

January - February, 2006 Newsletter



# Bible Quiz for the New Year

**(see if you can score 1000 points or more!)**

1. In which of the following languages was the Bible originally written? (5 points)
- |                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| (a) Swahili and Ethiopian | (c) Latin and Persian  |
| (b) Hebrew and Greek      | (d) Arabic and Turkish |

2. Who prepared the first English translation of the Bible? (5 points)
- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| (a) Martin Luther | (c) William Tyndale |
| (b) John Knox     | (d) John Calvin     |



3. And what happened to that first English translator? (5 points)
- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| (a) He won the Nobel Prize for literature | (c) Promoted to Bishop of London  |
| (b) He was burned at the stake            | (d) Made a fortune selling Bibles |

4. Why are Bibles usually bound with a black cover? (5 points)
- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| (a) Hides the dust and fingerprints better | (c) Same color as John Calvin's robe |
| (b) The gold lettering looks nicer         | (d) No particular reason             |

5. Do you have a Bible in your home? (5 points for each Bible in your home)

6. Have you read from your Bible at least once during the last week? (1000 points)
- |         |
|---------|
| (a) Yes |
| (b) No  |

Answers: 1-b (5 points), 2-c (5 points), 3b (5 points), 4-d (5 points), 5 (5 points each), 6-a (1000 points)

**INSIDE: PEOPLE, NEWS, EVENTS**

## Church Information

Sunday Worship & Sunday School: 9:45 AM  
Church Office: 548-2800 [byronfpc@localnet.com]  
Church Web Page: www.byronfpc.org  
Pastor: James Renfrew (548-7704 home, 494-1847  
Stone Church, 548-2800 Byron Church)  
[jrenfrew@rochester.rr.com]  
Clerk of Session: James Lundmark (948-9336)  
[lundmark@localnet.com]  
Treasurer: Robin Glazier (548-2625)  
[rglazier@brockport.edu]  
Music Director: Elizabeth Weber (494-1545)  
Youth Ministry: Valerie Liles (356-4193)  
[cliles@rochester.rr.com]  
Secretary (548-2800) [byronfpc@localnet.com]  
Board of Trustees: Ron Glazier (548-2625)  
Sexton: Luan Riner (548-2428)

## Resolutionary Prayer

Some of our prayers have to do with the needs of other people, as in our own families and neighborhood, and sometimes in distant countries around the world. Other prayers are simply words of praise to God for the blessings of our lives. And some prayers are "resolutionary", in which we seek spiritual strength for the struggles of the present moment. In case you mistakenly read "revolutionary" instead of "resolutionary", you are still on target, because prayers like these have a lot to do with big changes in the heart and the way we live our lives.

We don't often hear prayers like this on our Prayer Chain, because such prayers are concerned with intensely personal matters about how we treat ourselves and others. Even so, our Prayer Chain is ready to pray for you, to pray with you, for your family, for our community, for whole world. We don't need to know all the details, just let us know that you need encouragement and we'll all be praying with you. You can initiate the Prayer Chain anytime by calling Laura Platt (548-2245) or Jean Roda (494-2417).

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### From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

I am writing this letter two full weeks before Christmas, so by the time you read it the world may have changed considerably. Continuing violence and elections in Iraq - I wonder what will have happened by the time you read this in January? Ethical investigations in Washington - I wonder who else may

be indicted? Thousands of homes destroyed along the Gulf Coast - are promises to rebuild being honored? And in our church community - will someone have gotten sick, will someone have had need of prayer?

It's not easy predicting the future. In fact it's often difficult enough to explain the present! But I will express my hopes for the new year - that there will be more peace (not less), and that more people (not less) will be working for it. How does a Christian work for peace? Hoping and praying are part of it, but the work for peace has to be more than wishing for enemies to settle their differences, we have to be the ones that reach across boundaries and barriers to bring people together.

