

September - October 2007 Newsletter

Pajama Sunday

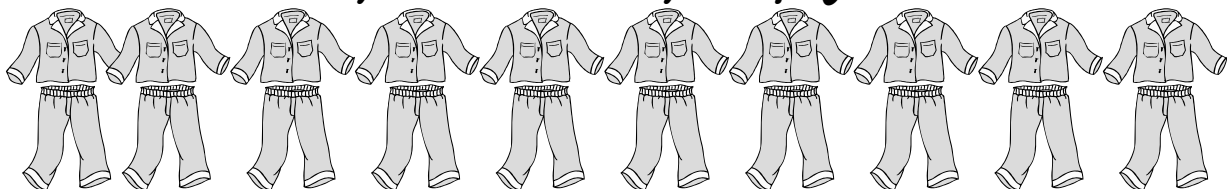
a new Sunday School Year begins

*Yes, it's happening on Sunday, September 9th,
the new Sunday School year starts today,
beginning with breakfast at 8:30 AM.*

*Look for French Toast, with your choice of all kinds of
incredible toppings ... fruit, whipped cream, and more!*

*After the worship service we invite children and adults
to spend a few minutes choosing among some awesome ideas
for our youth ministry in the coming year.*

*And if you have trouble adjusting to this early wake-up
schedule - you can wear your pajamas to church!*



Church Information

Sunday Worship & Sunday School: 9:45 AM

Church Office: 548-2800

Church Web Page: www.byronfpc.org

Pastor: *James Renfrew*

Clerk of Session: *James Lundmark*

Treasurer: *Robin Glazier*

Music Director: *Elizabeth Weber*

Board of Trustees: *Ron Glazier*

Sexton: *Luan Riner*

Secretary: *Janet Pike*

SEP 30 Luke 16:19-31

"The Grand Canyon"

OCT 7 II Timothy 1:1-14

"Nothing Could Be Plainer"

OCT 14 Luke 17:11-19

"Ten Percent"

OCT 21 Luke 18:1-8

"Never Quit!"

OCT 28 Luke 18:9-14

"The Story I Wish Was
Not in the Bible"

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Please contact the church office if you would like to participate in or support this ministry of love. There is no charge for a shawl - they are a labor of love - except that we welcome donations of 3 skeins (same color) of yarn for each prayer shawl.

Byron Nursery School News



The Byron Nursery School is getting ready for the fall. We have openings for 3 year olds and 4 year olds for the fall program. You can get a registration packet by calling **Laura Platt** or **Paula Hohn**. There is a \$30.00 registration fee that is applied to the cost of tuition.



07-04-2007

OUR NEWEST COMMITTEE MEMBER, CHICKEN LITTLE, HAS SOME RADICAL NEW CONCEPTS FOR A NEW FEAR-BASED CHURCH MEMBERSHIP GROWTH CAMPAIGN

Prayer Chain

Our Prayer Chain is ready to pray for you, to pray with you, for your family, for our community, and for the whole world. You can initiate the Prayer Chain anytime by calling Laura Platt or Jean Roda



Preaching Themes for September & October

SEP 2	Luke 14:7-14	"Move Up Higher"
SEP 9	Ezekiel 33:1-11	"Are You a Christian?"
SEP 16	I Timothy 1:12-17	"Underestimation"
SEP 23	Luke 16:1-13	"What's This I Hear?"

www.byronfpc.org

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



Did you miss Sunday's service? Look for the sermon here!

A Bishop Visits Byron!

During the first week of October our church will be participating in a "Mission to the USA" project involving four other Presbyterian Churches in our area (Brockport, Pittsford, Albion, & Holley). We will have as our guest a visitor from Tacloban, Philippines, **Dulce Pia Rose**, a bishop serving the United Church of Christ of the Philippines (UCCP). Our time period

in this six week visit is October 1-7, culminating in her participation in worship on October 7th, World Communion Sunday - appropriately.

As a leader of the East Visayas Jurisdiction of the UCCP, Bishop Rose serves as a pastor to pastors, exercising pastoral care and responsibility with the church workers in the area. Her seminary training equipped her to bring the Gospel of hope to people who are suffering from poverty and the uncertainties of life. This is a fantastic opportunity to hear some news about the work of Christian churches in another country. Bishop Rose will be participating in a variety of activities involving people from our church, and we will be setting up dinners in homes and other gatherings for church members.

Now, more about October 7th. Our guest will participate in worship, perhaps preach - we're not sure yet, and then our Fellowship Committee will prepare a meal after the service. This is also the day that we participate in the Special Offering for Peacemaking, and we will be designating our share of this offering to help cover Bishop Rose's travel expense from the Philippines.



