



Saints Alive!

www.AvonLakePC.org

Avon Lake
Presbyterian Church
Volume 7, Issue 2
February 2008

**Sunday,
February 3rd
@ Noon**



ALPC Youth Net will again be serving lunch in Hart Hall to raise money for the annual SouperBowl of Caring. Last year, we raised over \$600 to help feed the hungry right here in Avon Lake. Chicken Breast Sandwiches, delicious *Chicken Spatzel* and White Bean Soup are on the menu this year. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this once a year event. Show our own Youth Net your support.

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Ash Wednesday

February 6, 2008

Lake Shore United Methodist Church
7:30 pm



Rev. Tom Robinson will preach the evening's message. We invite you to join in this worship service with our brothers and sisters at Lake Shore United Methodist and take advantage of this opportunity to begin the season of Lent with honesty, admitting our brokenness and giving thanks for God's wholeness.

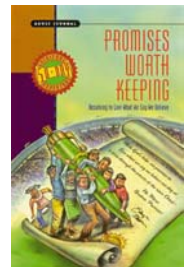
**Teacher
Appreciation
Dinner
February 24
6:00 pm
In Hart Hall**

**Love Shrub Luncheon
Sunday, February 10
At Noon in Hart Hall**

For those of you who have signed up for the Love Shrub this year, we will be having a luncheon on Feb. 10th in Hart Hall after the 11:00am service. At the luncheon, you will reveal your identity to your valentine.

50 Day Adventure Series

The kick-off for this exciting spiritual adventure was with Sunday's sermon on January 27th. Groups are meeting weekly for the next 7 weeks, with the adventure ending on Palm Sunday.



Message from Pastor Tom

There are times in life when things sneak up on you. You are expecting something, you're not sure what, but then – POW! – it hits you when you were least expecting it:

- A bill that comes just when you thought your expenses were okay;
- A family crisis dumps on you from out of nowhere;
- An assignment at work or school that you find on your desk one day when you thought you were finally caught up.

Yes, like the TV ad proclaims, “Life comes at you fast,” and sometimes it comes at you a little too fast.

This year, Easter comes early. No, that's not quite right. This year Easter comes **REALLY** early, about as early as it can possibly come. March 23rd, to be exact. That means that Lent gets an early start as well. Our Ash Wednesday service, which we share with our friends at Lake Shore United Methodist, will be on February 6th. This year the service will be at Lake Shore, starting at 7:30 p.m.

Life may come at us fast, but that doesn't mean we don't have gracious moments to slow down and experience some peace. Lent is one such time. Yes, it is filled with penitence and fasting and reflections on our broken state and that we are always in need of God's grace.

But in the midst of that, it is also a time to remember who and whose we are. It is a time to remember our baptisms and be thankful. It is a time to reflect on how great God is, that even though we mess up and make mistakes and get too busy with our frantic lives, that God is still ready to hear us and be present with us. That's a wonderful lesson Lent has to teach us, if we just slow down and pay attention.

**“BE STILL AND
KNOW THAT I
AM GOD.”**

One help for us in that lesson this year, is our participation in the 50-day Spiritual Adventure. This will be an opportunity for people to meet in small groups and reflect about how they see God active in their lives. It will be a time to “be still and know that I am God.” (Psalm 46:10)

My hopes and prayers for you during Lent of 2008 is that this will be a time of refreshing, a time to be still and remember that God does not exist within our own narrow lists of demands and expectations; that God still seeks to speak to us and invites us to work with Him to bring about something new.

Maybe even within ourselves.

Grace and peace,
Tom



The Stewardship

Committee and Session thank everyone who pledged their support to our church for 2008. We have received 155 general pledges for \$314,992 and 98 per capita pledges for \$3,570, which totals \$318,562. We appreciate those of you who revised your pledges upward to move toward meeting the goal of operating expenses.

New Deacon and Elder Officer Training

Officer Training classes for New Deacons and Elders that begin their term in May 2008, will be held in the Session Room 3, at 7:30 pm, on February 5, 19, March 4 and 11, 2008. Please call the church office for more details.

E-mail Address

Weekly emails are sent to members of the church with information about the upcoming Sunday morning worship service.

