



PRESBYTERIAN TIDBITS

The Newsletter of Ottawa Presbyterian Church

150 N. Oak St.

Rev. Steve Elderbrock, *Pastor*

ottawapresby.org

Ottawa, OH 45875-1810

Andrea Morman, *Secretary*

9:30 am Sunday School ♦ 10:45 am Worship

(419) 523.3694

October 2011



Halloween Treats for Students



It is that time of year again - time to put together bags of Halloween goodies for those members of our church family who are in school. The OPW will have 9 paper bags out in the entryway at church from October 2nd-23rd with names of each of the 9 students. You are invited to contribute candy, treats, even toys and other fun Halloween items to the bags. Throw in some of your favorite treats and then keep the remainder as a treat for yourself. Happy Halloween!!



Thank you to our church family for prayers, cards, memorial gifts and just "being there always". My mom wanted so much to get back one day to see you. You were in her thoughts. - Carolyn, Jim and the rest of Lena's family

*Thank you to all who sent cards to celebrate my recent retirement. The card shower, organized by my children, was a wonderful surprise and I appreciate the warm wishes expressed by so many! **With thanks, Susan B.**

**Dear OPC members,*

Thank you for your very generous monetary gift. By sharing your bequest from the estates of John & Jean Sewell with us, you have "lightened the load" for many needy Putnam Co. families. May God continue to bless you and your loved ones. - The Ottawa Food Pantry



**Dear Pastor Steve,*

It was a pleasure to speak with you late last week to thank you and your church members for your generous contribution of \$4,500 to support the international ministry of Habitat for Humanity. Thank you for your support for our mission in Putnam County and in far off lands. **God Bless, Rob Dewaelsche**

**Dear Rev. Elderbrock,*

Just a note to tell you how much we enjoyed Calvin's baptism. Everything was good; however, the very best was when you took Calvin out among the people. We had a minister who also did this, and I remember him telling the people, "You look at this child, in the future, if needed, anyone of you should be able to help this child along in life." You arousing this memory for me gave you a rating from 1-10, you get a 12 and broke the scale. Just had Ethel read the above, the tears of joy quickly appeared. Calvin is our 5th great grandchild; 4 boys, 1 girl. Zane when here grabs my hand and we head for the barn to see the cows. Along the way we pull grass for 4 heifers, then we continue on to sit on the tractor. Every grandparent should have a farm with a creek flowing thru it. Ha! Again thank you so much for your part in Calvin's Day.

Sincerely, Jim & Ethel C.

Applying Bible Principles



“When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you....But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth...” (Deut. 8:10, 18).

The Bible repeatedly says that we are to “praise the Lord,” but what does that mean? Whatever else it might mean, it entails having a thankful heart for all that God has done for us. It’s easy, you know, to go to an extreme and to emphasize only God’s spiritual blessings to the exclusion of His temporal blessings. It’s also easy to emphasize only His material blessings and to forget His provisions for us spiritually. In reality, we are to emphasize both the material and spiritual blessings we receive from God, remembering that all that we have comes from His bountiful hand.

As we realize God’s provisions for us, day after day, week after week, month after month, and year after year, we literally “praise the Lord” by a lifestyle that is marked by thanksgiving for all that God has done for us. And that spirit of gratitude for past, present and future blessings causes us to want to give to the Lord from the bounty He has provided for us. As one unknown author wrote, “Thanksgiving, to be truly Thanksgiving, is first thanks, then giving.”

Think about it: As we receive God’s blessings, we offer praise and thanksgiving to Him. And as we realize afresh that all that we have is a result of God’s goodness, our response to His faithfulness is to give back to God a portion of that which was

already His. We do so, not because we have to or out of any sense of obligation or guilt. We give to the Lord because we want to do so, in response to His great love for us and in response to His goodness.

Dwight L. Moody was once reading Psalm 103. When he came to the verse, “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,” he stopped short in his inimitable way and exclaimed, “You can’t remember them all, of course, but don’t forget them all. Remember some of them!” And as you “remember some of them,” remember the sequence: First thanks, then giving.

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Ottawa Food Pantry News



Ottawa Food Pantry is in need of your help. The shelves are bare and items needed are: canned fruit, bagged rice, graham crackers, spaghetti sauce, canned soup (not chicken noodle or tomato), pantry items, (i.e. sugar, flour, oil, pie filling), anything needed to sustain a family and plastic shopping bags (please recycle them there instead of putting them in the box at Wal-Mart).

Donations of excess garden produce are also welcome. Please bring those things in the day before or by 9 am the morning of distribution (2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month).

