

This Week at...

Serving Christ in Ballston Spa since 1834

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.ballstonpresby.org

LIVING IN THE LIGHT OF EPIPHANY! ~ Pastor Bennett

Epiphany is the season of the church year where we transition from the celebration of Christ's birth to the season of Lent. For me, the focus of this time is often lost because of its brevity. We quickly move from Jesus' birth to the beginning of his ministry at the age of 30. Meg Knight recently shared a poem with me that helps give perspective on what the Epiphany is all about. It was written by Howard Thurman (1899-1981, pastor, theologian & civil rights leader), and sets not only the tone for the season, but for our church as we gather for our annual meeting and consider how we will worship and serve the Lord in 2012.



**When the song of the Angels is stilled,
 When the Star in the sky is gone,
 When the Kings and Princes are home,
 When the Shepherds are back with their flocks,
 The work of Christmas begins.**

**To Find the lost--to Heal the broken--
 To Feed the hungry--to Release the prisoner--
 To Rebuild the nations--
 To make Peace among brothers and sisters--
 To make music in the heart.**

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

	Coffee Hour	Nursery	Greeters	Sound Tech.	Reader
January Ushers: Jack Kenyon, Jenna Seifert, Julie Demaree, Stella Oliphant January Sunday School Teachers: Anthony Benson, Pete Champagne, Benson Girls, Justina Danison					
1/29	Pot Blessing Lunch	Kara Bennett & Nancy Myers	Benson family	Rich Myers	Ken Killian
February Ushers: Bev Davis, Sharon Sommer, Barbara Conner, Eve Kenyon February Sunday School Teachers: Julie Demaree, Michelle Arndt, Laura Weeks, Jenny Killian					
2/5	Benson family	Nancy Myers & Jenna Seifert	B Conner & K Bennett	Jason Armer	Tim Koch

UPCOMING EVENTS

for the week of
January 29, 2012



Sunday, 1/29

10:00 am **Worship Service & Sunday School**

After worship service
Pot Blessing Meal & Annual Meeting

Wednesday, 2/1

9:00 am **Women's Bible Study at the Bennett's**

7:00 pm **Scouts**

7:21 pm **Choir Rehearsal**

Thursday, 2/2

5:30 pm **Youth Group**

Sunday, 2/5

10:00 am **Worship Service & Sunday School**

6:00 pm **Youth Group Super Bowl Party** at the Killian's house

February Birthdays

5th Lisa Kieper
 10th Marty Davis
 11th Chase Matter
 16th Barbara Welch
 18th Lori Friguletto
 18th Allison Stendarid

If we missed your birthday, please let us know!



PEOPLE IN THE PEWS—THANK YOU DEACONS ~ *Bev Davis*

Thank you to Dee Seidel- one from our congregation who answered the call to reach farther with Christ's love by serving as a Deacon. Dee served in many ways as a Deacon, but her efforts in developing procedures for preparing Communion have been most helpful. She has made covers and labeled all the Communion equipment and organized the storage area. This has made the Communion preparation much easier and more efficient. She keeps those who prepare the elements on Sunday morning on their toes with proper procedure. She has kept the silver gleaming and the proper paraments in order for three years now. So we are grateful that Dee heeded the call to go deeper by serving God and her church.



We also owe gratitude to Debbie Seifert who has served as Deacon these last few years and has agreed to sign on for another three. She has served as the moderator and organized many of the fund raisers and activities.

Be sure to say thank you to Dee and Debbie when you see them. There are others who have served as Elders and Deacons whose terms have come to an end this year. We will be highlighting them in future issues.

DEACON'S UPDATE ~ *Deb Seifert*

Don't let the cold of winter bring you down. The Deacons have plans to warm things up. Here are two events we can look forward to!



February: Ballston Spa Winter Festival - Saturday, February 18

The deacons and the youth group will join forces to provide hot chocolate and snacks for kids enjoying the sledding hill on Bath Street. (left: see what fun Andrea Killian and Jenna Seifert had last year!)

March: The 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off

Everyone needs to pull out their favorite chili recipes and get ready to compete while we raise money for the Deacons Scholarship Fund. (right: group photo of last year's contestants. First place winner were the Kiepers.)



GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The First Presbyterian Annual Meeting will be held this Sunday, Jan. 29 after the worship service. There will be a Pot Blessing lunch before the meeting.

The Ladies Bible Study group meeting at the Bennett's on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 will resume meeting Jan. 25. We will be studying women of the Bible. Please contact Kara Bennett with any questions.