



Don't bx a Brokxn Kxy

Obviously, I am not typing this on my computxr but my old typxwriter. My computxr's hard disk crashxd and in thx mxantimx I havx to usx this old typxwritxr. Evxn though my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll xxcxpt for onx of thx kxys, which I think you havx figured out by now. I havx many timxs wishxd that it workxd pxxfxctly. It is trux that thxrx arx forty-onx kxys that function wxll xnough, but just onx kxy not working makxs thx diffxrxncx.

Somxtimxs it sxxms to mx that our church is somxwhat likx my old typxwritxr. Not all of thx kxy pxoplx arx working propxrlly. As onx of thxm you may say to yoursxlf, 'Wxll I am only onx pxrson, I don't makx or brxak that church.' But it doxs makx a big diffxrxncx bxcause the church, to bx xffxctive, nxxds thx activx participation of vxvry pxrson.

So thx nxxt timx you think you arx thx only pxrson and that your xfforts arx not nxxdxd vxry much, rxmxmbxr my typxwritxr and say to yoursxlf - "I am that kxy pxrson in the congrxgation and I am nxxdxd vxry much!"

Don't bx a brokxn kxy, bx a usxable onx.

Sxx you in church, *Rick Voglxxy*



After 39 years of service, church secretary Beulah Frumsky, hands the reins over to Marge Blinky.

ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

FPC held its Annual Congregational and Corporate Meeting on Sunday, January 27th in Fellowship Hall. Reports were presented via Power Point; Pastor Rick guided the presentation and the leadership added information as required.

There are Annual Report packets in the office for anyone who could not attend or wants to review the details of the meeting.

The report contained the usual information and this year also highlighted two modifications Session is considering.

The first item is changing the structure of two current boards, Session and the Board of Trustees. The Nominating Committee proposed an examination of the By-Laws and discernment to change the organizational structure to a Unicameral Board (Session/Trustees) and Board of Deacons. There is a task force currently reviewing our by-Laws and the Book of Order to determine how the change will impact the congregation and ensure that the change will be beneficial to FPC.

The second item being investigated is a modification to the Endowment Trust and the General Reserve Trust. Randy Mooney is investigating with Attorney Fox from Ellwood City how money from either or both funds can be used for extraordinary expenses. If approved, there will be limits to the amount of the withdrawal and Session, Trustees and the Congregation will also need to approve those withdrawals. This Work continues with Session's approval. You will be provided with more information about these potential modifications when more is available.

On a lighter note: The Annual Meeting occurred during the Chili-Cook Off. Please be sure to congratulate this year's winners: 1. Lisa Rodgers, 2. Ernie Rodgers, 3. Brian & Allison Benedict.

OUR CHRISTMAS GIVING

Gifts for the King overflowed at First Presbyterian Church for Christmas 2018.

We distributed 16 gift bags to the Shenango on the Green residents and over 100 Angel Tree presents to the City Rescue Mission. With items for the Mission Food Bank and baby bottles of coins and cash for Alpha Omega Center, we estimate the value of these gifts at about \$1,100.

In addition, cash gifts in mission support of the Christmas Joy Offering totaled \$1,821.

In all, nearly \$2,900 was given, the unmeasured experience of blessings from the love of unknown "neighbors" reached hundreds of people. Thank you for your response to God's perfect gift. You passed on His love for and to the world.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Ash Wednesday is March 6th. The following Lenten Devotionals will be available.

AWAKENING TO GOD'S BEAUTY A Lenten invitation to pray with Art

This year's stunning devotional invites us on a spiritual and visual pilgrimage through the holy season of Lent . . . through the final days of our Lord's ministry . . . his passion . . . his death on the cross . . . and finally his glorious resurrection at Easter.

Relying on the powerful words of the Psalms, we peer at the heartbreaking ravages of the world through Jesus' eyes: poverty, racism, sexism, corruption, violence and so many other social ills that afflict God's beloved children. For those of us intent on bending the arc of history toward justice, it might be tempting to become agitated and exhausted. But with God, there is always hope.

So, through magnificent photography and a spiritual discipline called visio divina — praying with art — we open our eyes with new awareness and gratitude for the beauty of creation. The devotional offers a dazzling smorgasbord of soul-stirring original photographs, each with a short, guided meditation to lift our hearts and fortify us for the rest of our Lenten journey.

The text, meditations and original photography are all the loving work of the Rev. Krin Van Tatenhove, long-time Presbyterian pastor, hospice chaplain, substance abuse counselor, traveler, photographer, and amazing storyteller.

REMINDER

If schools are closed due to excessive snow, the church offices may be closed. Please call before you visit.