If you would like to be included, please call the church office (933-6240) or email us at alpresby@centurytel.net with your email address.

Lenten Materials for the Whole Family

Ash Wednesday is on February 6th this year. So beginning on Sunday January 27th, copies of Jesus in Jerusalem, Symbols of the Season, and Lenten Flash Cards will be available on the table in the foyer. These are wonderful resources to use for family time during this special time of year. Please help yourself to as many copies as you can use and have a blessed Lenten Season!



BEULAH BEACH CHURCH RETREAT

October 11 and 12, 2008

Mark your calendars! This year's presenter will be the Rev. Jessie MacMillan, the Parish Associate at John Knox Presbyterian Church and recent Moderator of the Presbytery of the Western Reserve. Look for more information in the May edition of *Saints Alive!*

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Tools and Blankets Sunday February 24th 2008

I John 3:18 *“Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action”*

God wraps his love around us like a blanket, soft and warm. Let us share this love and comfort by supporting Church World Service Tools and Blankets rainbow of caring to people in need around the world.

CWS Tools and Blankets provide the right tool at the right time making a difference in the lives of children and families the world over faced with emergencies, disaster and devastation. Your gifts can provide blankets, tents and other emergency shelter in the wake of a disaster --- refugees returning home can be helped with tools to rebuild and seeds to replant fields --- families living in drought plagued areas are provided help to dig wells for clean, safe drinking water and water for crop irrigation. CWS assistance is ongoing throughout the devastated regions all over the world helping families reconstruct their lives and bring opportunities and new hope to their communities.

We can all help make a world of difference in the lives of those in need by giving generously to the CWS Tools and Blankets program. On Sunday, February 24th an envelope will be provided in the bulletin to give you an opportunity to share in this rainbow of caring.

Donna Bradley
for the Mission Committee



Children's Sermons

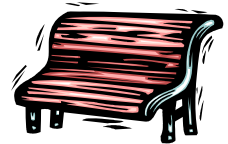


Have you ever thought it might be fun to give a children's sermon?

Well, now's your chance! We have a crew of eight people who enjoy sharing their faith with the children at the 9:30 worship service but we're looking for more of you to join in the fun. There's no scheduled commitment. You can give a sermon once a month or once a year - it's entirely up to you! So, if you think you might be interested or have any questions give Carolyn Dzuro a call at 440-933-6240

The Deacons Bench

Deacon's Annual Easter Breakfast



Easter is fast approaching! The Deacons will once again be serving breakfast between services on Easter Sunday. The menu will include: eggs, pancakes, ham, bacon, pastries, coffee, tea and juice.



If you are interested in helping with the breakfast this year, keep an eye out for an insert in the bulletin. We will be looking for volunteers to help set the tables Thursday evening, and on Sunday we will need cooks, servers, runners, and a clean-up crew. If you would like more information, please feel free to call Christa Yoda at 258-0673.

Easter is Sunday, March 23, 2008!

Financial Report

We officially ended 2007 in the black. We had a surplus of \$143.99. This performance was made possible by the good work of the staff and the committees holding the line on spending. We finished the year a little over \$19,000 behind in General Fund and Loose Plate giving versus the 2007 budget. The 2007 Actual versus Budget Performance by line item will be in the Annual Report.

