

Carillon

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BARRINGTON
A welcoming, caring family of faith

December

Have a Joyous Season

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Advent is a time to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. The overall theme this year is "Darkness Into Light."

Our Sunday Worship service is at 10:00 a.m.

November 30, First Sunday in Advent; the theme is "Hope."

December 7, Second Sunday in Advent; the theme is "Peace."

At 4:00 p.m. Come to the Messiah Sing-Along in the Sanctuary. Professional instrumentalists and vocalists will perform Part I of the work and audience members are encouraged to sing along on the choruses or just sit and listen. See Music page for more details.

At 5:30 p.m. We'll hold our Advent Dinner in Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to pass and a wrapped ornament. See the Deacon's Page for more details.

December 14, third Sunday in Advent; the theme is "Joy."

December 21, the Fourth Sunday of Advent; the theme is "Love."

December 24, 5:00 p.m., Christmas Eve Family Service. "The Gift." The Christ Candle is lit. The children and youth of the congregation will participate in this service.



December 24, 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.; Lessons and Carols Candlelight Service. An adaptation of the festival of nine lessons and carols, first used in the Truro Cathedral, England, and adapted in 1918 for the King's College Chapel, Cambridge. Our vocal and bell choirs will lead the carols.

December 24, 11:00 p.m.; Traditional candlelight service with carols, communion, sermon, Dr. Baxter preaches *A Story that Really Matters*. From the Christ candle, each person receives the Light of Christ. We proclaim Christ as the Light of the World as we sing *Silent Night*.

**Presbyterian Church of
Barrington
Vision Statement**

Created by God as a welcoming, caring family of faith, we...

...worship God joyfully, guided and challenged by Scripture and the proclamation of Christ's gospel;

...serve those in need, inspiring and equipping one another to respond to God's call;

...support each individual's journey of faith through lifelong learning, Christian fellowship and prayer; and

...share this spiritual home with all, drawing others to faith in Jesus Christ and reflecting the everlasting love of God.

Thanks For Your Help: Sally Kilham and Sandi Crewe for assembling the November Carillon.

Becoming a Church Member

We invite you to become a member of our congregation. People who have not made a decision about joining, but would like to know more about the church, are invited to come to services, participate in activities and discuss membership with **Dr. Curtis Baxter**. He can be reached at the Church Office at **847-381-0975**.

Dear Friends in Christ,

An American traveler planned a long safari to Africa. He was a compulsive man, loaded down with maps and time tables and agendas. Workers had been engaged from a local tribe to carry the cumbersome load of supplies, luggage and "essential stuff." They all woke very early the first morning and traveled very fast and very far. On the second morning, they all woke very early and traveled very fast and also went very far. On the third morning, they all woke very early and traveled very fast and went farther still. And the American seemed pleased. On the fourth morning, the tribesmen refused to move. They simply sat by a tree. The

American became incensed. "This is a waste of valuable time. Can someone tell me what is going on here?" The translator answered, "They are waiting for their souls to catch up with their bodies."

That story describes us, except we don't stop and wait for our souls to catch up with our bodies. We just keep on going until we collapse and then wonder, "What went wrong?" Blaise Pascal said, "By means of a diversion, we can avoid our own company and God's company 24 hours a day." We go many places, but are not present at any of them.

In Advent, we are invited to look again at sacred necessity. Sacred necessity is not another "to do" list, but an invitation to savor moments of stillness, and even silence. Our sanity depends on sacred necessity. That sacred necessity is not negotiable.

I can hear a choir of voices saying, "But Curt, you don't know how full my life is – especially coming into this season. How about making this a New Year's resolution?" To that, I respond with these words: "Start here now:"

1. Get the book *The Solace of Open Spaces* by Gretel Ehrlich. Read it in small chunks.
2. Spend 10 minutes daily in absolute quiet. See if after a week you crave more minutes, and then add them. If 10 minutes is good, stay with it. That time is your Sabbath time.
3. Sabbath time means to quit; to stop; or to be uncluttered. Spend uncluttered time with God.
4. Stillness speaks in ways busyness cannot. Stillness restores.

