

Crossroads

The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church of Green Bay

January 2011

Where God's Dream is Alive



**Ecumenical
Partnership
for Housing**

Ecumenical Partnership for Housing (EPH) Needs Board Members from First Pres

EPH is a non-profit coalition of Green Bay-area churches

committed to

providing housing for families in need in our community. In concert with The Salvation Army of Green Bay, EPH has helped 250 Brown County families move on to better circumstances since the group's inception in 1992.

What began with four churches and one house has grown over the years. With the recent addition of another home, EPH now owns or manages 14 family-size apartments in quiet neighborhoods close to local schools that serve as

transitional housing for families in need. EPH maintains the units with volunteer help, and welcomes each new family with a hot meal and pantry staples. A local group, called "Warmth From the Heart," has been providing individual comforters for each new family member.

A Salvation Army social worker screens families and places them in available apartments. The families strive to succeed using a wide variety of programs. While parents pay off debts, acquire education, certifications, and find good employment, the children have a stable home. Fifteen churches now comprise the partnership that makes this happen.

(Continued on page 5.)

Early Head Start (EHS) Now Meets at First Pres

We are thrilled to welcome a non-profit program to our building!

Early Head Start is a home visitation and socialization program for low-income infants, toddlers, pregnant women and their families. EHS programs enhance children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development; assist pregnant women to access comprehensive prenatal and postpartum care; support parents' efforts to fulfill their parental roles; and help parents move toward self-sufficiency.

EHS serves 40 Brown County families. In addition to receiving weekly home visits, a major component of the program is weekly socializations.

(Continued on page 6.)



Crop Walk Results are In!

First Presbyterian Church sponsored the Crop Walk with seven area churches and Job's Daughters participating. The total amount raised was \$4,439.10!

Every \$1 donated will help provide 7 meals to people facing hunger today in our community. The remaining dollars go to support hunger relief efforts in Haiti, Pakistan and other countries through Church World Service, one of the most effective relief agencies in the world.



Early Headstart Program is up and running at First Presbyterian Church.

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A Note from Pastor Randy

Happy New Year!

No one knows what 2011 will bring, but for us as Christians it is exciting to know that God is at work in our world and God will call us to participate in this work. In a book that our Session is discussing, Joan Gray writes about our need to use our imaginations to discern God's work:

It could be argued that the malaise in many churches today is at least partly due to a failure of imagination. When we cannot imagine God doing a new thing among us, the energy and excitement go out of church life. We tend to spend our time continuing the past or holding on to the present. Neither is it enough only to believe in theory that God is able to do new and exciting things in our midst, for God calls us to be active partners in the adventure. Effective spiritual leaders will always be asking God what the repentant crowds asked John the Baptist: "What then should we do?"

In answer, God enables the faithful to dream dreams and see visions. (Spiritual Leadership for Church Officers Louisville: Geneva Press, 2009, p. 34).

My prayer is that 2011 will be a year in which we imagine God doing a new thing among us and hear the call to be active partners in the adventure.

Peace to you,

Pastor Randy



Mission Statement

To fulfill God's plan

To know, love, and serve God
To welcome, spiritually enrich,
and love one another.

Vision Statement

We extend a warm and friendly spiritual environment that encourages and empowers people to **worship and serve God**. We live and *change with contemporary issues* while *maintaining traditional values, ethics, and Presbyterian practices*.

We are guided and sustained by God as we follow a flexible strategic plan that addresses growth, simplifies and prioritizes our objectives, and facilitates a vibrant ministry.

Through our ministry we:

- ◆ Serve, lead, and live a lifestyle of Christian discipleship.
- ◆ Engage in local, national, and global mission & social concerns.
- ◆ Offer Christian education and fellowship opportunities where *all* feel a sense of belonging.
- ◆ Provide a sanctuary to rest, be restored, and be nourished during these busy and turbulent times.

We are a **community of faith** where *diversity* is celebrated, individual *spirituality* is strengthened, *cooperation* is the common good, and *understanding* and *love* of one another is paramount.

Newsletter Deadline!

The deadline is **January 24!** Please submit your articles to Jodie Harmsen or place them in the newsletter mailbox in the workroom.

Contributors for this issue are, Dennis Siewert, Nancy Siewert, Stephanie Fahringer, David Wilson, Pastor Randy, Leah Mott, Megan Jurens, and Linda Cigler. Thank you!