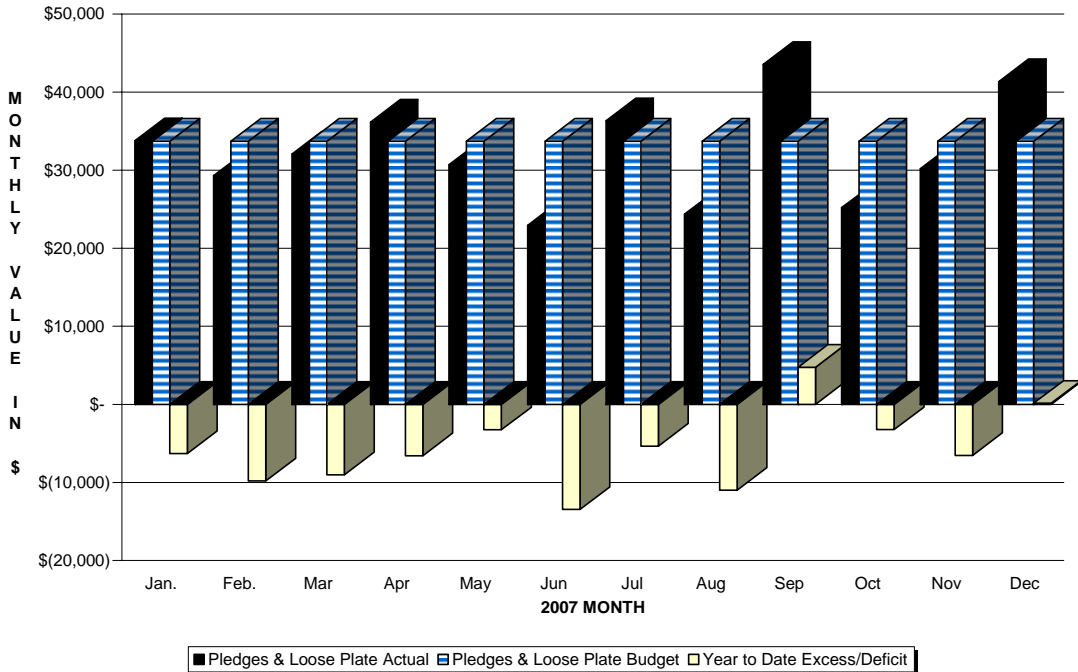
The total for the 2008 Stewardship Campaign is just under \$315,000 as I am preparing this report. This is an increase of close to \$18,000 from a couple of weeks ago when we made everyone aware of our shortfall versus our 2007 campaign. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this increase. Unfortunately, the actual performance in 2007 giving and the remaining shortfall between the 2008 campaign and the 2007 pledging level required Session to redo the 2008 budget at their meeting on the 21st. The Annual Meeting on January 27th was to hear and discuss the details of the budget and learn about all that the church has accomplished in 2007.

The fact that we must cut our projected budget for 2008 is disappointing. I believe we must be financially responsible and present a budget that reflects the financial reality that presently exists. The faith I have, however, reminds me that a budget is a guideline that can be changed. With faith and effort, we can increase our giving during the year and fund the parts of the budget we will reduce at this time. Growth does not come without some pain. God can make wonderful things happen if we only pray for guidance, have faith that He will point us in the right direction and have the courage to follow where the Spirit leads.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, please see me at church or give me a call.

Bob Ralston
Finance Committee

2007 ALPC FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



Mission Statement

In awe, we Receive God's Grace and Gospel.
 In gratitude, we Respond with
 Worship and Servanthood.
 In love, we Represent Jesus Christ
 as we minister to transform lives
 in family, community, and the world.

PW's Honey Baked Ham Fundraiser

Presbyterian Women is sponsoring a Honey Baked Ham fundraiser for Easter again this year. All proceeds will go to PW's various mission projects. Items available include:

- The Original & Authentic Honey Baked Ham (7, 8, 9 or 14 lbs.)
- A Hickory Boneless Ham (2.6 lbs)
- Sliced and Glazed Honey Baked Turkey Breast (2.6 lbs.)
- The Classic Combo (a Honey Baked Ham and Turkey Breast)
- Cinnamon Walnut Coffee Cake.

PW will be taking orders after services February 24, March 2 and 9. We will have product flyers and order forms at that time. Payment is due at the time of order (checks made payable to PW). The items will be delivered to the church on Wednesday, March 19 in the evening so no need to stand in line at the Honey Baked Ham store!

Please help PW make this fundraiser a success and enjoy some delicious food at the same time!

Questions? Call Kathy Navarro at 440-233-6214

PW Spring Plant Sale Fundraiser

Mark your calendars! The annual spring plant sale is coming!
Look for more information in the next newsletter.

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Also, mark your calendars for the

## PW Spring Fling

Be sure to put April 26 on your social calendar. Presbyterian Women is sponsoring a spring program on that Saturday evening that will include fun, food and fellowship. The fun will be line dancing. The food will be catered by Cheryl Lister. The fellowship will take place as we all don our western garb and take to the floor to do some boot skootin across Hart Hall. More details coming soon!

