills to help Americans at risk of hunger. First, the House passed the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act—a five year renewal of child nutrition programs. The bill had already been approved by the Senate and President Obama signed it into law on December 15th. Immediately after that, the House passed the Middle Class Tax Relief Act of 2010, which included tax credits for low-income workers. The bill protected the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit—goals of Bread for the World’s Offering of Letters. On Sunday, September 19th, our congregation sent over 90 letters to our two Senators and our House representative urging passage of this legislation. Our letters and commitment made a difference.



-Rev. Ken Graham

(Thanks to Ken for his initiative and willingness in guiding us through Adult Forum on September 19th.)



CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

HUMAN RIGHTS CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2011, 1:00 P.M.

ST. PAUL’S AME CHURCH, 453 PERSHING BLVD, LAKEVIEW, RVC.

“Living Our Legacy... Driving the Movement”

Church Women United has always been involved in the cause of Human Rights. This year the service looks at the history of the movement, and encourages us to continue to drive our movement forward as we honor individuals who have supported the cause of Human Rights in our communities.

All are invited to attend this celebration on March 4th.

REQUEST FROM THE LONG ISLAND COUNCIL OF CHURCHES



Our Freeport Emergency Food Center has an urgent need for baby items, especially diapers, infant formula, and baby cereal. Although we do get donations of these items, they do not begin to fill the need. For a low-income family that can't make ends meet as it is, these items are very expensive, yet they are essential for families with infants.

Could your congregation donate these items? Is there a nearby school that could collect these items from donations by parents of the schoolchildren? Or does your child or grandchild attend a school that might be willing to collect them on our behalf. Collecting these items could be a good Sunday School project, too, or a project for your Youth Group or Scout group.

If you prefer to make a cash donation, here are some typical costs of these items: Diapers – sizes 3, 4 and 5 most needed. Even a conservative estimate of 10/day means one box lasts about three days for one baby. Weekly cost per infant is approximately \$15/week.

Infant formula – One 23 oz. can costs about \$26. If the infant is a light eater, one container will last almost a week. Weekly cost per infant = \$26 a week. Baby cereal – one box will last about five days for one infant. Weekly cost per infant = \$7.50. Total weekly cost per infant = about \$48.50, or about \$208/month.

These baby items are in chronically short supply. A gift of \$416 would cover the cost of these three items for one baby for two months.

The Long Island Council of Churches can be contacted at (516) 565-0290.

WORSHIP SERVICES FOR MARCH, 2011

March 6 – (Communion) Transfiguration of the Lord
“Glory Story” - Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

March 9th *Ash Wednesday Communion service at 7:30 p.m.*

March 13 – First Sunday in Lent, Tartan Sunday
“Celebrate your Heritage” - Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

March 20 – Second Sunday in Lent, Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday
Guest Preacher - Elder Margaret Cook

March 27 – Third Sunday in Lent
“My Reality Check Just Bounced” Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

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## MISSION TRIP TO WEST VIRGINIA 2011

### A Change in Date!!!

**Sunday, August 21st through Saturday, August 27th (or parts thereof!)**



We continue to lay plans 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>

## 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.



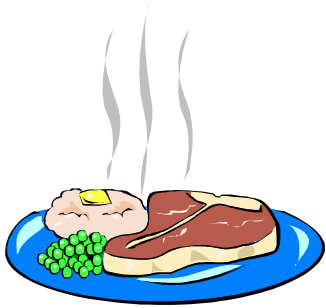
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KUNDALINI YOGA

Adult Forum was treated to a half-hour's teaching on Kundalini Yoga on February 13th, under the direction of Laura Williams, and an enjoyable time was had by all! If you are interested in attending her classes here at the church, they are on Mondays from 9:45-11:00 a.m. (except for Holidays). The cost of each class is \$12.00. If you would like more information, please call Laura at 516-984-5767 or email her at laurawilli@gmail.com

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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? Ask Carl Larson. **Next dinner is Wednesday, March 16th.**

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UPPER ROOM DEVOTIONALS

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

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## FLOWER DONATIONS

Don't forget you can sign up for flowers to be placed in the Sanctuary on any given Sunday. All you need to do is check the Flower Chart in the Narthex for availability and complete a "Flower Donation Form", which can be placed in the offering plate, or handed in to the church office. You can donate in memory of loved ones or in celebration of a birthday/anniversary or something special you wish to share. Your donation tribute will appear in the bulletin on the Sunday that you specified. The cost is \$20 per donation.