Church Life

Prayer Circle:

New Concerns:

Olivia Roosa, Granddaughter of Sue and Allen Russell; **Margot Escott**, Tom Escott's sister; **Gerald Van Pay**, brother of Gary Van Pay; and Lily Gillis' Great Grandmother.



Special Concerns:

Bill and Evelyn Burns, Bellevue Retirement community; **Ralph Rasmussen**, Angel's Touch Assisted Living in DePere; **Alice Ackerboom**, Bornemann Nursing Home; **Dorothy Shell**, Marla Vista; **Blossom Witt**, Woodside Manor III; **Louise Anderson**, Woodside Oaks; **Marie Renier**, Marla Vista; **Catherine Parkinson**, at home; **Peggy Wolfe**, Renaissance; **Eileen Warner**, Rebecca Haven Nursing Home; **Marguerite Schader Hall**, Bellevue Retirement Community and **Virginia Turner**, (Brian Hulse' mother) Columbus, Ohio.

Christian Sympathy:

Norm Kolsbusz passed away on December 12. He was a former member of First Presbyterian and brother-in-law of Ken Solper. He is survived by his three daughters, Laurie Schmitt, Linda Michael and Lisa Olgren.

To Reverend Jan Davis on the passing of her son **Tim** on November 18, 2010 in Mukwonago, Wisconsin.

Ongoing Concerns:

Dennis Siewert, **Barb Lasnoski**, at home, **Rose Marie Rhoads** (Linda Van Pay's sister), Don Kisela's parents, **Chris Belanger** (son of John and Mary Belanger), **Caroline Olsen** (grandmother of Teri Olsen), **Cheri Housel** (Ginny Amen's niece), **Scott Zernicke**, **Meredith Ingram**, **Barbara Batal**, **Heather Lasnoski**, **Richard Parkinson**, **Dayle Rosen**, **Scotty Herman** (Green Beret), (grandson of Elsie Herman), serving in Afghanistan.

Winter Storm Protocol for First Presbyterian Church

Who makes the decision?

The decision to cancel Sunday service and/or classes is made by the Pastor. The Pastor should seek the advice of others, including the Clerk of Session and the chairperson of the Building & Grounds Committee.

What are the criteria for making the cancellation decision?

It is important to note that the cancellation decision is not based on the assumption that Sunday service and/or classes must be held regardless of the weather. Nor is it based on the same standards used by the public schools. It is based on recommendations to the Pastor that take into account the following factors:

- reports on area road conditions
- forecasts of storm continuation
- predicted snow accumulations, temperature and wind chill
- predicted ability of the contracted crew to keep the Church parking lot cleared
- conditions of city streets (are they open enough to allow access to the Church)

How will a cancellation be communicated?

If Sunday service and/or classes are cancelled, the Pastor will:

1. contact the Green Bay TV stations (they prefer email) to request the appropriate announcement. The Pastor will monitor the stations to be sure the announcement appears as requested.

2. have the voice mail message at the Church changed to include the cancellation announcement. There is a procedure for doing this from off-site.

3. post a message to the homepage of the church's website.

4. call the Choir Director and Director of Christian Education. These staff members will then contact the choir members and staff/volunteers that have scheduled responsibilities (e.g., organist, pianist, class teachers, etc.).

What if a staff member scheduled to work on Sunday is unable to reach the Church?

If Sunday service and/or classes are NOT cancelled and a staff member scheduled to work on Sunday (e.g., choir Director, Organist, Nursery Attendant) cannot reach the Church during a winter storm, he/she will telephone the Pastor and Clerk of Session. Additionally, the Choir Director will contact all choir members via telephone or email.

Who decides whether congregation members should try to get to the Church during a winter storm?

The judgment about whether or not to come to Church rests with the individual member. Driving conditions may vary across the wide geographical region in which our members reside. Under no circumstance should anyone who feels it is unsafe attempt the trip. Individuals should take their own local conditions into account as they make their decision.

