

First Baptist Church in Wickford

THE GOOD NEWS

January 2006

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

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Donation Requests for the Good Samaritan Hospital And Area Batay Clinics

Walter and Cathy Horridge will be in LaRomana, DR on a mission work tour from February 25 - March 4, 2006 and would like to fill "Harry's Suitcase" to overflowing. On **JANUARY 28** a packing party will take place to fill duffle bags with as much as possible.

Following are some suggestions of donations and of course monetary gifts are always welcome to purchase building materials for the hospital.

SUMMER WEIGHT, GENTLY USED, CLEAN CLOTHING:

Skirts, blouses and dresses for women

Long pants, shirts and tees for men

Play clothes and dress clothes for children

Infant clothing is especially needed

Shoes and sneakers in *very good* condition for adults and children

New underwear, all sizes, for adults and children

Hygiene kits in Ziplock bags:

Facecloth, bar of soap, toothbrush & paste, shampoo

Shaving items, combs and deodorant.

SCHOOL MATERIALS

BIBLES AND NEW TESTAMENTS IN SPANISH

We also need the following items which must have an expiration date no earlier than August 1, 2006

Vitamins (adult and children's)

Prenatal capsules

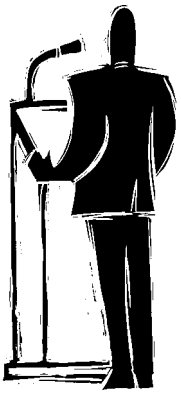
Tylenol, Advil, Motrin for adults and children

Eye antibiotics, and unopened prescription medications

"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you."

Matthew 7:12

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: THE DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF THE GOOD NEWS IS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25TH :
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Ruminations Over a New Year

By Rev. Dr. Clifford Hockensmith

There is a point at which a person begins keeping time backwards. Instead of asking, 'How much money will I save?'- they ask- 'How much money *have* I saved?'. And further: 'What will I do with my life?' becomes 'What have I done with my life?' 'The beginning of each New Year may mark a transition point, and may cause persons to keep time both forward and backward.

Instead of just lamenting the loss of public, school or government observances of Christian holidays, the Christian Church needs to step up and remain strong in observing and keeping the Holidays ourselves. It was particularly significant this past Christmas as the large megachurches and megachurch wannabees cancelled their Christmas Day services, even though they were on Sunday. These churches proved that they are market driven. The Church of all places must never be market driven. But as soon as we worry more about what people want or what is more convenient for them, we cross the line to being market driven and not God -guided.

Once more this morning I witnessed what I call the Rhode Island Two-Step, a driving quirk indigenous to Rhode Island. The Rhode Island Two step involves two motorists who, together, do the exact opposite of what driving laws would dictate. For example, as I witnessed this morning, driver number one stops, right in the middle of a right of way, to wait for driver number two, who has a stop sign, to emerge. Driver number two then waves courteously to thank driver number one, who also waves courteously. This apparent politeness is negated by the fact that both drivers have broken driving laws. The politeness of driver number one is ruined by his/her rudeness to drivers behind him/her, who wonder why he/she has stopped in the middle of the road where there is no stop sign, creating a hazard for them. This apparent politeness is also ruined by a more ominous result. Every Rhode Island driver who now arrives at stop sign or intersection onto a main road now expects oncoming traffic to stop for them! Some number two drivers even begin the two step before driver number one even thinks about it. Operating as driver number one through right of ways, I regularly receive mean looks from drivers sitting at stop signs, feeling entitled that I should stop to wait for them. Only in Rhode Island!

Keeping time forward may be more effective than keeping time backward, since we can no longer do much about what has already transpired. Fully keeping our own Holidays as Christians is more effective than fretting over whether the secular public will keep them. In life, religion and driving, being responsible for our own actions, going forward, is usually more effective than worrying about what someone else may or may not do. Yet, when mistakes are devastating, on our part or on the other's, a certain amount of defensiveness can be understood.

A certain senior member of my family, who shall go unnamed, always said: "You can avoid more accidents with the gas pedal than you can with the brake." This however may depend on the number of years of experience behind the wheel.

Happy New Year!