From the Pastor



Dear Friends,

I am enjoying my new Sunday schedule. No longer do I have to run off after the service to get to a second church. It's nice to have longer time to chat with folks after the service.

With the arrival of fall we will be trying to offer some different activities during the time following worship. Some of these follow a regular

schedule, others are one-time only. We hope you will give these a try as your schedule allows!

On the **second Sunday** of each month, beginning in October, we will be hosting a small adult group interested in conversation about spiritual themes. Each gathering will include a short DVD from the "Nooma" series to get us started, and we will have time to talk about faith, healing, forgiveness, love and much more. In case you are wondering, "Nooma" is a deliberate misspelling of the Greek word for Spirit, "pneuma". We will spend 30-40 minutes in the group. If people are interested, some of us could go out for lunch afterwards.

On the **third Sunday** of each month we will have a hands-on mission project for people of all ages to participate in. In September the first project will be assembling "care packages" for friends in military service abroad. Read more about this in the Mission Committee's report elsewhere in the newsletter.

On Sunday, **September 23rd**, Robin and I have something fun to invite you to attend at our home. It's a Buffalo Bills game on a big screen TV, starting at 1 pm. Bring children, some snack food, and we'll take care of beverages. You can come to watch the game with the Pittsburgh Steelers. Or you can come and ignore the game - since there are plenty of other places in the house without a TV. If you missed our Open House in March, we hope you can come.

Finally, I encourage you to keep looking at our church website. I plan to get my sermons from each Sunday service posted on the website, so if you miss a Sunday - catch up there!

In the Hope and Peace of Christ,

Manse Sale News

The Manse was sold at the beginning of August. Net profit will be about \$89,500 to be invested in Smith Barney with interest directed to offset pastor's housing allowance. [*Trustees of Byron Presbyterian Church*]

We Get Letters!

"I'm happy to tell you the prayers leading to therapy have helped so much. While I still have problems, I am much better for which I am very thankful. I also want to express my appreciation for all my friends at Byron Presbyterian. They have been

*so great. The future is looking promising. Always,
Jean Roda.*

"Thank you for thinking of me when I was hurt! I love using the afghan you made me! It was so nice of you and helped me feel better! [Jonathan]"

Children & Youth Page

Pajama Sunday (and Breakfast) - Christian Ed is celebrating the beginning of another Sunday School year with our annual Pajama Sunday! Come enjoy a FREE French Toast breakfast, Sunday, September 9, 2007, beginning at 8:30 a.m. A little too early? Kids (and kids at heart) are invited to come in your PJs, robe, & slippers.

Christian Ed is also looking for ideas! During breakfast, please sign our IDEA BOARD, with activities you'd like to see involving our children, students, and youth. Immediately following services, we will meet downstairs to pick the ones we like best. PLEASE join us and provide us with your input!

Sunday School - Sunday school begins Sunday, September 9, 2007. As in the past, students may leave worship after the children's message for Sunday School classes. On Communion Sundays, there will be no classes; students are invited to worship with their families.

Christian Ed is also excited to announce its new curriculum for Fall 2007—*it! Innovative Tools* will allow teachers to customize their lesson plans based on Bible verses or specific topics. We selected this because it will allow us to match our lessons with Rev. Jim Renfrew's worship messages. Lesson plan activities include games, cooking, discussions, skits, service projects, music, video clip ideas, and a whole lot more!

Based on previous attendance, we will offer two core classes this year: 2nd - 5th graders and 6th - 8th graders. If our needs change, our curriculum will also allow us to create an additional class. Our teaching teams are still being worked out, and will be in place by the first day of classes. Eric George will be working with high school youth.

Joyful Noise Choir & Ensemble - The Joyful Noise group will get underway again this fall for students of all ages. If you're interested in participating, please call Tamara Hillabush Walker. I also have a quick meeting after church, Sunday, September 9, 2007 to

discuss rehearsal times and our schedule for the year.

Going the Distance for UNICEF



During October our children will participate in the annual UNICEF appeal. Three years ago we set DOLLAR goal of \$150. Two years ago we set a PEOPLE goal of 200 people contributing. Last year we set a WEIGHT goal of one hundred pounds of coins. This year we are counting DISTANCE - how far can we reach to touch the lives of hungry children in need around the world? Each penny is 20 mm, so if we convert all donations to pennies, then \$1 = 100 pennies = 2 meters. How far can we reach? Let's go the distance for UNICEF. UNICEF coin boxes will be distributed in October and we will count coins on November 4th.

