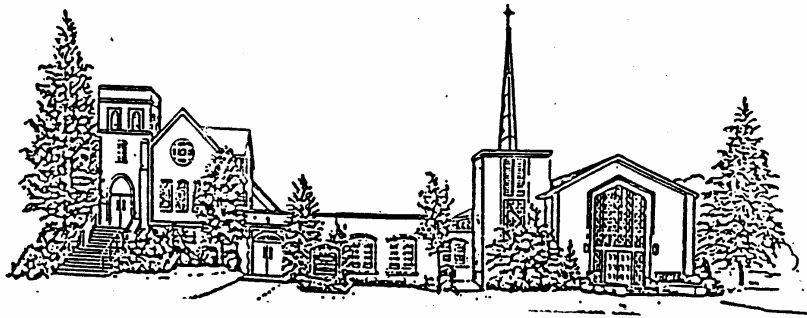


TIDINGS

FEBRUARY 2012



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

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 ...

I will be the first to admit that I am one of those folk who greatly appreciates his coffee to help him through the day. At a recent (partly caffeine fueled) Clergy retreat at Cormaria in Sag Harbor, I came across the following meditation.



Life is Like a Cup of Coffee (Spiritual Story by Anon.)

A group of alumni, highly established in their careers, got together to visit their old university professor. Conversation soon turned into complaints about stress in work and life.

Offering his guests coffee, the professor went to the kitchen and returned with a large pot of coffee and an assortment of cups – porcelain, plastic, glass, crystal, some plain looking, some expensive, some exquisite – telling them to help themselves to the coffee.

When all the students had a cup of coffee in hand, the professor said: “If you noticed, all the nice looking expensive cups have been taken up, leaving behind the plain and cheap ones. While it is normal for you to want only the best for yourselves, this is the source of your problems and stress.

Be assured that the cup itself adds no quality to the coffee. In most cases it is just more expensive and in some cases even hides what we drink. What all of you really wanted was coffee, not the cup, but you consciously went for the best cups... and then you began eyeing each other's cups.

Now consider this: Life is the coffee; the jobs, money and position in society are the cups. They are just tools to hold and contain Life, and the type of cup we have does not define, nor change the quality of life we live.

Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the coffee. Savor the coffee, not the cups! The happiest people don't have the best of everything. They just make the best of everything. Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly.”

-Rev. Adrian J. Pratt



FIRST AND THIRD BIBLE STUDIES

– “The Gospel of Matthew”

The evening and morning Bible Studies cover the same material and the theme is: ‘*According to Matthew*’.

The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday Night 8:00 p.m.

February 7

February 21

Thursday Morning 10:00 a.m.

February 2

February 16

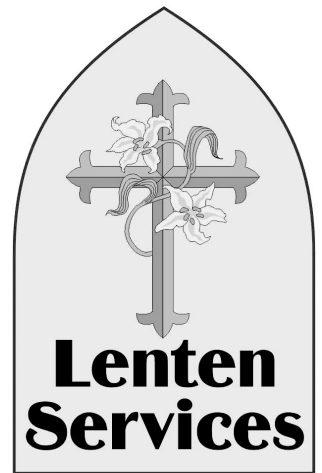
All members of the congregation are invited to attend. Please mark your calendars. We look forward to seeing you! Our regular Bible Study will take a break from Matthew during Lent.

Please see below for Lenten Bible Study information.



LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Through the Nassau County Joint Youth initiative we are working together in providing Community based Joint Bible Studies. The theme is “**God’s Abundant Table**” based on a book by Cynthia M. Campbell. This will replace our regular “First and Third Bible Studies” **during Lent**. The studies will begin with fellowship at **6:45 p.m.**, and conclude with Communion at **8:30 p.m.** Meetings will be in the respective Presbyterian Churches. The schedule is as follows:



- Tuesday, February 28 - Massapequa
- Tuesday, March 6 - Garden City
- Tuesday, March 13 - Malverne
- Tuesday, March 20 - Freeport
- Tuesday, March 27 - Baldwin

This will be an opportunity to study and fellowship with other Presbyterian Church members and allow us to focus upon the Lenten Journey. It would be wonderful to see First Presbyterian Church of Baldwin well represented.

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.



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## "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.

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.