May your Advent begin with an adventure into that which your soul craves and that only you can give.

Pax,
Curt Baxter

Mission

Christopher House

Family-To-Family Holiday Project

Formerly Adopt-A-Family

Adopting a Christopher House family is a wonderful



opportunity to share your joy of Christmas with families less fortunate. The final day for adopting a family is Sunday, December 14th.

Following are some reminders when preparing your packages:

1. Provide a new, wrapped gift for each family member.
2. Provide Christmas dinner by giving a Gift Food Card from Dominick's or Jewel (suggested cost is \$35-\$45 per person for gift and food card combined)
3. Label every present and gift card with your Family ID Number.
4. Package all items securely together in a plastic bag or corrugated box. Label the Food Card, put it in an envelope and tape it to one of the parent's gifts.
5. Please deliver your packages to the church garage on or before December 19th. You may bring the gifts on Sunday or during the week between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. If the church garage is not open, obtain the key from the church office.

By participating in the Family-to-Family Holiday Program, you will bring smiles to children's faces and warmth to their parents' hearts. Thank you for supporting this Christopher House Mission.

**Sally Hilgendorf or
Karen Stout.**

Barrington Giving Day

Each December Barrington Giving Day invites needy families and individuals residing in Barrington 220 School District to a Giving Day. Families receive food, warm coats, books, blankets, and gifts. Members of Barrington churches, schools, businesses and civic organizations have always been generous in their support of this day. Giving Day 2007 helped 701 families. The number of children helped was over 2,000. These children live in our school district. They are our friends and neighbors. Each year the need is greater. Once again, we ask for your assistance in helping these families.

Needed are: winter coats for children and adults, hats, mittens/gloves, new and gently used toys, and books for children and teens, in Spanish and English. A box for donations will be in our office entry hall from Wednesday, November 26th through Wednesday, December 10th.



Financial gifts are urgently needed and are used to purchase food, grocery food certificates, children's coats, blankets, and hygiene products. Checks may be made payable to Barrington Giving Day c/o John Paul Hills, Barrington Bank & Trust, 201 S. Hough St. Barrington, IL 60010

Volunteers for the Giving Day are always needed, and their time and effort is greatly appreciated. Thank you. Barrington Giving Day Organizational Committee:

Pat Karon and Jeanette Muench.

Home of the Sparrow Needs 2009 Calendars



If you don't know what to do with all the extra 2009 calendars you receive, bring them to the church. We'll donate them to Home of the Sparrow. There will be a box for the calendars on top of the Deacon's Secretary outside the office. Thanks from the Mission Committee.

Gear Up/Christopher House



Would you like to help one of our scholarship students or another young person in the Gear Up/Christopher

House program have a Merry Christmas? One of the past years' favorite presents was a gift certificate from the Gap or Old Navy. The students have always had a wonderful time shopping and getting something much needed as well. Most gift cards average about \$25.00, but any amount is appreciated by them. Please drop your gift cards in the Gear-Up basket in the church office and help these young people have a wonderful Christmas this year. For more information, call **Joyce Simpson.**

Christopher House Christmas Bazaar

Each year the clients of Christopher House look forward to the Christmas Bazaar when they can purchase gifts for their loved ones at a low cost. This event is made possible by the donations of new or



nearly new toys, household gift items, books, jewelry and toiletries by generous church members. If you would like to contribute to this year's Bazaar, please bring your donations to the church by

December 2; label them "Christopher House Bazaar". **Bazaar Set up is on Thursday, Dec. 11th; the sale is on Friday, Dec. 12th** at the Uptown location. If you would like to help with the set-up or sale or have any questions, please call **Sally Kilham or Sally Hilgendorf.**

Welcome to our New Members

Jane Marie (Wilson) McSkimming

Constance Helen (Cameron) Porth

Martha A. Boling-Risser

John Faassen

Evelyn P (Capp) Faassen

Benjamin Robert Seyfarth

T'Lynne Clark Seyfarth

Stephen Ministry

A Christmas Prayer

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father,
Help us remember the birth of Jesus,
that we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate
and open the door of love all over the world.
Let kindness come with every gift
and good desires with every greeting.
Deliver us from evil by the blessing
which Christ brings,
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning
make us happy to be thy children,

and Christmas evening bring us to our beds
with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven,
for Jesus' sake.

