

# Carillon

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BARRINGTON**  
A welcoming, caring family of faith

**May 2009**

## Youth Mission Trip – North To Alaska!

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**O**ur youth and adult mission team will be heading north...way north, in June. Twenty youth and seven adults will fly to Anchorage to work in partnership with Immanuel Presbyterian Church of the Yukon Presbytery.



The team will fly non-stop from O'Hare to Anchorage, Saturday, June 13. Once there, the group will pick up vans and drive to Immanuel, our host church. The congregation of Immanuel is excited about our coming and offered the use of the Sunday School rooms for sleeping and access to their kitchen for meal preparation. We will worship with them Sunday morning and then spend the rest of the day readying for the week of mission service. This is the same church we stayed at on our way to the island when we took our first trip to Alaska.

One team will host a Vacation Bible School for a Native American church, as well as the children of Immanuel. The week will be filled with a variety of songs, games, Bible lessons and multicultural art activities. After lunch, the team will join the work teams on their site.

The work team will divide their time between completing several repair jobs at Eagle River Presbyterian Church in Eagle River, Alaska. The Eagle River Presbyterian Church is a sister church to the church in Savoonga on St. Lawrence Island, one of the two churches we were at twelve years ago. The youth and adults are meeting with their committees to prepare for various aspects of the trip. Food committee will design meals, work project managers will meet to develop lists of materials and skills that will be needed, VBS committee meets to finalize their multicultural experience through the arts program and devotions committee meets to develop a nightly time to learn about God and what God is saying to each one of us through our experiences in Anchorage. See other articles in this Carillon about the upcoming Mexican Fiesta Dinner and the on-going stock sale as we continue to raise funds for this exciting mission opportunity.

**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:** Sandi Crewe and Sally Kilham for assembling the April 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,

Norman Maclean wrote *A River Runs Through It*, a mostly autobiographical novel. The story surrounds a minister who has two religions: Biblical faith and fly-fishing. The minister has two sons, the younger is an alcoholic. There is a great deal of discussion on how to help the younger son and brother, even though he is not looking for help.

"You are too young to help anybody and I am too old," said the father. "Help is giving part of yourself to

somebody who comes to accept it willingly and needs it badly."

"So it is," he said, (sounding like a preacher now), "that we can seldom help anybody. Either we don't know what part to give or maybe we don't like to give any part of ourselves. Then, more often than not, the part that is needed is not wanted. And even more often, we do not have the part that is needed. It is like the auto-supply shop across town where they always say, 'Sorry, we are just out of that part.'"

The father concludes, "I try [to help] him. My trouble is that I don't even know whether he needs help. I don't know – that's my trouble." After a pause, the father says, "We are willing to help, Lord, but what, if anything, is needed?"

Ram Dass and Paul Gorman in 1986 wrote *How Can I Help?* The book is full of essays dealing with this question. Their conclusion was this: "We can help through all that we do. But at the deepest level, we help through who we are. We work on ourselves, then, in order to help others. And we help others as a vehicle for working on ourselves."

On May 17, 2009, we will be celebrating Stephen Ministry Sunday. Peter Shaeffer, Elder and Stephen Minister, will preach and several other Stephen Ministers will lead worship. During the training of a Stephen Minister, the issue of helping is systematically examined. In the end, a Stephen Minister learns that "... at the deepest level, we help through who we are. We work on ourselves, then, in order to help others. And we help others as a vehicle for working on ourselves." I know no other words more trustworthy and true in my ministry than these.

Pax,  
**Curt Baxter**

## Mission

### Spring Food Drive

The Spring Food Drive was a great success. We were able to deliver over 150 bags of food to the FISH Food Pantry in Carpentersville. It was a true delight to see the expressions on their faces as we kept bringing in bags and bags of food. FISH and the Mission Committee extend a special thanks to all those who participated. For those of you who were away on Spring break and did not get a chance to drop off your bag of groceries, please bring it to the Church anytime and we will take it to the Food Pantry with our weekly collections of food and personal items from the Loaves and Fishes donations. If you have any questions, call **Geny Nadig**.