The Gospel of Mark, that will provide preaching texts in January and February, tells how Jesus began his work for peace by visiting the surrounding towns, he talked with people considered enemies, and he gave attention to the hurts and pains of people he met. The important thing is that he did not stay at home in Nazareth and hope that the world would get better. He took chances towards peace. That people "take chances for peace" is what I love about this church, and makes me feel very optimistic about the future and what we will be doing there!

In Peace, Jim Renfrew, Pastor

## Preaching Themes for January & February

DEC 25	Luke 2:22-40	"My Eyes Have Seen"
JAN 1	Luke 2:41-52	"A Lot Can Happen in Three Days"
JAN 8	Mark 1:4-11	"Jesus Came From Nazareth"
JAN 15	John 1:35-42	"Jesus Walked By"
JAN 22	Mark 1:14-22	"Jesus Came to Galilee"
JAN 29	Mark 1:21-28	"What is This?"
FEB 5	Mark 1:29-39	"He Took Her Hand"
FEB 12	Mark 1:40-45	"Jesus Makes a Choice"
FEB 19	Mark 2:1-12	"The Toughest Cases"
FEB 26	Mark 2:18-22	"New Wine"

## Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation of the Byron Presbyterian Church is called for Sunday, January 29 immediately following worship, for the purpose of electing new church officers, electing the congregational representatives on 2006 Nominating Committee, reviewing 2005 financial statements and the 2006 proposed budget, to hear reports from

boards and committee of the church, and to discuss any other business that may properly come before the congregation. [*J. Lundmark, Clerk of Session*]

## Stewardship Report

*"Praise God from whom all blessings flow!"*

The Stewardship Committee is very pleased to report that the church has received estimates of giving for 2006 totaling \$56,280. This marks a 13% increase over 2005, and it appears that we will be able to meet our projected expenses in 2006. These results speak volumes about the generosity of members and friends of the church as we consider the various strains that the economy places on all of us these days. If you have not yet submitted an "Estimate of Giving" card for 2006, please contact any member of the Stewardship Committee, or the church office. [*Don Engle, Harley George, Marilyn Britt*]

## 2006 Offering Envelopes

A box of offering envelopes, and periodic financial statements, are made available at the end of December to all who submitted an "Estimate of Giving" card during our Stewardship effort.

Please note that in each box there is an envelope marked "*Per Capita*". Per Capita, set at \$23.00 in 2006, represents each church member's fair share of the administrative expenses of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley, Synod of the Northeast, and the Presbyterian Church (USA). Members typically contribute this amount during January.

We are happy to provide a box of offering envelopes to any adults or youth who wish them. Please note that if you did not submit an Estimate of Giving card, an annual financial statement (useful for tax purposes) can be provided only if you notify the church office during January that you would like us to keep track of these contributions.

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## Church Officer Orientation

A special joint meeting of the three church boards will take place on Thursday, February 8, beginning at 7:00 PM. The purpose of the meeting is to provide orientation to those who will be installed as new elders, deacons and trustees, as well as to review the purposes, responsibilities, and tasks of each board. Incoming and outgoing board members

are all encouraged to attend. The combined meeting will last 45 minutes, then each board will meet separately. [*James Lundmark, Clerk of Session*]

## Church Leadership Development Day Sat., February 11 at GCC

For new or experienced leaders in Presbyterian Churches! Courses for Elders, Deacons, Clerks, Treasurers, Christian Educators, and Pastors are offered in this annual program of the Presbytery, which is being held at nearby Genesee Community College. The courses run from 8:30 AM until 12:00 PM, plus nine special working lunch courses from 12:15-1:45 PM. Box lunches may be pre-ordered for \$8.00 by calling 242-0080. Our church will cover the \$5 registration fee. Snow date is February 25<sup>th</sup>. A detailed brochure is available from the church office.

## Deacons

The deacons encourage you to contribute food items to Salvation Army Emergency Food Pantry in Batavia when you attend Sunday worship. January: soup and crackers; February: canned meals and snacks. The following contributions are welcomed at any time: grocery bags, canned vegetables, canned fruit, and crackers.