Remember, every lady is a member of Presbyterian Women and we look forward to seeing you at this annual event.



## Stewardship Corner

**S**tewardship, sometimes, appears to be a frightening word. But we are all stewards and it applies to everyday life; at home or at work. Good stewardship involves more than money. It means getting involved with other people in doing things to build lasting relationships and accomplishing goals. Avon Lake Presbyterian Church has a goal that everyone wants. **One Big Church Family** working to carry out God's plan through our church. There are many ways to accomplish our hope, such as:

- 1) Driving people to doctor's appointments,
- 2) Picking up people for worship service,
- 3) Bringing a meal to an ill church member and more

It has to be a great emotional feeling when you deliver a meal and you see a big smile on that person's face! Our church has many things you can get involved in. ***Make a resolution to try one this year.***

Dale Griffen  
For the Stewardship Committee

## SOUP'S ON!

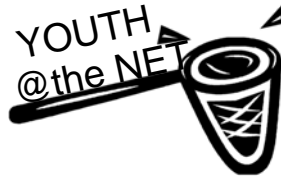
Somehow, in the cold, snowy months when home and hearth feel cozy and warm, I think of homemade vegetable soup and homemade bread. It was my grandmother's (Mammy Dodds to me) "comfort meal." In my mind, back then and still now, it doesn't get any better than that.

You can bring that down-home treat to area neighbors who would love to have some old fashioned vegetable soup of their own making. Just bring in the cans of vegetables and deposit them in the Community Resource Services (CRS) foyer collection boxes. They will be picked up at the end of the month and distributed to those who need to supplement what their own limited budgets can buy.

In February, **all kinds of canned vegetables** would be appreciated; and, if you want to, you could throw in a **boxed bread mix** with your veggies---just in case homemade soup and bread also appeals to the recipient families. Hearty, healthy, hot and heavenly!

We are a source of good nutrition for those whom CRS serves. We are the followers of Christ. We are His hands in service to all of his beloved children.

Shirley Hook for the Mission Committee



## Join us Every Wednesday Night

*Middle School 6:00—7:00 pm*

*Dinner for all youth—7:00—7:30 pm*

*High School 7:30—8:30 pm*

### February Youth Net:

- February 6** — Dinner for Middle School and High School at 6:00 pm  
7:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service for Middle School and High School  
at Lake Shore United Methodist Church  
Back to ALPC at 8:30 pm
- February 13** — Fellowship with Beau!
- February 20** — Bible study / Truth Part 3
- February 27** — Bible study / Truth Part 4

### *Special:*

- February 3** — Souper bowl luncheon in Hart Hall at noon  
Souper Bowl party at Calvary Baptist Church
- February 17** — Tubing at Brandywine—Cost \$15—

### Youth Net Leadership Team Meeting:

- February 24** at noon in the Youth Room  
Lunch is provided



## Presbyterian Women



**C**ircles continue to meet monthly. Their schedule is listed below.

If you are someone who might be interested in joining a Circle, please call Lee Lohr (934-6757) or the church office (933-6240).

- Tuesday, February 12, at 12:30 pm at Athena’s..... Care & Share
- Tuesday, February 12, at 7:00 pm . . . . . Circle of SMILES
- Wednesday, February 13, at 7:00 pm at JoAnn Wainscott’s. ....Sarah Circle
- Thursday, February 14, E-mail meeting .....Presbyterian Women Board**
- Tuesday, February 19, at 6:30 pm at Carol Nussle’s .....Ruth Circle
- Wednesday, February 20, at 9:30 am in the church library .....Circle of Hope
- Tuesday, February 26, at 7:30 pm in the church library ..... Circle of Friends
- Tuesday, February 26, at 7:30 pm in the church office .....Serendipity Circle
- Thursday, February 28, at 7:30 pm, at Joan Metzger’s ..... Circle of Love