Amen.

Wishing you the peace of knowing you are precious to
God - and to your church family!

Merry Christmas from the Stephen Ministry Team:

Carol Andler, Anna Armstrong, Julie Brown, Sandi
Crewe, Bill Edwards, Anne Garrette, Sandy Kane,
Larry Kantroski, Iris King, Debbie Marcussen, Kathy
Martin, Nancy Nadig, Dan Paxton, Sandie Paxton, Jack
Raaths, Susan Raaths, Laura Semmen, Ginny Shapiro,
Gene Simpson, Joyce Simpson, Marge Slocum and
Janet Swenson.

Barrington Presbyterian Women

January 8 Meeting

We won't have a meeting in December. Thanks to all
who worked so hard on our Christmas
benefit. Enjoy the holiday season.
Our next meeting will be on **January
8**, (the second Thursday of the month.)
Come for coffee at 9:15 a.m.; the
meeting starts at 9:30 a.m. All women
of the congregation are invited to
attend.



Morning Bible Study

We'll meet on the **Second Wednesday, December 10**,
for coffee at 9:30 a.m., Bible Study starts at 10:00. Led
by Dr. Baxter, we are studying the book of Luke using
the Horizon Bible Study *Jubilee! Luke's Gospel for the Poor*.
Emily Dowell, Coordinator.

G.T.I.F.

Growing Together In Faith is an evening Bible Study
for all women of the congregation. We meet on the
third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Come to our next meeting
on **December 16**. Contact **Jill Minner** for more
information.

Women With Aging Parents

This support group for women who are dealing with
the joys and challenges of aging parents meets on the
second Friday of the month. On **December 12**, we'll
have our second annual cookie exchange at 9:30 a.m. at
the home of Carol Andler. Coordinator,
Marge Slocum.

Shawl Ministry

Shawl Ministry meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in the parlor, this month on **December 17**. Please join us in this worthwhile outreach ministry to those in our congregation and also others who need to be surrounded in our love and prayers. For more information contact **Linda Neton**.

Book Club

Book Club meets every other month (starting in September), on the third Thursday at 1:00 p.m. Our next meeting will be held on **January 15** at the home of Sally Moore. The Barrington Library will have copies of the book, *The Namesake* by Lahiri, at the Adult Service Reference Desk. Coordinator, **Sally Moore**.



January Program with Barbara Rinella

Treat yourself to a delicious luncheon and a fun program to be held at Francesca's in Barrington on Tuesday, **January 6** at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$35.00 with checks to be made payable to BPW.

We welcome back the talented Barbara Rinella, a phenomenal book dramatist, who mesmerizes audiences with her storytelling skills. The program will feature the book, *Loving Frank* by Nancy Horan. Invite a friend or two to a wonderful afternoon of fun and fellowship. Purchase tickets after the service beginning December 14, or contact



Liz Brown for more information.

BPW Women's Retreat

Having trouble finding the perfect gift for the most important woman in your life? What about some time with God? Think about it. Mom does everything for us. She is scheduler, taxi driver, cook, buyer, first responder in our emergencies... you name it. Whether she's doing it now, has done it in the past, or will do it in the future, she's one in a million. What in the world can we get her for Christmas? Consider giving mom three gifts in one: 1- time off from her 'mom' duties; 2- a weekend to experience the fellowship of fabulous church women; and 3- a time to connect with God.

Our retreat theme is "Mission Possible: Balancing Your Life." Discover how to live your life, rather than letting it live you. The retreat will be held at St. Benedict's Abbey in Benet, Wisconsin, **Friday evening March 13th through Sunday morning March 15th**.

We will be led by Rev. Dr. Christine Vogel of McCormick Theological Seminary. Use the registration slip below, and we'll send you a charming stocking stuffer receipt for mom.