Angels Among Us - Has anyone ever helped you in a time of need? Is there someone for whom you're especially grateful? Someone who has made a difference in your life? Christian Education is working on a special project for our Advent/Christmas season this year. We're in search of Angels—Angels in our congregation, and those who have touched members of our congregation. Please send your story, of an Angel in your life, to Tamara Hillabush Walker. These stories will be used in special ways during the Advent/Christmas season.

Many Thanks - to those involved in helping our Memorial Day float and Heritage Day float to be such a success. We had many adults and youth from the church involved in making and assembling components of the float. The float was a great representation of the church and it is always a great idea to give the church some visibility within the community. We couldn't have been successful without the help of all the adults and youth involved--thank you one and all! Many happy faces appeared in the crowds as we distributed candy, even from Dave and Marilyn Liles when they received a handful! We are especially appreciative to Ron Glazier for diligently tracking down wagons for our use, to Sharp Farms for the use of a wagon for Memorial Day, to Hahn Farms for the use of a wagon on Heritage Day, and to Don Britt for propelling the wagon on Memorial Day and allowing Marc Kenward to use the tractor to do the same for the Heritage Festival. Also thanks to Tom Nesbitt for the use of straw bales for seating areas on the wagons...it made the ride more comfy! And thanks to

those that donated items used in decorating the float. [*Pam Kenward*] And many thanks to Pam, too!

More Youth News

Paper Retriever Program - We want everyone's newspaper, magazines, office and school papers, shopping catalogs, mail, envelopes, folders, fax and copy paper, colored paper!!!! Can we collect 4 tons or more per month???? We (the youth group) get paid \$15 per ton - it's FREE MONEY! Ask your family and friends for ALL OF THEIR PAPER! Bring it to the bins behind the church - it's that easy!!!!

Summer Fun - Welcome back to Camp Whitman participants from Byron: Erica Hickey, Chelsea Hartman, Alex Walker, Samantha Walker, Andrea Singleton, Lacey Sloat and Larissa Sloat.

2007 Youth Triennium - Nate Begliner, Zack Johnson and Sydney Moore attended a Presbyterian youth gathering in Indiana in July with thousands of others!



Deacons



Please continue your contributions using the Emergency Food Alphabet! On the dates shown bring in a food item that begins with the letter shown! SEPT 2 "V", SEPT 9 "W", SEPT 16 "X", SEPT 23 "Y", SEPT 30 "Z", OCT 7 "A", OCT 14 "B", OCT 21 "C", OCT 28 "D". Contributed food items are delivered to the emergency food program of Genesee County Churches United at Salvation Army in Batavia.

Peacemaker of the Year

Laura Platt was nominated by Session as our church's "Peacemaker of the Year": "*Laura Platt exemplifies Peacemaking by giving her heart, mind, soul and strength to the people of Byron.*" Laura will be recognized at a special dinner, along with peacemakers from others Presbyterian Churches, on Thursday, September 27, 6:00 PM, at the Downtown United Presbyterian Church in Rochester. Reserve your \$15 ticket by

sending a check to "Presbytery of Genesee Valley", 1190 Winton Road South, Rochester NY 14618 - Attention Nancy Stedman.

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Session Notes

During the summer Session was invited by the Presbytery to apply to be a field site for a Certified Lay Pastor in Training. We can now report that *Marsha Wenhold*, an elder at the Lyndonville Presbyterian Church, has been assigned to our church from September through January. She is particularly interested in developing worship leadership skills.

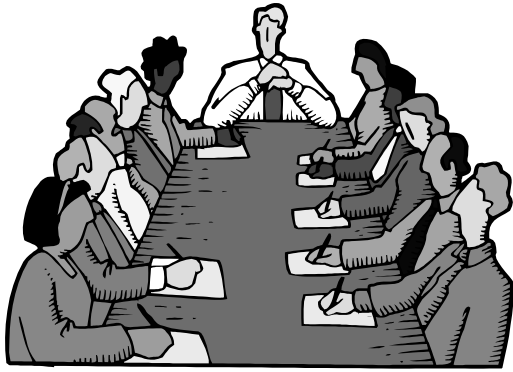
By the initiative of the Membership Committee, plans are being made to use a "Natural Church Development" Survey during the fall to help church leaders develop a strategy for becoming a healthier congregation. Rev. Renfrew attended a seminar on Natural Church Development in Chicago this summer.

The Personnel Committee has developed a new set of job descriptions for the pastor and other church staff. Session also directed the Stewardship Committee to increase Rev. Renfrew's time from 75% part-time to 100% full-time in the 2008 budget. The change is contingent upon the actual level of financial commitments that are received this fall.