## 20 Mission Projects Of PW

### We are celebrating 20 years of PW Mission Giving

- |                                                                                                                   |                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1) Soap for Women’s Re-Entry Program                                                                              | 2) Emergency/Hurricane Relief Kits         |
| 3) Faith House Mitten Tree                                                                                        | 4) School Supplies Drive                   |
| 5) Genesis House                                                                                                  | 6) Faith House Giving Tree                 |
| 7) Cleaning Products for Faith House                                                                              | 8) Lorain County Food Co-Op food donations |
| 9) Bibles for Seamen House – Jeckyl Island                                                                        | 10) Love Incorporated                      |
| 11) Halloween candy collection for CRS                                                                            | 12) Funding for our Youth Net ministries   |
| 13) Money for PW Western Reserve                                                                                  | 14) Re-decorate church crib room           |
| 15) Scholarships for Cornerstone Preschool                                                                        | 16) Nicaragua Mission supplies             |
| 17) NOROC (New Opportunities for Romanian Orphaned Children)                                                      |                                            |
| 18) Bosworth church in Cleveland for their VBS program                                                            |                                            |
| 19) Family of the Month – clothing drive to help Lorain families                                                  |                                            |
| 20) Homeless Stand-Down – give people clean clothes, toiletries & interview skills;<br>then send them to job fair |                                            |

## Ligonier Camp



Ligonier Camp is a Christian camp with one of the most diverse and extensive adventure education programs in the Eastern United States. The Camp's primary goal is to help children learn more about Jesus Christ as they grow in their knowledge of the Christian faith. However, understanding community by learning how to love, respect, and serve others, and their wonderful adventure program which helps children push past their "comfort zone" are also excellent features of this very special summer program. This camp is located in Ligonier, Pennsylvania and offers one and two week sessions for children 8 years of age through 17 and three day sessions for children 6 to 8. There are brochures available on the table in the foyer if you'd like to take a closer look. There are also many children from ALPC who have attended this camp and they would be happy to talk with you. If there is any way I can help you with more information please give me a call or send me an email:

[alstrauchs@aol.com](mailto:alstrauchs@aol.com). Arlene Strauch

## Adult Sunday School 11:00 A.M. Room 3 – Session Room



Why not make attending the Adult Sunday school class a NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION? The class is using "The Wired Word" curriculum. Every Thursday this curriculum emails a Bible study based on a headline story from that week's newspaper to every student listed with the subscription. The person who will be leading the study then has a couple of days to prepare the lesson and everyone else in the class has a chance to think about the lesson. If you're not signed up – no problem – just come and enjoy the discussion. If you enjoy the program and decide to join in, your email address can be added to the subscription at no extra cost. Every week there will be a new headline with a new subject to discuss. Feel free to check it out at

[www.thewiredword.com](http://www.thewiredword.com).



**Youth Net Snow Tubing  
Brandywine Ski Resort  
Sunday, February 17  
6:00—8:00 pm**

We will leave the church at 4:30 pm together. The cost is \$15 per person to tube. Bring extra \$\$ for snacks and dress appropriately for the weather. Locker rental is available. Bring a \$1 bill for locker rental. We will return together at around 9:00 or 9:30 pm.

**You must make your reservation with Nicholas  
by Monday, February 4, by phone 440-258-0691  
or e-mail [dkny@rome.com](mailto:dkny@rome.com).**



**Christian Education Appreciation Dinner  
February 24 – 6:00 P.M. – Hart Hall**

The Christian Education Committee will be thanking all the men and women who have helped with the Christian Education Program during the 2007/08 school year at the annual appreciation dinner. Invitations will be sent out soon, but mark your calendars now!



## Sound Room Technicians



|               |       |               |
|---------------|-------|---------------|
| <b>Feb 3</b>  | 9:30  | Lee Lohr      |
|               | 11:00 | Gary Uhl      |
| <b>Feb 10</b> | 9:30  | Gary Alshouse |
|               | 11:00 | Dave Taylor   |
| <b>Feb 17</b> | 9:30  | Paul Selvage  |
|               | 11:00 | Todd Galloway |
| <b>Feb 24</b> | 9:30  | Craig Young   |
|               | 11:00 | Scott Seipel  |