Sign the world's greatest mom up for the 2009 BPW Women's Retreat! Cost is \$175, make check payable to BPW and send to:

Rachelle Watkins.

Mom's Name:

Mom's Address:

Mom's Email Address:

This gift is from:

Co-Chairs: **Rachelle Watkins, Mari Franklin, Marge Slocum.**

Deacons

Deacon's Corner, LaVerne Sams

*But the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
(Romans 6:23)*

As Christians, Christmas has a special meaning because it is the holiday when we celebrate the birth of our Lord. We attend special Christmas programs, musicals, ballets, etc. And we give gifts to our friends and loved ones. The exchange of gifts has become a tradition in our society. Just what is a gift? A gift may be defined as a bonus, reward, present, donation, gratuity or contribution.

Of course, you may give expensive, tangible gifts wrapped in exciting and colorful Christmas paper. However, you may give gifts that are intangible but are more meaningful than those wrapped in paper. What are some of these gifts?

*The gift of love..*love has so many qualities that it is almost impossible to define. However, if you review I Corinthians 13, you will find a definition of love that we as Christians can all relate to.

*The gift of friendship..*You can become a friend to that lonely neighbor, or perhaps a classmate who does not have any friends in school.

*The gift of sharing..*You may share your resources by giving to the H.O.P.E. fund or any of various mission programs at the Presbyterian Church of Barrington.

*The gift of organ donation..*many lives have been saved or improved by the donation of organs from a deceased individual.

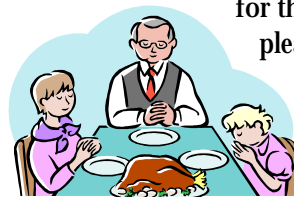
So you see Christians, you do not need to have a lot of money to purchase fancy wrapped tangible gifts for your family and friends, for there are many intangible gifts that you may give to others. As we give gifts to our family, friends and loved ones, remember, we have received the greatest gift of all and that is the gift of God which is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Condolences to:

The family of Joan Brown upon Joan's death on Sunday, November 2,
and to John and Becky Bosarge and family upon the death of John's mother.

Advent Dinner, December 7

The Deacons are planning another wonderful Advent Dinner on Sunday, December 7, 2008 for all the members (and friends) of our church. It is a time for all of us to come together as one family of faith to prepare for the birth of our Lord. We are pleased to have an expanded celebration again this year.



The evening will begin in the Sanctuary promptly at 4:00 p.m. with a short performance from our own Children's Choir, followed by the Sing-Along Messiah program (activities for children of all ages will be available downstairs.)

After the concert, around 5:30 p.m., we will join together in Fellowship Hall for our traditional Advent Dinner featuring plenty of ham and many delectable "pot luck" side dishes. There will be food, fun, and fellowship, and an ornament exchange.

The cost for the evening will be \$8.00 per adult and \$4.00 for children 3-12. Children under 3 are free. The maximum any family will pay is \$20. Each family attending the dinner is asked to bring a wrapped Christmas ornament and a dish to pass in a disposable container to serve 8. If your last name begins with A-L, please bring a salad. If your last name begins with M-Z, please bring a side dish, hot and ready to serve.

If you have any questions about this event, you can call **Diane Svanson or Anneke Chamy**. If you are a family of one or a family of many, we hope you will join us for this wonderful annual event at our church.

A Message from your Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

We have been hard at work for a little over a year now. “Doing what?” you might ask. Here’s a synopsis of our process of finding an associate pastor:

First, we developed our Church Information Form (CIF) which gives potential candidates detailed information about PCB and the position we are seeking to fill.

Upon completion of our CIF early in 2008, the information was uploaded to a Presbyterian-wide database. Our requirements were matched against hundreds of Personal Information Forms (PIFs) of all pastors seeking new calls in the Presbyterian Church. Like our CIF, a PIF gives pertinent information regarding the candidate as well as answers to three theologically-based questions.

Our next task was to review all matching PIFS and rank them in how well they seemed to fit our needs. We also receive PIFS directly from candidates who may not have been computer-matched, but who are interested in our AP position.