## In Memorium

First Presbyterian Church of Baldwin is grateful for all the donations received for **The Memorial Fund**. Since the last issue of the *Tidings*, this includes the following:

... **Leonau Navarro** from Gary & Sue Williams

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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.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BALDWIN, NY
STATED SESSION MEETING SUMMARY
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2012

Session met for their stated meeting on Wednesday, January 11, 2012. After opening prayer, The minutes of both the previous session and congregational meeting were read, corrected and approved and reports from Clerk, Pastor and Committees were received and approved. The bulleted list below highlight the business transacted:

- Pastor's vacation time was approved for March 5, 2012 through March 12, 2012. A motion to allow the youth to take a collection on Souperbowl Sunday for the Freeport Food Pantry was approved. New member classes will be held after church on February 12 and March 18, 2012.
- **Buildings and Grounds:** Due to two recent false alarms, it was suggested that we have a refresher course on the alarm system for those people who regularly have to get in and out of the church.
- **Fellowship Committee:** The annual bowling and parlor games event will be on Sunday, January 29, 2012.
- **Stewardship and Finance Committee:** The projected deficit will be less than anticipated: \$12,500 rather than \$19,500.
- **General Mission Committee:** Three disbursements were made at the end of December, fulfilling our yearly commitments. The Christmas Joy Offering received \$670, an improvement over last year's offering. The 2012 budget was distributed and approved. The dates for the four special offerings for next year were voted on:

One Great Hour of Sharing	4/1/2012 Palm Sunday
Blanket Sunday	5/13/2012 Mother's Day
Peacemaking	10/7/2012
Christmas Joy	12/23/2012
- **Invested Resources Committee:** The balance in our account is \$312,374. Looking at the past few years, our rate of return is slightly better than the S&P 500.
- **Nominating Committee:** Madeleine Speight, Bill Hodges and Susan Aksionoff will be our Elder members of the Committee. Bill Hodges will chair. A deacon is also needed.

Continued...

Continued...

- **Personnel Committee:** A thank you note was received from the Church Secretary for her Christmas gift as well as the support of the Committee throughout the year.
- **Website Committee:** Thanks to Rich Perez for keeping up our presence on Facebook. Videos of events at the church are available on both Facebook and YouTube. Thanks also to the Pastor for keeping the church website up to date.
- **OLD/NEW BUSINESS:** Elders were reminded to submit the Annual Reports for their committees as soon as possible. It was suggested that we have the Annual Meeting during the Adult Forum time, rather than immediately after church. A motion for Cub Pack 213 to have a Bridging Ceremony in Beyer Hall on February 12, 2012 from 2-5 p.m. was approved.
 1. The next scheduled Stated Session Meeting will be 7:30 p.m., February 8, 2012.
 2. The next scheduled Presbytery Meeting will be on Saturday, January 28, 2012, at the Brentwood Presbyterian Church. Elder Margaret Cook will attend as our delegate.

-Rev. Adrian J. Pratt, Moderator of Session

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**NEW MEMBER CLASSES**



**WELCOME!**

Classes for anybody interested in membership of the Presbyterian Church (USA) will be led by our Pastor and held after worship and coffee time on **February 12** and **March 18, 2012**.

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CELEBRATE THE GIFTS OF WOMEN SUNDAY

Our 'Celebrate the gifts of Women Sunday'
will be held on
Sunday, March 11, 2012.

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**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

A Congregational Meeting is scheduled to take place on  
**Sunday, March 4, 2012**, following Worship  
to approve the 2011 Annual Reports.

## 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 you requested a 2012 box of envelopes, they are available from the Narthex. Please pick your box up.

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"FLUTE AND FRIENDS"

Sunday, March 4, 2-3pm

Save the date! Join Erika Floreska, flute, and a number of friends for an hour long program of music from a variety of styles and genres. Featuring repertoire from American, Japanese, Argentinian, French composers and more, the program will be friendly to families and friends of all ages. More details to come.

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## **SAVE THE DATE!**

July 18-22, 2012

The 2012 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women  
Will be held at Gaylord Palms, Orlando, Florida  
Register online at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering)

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UPPER ROOM DEVOTIONALS

Please feel free to take a copy of the **January/February, 2012** issue of the Upper Room Devotionals. They are located in the Narthex.

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## CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING 2011: Share a Gift for Christmas...

Thank you to all who contributed to December's "Christmas Joy Offering."

To date, a total of **\$670.00** has been raised.



## FOOD DONATIONS



Food donations are always needed by the Long Island Council of Churches' Emergency Food Pantries. Food can be dropped off in the Narthex on any given Sunday. Outside of Sunday donations items can be dropped off in Freeport (450 N. Main Street, 516-868-4989), or Hempstead (in Christ's 1st Presbyterian Church, 516-565-0290). The best times to drop off donations are Monday-Friday, 9:00 to 4:30 in Hempstead 10 to 4 in Freeport. Donations of toiletries, personal care items, school supplies, small household goods, and shopping bags are also welcome. In addition the Freeport pantry needs small shopping carts, the Hempstead office needs carpeting. Call them direct if you can help.

## DRIVERS NEEDED

The LICC (Long island Council of Churches) regularly needs drivers who can pick up food donations occasionally and deliver them to Freeport, Hempstead or Riverhead (407 Osborne Avenue at Lincoln, 631-727-2210), as you are needed and as you happen to be available – with absolutely no guilt if you do not happen to be free.