### Mission Transition At The Presbyterian Church Of Barrington

In January of this year the Mission Committee announced that it was investigating new mission directions for our church. We solicited opinions from the congregation and also presented an introduction to Living Waters for the World, a Presbyterian organization that uses local congregations to install simple water filtration systems in areas of the world where potable water is not readily available. After careful listening to comments from the congregations, evaluating our past mission experiences and prayerful consideration, the Mission Committee has decided that in addition to supporting our traditional, Chicago area mission projects, we will recommend to Session that we participate in two different out of state mission projects, domestic and international.

On the domestic front, we would like to offer the opportunity for members of the congregation to participate in disaster recovery/rehabilitation as we did in New Orleans but probably in varying locations. This

would be done within the structure of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Organization and financing would be shared with PDA, thus placing less of a burden on our congregational resources. Skilled and unskilled labor will be needed and members and friends will choose whether to participate or not as each succeeding trip is planned. Any number of people, large or small, can participate in any trip.

In order to reach out to our brothers and sisters in areas of the world that do not have the resources with which we are blessed, the Mission Committee will recommend that we partner with Living Waters for the World and develop a team of people who will be trained to install the systems, teach basic hygiene, and help the local water committee to plan for and maintain the water system. Much of the preparatory and organizational work is available from LWW. From this congregation, we will need a team of people willing to be trained and to travel to do the installation and teaching. There will be some organizational, fund raising, and publicity work that can be done by that team and by people who are not interested in traveling but want to support the mission by efforts at home.

It is very important at this stage that we get accurate information about who will be interested in supporting these ministries. We cannot make final decisions about the structure of these programs without input from the people who will actually be participating. Please prayerfully consider whether God is calling you to participate in either one of these ministries in joyful response to God's grace and mercy. If you are interested in the **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** program, please contact **Barrie Heath or Mark Layne**. If you are interested in **Living Waters for the World**, please contact **Karen Tobin**.

## Stephen Ministry

### Caring for Our Family of Faith



Jesus calls Christians to love as he loved and to be his witnesses, and Stephen Ministry is a way to obey these

commands. If we don't identify care receivers, however, no Stephen Ministry will take place, people who need care won't receive it, and gifted, equipped Christian people will not have opportunities to do the ministry they are ready to do.

Jesus said, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (John 13:34). Jesus loved by reaching out to those who needed care and meeting their needs. Stephen Ministry is a way that congregations and individual members can do so too.

Jesus not only cared for those around him, he deliberately went out to find those who needed his care. When Jesus sent his disciples out to carry on his ministry, he said to them, "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8). Jesus' example and command show that we are to look actively for those in need of care and not wait for them to come to us.

Paul calls Christians to carry on Jesus' ministry to the sick and hurting. In Galatians he wrote, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2). Christians are often called to walk with others who are in crisis or pain. Sometimes it will be obvious who those people are, such as one whose beloved has died. Other times, however, those who need care might not have such obvious needs, and they may be reluctant to ask for help. An effective ministry of identifying people who need care will help assure that those people with less obvious needs for care don't fall between the cracks.

The most obvious needs are for crisis care:

- Unemployment
- Hospitalization
- Terminal illness
- Death of a loved one
- Divorce
- Severe financial setback
- Natural disaster; or
- Aftermath of a fire

Less obvious crises include:

- retirement
- stress of moving
- being a victim or perpetrator of a crime

Additionally, people need follow-up care in recovering from major life crises. Recovery will often include crisis flare-ups, like aftershocks following a major earthquake. Then there is chronic care for long-term problems as with the disabled, aged, homebound, chronic pain of arthritis, fibromyalgia, or living with degenerative diseases. With preventive care we walk with care receivers and try to provide proactive care to deal with problems before they start. These types of problems may include the birth of a first child, retirement, going to college or the military, marriage or even promotion. Finally, we can provide supportive care to those who care for dying loved ones, children considering placement of elderly parents in long-term care facilities, parents of special needs children, parents supporting an adult child through the pain of divorce, or even adult children supporting a parent through the death and funeral of the other parent.

Our Stephen Ministry vision is: As part of our caring family of faith, we are equipped to provide and dedicated to offer Christ-centered care so that no one among us is left to suffer alone. It will take the eyes and ears of all of us at the Presbyterian Church of Barrington to be sure that happens!