After identifying potential candidates, we then begin with an initial phone interview. If the candidate is viewed favorably, we conduct one or two more phone interviews. We then request DVDs or audio tapes of potential candidates to assess how they communicate from the pulpit. We also contact references.

If we are still interested in the candidate, the next step is to conduct a face-to-face interview. We bring the candidate in for two or three days of meetings with our committee, Dr. Baxter, and the Presbytery’s Committee on Ministry.

At this point the APNC must determine how well the candidate would fill our AP position – we either decide to “make a call” (offer the job), hold-off on a decision until we’ve completed the process with other potential candidates already in the process, or wish them well in their ministry.

This process is repeated until we make a call and it is accepted... which is where we are today.

We are still hard at work and are excited about the possibilities and opportunities ahead of us. We appreciate your prayers and support during this time of discernment for the future of PCB!

Contributions to the Seminary Fund

It was truly delightful to read Nancy Dolan’s article in last month’s Carillon entitled *My Seminary Journey*. This is Nancy’s third year at seminary and our Church has supported her efforts with our prayers, good wishes and financially. If you would like to make a contribution to her education, send a check payable to the Church with “Seminary Fund” on the memo line. If you would like further information, please contact Gerry Nadig, her Session Liaison.

Church Officers 2009-2011

ELDER – JANUARY 1, 2009 – DECEMBER 31, 2011

1. Jack Raaths - 2nd term
2. Don Minner - 2nd term
3. Bethany Muhvic
4. Kathy Weidner
5. Curt Moore
6. Nancy Bohren

TRUSTEE - JANUARY 1, 2009 – DECEMBER 31, 2011

1. Mark Garrette
2. Ralph Menick
3. Janet Reilly
4. John Jones
5. Ian Monie -One year, January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009 to fulfill an unexpired term

DEACON – JANUARY 1, 2009 – DECEMBER 31, 2011

1. Dale Smith - 2nd term
2. Laura Burke
3. Emmie Helfrick
4. Marlene Peterson
5. Lindsey Moratz
6. Sigrid Ross - 2nd term

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBER-AT-LARGE ONE YEAR, JANUARY 1, 2009 – DECEMBER 31, 2009

1. Steve Fish
2. Kris Jensen
3. Marla Florio
4. Melissa Dawson
5. Jessica Neton

Nominating Committee Chairs, Don Andler and Betsy Rubak

Deadline for the **January *Carillon*** is **December 10.**

Christian Education

Children and Youth CE

Children ages 1—4
Waiting for Baby Jesus Party
 December 13, 10:00-11:00a.m.

Come to Fellowship Hall at 10:00am and join in the fun at the "Waiting for Baby Jesus" party. We will play games, do an art project and have some cake as we learn why we wait for Baby Jesus! Call the church office to sign up! Deadline is December 6. Friends are welcome. Cost: \$0 Parents should plan to attend to help out.



Winter Vacation Bible School
 December 22 & 23
 9:00a.m. – 3:00p.m.



Save the dates! Mark your calendars! Fit this into your holiday planning!

Let us help you juggle your schedule. With the kids home for vacation, gifts to be wrapped, and cookies to be baked, you need some helping hands!

The youth will be hosting a winter VBS experience for children Kindergarten through 6th grade. You may sign up for a whole day (9 a.m. – 3 p.m. \$20/child) or for part of the day (9 a.m. – Noon or Noon – 3 p.m. \$12/child/session). Choose the sessions you want.

Preschool class for 3 and 4 year olds AND babysitting for toddlers and infants is available from 9 a.m. - Noon. Spots for Nursery/Toddler care are limited, so sign up early. Sign up for any amount of hours or days. Cost is \$4/child per hour.

Watch your mail for a flyer with more details. Proceeds go to fund the youth mission trip in 2009.

Sr. High Christmas Party
 (and former Sr. Highs aka returning college students)

WHEN: December 21 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: LaserQuest in Arlington Heights

We will play 3 games, have pizza and pop and play a variety of Christmas games (with prizes!), so brush up on your Christmas knowledge.

Watch mail for details.

Contact the church office to sign up.