## Focus on Fellowship 2011

| MARCH 2011                                       | APRIL 2011                 | MAY 2011                   |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>3/04</b> CWU United-Human Right's Celebration | <b>4/19</b> Women's b'fast | <b>5/17</b> Women's b'fast |
| <b>3/09</b> Soup Supper (Ash Wednesday)          | <b>4/20</b> Men's Dinner   | <b>5/18</b> Men's Dinner   |
| <b>3/15</b> Women's b'fast                       | <b>4/27</b> Women's Dinner | <b>5/25</b> Women's Dinner |
| <b>3/16</b> Men's Dinner                         |                            |                            |
| <b>3/23</b> Women's Dinner                       |                            |                            |

### UPCOMING DATES FOR APRIL 2011

|                                            |                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, April 5                           | Presbytery meeting at Bethpage                     |
| Tuesday, April 5                           | Evening Bible Study                                |
| Wednesday, April 6                         | Prayer Shawl Circle                                |
| Thursday, April 7                          | Morning Bible Study                                |
| Friday, April 8-9                          | Youth "Mission Impossible 4"                       |
| Sunday, April 10                           | Children of the church present "Joseph"            |
| Monday, April 11                           | Deacons                                            |
| Wednesday, April 13                        | Session                                            |
| Sunday, April 17                           | Palm Sunday                                        |
| Monday, April 18                           | Deadline for May Tidings                           |
| Monday, April 18 through Tuesday, April 26 | CNS Spring Recess                                  |
| Tuesday, April 19                          | Evening Bible Study                                |
| Thursday, April 21                         | Morning Bible Study                                |
| Thursday, April 21                         | Maundy Thursday Communion service                  |
| Friday, April 22                           | Good Friday ecumenical service – Time & Place TBA  |
| Sunday, April 24                           | Easter Sunday – One Great Hour of Sharing offering |
| Monday, April 25                           | Cook for the INN                                   |



## CELEBRATE THE GIFTS OF WOMEN

Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday will be held on *Sunday, March 20, 2011, at 10:00 a.m.* Our guest speaker that day will be Elder Margaret Cook. Please make every effort to attend this worship service.

### PRAYER SHAWL CIRCLE

*"Calling all knitters and crocheters!"*

The Prayer Shawl Circle meet regularly on the **First Wednesday of each month** in the church parlor. However, this month we have rescheduled and will meet on **Wednesday, March 16th, 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 Penny Blanchard (763-4568) or Bobbi Angelillo (623-6898).



### 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, March 15th**. For more information, contact Marge Leverage at 223-5439.



### 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, March 23rd at 7:00 p.m.** All women are invited to attend. If you need more information, please call Erika Floreska (379-8080). We look forward to seeing you there.



# FIRST AND THIRD BIBLE STUDIES

## "The Gospel of Matthew"



A new Session of adult Bible Study has begun. We usually hold studies on the **first** and **third** Tuesday evenings/Thursday mornings each month. The evening and morning studies will cover the same material, the theme is: 'According to Matthew'.

The schedule is as follows:

### Tuesday Night 8:00 p.m.

- March 1st
- March 15th
- April 5th
- April 19th

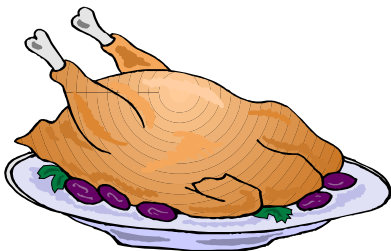
### Thursday Morning 10:00 a.m.

- March 3rd
- March 17th
- April 7th
- April 21st

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, March 28th, 2011** at 7:00 p.m., in Beyer Hall.



## SPRING CONCERT

Zach Downing and Marc Strauss from the church perform in a Spring concert with the Freeport Community Band on Thursday March 10th at 7:30 PM at Freeport High School. All are invited and admission is free.



## BELL CHOIR

The church's Bell Choir is now preparing pieces for Easter season and welcome any new players. Practice is each Thursday from 7 to 8 PM. See Music Director, Ksenia Lowenfels!

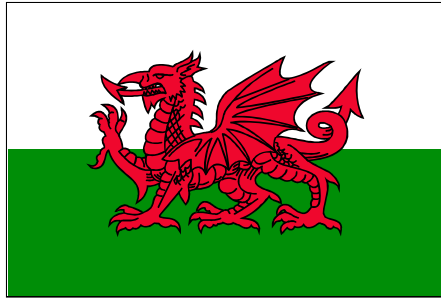


## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Many thanks to our youth for their participation in the Souperbowl collection which raised over \$300 towards the Freeport Food Pantry. By the time the newsletter comes out some of them should also have been on a mission adventure to the Bowery. More of that next time! Our regular Sunday night meetings continue at 7:00 p.m. (with the exception of March 20<sup>th</sup>).

Coming up: – "Mission Impossible 4" - April 8-9.

## MISSION OPPORTUNITY



### For youth 18-22 in Wales, United Kingdom.

The Presbyterian Church of Wales, through their youth officer, Gwyn Rhydderch, are seeking young people from the United States, aged 18-22, who would be interested in a 2 week faith/culture sharing visit.

The work would involve being part of Christian youth meetings in local schools during the day as well as speaking at youth meetings in the evenings. Participants would be expected to be active in their local churches and have the ability and desire to share their Christian faith with their peers. An interest in Celtic heritage and language would also be beneficial.

Their Welsh hosts will supply all meals and accommodations, as well as local transportation. Participants will be expected to raise money for their own travel to Wales.

No dates have yet been set, but as the visit involves work in schools, it will obviously have to be during the Welsh educational year.

Further details can be found through Rev. Adrian J. Pratt, former pastor with the Presbyterian Church of Wales.