Feel secure that Stephen Ministry is highly confidential. If you, a family member, friend in the congregation or community would like to learn more about being matched with a caring Stephen Minister, please call **Julie Brown** or **Nancy Nadig**, our Referrals Coordinators, or **Curt Baxter** or **Dan Spike**, **847-381-0975**.

## Barrington Presbyterian Women

### May Meeting



Our next meeting will be on **May 7** in Fellowship Hall. 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. After the meeting, we'll assemble May Baskets for the women clients of the Community Crises Center in Elgin. You may bring your donations to the meeting. Needed are personal travel-sized grooming items, blank journals and pens, stamps, small colorful umbrellas, bath and shower gels, make-up and make-up bags. The Crises Center offers counseling, support groups and shelter for women and children who suffer from domestic violence.

### Morning Bible Study

We meet in the Parlor on the second Wednesday. Our next meeting is **May 13**; come for coffee at 9:30 a.m., Bible Study starts at 10:00 a.m. 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 that meets on the third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the home of a member. Please join us at our **May 19th** meeting as we discuss "The Seven Spiritual Gifts of Waiting." The study focuses on seven different gifts: Patience, Loss of Control, Living in the Present, Compassion, Gratitude, Humility, and Trust in God. For more information contact **Jill Minner**.

### Shawl Ministry

Shawl Ministry meets the third Wednesday of the month to knit and crochet prayer shawls for members of our congregation and community. No knitting or crocheting experience is necessary; we will gladly help you get started. Our next meeting is on Wednesday, **May 20**. 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**.



### Women With Aging Parents

This support group for women who are dealing with the challenges of aging parents will meet on the second Friday, **May 8** in our Parlor, at 1:00 p.m. For more information, you may contact **Marge Slocum**

### Book Club

Book Club meets every other month (starting in September), on the third Thursday at 1:00 p.m. at the home of a member. Our next meeting will be held on **May 21** at the home of Carol Andler. The book is *The Shack* by William Paul Young. For more information, you may contact **Sally Moore**.

### Spring Fellowship Picnic

All ladies of the church are invited to attend the BPW Spring Fellowship Picnic on **May 28th** at 11:30 a.m. at the home of **Joan Wolfram**.

Because of a lack of parking, Joan has requested that people try to park at the church and carpool from there. This is the wrap-up for our fiscal year featuring a delicious lunch, election of our new Officers and Board, and a great opportunity for fellowship with other women of the congregation. Since this will be a "pot luck" lunch, those with last name A-O should bring a salad to share and P-Z should bring a dessert. Please contact **Laura Lieske** for more information or if you have any questions.

### Incoming Officers:

**Moderator**, Jill Minner

**Vice Moderator**, Karen Stout

**Recording Secretary**, Karen Stout

**Corresponding Secretary**, Alice Buchholz

**Treasurer**, Pam Anderson

**Moderator Ex-Officio**, Laura Lieske.

### Thank You

The BPW would like to thank Leonard's Jewelers of Wauconda for their generous donation of two beautiful silver candelabra to be used for Memorial Receptions. Their gift is deeply appreciated.

## Deacons

### **Congratulations to:**

The Bernardi Family upon the birth of Vivian Sophia on April 13, 2009.

### **Condolences to:**

The family of Patty Seaton. Patty died on March 25. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

The family of Dorothy Dobrath. Dorothy died on April 3; a service was held on April 9.

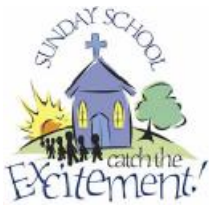
### **Thank you Note From Dan**

Rev. Dan Spike wishes to thank everyone who prayed for him, sent cards, notes, flowers and food, visited, called and generally helped him to recover from foot surgery. God's Blessings and thanks to our wonderful congregation.