Adult CE

January Disciple Bible Study

Mari and Lukass Franklin invite you to join them in this winter's short-term Disciples Bible Study: *An Invitation to John*. Standing apart from the synoptic gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, the Gospel of John offers its own maverick view of the life of Jesus. "Come and see" and examine God's word through John's Gospel together with us. Our first of 12 meetings will be on **January 11**. Sign up by contacting **Lukass and Mari**, or by calling the church office **847 381-0975**.

Kitchen Kabinet

A very interested group of about 45 people attended the presentation by Rear Admiral Jack Mumaw at the Kitchen Kabinet luncheon meeting on November 12 at Biltmore Country Club. The tracking of Soviet

Submarines during the Cold War was classified information. This information is now declassified and Jack was able to discuss his involvement in the operation to those attending.



Music

December Music

- December 7 Anthem: *Be Watchful* John Behnke
 Offertory: *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*
 BELL CHOIR
 Communion: *What Shall I Render to the Lord* Peter Tiefenbach
- December 14 Anthem: *This Is the Record of John* Orlando Gibbons
 Offertory: *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People* Paul Bunjes
- December 21 Anthem: *Magnificat* John Ferguson
 Offertory: trumpet solo



Sundays-At-Four Messiah Sing Along December 7, 4:00



Donations will benefit Home of the Sparrow.

Join us for the 3rd annual Messiah Sing-Along performed by professional soloists and orchestra, with additional holiday music by our own PCB choirs.

Come to sing, listen, or to do a little of both. Please bring a score if you have one, or you may purchase one at the door. Following the concert you are invited to stay for the annual Advent dinner.

Bella Voce Andrew Lewis, Artistic Director
 December 13, 7:30
 At
 The Presbyterian Church of Barrington

"A perfect balance between the celestial and the earthly" - Wynne Delacoma, The Chicago Sun-Times

"Disciplined, sensitive and uncommonly nuanced singing" - Ted Shen, Chicago Tribune

Chicago's premiere chamber choir, Bella Voce, will present their holiday program, *Revelatory*, music to glimpse the sublime. Bella Voce's audiences have come to expect distinctive holiday programming that amazes and inspires. Like brilliant stars piercing midwinter's darkness, musical selections ancient and new, familiar and exotic will glisten and illuminate the listener's heart and soul. Works by Pärt, Paulus, Rutter, Penderecki, Hassler, Philips and others will be performed. Tickets will be available at the door or at www.bellavoce.org

Parish Life

A Special Note of Thanks to the Congregation

To say that I have been overwhelmed by the loving response and prayers of our church members during my recent cardiac surgery and rehabilitation would be quite an understatement! I would like you all to know that you are all God's messengers and your love has truly played such a major part in my recovery. I will treasure these feelings always." With love, Sue Kosobud.

Men's Fellowship Group

No meeting in December; our next meeting will be January 18, 2009. Tom Long, Coordinator.

Kitchen Cabinet

The Christmas Guest Day Luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 11 at Biltmore Country Club. The menu will be the Biltmore Salad, choice of beef, chicken or fish, and a Christmas Dessert. The cost will be \$27.00 per person. Invitations have been sent out. Reservations are due by December 5 to Bonnie or Kim at the church office.

Celebration of Faith Gala Saturday February 7, 2009

6:30 p.m. to midnight
Biltmore Country Club, Barrington



Join your church family for an evening of adult fellowship, dinner, dancing and FUNdraising. Proceeds benefit the Presbyterian Church of Barrington and a local charity. Watch your mail for your invitation with response card.

Chancel Guild Holiday Decorations



As the holidays approach, the Chancel Guild invites you to help sponsor the church's beautiful Christmas decorations. If you would like to donate to our Christmas fund, please fill out this form and send it with your check to the church office by December 10. Make the check payable to The Presbyterian Church of Barrington, memo "Christmas decorations".