Church Leadership Elders

Class of 2011

Nancy Siewert, Lisa Olson,
Kirke Ryder and Phil Mikulsky

Class of 2012

John Early, Jay Rietz, Dawn Spang,
and Tammy Escott

Class of 2013

Brian Hulse, Kay Davis, Brian Kage,
and Hollister Jansen

Clerk of Session:

Tammy Escott

Deacons

Class of 2011

Carol Mickelson, Lynne Shoher,
And Connie Early

Class of 2012

Ann Argall, Russ Christensen,
Holly Gehri, and Sue Mikulsky

Class of 2013

Susan Rietz, Deb Shoher,
Abby Jackson, and Amy Wittman

Staff

Pastor:

The Reverend Dr. Randy Argall

Director of Christian Education:

Megan Jurens

Administrative Assistant:

Leah Mott

Financial Secretary:

Linda Cigler

Music Ministries:

Allan Russell (Choir Director)
Don VerKuilen (Organist)
Jenny Solper (Pianist)
Mary Steeno (Children's Choir)

Custodian:

Mary Belanger

Pancake and Porkie Breakfast

January 23 after church

\$3 per person

5 and under free



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Finance

Committee Meeting Notes - November 8, 2010

The Finance Committee has reviewed the Church's Insurance needs and premiums have been paid. We have also made some recommendations for the 2011 Ministry Budget. The actual income and expenses in the current budget were reviewed. Changes in investment types were changed in response to current economic conditions.



2010 - Ministry Budget Year to Date: November 30, 2010 - Status

Budgeted Giving To Date	\$206,357.25
Received Amount	\$175,495.25
Special Gifts	\$ 10,000.00
Budgeted Expenses To Date	\$270,130.19
Actual Expenses To Date	\$256,137.01
Endowment Budgeted	\$ 14,000.00
Amount Used To Date	\$ 27,300.00

Over Budget \$ 13,300.00

Bequest income Budgeted	\$ 12,000.00
Amount Used to Date:	\$ 12,000.00

2010 Ministry Budget Special Note

Approved Budget has a deficit of \$11,241.00

Special Giving Opportunities

2010 Capital Budget for Special Projects \$10,200.00. These projects have been funded through Endowment Funds.

- Computers \$ 2,000.00
- Securing Office \$ 1,500.00
- Yard Equipment \$ 1,200.00
- Carpet Cleaning \$ 1,000.00

Sanctuary Carpet was cleaned at a cost of \$471.96; remainder of carpet was cleaned at a cost of \$760.00

- Sidewalk Repairs \$ 500.00
- Parking Lot Repairs \$ 3,500.00

This project has been completed at a cost of \$3,230.00

Good Will

The term "good will" applies to people, businesses and organizations. The use of "good will" that intangible asset that adds value to the more measurable aspects of facilities, programs and personnel, to share and enjoy a positive presence in their community.

"Good Will" can also apply to estate planning. We express our good will through a good Will. And a good Will is a whole lot better than a careless or faulty Will or worse yet, no Will at all.

Here is a list of items a good Will can accomplish. Does your Will do these things?

- Name your personal representative
- Likely reduce or eliminate taxes
- Establish children's trusts and name trustees

- Name guardian(s) for minor children
- Designate who will receive personal items
- Make charitable gifts to charities of your choice
- Reduce stress for grieving loved ones

By creating good Wills, we can create good will among those we love and honor through our wills. They will remember us for our foresight, generosity and thoughtfulness.

An ineffective, out-of-date Will is a bad Will which can create bad will among others, especially family members. It's much better to take the time and effort to make sure a good Will is in place. As a person of good will, you want a good Will.

Give Blood - Save Lives

Have you ever wondered what you could do to help others? Giving blood is a simple solution. Blood is always in need and when you take the time to give, you help those living right here in your community.

When you donate blood you can let the Red Cross know that you are giving in the name of "Church Folks". Your totals will be grouped with others to accumulate throughout the year. The goal for 2010 was to have 52 donations for "Church Folks", the actual total was 9, given by just 2 members of First Pres., Stephanie Fahringer and Pat Mc Cormick.

Together we can reach the 52 goal. Please give today!
www.redcrossblood.org or 1-800-GIVE-LIF(E) (1-800-448-3543)

Great opportunities to help seldom come,
But small ones surround us every day.

-Sally Koch

Christian Education/Special Interest Groups

Men's Bible Study

This month the men will finish their study of "On Who Is God?" written by Mark Driscoll. Last month, we reviewed chapter four, Jesus' Incarnation. This was very appropriate for the Advent season. The Old Testament prophecies of his coming and Jesus' revelations of His being of God were studied.