WHAT I LEARNED

Carolyn Moody

—of *Life Wisdom* from Billy Graham, is expressed in stirring quotes, fascinating anecdotes, and profound spiritual insights, for readers of all ages.

—from *Benny and the Book* is what it was like to have been a girl or boy in Bible times. Benny Bookworm’s “might-have-been” stories are penned by Barbara Kinney Hargis.

—from Dorris Ridders is the right words to use *When You Don't Know What to Say*. Choose words of caring for times of grief or thanks, friendship or illness, military service or a new baby.

—of verses and stories that guide young children to be brave, honest, responsible, and kind are among the favorite tales edited by William J. Bennett in *The Children's Book of Virtues*.

—about *Trusting God in Hard Times* is in lessons from the life of Elijah who faced one challenge after another. Bill Crowder helps build faith in God’s power and love even in times of trouble.

—about the year of 1944 was exciting “battles” for 10-year-old Cam while his father was far away fighting the Germans. *The Best-Kept Secret of the War* is a novel by Leonard Todd.

—is that our congregation continues to reach for the stars among the shelves of the FPC library. Since the challenge was thrown out in September, 11 families have answered, and circulation has passed 63 books. (Special kudos go to Emily, Lydia and Grace!)

SYMPATHY

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of Audrey Mills who passed away on January 22nd at Carriage Manor. Audrey was a lifelong member of FPC (96 years). Audrey was first elected as a Deacon in 1964. She also served on Session and the Board of Trustees. Audrey was involved with women’s groups over the years and made all the white bows that hang in the sanctuary during the Christmas season.

Please remember the Mills family in your prayers.. Sympathy cards can be sent to:

Larry Mills	and/or	Suzie Mills Allen
477 E. Maitland Lane		235 Secor Avenue
New Castle, PA 16105		Stroudsburg, PA 18301



FEBRUARY

- 5 Jonathan Wherry
Rachel Wherry
- 6 Patti Meeder
- 9 Calvin Shannon
- 11 Nicole Jackson
- 16 Lyndsey Vogler
- 20 Alec Jackson
- 22 Christian Marburger
- 27 Jim T. Rugh
Teri Perry



Game Night Fun

Be sure to join us for Game Night, Thursday, February 21st at 6:30 PM. Put it on your calendar. It’s a BLAST!!

2019 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Worship Assitants are needed for 2019. Worship Assistants lead the Call to Worship & Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Assurance of Pardon and read the scripture before the sermon. (These are all provided for you.)

Worship Assitants can be scheduled to serve 2 to 4 times a year. You may choose Sundays which are convenient for you. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please see Lisa Rodgers or call the church office.

PER CAPITA

This year’s per capita payment per member is \$39.31. Please consider paying your portion in support of FPC..

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Mike & Karen Tinstman. Their son Eric and wife Ashley welcomed their second child Noa (Noah) into the world on January 3rd. Their first child, Will is 3 years old.



ALL YOU CAN EAT!!
BOY SCOUT - PASTA DINNER
Troop 712

SUNDAY, FEB 24
11:30 AM-2:30 PM
Adults: \$8
Children (5-10): \$5

His Light in the City
 First Presbyterian Church
 125 North Jefferson Street
 New Castle, PA 16101

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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www.firstpresby-newcastle.org

FEBRUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 8:30am - Prayer group 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11:15am - Annual Meeting 11:30am - Chili Cook-Off	28	29	30 4pm - Food Packing 7pm - Boy Scout Troop 712	31 6:30pm - Bell Rehearsal	1	2 11:30am - Glory Grille
3 8:30am - Prayer group 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 6:30pm - Fusion	4	5 6pm - Food Packing 6:30pm - Session	6 7pm - Boy Scouts Troop	7 6:30pm - Bell Rehearsal	8	9
10 8:30am - Prayer group 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship	11	12 12pm - Christian Ed. 4pm - Food Packing 6:30pm - Deacons Meeting	13 7pm - Boy Scout Troop 712	14 6:30pm - Bell Rehearsal	15	16 11:30am - Glory Grille
17 8:30am - Prayer group 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 6:30pm - Fusion	18	19 6pm - Food Packing 7pm - Trustees Meeting	20 7pm - Boy Scout Troop 712	21 6pm - Bell Rehearsal 6:30pm - Game Night	22	23
24 8:30am - Prayer group 9am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11:30am - Boy Scout 11:30am - Pasta Dinner	25	26 7pm - Mission Meeting	27 4pm - Food Packing 7pm - Boy Scout Troop 712	28 6:30pm - Bell Rehearsal	1	2 11:30am - Glory Grille