## Christian Education

### A Word About Summer. . .



Summer is a time for transitions in our Sunday and fellowship programs. It is a time for meeting new classmates and forming new friendships through activities. The summer programs for all ages are designed to smooth the transitions of exchanging one group for another and one class for another. In this month, your child should remain in their present position. Beginning in June, you are encouraged to begin the transition process. For younger children, this may need to be gradual. You might start by visiting the new room near the end of lesson time to see what activities they have completed. As parents, you might need to remain with your child for a few sessions and are more than welcome to do so. In fact, teaching is a great way for your child to see how comfortable and safe the new environment is.

For older children (K and up), the transition will probably happen more quickly. Encourage your child to invite a friend along to these activities. If they feel that they “know at least someone”, they will be able to relax and gain the most benefit from the program. The more activities they attend during the summer, the more comfortable and excited they will be with the Fall program. The summer activities are designed to be complete programs, therefore one’s attendance at all activities is not necessary for a successful transition. Helping to chaperone or drive to certain activities will send the message to your child that you believe involvement in the Church is an important part of your life. So, join us as we celebrate God’s love through fellowship this Summer.

Do we have plans for you!

### End Of The School Year Party!

Sunday May 30

#### Rainbow Room: Bubbles and Balloons

Join us in the Rainbow Room following the worship service for bubbles, balloons and all sorts of fun!

#### K – 6th grade: Bonfire and Breakfast

We will go to the campfire after we leave worship for breakfast. We will have cereal and a delicious breakfast treat called doughboys! Dress for playing kickball in the field afterwards!

### Children And Youth Summer Christian Education And Fellowship Schedule Sundays

8:45 – 10:15 a.m. Nursery/Toddler care

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. 3 & 4 year old class, Rainbow Room  
They will learn about God’s creation through learning centers and playing outdoors.

9:15 – 10:00 a.m., K – 6th Workshop Wing downstairs  
This group will be exploring Peacemaking through the Arts. This group remains in worship on the first Sunday of the month to participate in communion.

#### Thursdays

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Beginning July 9, and continuing throughout July, children age 2 through gr. 4 are invited to Fellowship Hall for a drop-in story time. Bible stories, songs, games and crafts await them.

Watch your mail for a flyer that will outline more details of this and all other programs.

#### Fellowship Groups take note:

**5th/6th Grade.** We will camp out in July. We will head up to Great America in August Watch for special “Movie Nights” this summer.

**7th/8th Grade.** We will campout in July, have a pool party and hit Great America in August. Keep an eye on your email and snailmail box for “just because” get-togethers (picnics, movies, etc.).

**9th – 12th Grade** First Sunday of the month is “Melissa Buys Brunch.” We are planning to work at a soup kitchen, check out a concert at Ravinia, have a pool party and storm Great America.

### Child Protection Policy Training

Saturday May 2, 2009

9:00 – 10:30am

This training is mandatory for those who plan to work with our children and youth this summer. Whether it is teaching on Sunday, driving to Great America or camping out, you will need to attend this morning training module. Help us continue to provide a safe and secure environment for our youth and children. This module will contain information about abuse, our particular child protection policy and how to respond should you suspect anything untoward to be happening.

## Summer Bible Camps @ Camp Barrington

We will camp out this year in our very own woods. We meet at 5:00pm on Friday night and cook dinner over the open fire. Then, we will make our camp workshirts and learn how God calls us to do God's work through the Parable of the Good Samaritan. We will play Hide-and-Seek and Spud in the big field. Back to the fire for s'mores and then lights out!

We wake early and cook our breakfast over the fire. If you have never had a "doughboy" you are really missing out! Then, we will begin our projects for around the church grounds. We will also be making a few things that will be given to Habitat for Humanity houses. It is a wonderful way to welcome the new families into their homes. It is a way that we can share God's love with our "neighbors." We finish up with a huge water balloon toss! Plan to come and be prepared to have a great time.

Save the following dates on your calendar: (Grade just completed)

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| *Grades K - 3 | July 10- 11  |
| *Grades 4-6   | July 17 - 18 |
| *Grades 6 - 8 | July 24 - 25 |

Camp begins at 5:00 p.m. on the first day and ends at Noon on the next. Cost: \$20

\*Parents should plan to camp out with their child in this age group.

Volunteers are needed to help stock supplies and assist in leading projects and games. Even if you don't have a child involved, come out and play!

Watch your mail for registration forms!