Remember all the photos that we taken last year for a "Wall of Faith" to be posted on the sanctuary wall? After some careful planning, the Membership Committee is getting ready to display the photos of church participants. Yes, we may have to retake the photos since so much time has passed!

Session has expressed great appreciation for the hard work of Trustees in preparing the manse for sale, working through all the legal procedures, and completing the sale through the fine work of David Kent.

A Turkey Dinner fundraiser is scheduled for Sunday, October 21, 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall of the church.



Resource Saturdays

Come early, stay late! Coffee & goodies provided. All courses are free! Pre-registration requested, contact [Susan Boyle Orr](#) , 242-0099.

Saturday September 15, 9:30-11 AM.

Registration Deadline: Thursday September 13.

1. What is Passionate Spirituality? Leader: Linda Badger Becker, Acting Co-Presbyter for Program. In Natural Church Development, one of the 8 essential quality characteristics of a healthy congregation is "passionate spirituality." Using the NCD survey tool, this is the most common "minimum factor" for Presbyterians in the northeast. Passionate spirituality has nothing to do with style. So what exactly is it? Come explore this topic and discover ways to improve your congregations spiritual health.

2. Everything You Wanted to Know about Personnel Committees... And Are No Longer Afraid to Ask! Leader: Rev. Janice Fitzgerald, Pastor, Bethany Presbyterian Church. In this highly participatory workshop you are invited to bring your most basic or perplexing questions about church personnel issues including hiring practices, performance appraisals, personnel policies, and more. We will learn from each other and from the instructor's experience as chair of a Presbytery Personnel Committee. Resource materials in paper form and on CD to take back to your church will be included.

3. What Not to Do in Youth Ministry. Leader: Rev. Walter Stuber, Assoc. Pastor, Webster Presbyterian Church, a veteran youth minister who has done some very foolish things in youth ministry over the years. Come to learn by negative example from Walter's vast experience, e.g. teaching karate to junior high boys, as well as sharing your own stories of games gone wrong, etc. Walter has also

done some meaningful youth ministry by the grace of God, and we will talk about the principles of that as well.

4. Clerk of Session Orientation. Leader: Lynne Peffley, Clerk of Session, Lima Presbyterian Church Are you a fairly new Clerk of Session? Do you have questions or need suggestions about your Minutes Book or record keeping procedures? We will review the checklist used for the reading of the minutes, and clerk handbooks will be available too.

World Communion Sunday

**Sunday, October 7th
9:45 AM**



At the Lord's table we join with Christians around the world to celebrate our unity in Jesus Christ and our common purpose - to plant the seeds of his peace wherever we can.

We will be welcoming Bishop Dulce Pia Rose from the Philippines during the service, and she will be for us a living link with the Christians around the world we will never meet face-to-face.

On World Communion Sunday we will participate in the Presbyterian Peacemaking Offering that day. 25% of the offering remains in our hands, and it will be used to help cover Bishop Rose's travel expenses from the Philippines. The other 75% will be used by the Presbyterian Church (USA) to encourage ministries of peacemaking around the world. Here is what one church is doing to pursue the peace of Christ:

Members of Bethany Presbyterian Church in Tacoma decided to use their portion of the Peacemaking Offering to support L'Arche Community's Farm and Gardens. More than 40 members rolled up their sleeves to take part in the gardening. Children, youth, parents, and older adults worked side by side with the community at the farm.

L'Arche is part of an international federation of faith communities. Its mission is to create and sell quality products, support purposeful work for people with developmental disabilities, and foster a spirit of caring for land and people. The community is an integrated setting with people of a variety of abilities and gifts where each farmworker is affirmed in his or her dignity, self-worth, and connection to all of life.

The week after Bethany members worked at L'Arche, this 90 member congregation held a special garden and creation-focused worship service, Wheelbarrows brimming with plants and flowers adorned the church's chancel area. The service included songs about gardening and Scripture and a

sermon that focused on the wonder and power of the creator.

Your gifts to the Peacemaking Offering make a difference, bringing healing and peace to communities all around the world.

Byron Presbyterian Church

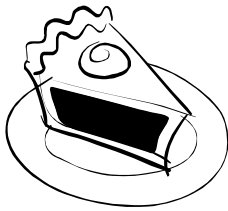
Turkey Dinner



**Sunday, October 21st
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM**



The Dinner will take place in the church Fellowship Hall.



**Adults \$7.50,
Children 6-12 \$4.50,
Under 6 Free.**



**1st Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 206
Byron NY 14422-0206**

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