On **January 8, at 8:00 a.m.** in **Banner Hall**, we will complete our study with the review of chapter five, Worship of God. Please plan on joining us.



Pres Folk

Our December meeting was a grand affair. Our speaker Mrs. Finesilver gave us an excellent introduction into the background of the Heifer Project, the mission group that we are sponsoring this year.

Our January meeting will be on the **20th**, from **1:00 to 3:00 p.m.**, in the **Fellowship Room**.

Our speaker for the meeting will be Bill Eiler, President of Frugal Classics. He specializes in estate sales and property evaluations.

All are welcome, so bring a friend and come join us. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the fellowship bulletin board.

Little Blue

Hi! As you open your carton of offering envelopes you will find that I am the first one in place. That is because it is very important in the Presbyterian connected form of government that we support each of the three branches of our denomination; Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly.

This year commit to honor this 2011 goal by paying **\$29.65** per member. Will you please give your support to this effort by using me as your initial contribution in 2011? Thank you.



Blue Envelope

Sunday School Kick Off

As part of our Second Semester Kick Off on **January 9** the Sunday School will be helping to stock Birthday Bags to help those who utilize the church pantry celebrate their special day! During the upcoming weeks children and adults are encouraged to bring the following items to their classrooms: gallon sized zipper bags, cake mix, frosting, birthday candles, birthday cards and balloons. On January 9 we will gather together in Banner Hall for treats and spend the Sunday School hour putting these bags together. We hope your family can help make a birthday special for someone in our community!



Youth Ski Trip

January 28 and 29. Attend Youth Group for more information or contact **Loni Mc Cormick**.



New Confirmation Class

There will be a meeting on **January 23** for young adults interested in participating in the new confirmation class. Parents are asked to attend with their young adults. Meeting time to be determined. For more information please contact **Pastor Randy**.

EPH (continued from page 1)



First Presbyterian Church became a partnership congregation in 2003. This means that we are allowed two voting members on the EPH Board. The Board meets once a month. Past Board members from First Pres include Pat Crooks, David Wilson, Clarence Mickelson and Linda Higgins. Holly Gehri and Linda Higgins have served as coordinators and Linda is now the Lead Coordinator. Her work utilizes funds made available from our Mission and Social Concerns Committee.

Are you called to be a board member of EPH? First Pres needs two board members to represent our congregation. If no one feels called to take this responsibility, our official partnership with EPH will be dissolved. Please pray for EPH and our future role with this wonderful ministry. Let Pastor Randy know this month if you wish to serve as a Board member.









Ministry Cash Flow September, 2010

Beginning Balance	\$1,516.89
Receipts from Offering	\$19,431.50
Receipts from Perpetual 3%	\$2,500.00
Revenue from Prior Years	\$4,000.00
Expenses	(\$26,948.32)
Payroll tax and transfer timing differences	\$1,200.36
Ending Balance	\$1,700.43