Don't forget, the First Presbyterian Church of Baldwin regularly collects non-perishable food items on the **First Sunday of each Month**. A box for this purpose is placed in the Narthex. All items are forwarded to the Freeport Food Pantry. Thank you for your support.

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CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE 2011-2012

Through the Nassau County Joint Youth initiative we are working together in confirmation. Classes are as follows:

Class Schedule (Tuesdays 6:45 - 8:30 p.m.)

February 7 th	(Malverne)	April 24 th	(TBA)
February 28 th	(Massapequa)	May 8 th	(Massapequa)
March 2nd-3rd	Retreat at Holmes Camp		
March 13 th	(Malverne)		
March 27 th	(Baldwin)		

(Baldwin youth) - meet with Session May 9th

Service of Confirmation – TRINITY SUNDAY, JUNE 3, 2012



PRAYER SHAWL CIRCLE

"Calling all knitters and crocheters!"

The Prayer Shawl Circle will meet on their regular 1st Wednesday of the month on **February 1st, 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. They meet next on **Tuesday, February 21st.** 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 Ayyhan's Shish Kebab on Sunrise Highway, Baldwin, on **Wednesday, February 29th 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.



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, good company and lively conversation. Interested? Ask Carl Larson. **Next dinner is Wednesday, February 15th.**



DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH 'TIDINGS' IS TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

Please ensure articles are in the office on or before 1:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 14th, for inclusion in the March 2012 Tidings. Thank you!



Focus on Fellowship 2012

FEBRUARY 2012	MARCH 2012	
<p>02/15 Men's Dinner</p> <p>02/21 Women's b'fast</p> <p>02/22 Ash Wednesday Soup Supper (proceeds to One Great Hour of Sharing)</p> <p>02/29 Women's Dinner</p>	<p>03/20 Women's b'fast</p> <p>03/21 Men's Dinner</p> <p>03/28 Women's Dinner</p>	<p>SAVE THE DATES!</p>

NOTE: The Church office will be closed on **Monday, February 20th** in observance of Presidents' Day.

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*To all members and friends at First Presbyterian Church of Baldwin*  
*"Happy Valentine's Day"*



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YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2012

The Youth are planning a Mission Trip to The Bowery in Manhattan. They will meet at McDonalds in Penn Station at approximately 8:45 a.m. The trip should conclude at about 2:00 p.m. See Pastor for more details and sign-up.

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**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 and Holidays.

## UPCOMING DATES FOR MARCH, 2012

|                              |                                                                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Friday, March 2              | World Day of Prayer                                                 |
| Friday, March 2-Sat. March 3 | Holmes Camp Confirmation Retreat                                    |
| Sunday, March 4              | Communion/Food Offering/<br>Congregational Meeting                  |
| Sunday, March 4              | “Flute & Friends” concert                                           |
| Mon., March 5-March 12       | Pastor on Vacation                                                  |
| Mon., March 5-March 12       | Office Closed                                                       |
| Tuesday, March 6             | Lenten Bible Study (Garden City)                                    |
| Wednesday, March 7           | Prayer Shawl Circle                                                 |
| Sunday, March 11             | Daylight Savings Time begins/Celebrate the<br>Gifts of Women Sunday |
| Monday, March 12             | Deacons                                                             |
| Tuesday, March 13            | Confirmation class – Malverne PC                                    |
| Tuesday, March 13            | Lenten Bible Study (Malverne PC)                                    |
| Wednesday, March 14          | Session                                                             |
| Friday, March 16             | NO CNS                                                              |
| Sunday, March 18             | New Members class                                                   |
| Monday, March 19             | Deadline for Tidings                                                |
| Tuesday, March 20            | Lenten Bible Study (Freeport)                                       |
| Sunday, March 25             | Sunday School presentation of<br>“The Tale of the Three Trees’      |
| Sunday, March 25             | Building & Grounds Committee meeting                                |
| Monday, March 26             | Cook for the INN                                                    |
| Tuesday, March 27            | Confirmation class – Baldwin PC                                     |
| Tuesday, March 27            | Lenten Bible Study (Baldwin)                                        |

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LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING!



As the *Tidings* goes to print, \$13.57 has been raised through loose change giving since the last total printed in the *Tidings*. Will you join other members and help change make a change? (To help the counters, please don't forget to roll it first – thanks).