Or, for fun, follow the **Emergency Food Alphabet** suggested by *Sharon Buczek* on the dates shown bring in a food item that begins with the letter shown! JAN 1 "L", JAN 8 "M", JAN 15 "N", JAN 22 "O", JAN 29 "P", FEB 5 "Q", FEB 12 "R", FEB 19 "S", FEB 26 "T". [*Tracine Lundmark & Sharon Buczek, Deacons*]



## Church & Community News

We are praying for friends far from home: *Susie Blair* (US Army, Ft. Meade, Maryland), and *Jared Johnson* (Job Corps, Georgia).

We are praying for the *Toal family* - Bertha, George's wife for 65 years, passed away in December after a lengthy illness. Bertha was a long-time member of the church and will be missed by many,

including her four children and many grand-children. Many thanks to those who have submitted gifts in Bertha's memory.

We are also praying for the *Hillabush family* - Dorie's husband Jack passed away at Crossroads House after Thanksgiving following a long struggle with cancer

We're praying for people in sickness and recovery: *Ruth McCracken* spent nearly a month at Strong, but is now at home, *Shirley Mahon* (cancer treatment), *Sharon Keller* (Liz Weber's sister-in-law), *Sharon Buczek* (her mother and step-father need care in Florida).

And we always have prayers for *Jan Vanwyngaarden and George Toal* (at GCNH), *Art & Erma Weldon*, *Doris Fuller*, *Beverly Dusing* (Valerie Liles' mother), *Helen Moore's* daughter (recovering from surgery), *Beth Wilson's* mother Joan Hall is preparing for surgery delayed from November.

The Joyful Noise music ensemble presented several beautiful Christmas songs at the Gillam Grant Center in December.

Well done, *Sara George!* Sara is a member of the Byron Bergen Girls Volleyball Team that won a state championship.

Thank You! To all who helped with the Candy Sales, Jewelry and Pointsettia Sales - over \$1000 was raised.

Welcome to recent visitors: *Roxanne Gould*, *Nicholas Cappamaggio*.

## Make a Joyful Noise!

We have enjoyed the music presented by the "Joyful Noise Choir" We are looking for youth of all ages to participate with instruments and voices. Please contact Tamara Hillabush-Walker if interested. Practices are for 15 minutes after Sunday worship and at 9:00 AM on those Sundays when music is to be presented during worship.

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## Sunday School

Our Sunday School year consists of the following age groups: **4 years old to 1st grade**, **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade**, **5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade**, and **7<sup>th</sup> and up**. We are pleased to have a fine group of adults and teens involved as teachers and assistants for three classes, but *we are always looking for new volunteers*. The requirement? A heart for children

and love of the Gospel! Teachers and assistants are generally able to choose the Sundays that they are available to teach. Our "*Hands On Bible Curriculum*" has been in use since the spring with a lot of positive feedback from children and teachers. For information, please contact *Tracy & Jim Lundmark* at 948-9336.

## www.byronfpc.org

Find out the latest information about the Byron Presbyterian Church at our new web page. All you have to do is enter "[www.byronfpc.org](http://www.byronfpc.org)" in your computer and our church home page will appear.

The web page includes the latest news about church events and activities, photos, sermons, and historical items. There are e-mail links to the Pastor, Church Secretary and Youth Ministry Coordinator. There is also a place where anyone visiting the web page can leave prayer concerns and comments.

## Christian Education

First we want to report that our children met the UNICEF goal of 200 donors, and exceeded last year's total dollar amount. Awesome! As promised, there was a Ice Cream Sunday treat on November 20<sup>th</sup>!