## Youth Mission Trip 2009: Anchorage, Alaska

We will be hosting several fund-raisers to offset costs of the trip. You have already participated in several dinners and are working to fill M&M containers. We would like to offer you two others:

### Hot Stock Tip

Now you have the opportunity to get in on the ground floor of a stock offering that is guaranteed to produce positive results within the next three months. The youth of our congregation, who will be participating in the Youth Mission Trip to Alaska in June, will be

selling stock in themselves to help fund the trip. Shares of stock in individuals are available, or you may purchase Mutual Fund shares that will offset the costs of the entire group. Look for the "Youth Stock Sale" table in Fellowship Hall following the service. This investment is sure to pay dividends for a lifetime.

## Mexican Fiesta Dinner Before Vespers Saturday, May 9, 5:00 p.m.

Treat Mom early – pamper her with dinner! Two kinds of tacos will be offered at our taco bar, along with a variety of toppings. With a salad and chips and salsa – PLUS – Mr. Dan's famous guacamole on the side, you will enjoy the meal as well as the fellowship.

Experience the youths' ability to serve beverages and dish out a special dessert. And all with a smile!

After the meal, we will attend the Vesper service. We will enjoy the jazz instrumentalist who will enhance the worship experience and communion will be served.

Can't resist? Sign up in Fellowship Hall following the worship service or call the church office to secure your reservation. COST: \$9.00/person; \$5 for ages 7 and under; \$30/family

## Adult Education in May

*An Essential Guide: The Historical Jesus*, by James H. Charlesworth, the George L. Collord Professor of New Testament Language and Literature, Princeton Theological Seminary, explores the life and thought of Jesus, the man who walked the hills of Nazareth and the culture and times which shaped his life and thought. Charlesworth leads readers to intelligent and thoughtful reflection on the significant questions which careful reading of scriptures poses about Jesus: New Testament writers indicate that Jesus was devoted to the Jewish scriptures; how is it then that they also recall Jesus as being in disagreement with many of the regulations and interpretations of scripture offered by influential Jews in Jerusalem? Scripture also reveals Jesus as one driven by one desire, to obey God at all times and in all ways; to what extent does Jesus stand out as one of the most Jewish Jews of the first century?

Join Dr. Curt Baxter and Dorothy Symonds on Wednesdays, **May 6, 13, 20, 27**, at 7:00 pm in the Parlor as they lead an exploration of these and many other significant insights into Jesus' life and thought raised by scholarly quest for the Historical Jesus.

## Parish Life

### Kitchen Kabinet

If you are a man of retirement age and interested in meeting with fellow retirees for lunch, tall tales and some interesting programs, join the Kitchen Kabinet group on the second Wednesday of the month at Biltmore Country Club. The next meeting will be on **May 13**, at 11:30 a.m. On June 10, we'll have our Guest Day Luncheon. Put the date on your calendar and invite your spouse, daughter, granddaughter, or friend. **Bob Johnson**, coordinator.

### Men's Fellowship Group

All men of the congregation are invited to attend the Men's Fellowship Group dinner/meetings, held on the third Thursday of each month. The May meeting of the Men's Club that will be held at the home of **Tom Grafton** at 6:30 PM on Thursday, **May 21**, 2009. Please RSVP to Tom by Tuesday, May 19. If you have an interest in the Men's Club, please contact **Tom Long**.

### New Accountant and Hard Good-Byes

Please join the Personnel Committee in welcoming Kelly Johnson. Kelly will be starting the end of April and Patty Griffin will be working with her to provide training and a smooth transition. Kelly comes to us with many years of accounting experience. She lives in Lake-in-the-Hills with her husband and daughter, and comes to us seeking a part time job to better balance parenting and work. She will be working Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and it's best to call between 9:30 and 2:00 if you have questions.

We want to thank Patty Griffin for her outstanding contributions to our Church over the past five years. Patty came on board with year-end tasks to accomplish and no one to train her. She rolled up her sleeves and dove right in. We have been blessed with her financial insights as we reorganized our accounting department to better utilize church funds and employees time. Our financial statements are easier to read and understand by the volunteer boards that oversee the church programming and support. She will be missed and we wish her the best in all that she chooses to do in the future.