WORSHIP SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2012

Series continues on First Corinthians "Living a Holy Life in an Unholy World"

February 5 – "4. Where did that Call go?" Communion Service

– Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

February 12 – "5. Running to Win" - Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

February 19 – **Transfiguration of the Lord** "Moses Shines"

- Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

Wednesday, February 22 – **Ash Wednesday** – Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

February 26 – **First Sunday in Lent** – **Series on the Psalms**

"Psalm 25 – Loving and Faithful"

- Rev. Adrian J. Pratt

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## HOLMES CAMP - SEEKING GRANT WRITERS

Holmes Camp are putting a team together to help them in applying for public and private grant funding. If you have experience in that area and would be interested in contributing to the camps development please contact their executive Director Rev. Peter D. Surgenor. Their office phone number is 845-878-6383. Peter's e-mail is [psurgenor@holmescamp.org](mailto:psurgenor@holmescamp.org). The group will begin their work early in 2012.

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IT'S A GIRL!



Marge Leverage is proud to announce the safe arrival of her 9th great grandchild, Greyson Noel, who was born on Christmas Day in Dayton, Ohio. Greyson (named after Marge's late husband Grason) arrived early at just 5 lbs. She was not due until February! Baby and parents, Scott and Sarah are all doing well. *Congratulations to you all!*

AND

Nancy and Kent Williamson are proud to announce the safe arrival of their first grandchild, Effie Elizabeth Ziegler, who was born on January 18, 2012, in Maryland. She was 7 lb 2½ oz and 21" long. Effie is the great-granddaughter of Janet Kempner and niece of Amy Williamson. Mom, Emily Williamson, and Dad, Jared Ziegler, are both doing well! *Congratulations to you all!*





AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE

Celebrate. Remember. Fight Back.

2012 Relay For Life of Baldwin High School NY

Participate with our Baldwin Community to make this year's Relay one to remember!

Join a Team or Create your Own.

Important team meeting dates:

February 9, 2012- Team Meeting 7:00PM Baldwin HS Cafeteria B

March 7, 2012- Team Meeting 7:00PM Baldwin HS Cafeteria A

April 4, 2012- Team Meeting 7:00PM Baldwin HS Cafeteria B

May 17, 2012- Team Meeting 7:00PM Baldwin HS Cafeteria B

June 7, 2012- Bank/TShirt Night 7:00PM Baldwin HS Cafeteria B

June 9, 2012- Relay For Life

*Committee Meetings will take place immediately after Team Meetings

**Please have at least one representative from each team attend Team Meetings



WHAT IS IMPROVISATION?

A Jazz for Young People Family Concert

Saturday, February 11 at 1pm & 3pm

Frederick P. Rose Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center, 60th and Broadway

FAPC Member and Drummer **Matt Wilson** and his **Arts and Crafts** ensemble with special guest **Ted Nash** will lead audiences through an interactive, hour-long program on the most fundamental and revolutionary component of jazz: improvisation. With infectious exuberance, Matt will explore how jazz musicians communicate with their instruments and invent music in the moment.

Come early for a variety of family-friendly pre-concert activities at 12:15pm and 2:15pm. Young musicians ages 8 and up are invited to bring their instruments for a workshop.

Free download: http://jalc.org/concerts/free_downloads/#event2646

Info: <http://jalc.org/concerts/details309a.asp?EventID=2646>

Tickets: \$12 - a special group rate! Sign up with Erika Floreska - reservations and money due by January 31st - give number of tickets and which performance (1 or 3pm). You can reach Erika at erikasusan@me.com or 516-379-8080.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING 2012

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 5th**, when our youth will be on hand to receive monetary donations for our local food pantry.

Please give generously.



SOUP SUPPER

Join us on **Wednesday, February 22, 2012**, for the
Presbyterian Women's Ash Wednesday Soup Supper

Proceeds from the supper will be donated to
One Great Hour of Sharing

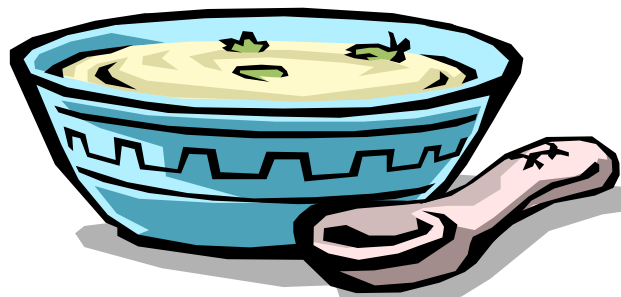
Time: 6:00-7:15 p.m.

Place: First Presbyterian Church, Beyer Hall

Sign up will be on Sundays after the church service in
the Parlor on February 5th, 12th and 19th

Cost: Adults: \$7.00 Children: \$3.00
Family Maximum: \$17.00

followed by Ash Wednesday Worship Service at 7:30 p.m.



GROUPS THAT REGULARLY MEET AT FPCB

Check with the group leader/moderator/calendar 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 meet regularly for rehearsal on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

Bible Study is bi-monthly on the first and third Tuesday at 8:00 p.m., and on the first and third Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

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

Cook for the INN

(Interfaith Nutrition Network) is the fourth Monday at 7 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)

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

Cadet Troop #2181 alternate Thursdays from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

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



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