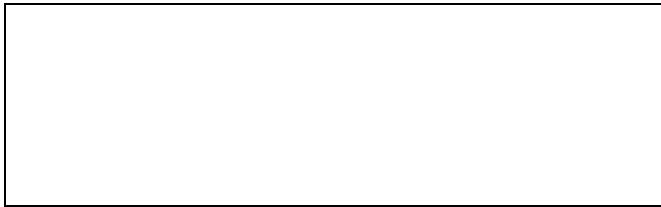




FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 34 BRINKERHOFF STREET
 PLATTSBURGH, NY 12901

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**Mapstone Family celebrating
 Marjorie's 80th birthday**



**Annaliese Goldenbaum
 with daughter, Kathe
 on her 98th birthday celebration**



pulse

November 2011

First Presbyterian Church
 34 Brinkerhoff Street
 Plattsburgh, NY 12901
 518.561.3140
 Pastor
 Rev. Kathy Crighton
 Pulse Editor
 Jennifer Booth

(written on October 25, 2011 before the Halloween Nor'easter)

On the radio this morning I heard someone mention the S-word. Now, around our house, "the S-word" is a code we use for "squirrel," because when Gabby the dog hears the word "squirrel," she thinks there's a squirrel on the wire out in the back yard and demands to go out to chase it. So we say "S-word" instead of "squirrel." But the S-word I heard on the radio was...Snow. Yeah. You know what that means. Just last week I was harvesting a few brave squash and peppers. This week, I'm hearing that S-word tossed about. Some mornings it's down around freezing. Time to pull up the last of the veggies, put the garden to bed, and get ready for a new season. Time to dig out the winter boots, the coats, the sweaters, the snowblower, the snow tires, the sack of salt...Hmmm, seem to be building up some S-words here....

There's another S-word that we're starting to hear in this season, too, and that word is: Stewardship.

Oh, yeah! November is Stewardship Season! It's already kicked off with Minutes for Mission in worship. Our annual Stewardship Commitment Dinner is Sunday, November 6 from 5 to 7 p.m. I hope you'll plan to come; it's always a joyous, fun evening. And on Sunday, November 13, we'll dedicate our pledges for the coming year in the worship services.

This year's theme for the stewardship season is "Saints Alive! (another S-word!) Living Generously" and it's based on a scripture passage from First Corinthians about "the collection for the saints." Wait! Don't you have to be dead to be a saint? And if you're dead, why would you need a collection taken for you?

No, you don't have to be dead to be a saint. And you don't have to be perfect to be a saint (although the word is sometimes used to describe someone as if they were). This scripture invites a congregation to take up a collection for others in need: specifically, for the Corinthians to take up an offering for the mother church in Jerusalem. And in stewardship season we're challenged to think outside of our own circumstances and remember the needs of a hurting world. And to give generously, in response to God's generosity to us.

You'll be hearing more about that S-word, Stewardship, in the days to come. Yep, you'll probably even hear a sermon or two about it.

In the meantime, there's that other S-word, Snow. It's coming, too. And when it gets here, it will be around for awhile.

Kathy

Session Highlights October 24, 2011 Meeting

Session met for its regular meeting on October 24, 2011. In addition to receiving reports from the various organizations of the church and approving activities that will be reported elsewhere in the Pulse, other Session actions included the following:

- Learned that Lupini Construction has taken a sample of the sanctuary building stonework original mortar for testing and analysis to ascertain the composition of the original mortar used in building the church. Lupini anticipates having the results back shortly, which will enable the company to provide a firmer estimate of the cost of the stonework repair that is needed.
- Learned that pledge receipts continue to be behind expectations and as a result there are cash flow issues. Third quarter giving statements will be going out and hopefully more pledges will be brought up-to-date.
- Approved the replacing the monies taken from the General Fund with money from the Undesignated Memorial Fund to pay for the new dishwasher.
- Approved the hiring of Khila-Rae Pecoraro as a babysitter in the Church Nursery and Toddler Room and for special occasions.
- Learned that the repairs to the computer systems and fire alarm system were covered by our insurance (less the deductible).

Discussed the Church Family Meeting of October 18, 2011 and the message from this one and the previous meeting that more intergenerational fellowship opportunities are wanted to foster getting to know the larger church family. The next Church Family Meeting will be Tuesday, December 20th with a simple dinner at 5:30 pm, eating while we talk, wrapping up by 6:30, and those able to do so, joining the church Christmas Caroling at 7 pm. The starting location is yet to be determined. Refreshments will follow afterward at the Vosses.

The next Stated Session meeting will be November 28, 2011.

Judy Bunnell, Clerk of Session

PACKING PARTY FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD NOVEMBER 11TH 5PM

What if you had never received a Christmas present in your entire life? Would you be surprised that a stranger packed a shoebox with gifts thinking of you half a world away? It doesn't take much to pack a shoebox. You would be surprised at how many things you can find around the house that you can include from your abundance.