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## Sunday Music for May

|               |                                                                       |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>May 3</b>  | <i>My Shepherd Will Supply My Need</i> , Virgil Thompson              |
| <b>May 10</b> | <i>I Am the Vine</i> , Mark Bender                                    |
| <b>May 17</b> | <i>Here I Am</i> , Daniel Schutte                                     |
| <b>May 24</b> | <i>God Is My Refuge and Strength</i> , Allen Pote                     |
| <b>May 31</b> | <i>I'm Gonna Sing 'til the Spirit Moves in My Heart</i> , Moses Hogan |



## Vespers Musicians May 9

The Ondas Ensemble (formerly known as Facetada) is comprised of an array of Chicago's finest instrumentalists and vocalists. Its core members, Julie Koidin (flute), Wagner Campos (clarinet), and Roderick Ferguson (piano), first joined forces as a trio at the invitation of composers Elbio Barilari and Gustavo Leone to perform works by both composers in the 2007 Chicago Latino Composers series at the Chicago Cultural Center's Preston Bradley Hall.

The concert was overwhelmingly successful and launched the trio into a new and otherwise untapped path of exploring and promoting Latino composers and Latino inspired music with a variety of musical ensemble configurations. Soon thereafter they performed on a live, 2 hour show on WFMT-FM radio, and were in demand to give other concerts including masterclasses and lecture recitals. 2008 marked their first Ravinia performances and since 2007 they have been regular performers in Chicago's Latin Music Festival.

## Church Administration

### Trustees Corner

#### Understanding our Operating Cash and Maintenance Reserves at PCB

It is important for the congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington to understand the purpose and importance of the operating cash reserves of our church, as well as the current status of the maintenance reserve.

Regarding cash reserves, our church is no different from a household or a business. One key difference, however, is that our church has wisely chosen not to borrow money, but rather has historically chosen instead to rely on an adequate level of cash reserves.

#### Operating Cash

First of all, the church needs to have on hand enough cash to provide for everyday operating needs. Since the timing of receipts and expenditures is uneven even in the best of times, an adequate cash level is required to meet normal operating requirements. A disproportionately large percentage of the annual revenue is received in December.

Over the past several years our Session and Trustees, working in good faith and doing what they believed was right, have struggled to provide for the needs of the congregation within the constraints of the church's annual cash receipts and cash on hand in the form of our financial reserves. The result has been a steady depletion of the operating cash balance as follows:

| <u>12/31/05</u> | <u>12/31/06</u> | <u>12/31/07</u> | <u>12/31/08</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| \$193,653       | \$161,340       | \$116,497       | \$70,317        |

If our expenditures continue to exceed our receipts, we will run out of operating cash. Our 2009 budgeted operating deficit is \$111,133. If we do not eliminate the deficit via either higher receipts or lower spending, **we will run out of operating cash in 2009.**

By approving the 2009 budget, the Session and the congregation implicitly indicated its need and desire for the budgeted level of services and activities. The Trustees can only assume that the giving capacity, and indeed the true giving desire of the congregation, is much greater than that reflected in the 2009 pledge commitments made to date, and that the deficit will be eliminated via increased pledges and giving.

#### Maintenance Reserve

In addition to cash on hand to cover the uneven flow of receipts and spending, the church must have cash reserves to handle significant emergency expenditures. By definition, such expenditures are critical, unpredictable regarding timing or type, and are sometimes, but not always, unforeseen. Most of the large unplanned expenditures incurred over the years relate to building and grounds. Some recent examples are repair of heating and air conditioning, repair of leaks and water damage, surface drainage, steeple repair, parking lot resurfacing, and snowplowing during this unusually snowy winter.

Our fine and beautiful church structure, built in 1962, is large enough and old enough to require considerable ongoing and ever-increasing repair cost just to keep it in reasonable condition. Maintenance expenditures may be unplanned but they are generally not unforeseen. Every year the Trustees update and estimate the cost of a long list of maintenance needs. Unfortunately the cost of all of these items far exceeds what can be budgeted within our congregation's current level of giving. As a result, one of the key functions of the Trustees is to rank the projects from "absolutely critical" to "important, but not required today." ("Nice to have" projects never make the list.) The total cost estimate of these identified projects for 2009 is currently estimated at approximately \$73,125.