Special Interests	January Birthdays!
<p>Church Organ Committee</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> with some additional pipes and enhancements our organ should have a greatly improved sound visited churches and heard organs rebuilt/restored by two of the three organ builders - Bonduel, Neenah, Weyauwega received proposals from all three organ builders with prices ranging from \$120,000 to \$300,000 Phil Swartz, Chris Holtkamp, Tom Salzman recommended to Session that we accept the Phil Swartz proposal for \$159,650 held an informational meeting for the congregation on Dec. 19 <p>The next step is to hold a congregational meeting for the purpose of voting on the proposal and if approved, begin a capital campaign.</p> <p>The committee would like to thank you all for your patience and encouragement while we were engaged in this process. Russ Christensen, Jenny Solper, Bruce Deadman, Chris McNitt, Don Carmichael, Nancy Siewert, and Pastor Randy advising.</p> <p>Thank you to all who participated in the organ information meeting on Dec. 19. Your input was greatly appreciated. Here is a brief summary of our work: The committee began working in February and in the time that followed we did the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> had spirited discussions regarding what to do: buy a new organ, electronic or pipe; or restore/renew the present organ had three organ builders assess our organ all three liked our organ and thought it was worth renewing/restoring console and electrical system needs to be replaced 	<p>Lyn Early</p> <p>Payton Spang</p> <p>Rick Hearley</p> <p>Julia Doenges</p> <p>Lori Crooks</p> <p>Tom Escott</p> <p>Duane Kabacinski</p> <p>Brianna Jimenez</p> <p>Arleen Dunn</p> <p>Julie Thomas</p> <p>Dayton Wellner</p> <p>McKenna Lowery</p> <p>Barbara Batal</p> <p>Marje Hall</p> <p>Nancy Wittman</p> <p>Alex Bostedt</p> <p>Vic Halloran</p> <p>Gian Bordini</p> <p>Olivia Crooks</p> <p>Louise Anderson</p> <p>Stephanie Fahringer</p> <p>Gabriela Jimenez</p> <p>Theda Nero</p> <p>Iner Osgood</p> <p>Elliott Stenson</p> <p>Tom Schoffelman</p> <p>David Wilson</p> <p>Gary Fernstrum</p> <p>Aaron Schoffelman</p> <p>Danielle Revord</p> <p>Mariah Alvarez</p> <p>Tom Steeno</p> <p>Gina Bordini</p>
<p>Early Head Start (continued from page 1)</p> <p>Each family is invited to 2 socializations a month, at which time they have the opportunity to be involved in free play with their child, have parent education time, share a family style meal, and participate in a planned parent child activity. The socializations are all planned and supervised by the Early Head Start Team. This team consists of 6 staff: Program Manager, Program Aide/Cook, and 4 full time Family Support Workers. The weekly socializations take place at First Presbyterian Church every Tuesday</p>  <p>from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Staff arrive as early as 3:30 p.m. to start preparing, and could stay as late as 8:00 p.m. for clean up. The program utilizes classrooms 201 and 202 (upstairs), as well as Banner Hall and kitchen (for the meal).</p> <p>EHS is a program of Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin.</p> <p>EHS pays a modest rental fee, supplemented by a grant from Winnebago Presbytery and an in-kind donation from First Presbyterian Church.</p>	<p>Gabriela Jimenez</p> <p>Theda Nero</p> <p>Iner Osgood</p> <p>Elliott Stenson</p> <p>Tom Schoffelman</p> <p>David Wilson</p> <p>Gary Fernstrum</p> <p>Aaron Schoffelman</p> <p>Danielle Revord</p> <p>Mariah Alvarez</p> <p>Tom Steeno</p> <p>Gina Bordini</p>