Name of donor(s)

Phone: _____

email: _____

Amount of donation: \$ _____

Dedication for the Christmas Eve Bulletin

Church Administration

A Building update from the Trustees

As 2008 comes to a close we would like to update the congregation on the projects we have been able to complete through the generous pledges of 57 congregants to the building fund:

- Purchased and installed 13 New Doors
- Installed new drain tile system in courtyard and back of church
- Fixed the retaining wall cracks
- Fixed cracks in the foundation
- New Patio and sidewalk
- New combustion system
- New sidewalk with handicap ramp
- New outside drain
- Sealcoated and striped parking lot
- Installed new parking lot lighting

We could not have done this without the generous support of our congregation. While we have made real progress towards upgrading and maintaining our aging building, we are still in need of funds in order to continue to make repairs and keep our building in good condition. As we look ahead, the following is a list of some of the major items that need to be purchased or repaired with estimates of their cost:

Replace 3 – 20 year old a/c units by 2010	\$11,200.00
Repair freezing pipes in the youth lounge	\$ 1,000.00
Tuck-point area outside fellowship hall	\$ 1,330.00
Gutter system needed in front of building	\$ 3,250.00
Update bathrooms throughout building	<u>\$16,000.00</u>
	<u>\$32,780.00</u>

Once again, a big thanks to all those congregants who pledged to the building fund over the past year (please **fulfill your pledge by year end** if you have not already done so). We have made such great progress and hope that we can count on your continued support in 2009 so we can continue to make these necessary repairs and upgrades. Donations to the building fund can be made at any time by noting “building” in the memo line of your check, or filling in that category during the online giving process found on our website.

Year-end Donations

It’s time to think about year-end financial planning! If you’d like to maximize your tax deduction for 2008, remember that any donation received by the close of the calendar year can be allocated to your 2008 pledge, a prepayment of your 2009 pledge, or ear-marked for the building fund or any of our church missions.

To help you ensure that your giving is tax deductible this year, donations must be postmarked by Wednesday, December 31 (per the IRS), or hand delivered to the church office on Wednesday, New Year’s Eve, 12/31. Note that we close at noon that day! For those of you who might need extra time on the 31st, our capabilities to accept credit card donations electronically means that as long as you initiate your online donation before midnight, the IRS will accept it as a 2008 donation. To make a gift online, go to our website at www.pcbarrington.org, and click on “online donations.”

IRA Charitable Rollover Extended

If you’re over age 70 ½ and would like to tap into your IRA without tax penalties, there’s great news. The recently signed \$700 billion economic bailout passed by Congress includes a two-year extension of the IRA Rollover provision that was in effect last year. The special legislation allows you to make up to \$100,000 in charitable gifts to the church or any other 501(c)3 organization, directly from a traditional or Roth Individual Retirement Account (IRA) without incurring federal income taxes, and allows you to include the gift toward meeting your required minimum IRA distribution. Call your financial advisor for more details

Financial Report

For the 10 months ended October 31, 2008

	Actual	Budget	Annual
	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Pledges	\$350,600	\$374,000	\$475,262
Prepaid pledges	94,290	94,290	113,150
Open Plate	28,056	24,650	30,000
Misc Receipts	6,936	5,700	6,200
Holiday giving	2,047	3,000	6,000
Extra campaign	43,250	47,000	50,000
<u>Add'l need</u>			<u>38,069</u>
	<u>\$525,179</u>	<u>\$548,640</u>	<u>\$718,681</u>

Worship Schedule

- Dec. 7** Dr. Baxter Preaching.....10:00 a.m.
Preparing the Way
Readings: Isaiah 40:3; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8;
- Dec. 13** Vespers6:00 p.m.
Carol Sing in Fellowship Hall
- Dec. 14** Dr. Baxter Preaching.....10:00 a.m.
Recognizing the Messiah
Readings: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 or Luke 1:47-55; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28.
- Dec. 21** Dr. Baxter Preaching.....10:00 a.m.
Mary's Perplexing Moment
Readings: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:47-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38.
- Dec. 24** Dr. Baxter Preaching.....11:00 p.m.
A Story That Really Matters
Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7; Micah 5:2-5a; Matthew 1:18-23; Luke 2:1-20.
- Dec. 28** Mr. Spike Preaching.....10:00 a.m.
The Fullness of Time
Readings: Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40.



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