A key consideration in ranking projects is the prospect of certain problems getting worse, and therefore more costly, if not quickly resolved. This is particularly true of water leaks or drainage problems.

Our church budget in the past regularly provided for a maintenance reserve to build cash for unplanned emergencies. Alas, our financial situation has resulted in depleting rather than growing this "savings account" (maintenance reserve) balance.

Our 2008 spending on essential maintenance projects other than operating costs (heat, light, etc.) was \$107,488. Only \$9,000 came from budgeted pledge funds. Much of this money came from a special building fund pledge campaign in 2007 which raised

\$71,210. The balance (\$42,473) came from drawing down reserves. As a result, the maintenance reserve balance was reduced to only \$10,071 as of 12/31/08. Our budget for 2009 is \$15,000, bringing the total available to \$25,071, nowhere near the \$73,125 we need for the identified necessary projects discussed above, not to mention unidentified emergency projects.

**Conclusion**

All things considered, the Trustees believe it essential to rebuild and maintain the maintenance reserve to a target of \$80,000 to \$100,000. This amount is only 2% to 2.5% of the approximate \$4 million value of the church property. Building this maintenance reserve would require our congregation to give above and beyond the amount necessary to balance the budget. Some in our congregation may say we have members who would never allow us to run out of cash or would provide funds in the case of an emergency. This may or may not be true, but assuming reliance on “angels” in an emergency is not a prudent way to manage our financial affairs.

So, as you reconsider your financial commitment to the church, please give not just to balance the budget, but to increase the operating cash and maintenance reserves of our church.

If you wish to learn more about our finances, our Treasurer, or any of the Trustees, will be happy to talk with you.

**Financial Report for the Presbyterian Church of Barrington**

For the 3 months ended March 31, 2009

|                 | Actual       | Budget        | Annual         |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
|                 | YTD          | YTD           | Budget         |
| Pledges         | \$106,053    | \$125,400     | \$529,410      |
| Prepaid pledges | 17,097       | 17,100        | 68,390         |
| Open Plate      | 6,603        | 7,500         | 30,000         |
| Misc Receipts   | (165)        | 3,000         | 10,700         |
| Add'l need      | <u>3,892</u> | <u>27,000</u> | <u>111,133</u> |
|                 | \$133,480    | \$180,000     | \$749,633      |

**Summer Sunday Schedule**

Beginning Sunday May 24, we'll start our Summer Worship Schedule with one service at 9:00 a.m. Also, the Sunday Christian Education program times will change:

8:45 – 10:15 a.m. Nursery/Toddler care

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. 3 & 4 year old class, Rainbow Room. They will learn about God's creation through learning centers and playing outdoors.

9:15 – 10:00 a.m., K – 6th Grade in the Workshop Wing downstairs. This group will be exploring Peacemaking through the Arts. This group remains in worship on the first Sunday of the month to participate in communion.

**Graduate Recognition**

On June 7, we will recognize our graduates. Please send your name and the school from which you graduated to the church office or call the church office, 847-381-0975 before June 1.

## Worship Schedule

- May 3** Dr. Baxter Preaching.....10:00 a.m.  
*Listening To The Shepherd's Voice*  
Readings: Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; I John 3:16-24;  
John 10:11-18
- May 9** Mexican Fiesta Dinner .....5:00 p.m.  
Vespers .....6:00 p.m.
- May 10** Dr. Baxter Preaching.....10:00 a.m.  
*The Art of Love*  
Readings: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8.
- May 17** Peter Shaeffer Preaching.....10:00 a.m.  
*Stephen Ministers*  
Readings: Acts 44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17.
- May 23** Vespers .....6:00 p.m.
- May 24** Dr. Baxter Preaching.....9:00 a.m.  
*Finding Our Security System*  
Readings: Psalm 46; Romans 8:28-39.
- May 31** Dr. Baxter Preaching.....9:00 a.m.  
*Wind and Fire and Strange Speech*  
Readings: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BARRINGTON  
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