Junior High youth are inviting everyone in our church to join them on November 11th for a packing party. We have received 25 pre-printed shoeboxes from Samaritan's Purse this year and will use these first before wrapping shoeboxes. As you arrive the youth will take the items you brought and place them out on tables according to their classification; toys, school supplies, hygiene, clothing, etc. Lists for what to pack can be found on Marianne's door. Feel free to bring items in ahead of time to the drop off box next to Marianne's office. If you want to do your own family shoebox, you can bring it already packed and wrapped (lid wrapped separately) with your \$7 for shipping.

Bring: Items for shoeboxes, \$7 per shoebox completed for shipping.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: JANUARY 7TH 2012

Youth Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser makes its popular return. Tickets will go on sale soon and will be the same as last year \$8 Adults, \$6 child, \$10 at the door. Take out will be available if you are on the go. Again this year our evening will be enhanced with live music playing while you dine. Money raised will be used for our summer mission trip to Reach Workcamps July 8-14, 2012.

SUMMER MISSION TRIP Reach Workcamps July 8-14, 2012 Broadalbin, NY

Deposit: \$50 now and \$50 by March 1, 2012

An information sheet with permission slip can be found on Marianne Wilson's door. Adults and youth are encouraged to participate.

Submitted by Marianne Wilson

Youth Activities

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

...Dust off your halos and round up the sheep, it's time to think about the Christmas Pageant for 2011.

Casting Call: Nov 20th during Church School time (10:30am)

Practices: Dec 6th & 13th during Church School (10:30am)

Dress Rehearsal: Sat, Dec 19th at 10:30am, prior to Advent Festival

Pageant Sunday: Dec 20th: 9:15am final run through, 10:30 service

Youth interested in providing musical selections are also encouraged to participate. If you know you are interested in participating but can not make the November 20th casting call, contact Stephanie Moore regarding your desired part at robnstephm@hotmail.com or 324-5569. Friends are also welcome.

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Youth Group Raise Much-Needed Funds

Every time you shop at any of the 700+ online stores in the iGive network, a portion of the money you spend benefits 1st Presbyterian Church Youth Group. It's a free service, and you'll never pay more when you reach a store through iGive. In fact, smart shoppers will enjoy iGive's repository of coupons, free shipping deals and sales. To get started, just create your free iGive account. And when you search the web, do it through iSearchiGive.com where each search means a penny (or more) for our cause! iGive will donate \$5 to our cause when you make your first purchase within the first 45 days of signing up.

Lectionary for Sundays in November

November 1 (All Saints Day)

Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

November 6 (32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

November 13 (33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Judges 4:1-7
Psalm 123:1-4
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

November 20 (Christ the King/Reign of Christ)

Ezekiel 34:1-16, 20-24
Psalm 100:1-5
Ephesians 1:15-23

November 2011 Sermons

November 6, 2011

All Saints Sunday
Daylight Savings Time ends
Matthew 5:1-12
Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Sermon: "Choices"

November 13, 2011

Stewardship Commitment Sunday
Matthew 25:14-30
1 Corinthians 16:1-4
Sermon: "Saints Alive!"

November 20, 2011

Christ the King Sunday
Ezekiel 34:1-16, 20-24
Matthew 25:31-46
Sermon: "Not the King You Were Expecting?"

End Lectionary Year A
Begin Lectionary Year B

OCTOBER ASSIGNMENTS

WORSHIP LEADERS

	<u>9:30 Service</u>	<u>11:30 Service</u>
Nov. 6	Carl Zehr	Open
Nov. 13	Dan LaDue	Frank Baehre
Nov. 20	Margaret Searing	Margaret Searing
Nov. 27	Dan Ladue	Open

USHERS

Nov. 6 - Matt and Lorena Burgin
Nov. 13 Roland and Yong McGee
Nov. 20 - Debbie Donahue & Janora Stone
Nov. 27 - Jim and Anne Bailey

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Nov. 6 - Open
Nov. 13 - Anne and Jim Bailey
Nov. 20 - Jennie and Alan Booth
Nov. 27 - Open

Holiday Wreaths

It's time to get into the holiday spirit! Stuart Voss and his merry crew of wreath makers will again be creating the lovely holiday wreaths suitable for hanging anywhere and everywhere. The Presbyterian Women and friends will decorate the wreaths on Saturday, November 19th, beginning at 9:30 am with a second session after a lunch provided by Presbyterian Women. Please call Dotte Buchanan at 561-4823 to help tie on bows and cones. No talent is needed except strong fingers—on the job training provided.

Order soon for the home, family and friends. It is easier to plan for materials and numbers if you order before November 15. Please place orders with Nancy Groves in the Church office at 561-3140, Dotte Buchanan at 561-4823 or Nancy Olsen 561-0189.

On Sunday November 20th, most of the wreaths will be ready to pick-up during fellowship time after the first church service.

Prices:

Undecorated Wreaths:	Small \$14.00
	Large \$18.00
	Extra large \$22.00
*Decorated Wreaths:	Small \$16.00
	Large \$20.00
	Extra large \$24.00

*red bow and pine cone accents.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to support the Presbyterian Women's Mission program by purchasing a fresh handcrafted Balsam Fir wreath.