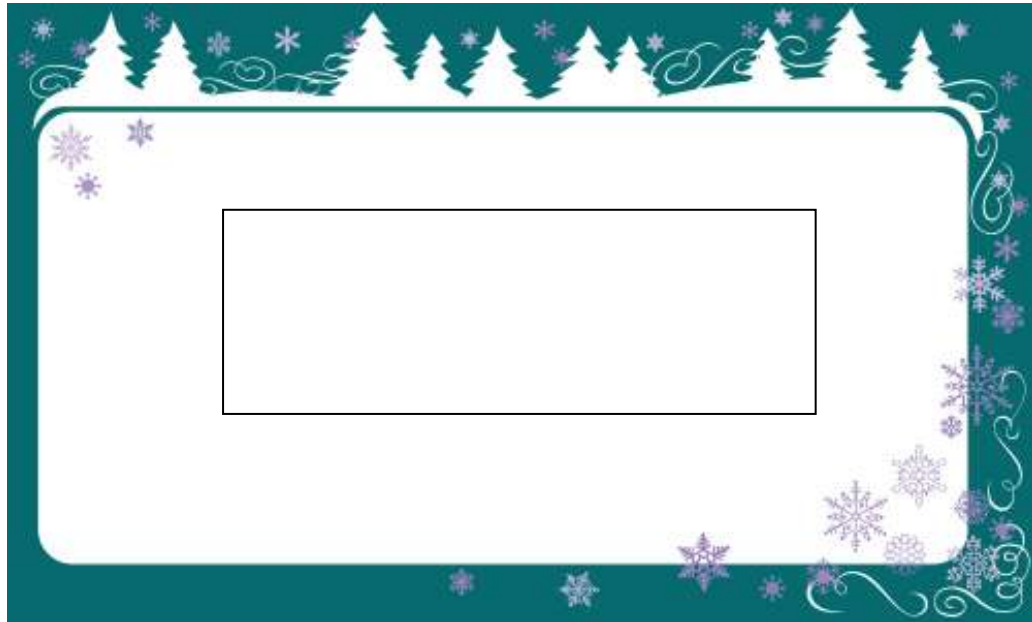
January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2 No Sunday School and Adult Study</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am</p>	<p>3 Church Office is Closed</p> <p>Buildings and Grounds 6:30 –8:00 pm</p>	<p>4 Personnel and Administration 9:00 – 12:30 pm</p> <p>Tatters 12:30 – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Early Headstart 3:00 – 8:00 pm</p>	<p>5 Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 pm</p> <p>Lectionary Study 7:00 –8:00 pm</p>	<p>6 Stephen Ministers 6:00 – 7:30 pm</p> <p>Nativity Catholic Church</p>	7	<p>8 Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 8:00 am – 10:00 am</p>
<p>9 Children's Choir Adult Study 8:45 am</p> <p>Sunday School 9:00 –9:45 am</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am Communion</p> <p>Congregational Meeting 11:15 am</p> <p>Communion for the homebound 1:15 –4:00 pm</p>	<p>10 Staff Meeting 11:30 am – 12:30 pm</p> <p>Evangelism 5:30 –7:00 pm</p> <p>Finance Committee 6:30 – 8:00 pm</p>	<p>11 Food Pantry 10 am – 12:00 pm</p> <p>The Commoner's 12:15 – 2:00 pm</p> <p>Tatters 12:30 – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Early Headstart 3:00 – 8:00 pm</p> <p>Seymour Park Mtg. 5:30 –6:30 pm</p> <p>Christian Education 6:30 – 8:00 pm</p>	<p>12 Mission and Social Concerns 5:30 –7:00 pm</p> <p>Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 pm</p> <p>Lectionary Study 7:00 –8:00 pm</p>	<p>13 Esther Circle 1:00 –3:00 pm</p> <p>Worship Committee 7:00 – 9:00 pm</p>		15
<p>16 Children's Choir Adult Study 8:45 am</p> <p>Sunday School 9:00 –9:45 am</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am</p> <p>Bible Study "Finding Balance" 5:00 –7:00 pm</p>	<p>17</p> 	<p>18 The Commoner's 12:15 – 2:00 pm</p> <p>Early Headstart 3:00 – 8:00 pm</p> <p>Church Chix 6:00 – 8:00 pm at Savvy's</p>	<p>19 Stewardship 5:15 pm – 7:00 pm</p> <p>Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 pm</p> <p>Lectionary Study 7:00 –8:00 pm</p>	<p>20 Pres Folk 1:00 – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Stephen Ministers 6:30 – 8:00 pm</p> <p>Nativity Catholic Church</p>	21	
<p>23 Children's Choir & Adult Study 8:45 am</p> <p>Sunday School 9:00 – 9:45 am</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am</p> <p>Porkie Pancake Breakfast 11:15 am –12:30 pm</p>		<p>25 Food Pantry 10 am – 12:00 pm</p> <p>The Commoner's 12:15 – 2:00 pm</p> <p>Tatters 12:30 – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Early Headstart 3:00 – 8:00 pm</p> <p>Session 6:30 – 8:30 pm</p>	<p>26 History and Preservation 9:30 – 11:00 am</p> <p>Youth Group 6:15 – 7:45 pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 pm</p> <p>Lectionary Study 7:00 –8:00 pm</p>	<p>27 Deacons 6:30 – 8:00 pm</p>	<p>28 Youth Ski Trip</p> 	<p>29 Youth Ski Trip</p>
<p>30 Children's Choir & Adult Study 8:45 am</p> <p>Sunday School 9:00 – 9:45 am</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am</p>	31					

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Visit us Online!
www.firstpresgreenbay.org



Happy New Year!

December was a busy month with Advent and the celebration of the Christ Child's birth, the greatest gift ever given. It is also a time when we look back over the year and remember the important moments. Was it the confirmation of your child or grandchild, attending the Ken Medema kickoff concert for the stewardship campaign, participating in a Lenten small group study, or watching the children in the recent Christmas pageant? All of these events are part of the celebration of worship. If you have missed the joy of celebrating worship in 2010 will you consider making a New Year's resolution to join us in 2011 as we praise and honor our God in weekly attendance?