**Gary Alshouse (933-5337)**  
schedules for the sound room.

## February Greeters

|               |       |                        |
|---------------|-------|------------------------|
| <b>Feb 3</b>  | 9:30  | Dennis & Hilary Runyon |
|               | 11:00 | Nancy Spencer          |
| <b>Feb 10</b> | 9:30  | Bill & Kathy Hamilton  |
|               | 11:00 | Charles & Laura Butrey |
| <b>Feb 17</b> | 9:30  | Art & Shirley Hook     |
|               | 11:00 | Ken & Deb Reichlin     |
| <b>Feb 24</b> | 9:30  | Theda McGrew           |
|               | 11:00 | Jackie & Paul Butrey   |

**Please call Holly Dufala to volunteer**  
**(937-0540)**



## Coffee Servers

|               |                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Feb 3</b>  | <b>Dennis &amp; Hilary Runyon</b> |
| <b>Feb 10</b> | <b>Kathy Navarro</b>              |
| <b>Feb 17</b> | <b>The Vasu family</b>            |
| <b>Feb 24</b> | <b>The Meyer family</b>           |

**Kathy Hamilton schedules coffee servers. Call Kathy at 933-2511 and volunteer to serve!**

## Youth Net Super Bowl Party at Calvary Baptist Church Sunday, February 3 At 6:00 pm

**The cost is \$8—all you can eat and drink!**  
**Every student that attends will get a chance to win prizes!**

Calvary Baptist Church has 2 jumbo sized screens, pool, air hockey, foosball, ping pong, darts, fast shoot and half court basketball, board games, Guitar Hero, Halo, DDR, Wii and other game systems.

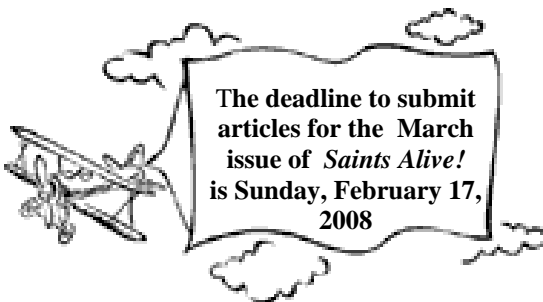
**Bring your friends!**

## Prayer Concerns

### Serving in our Armed Forces:



Eric Hansen, Jennifer Homer, Matt Homer, Jeff Leopold, Jamie Waddell, Derek Fabry, Derek Weeden, Aaron Angel (Scott Hay's niece's husband), Brandon Abrams (son of a co-worker of Marian Conn), Bill Brown III (Sue Tompos' nephew), Ben Donberg (a nephew of the Monjots), Todd Funkhouser (Theda McGrew's grandson), Robert Glover (Carol Egna's brother), Andrew Hansen, Patrick Harris (Betty Harris' grandson), Ian Houston (a friend of Scott Simmons), Mark and Cheryl Monjot's nephew, Brenda Reynolds (Sue Mabe's daughter), Kyle Reynolds (Lois Bayley's great nephew), Ryan and Kevin Tinsley (Nancy McBride's grandsons), Adam Usher (Kay Usher's grandson) and Stephen Yoda (Nick Yoda's brother).



Avon Lake Presbyterian Church  
32340 Electric Blvd.  
Avon Lake, OH 44012  
Return Service Requested

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|                                                                   |                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Sunday Worship</b>                                             |                  |
| <b>9:30 and 11:00 am</b>                                          |                  |
| <b>Sunday School for all ages 11:00 am</b>                        |                  |
| <b>(440) 933-6240</b>                                             |                  |
| <b><a href="http://www.AvonLakePC.org">www.AvonLakePC.org</a></b> |                  |
| Pastor                                                            | Tom Robinson     |
| Assoc. Pastor                                                     | K. Nicholas Yoda |
| Pastor Emeritus                                                   | Alfred A. Hart   |
| Dir. of Music                                                     | Muriel Homer     |
| Dir. of CE                                                        | Carolyn Dzuro    |
| Treasurer                                                         | Marcy Uhl        |
| Financial Secty                                                   | Sharon Pervo     |
| Office Admin                                                      | Cindi Dansizen   |
| Housekeeping                                                      | Jill Ralston     |
| Wedding Coord                                                     | Susan Vasu       |
| Building/grounds                                                  | Bryan Crow       |