Submitted by Nancy Olsen

Christmas Tea and Bazaar

Saturday, December 3 Noon to 3:00 pm

The Fellowship Hall will be transformed into a Christmas Fairyland. This is always a big event and well attended. It takes the entire church to make this happen.

We need your help. Here are some ways you might consider lending a hand:

Bakery - All kinds of home-made goodies from your special Christmas recipes. Fudge, yeast coffee cakes, small (1.5") cookies, etc., are popular. Remember to wrap in clear plastic. We cannot sell cream pies due to DOH regulations. Call Joy Mazur at 561-3875 or Kathe Fairweather at 563-2680.

Crafts - Anything you like to do. Make one for the sale. Make two for the sale. Heck, make as many as your are up to!! Call Jan Stone at 561-1320 or Jackie Curilla at 324-6028 with any questions.

Deli - All our customers look forward to these soups. Call Judy Bunnell at 561-8011 for more information.

White Elephant - Anything that is attractive and in good condition. Christmas items are especially popular. Call Karen Merrill at 563-3285.

Christmas Room - New this year - We will have a separate room of gently used Christmas things for sale.

Book Sale - Please donate books in good condition. If you are willing to help set up, call Joyce Fox at 562-8724 or Gretchen Barton at 561-1432,

Silver Tea Table - Small cookies about 1.5" are needed. Tea sandwiches are made at the church the day before. Would you like to help? Call Susan Mikkelson at 561-7004. Tea Table co-chairs are Cathy Ellis and Barbara Thompson.

Wreaths - Wreaths will be available in November. Place orders with Nancy Olsen at 561-0189 or Dotte Buchanan at 561-4832. Watch for more information in bulletins.

Set-up and break-down take a great deal of effort - many hands make light work! Please note that set-up this year is scheduled for Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm.

Co-Chairs Linda Voss and Jennie Booth will be glad to answer any questions you have. Contact Linda at 563-3057 and Jennie at 563-3809.

We need your participation. As you can see there are many ways you can help. Remember all proceeds go to mission.

Submitted by Jan Pauling and Sharon Chaney, Publicity Co-chairs

COME CELEBRATE STEWARDSHIP

SAINTS ALIVE! LIVING GENEROUSLY!

SUNDAY, 5-7 P.M., NOVEMBER 6, 2011

Growing Joyful Stewards in Our Congregation In worship, in Scripture and in Song The Recommitment of your tithes

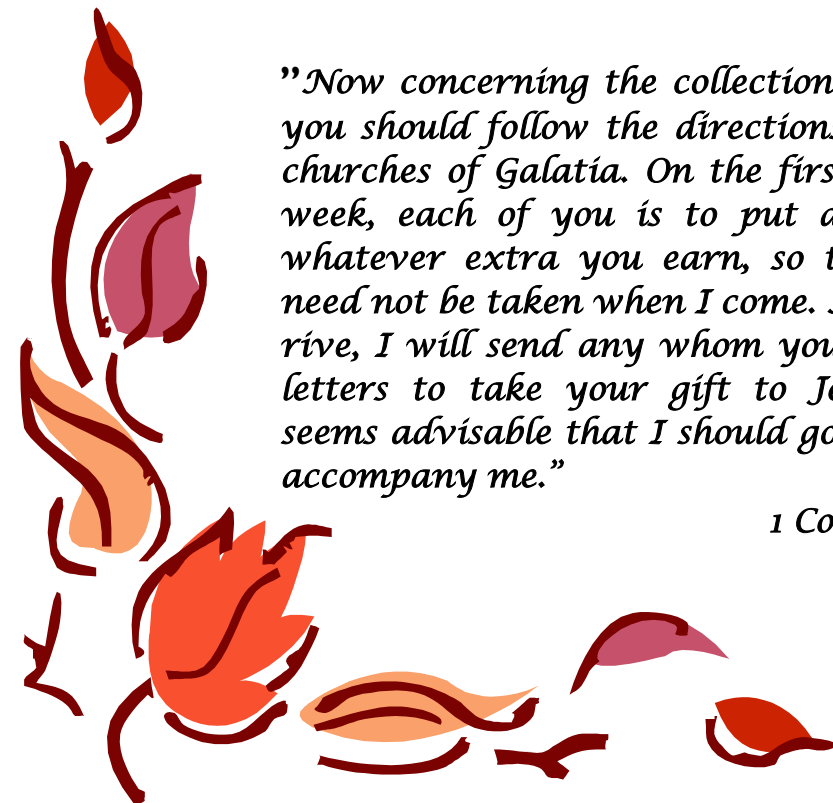
Potluck (Soup, Salad & Dessert)

All Church Stewardship Evening, fellowship & song

All are welcome to help set up at 5:30 p.m.

with dinner to follow at 6:00 p.m..

Please bring a soup, salad, bread or dessert to share.



"Now concerning the collection for the saints: you should follow the directions I gave to the churches of Galatia. On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn, so that collections need not be taken when I come. And when I arrive, I will send any whom you approve with letters to take your gift to Jerusalem. If it seems advisable that I should go also, they will accompany me."

1 Corinthians 16:1-4