Many thanks to the large number of children and adults who visited residents of the Genesee County Home and the New York State Veterans Home during December. There were beautiful Christmas carols, and wonderful decorations added to the rooms of the residents. *George Toal* and *Jan Vanwyngaarden* enjoyed the attention. Another resident sent a beautiful poem of thanks. [*Tracy and Jim Lundmark*]



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### January Birthdays

- 3 Amanda Dodson
- 4 Whitley Stefaniak, Roberto Renfrew-Marquez
- 4 Sandy Johnson
- 6 Kati Stanton

- 8 Lynn Beglinger
- 10 Jan VanWyngaarden
- 11 Darlene Stanton
- 13 Sarah Mattle, Amanda McLaughlin
- 16 Kylie Britt, Stanley Truax
- 17 Billy Tyler
- 18 Brittany Luckey, Maryann Blair, Samantha Walker
- 20 Wendy Schelemanow
- 21 Alaura Rehwaldt
- 23 Matthew Glazier
- 24 Nicole Stanton
- 25 Connor Holly
- 27 Jared Holly
- 28 Don C. Britt, Karen Liles
- 31 Everett Roda



### February Birthdays

- 1 Frank Swanson
- 5 Faline Tyler
- 7 Melanie Nesbitt, Michaela Kenward
- 9 Dave Liles, Joan Carr, Tiffany Platt
- 11 Rachel White
- 12 Mallory Lynch
- 14 Valerie Liles
- 20 George Hillabush, Brendan Fuller
- 25 Gwendolen Shepard
- 26 Doug Platt
- 27 Rebecca Gouger, Shirley Liles, Matt White

### Anniversaries

- January 15: Wayne & Judy Holly
- January 31: Gene & Vicki Austin
- February 4: Paul & Luan Riner
- February 26: Don & Marilyn Britt

Did we leave you out by mistake? Did we forget a member of your family? Please leave your birth dates and anniversary dates at the church office, and we will be sure to include you next time!

## Mission Committee

Many thanks to those who took time out of their busy holiday schedules to put a big smile on as

they "*Rang the Bell*" for Salvation Army on December 1<sup>st</sup> at Tops in LeRoy. Our bellringers: *Don & Marilyn Britt, Luan & Paul Riner, Pam Kenward, Sandy Johnson, Elizabeth Weber, Kim Dewey, The Lundmark Family, Dale Baldwin, George Hillabush, Laura Platt, Gwen & Harley George, Chrystal & Kylie Britt, and Lacy & Larissa Sloat.* Many in the Genesee County region will benefit from your efforts. Thank you! [*Pam Kenward*]

## Memorial Committee News

We welcome two new members of the Memorial Committee, *Marilyn Liles* and *Mary Barnard.* Many thanks to *Luan Riner* for concluding her service on the committee. *Laura Platt, Jean Roda* and *Elizabeth Weber* continue to serve.

At the December meeting it was agreed that gifts contributed to the Memorial Fund will be spent to enhance the ministry of the church, unless specified by the family for a particular purpose. With that in mind, and in recognition fo the importance of music in Sunday worship, the committee decided that some of the money in the Memorial Fund will be spent on chimes. [*Laura Platt*]

## Nursery School News

Meet the Byron Nursey School Board of Directors: *Mary Ann Blair - President, Sandy Gillett - Vice President, Kim Dewey - Secretary, Vicky Truax - Treasurer, Paula Hohn - Registrar, Tracy Cooper, Shirley Hobin, Laura Platt, Kari Capostagno - Parent Rep 4 yr old class, Catherine Mathes - Parent Rep 3 yr old class, Rev. James Renfrew - Board Advisor.*

There are still openings in both classes for the second semester. Contact Paula Hohn at 548-9051 or Vicky Truax at 494-1242 for more information or applications.

## Personnel Committee

Our current church secretary, Janet Pike, is retiring as of December 31<sup>st</sup> this year. Once again we would like to take an opportunity to thank her for her dedication and let her know that she will be truly missed. The position of secretary is part time - six hours per week. If you are interested or know someone who would be interested in filling this position please contact Kim Dewey at 548-7407.