**Next Session meeting
Thursday, October 20 at 7 pm**



Prayer Requests

For those with *health concerns*:

For *favorable weather*,

For all affected by *natural disasters*,

For those with *employment concerns*,

For *military personnel* serving around the world,

Joy for prayers answered

Sunday Scripture Readings

October 2 - World Communion Sunday

Philippians 3:4b-14

Psalms 19

October 9

Exodus 32:1-14

Philippians 4:1-9

October 16

Exodus 33:12-23

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

October 23

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17

October 30

Revelation 7:9-17

Psalms 107:1-7, 33-37



Bible Study

Wednesday Evenings at 6:00 pm
(Putnam Acres)

October 5: Revelation 7:1-17

October 12: Revelation 8:1-13

October 19: Revelation 9:1-21

October 26: Revelation 10:1-11



Habitat Update

The third Habitat home is under roof on South Oak Street. On Aug. 31, 14 volunteers from OPC helped caulk the home and install blue board insulation to the exterior. The HVAC, plumbing, electrical and siding were installed on Sept. 24. A required inspection (a grant requirement), should probably be October 1. Once that is done, drywall can begin. If this all works out, we could begin painting walls as early as October 10, but that's a big "IF". The home should be completed and ready for the Theis family to move into this November. What a great Thanksgiving that will be for the Theis family.

At our next board meeting, we will officially introduce the family who will partner with Habitat for the house that will be built in early 2012 in Continental. The family was approved at the Sept. meeting, but we need to have a chance to meet with them to make sure they understand the Habitat process (no, homes aren't given away; yes, there is a mortgage, but no interest) before their names are released. **Thanks to the many wonderful volunteers and donors who have made all of this possible. We have been blessed!**

Sanctuary Renovation Update

The two sanctuary renovation committees are doing their work of poring through quotes and figuring out the details of our planned renovation. You will be hearing more about their plans at the Fall annual meeting. We are still on schedule to have all the planning done by the end of the calendar year. If you have any questions, contact Mike K. or Pastor Steve.

**“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”
And I said, “Here am I. Send me!””**

- Isaiah 6:8 -

Friends,

“Here I Am” is many people’s favorite hymn in our Presbyterian hymnal, and the words of that hymn are taken directly from this passage in the book of Isaiah, when Isaiah sees a vision of the heavenly Temple and receives his call from God to go preach and prophesy.

This popular hymn reminds us that we are ALL called by God for some ministry unique to us and our gifts and talents. Part of the fun and excitement (and challenge) of our spiritual journey is discerning what God is calling us to do with our gifts and talents.

The Church Nominating Committee (*Paul Baransy, Diane Bishop, Dave Crawfis, Jane Doepker, Chas Myers*) will begin meeting soon, and will be looking for 2 new Ruling Elders for the class of 2014. Elders are ordained with the responsibility for leading and governing the congregation as part of the Session. The Session meets monthly (with a month off in the summer normally) and each Session member also serves on at least one Session committee (Church Operations, Education, Fellowship, Mission & Outreach, Worship) who meet at various times throughout the year. Some of you reading these words may be called (by the Nominating Committee AND by God) to be elders (or to serve again on Session). I invite you to prayerfully consider that possibility.

We are also looking for a Church Treasurer – someone to write checks, keep the checking account records, enter that information on the church computer, and be in charge of all money being paid out by the church (the Financial Secretary has responsibility for the money coming in). If you may be feeling the call to this ministry, please let me know!!! If you have questions about that job, you can ask Stan Beckman or Rick Barteck who have both served as Treasurer.

As you consider God’s call in your life, we are always in need of people to be liturgists or ushers in worship, to be part of the choir, to be involved with the Food Pantry or OPW BINGO or any number of other ministries and activities. Or maybe you have an idea for some ministry we are not currently doing! If you’d like to explore God’s call in your life, please let me know and I’d be happy to chat with you about it!

Peace,

Pastor Steve

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Presbyterian Tidbits is published once a month by: Ottawa Presbyterian Church, part of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Rev. Steve Elderbrock is here in the morning Tuesday-Friday; occasional afternoons.
Andrea Morman, secretary, is here Tuesdays/Thursdays, 8am-12pm.

Our website is ottawapresby.org

Sunday School-9:30 am, Worship-10:45 am

The **Prayer Circle** is a group willing to confidentially pray for your joys and concerns.
Please contact **Pastor Steve** (523-3694 or 523-3297).

DATE	ELDERS IN CHARGE	FLOWERS
October 2	Jean Setser Servers: Baransy, Doepker	Hirzel
October 9	Dee Beckman	Susan Schroeder
October 16	Jane Doepker	Baransy
October 23	Paul Baransy	Riepenhoff
October 30	Andee Parker Servers: Beckman, Setser	Myers

Session:

Class of 2011: **Paul Baransy, Arlene Cress, Jane Doepker**

Class of 2012: **Rick Barteck, Susan Schroeder, Jean Setser**

Class of 2013: **Dee Beckman, Andee Parker**