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAYS

9:30 am

Sunday School
Chapel Building
& Stafford House

10:45 am

Worship
Sanctuary

11:45 am

Fellowship Hour
Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAYS

9:00 am

Prayer Group
Stafford House

10:15 am

Bible Study Fellowship
Stafford House

1:00 pm

Ladies Guild (2nd Wed.)
Craft Workshop
(1st, 3rd, & 4th Wed.)
Stafford House

THURSDAYS

7:15 pm

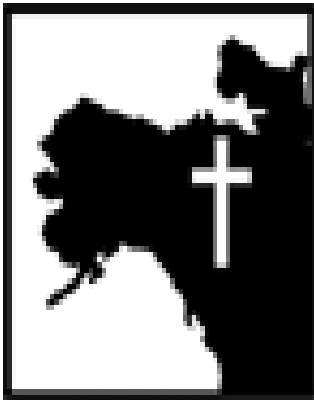
Choir Rehearsal
Choir Room



FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE AS OF DECEMBER 28, 2005

	<u>07/01/05 - 12/28/05</u>	<u>Plan</u> <u>07/01//05 - 12/28/05</u>
Income		
Pledges & Repeat Supporters	\$ 56,325.05	\$ 61,223.32
Other Income	\$ <u>15,336.86*</u>	\$ <u>18,442.89*</u>
Total Income	\$ 71,661.91	\$ 79,666.21
Expenses		
Current Operating Expenses	\$ <u>73,441.49</u>	\$ <u>79,666.21</u>
Net Income	\$ - 1,779.58	\$ 0.00

* Includes \$7,395.00 from reserves per plan.



ALASKAN MISSION POTLUCK DINNER

Please plan to attend a special Mission Dinner to be held on **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11 AT 6:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. Nancy Bancroft, of the American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island, will provide a presentation about the Kodiak Missions, which we support. This will be a potluck dinner with dessert and drinks provided by the Mission Committee.

A sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall.

American Baptist Women's Ministries of RI

"Born Again...to be Wild about Jesus"

Annual Spiritual Growth Retreat

January 27-28, 2006

Begins Friday at 6 PM until Saturday at 4 PM

Canonicus Conference Center

RETREAT LEADER:

Michelle Sullivan, Pastoral Intern at
Calvary Baptist Church

More information and registration forms
are available in Fellowship Hall and the
church office.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1st	Ruthy Scharer	14th	Michaela Bellisle
5th	Jill Gunkel	25th	Lois Pirhala
6th	Chris Arkwright	30th	Karen Lambiase

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Wednesday, Jan. 4th
5:00 PM

Missions Committee
Stafford House

Tuesday, Jan. 10th
10:00 AM

Membership & Care
Cholly Kochhan's House

Wednesday, Jan. 18th
2:00 PM

Worship Committee
Stafford House

Monday, Jan. 23rd
6:30 PM

Diaconate
Stafford House

SPECIAL EVENTS

*Alaskan Mission
Potluck Dinner*

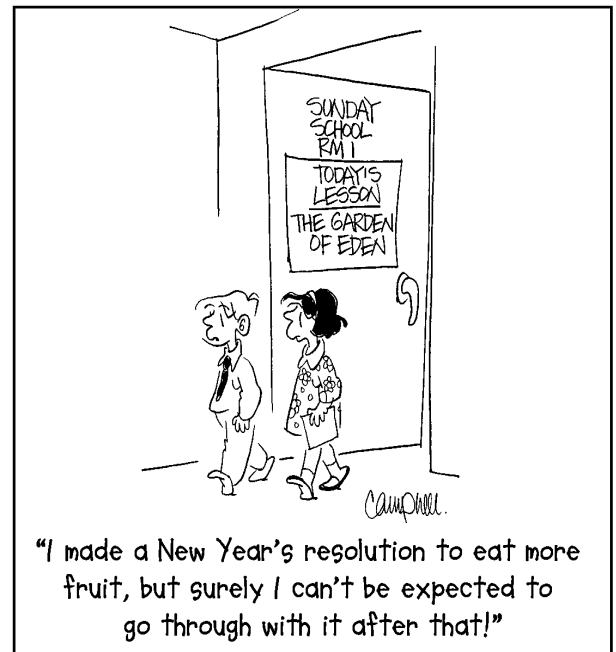
Wednesday, Jan. 11th
6:00 PM

Fellowship Hall

*Church Fundraiser
Planning Meeting*

Tuesday, Jan. 24th
7:00 PM

Stafford House





**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
IN WICKFORD**
34-44 MAIN STREET
NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI 02852

**TIME VALUE - DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

Church Fundraising Opportunity WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

Are you an art enthusiast??

Do you enjoy working and planning events with fun and creative people??

Do you have a heart for First Baptist, Wickford and desire to help us raise money for the church and its ministries??

Then have we got the PERFECT opportunity for you!!!

We have been generously given an art collection for the express purpose of selling it to raise money for the church.

Have any ideas??

We need ANYONE & EVERYONE to help in this endeavor!

Please come to the planning session on

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24TH AT 7 PM IN THE STAFFORD HOUSE

This is a joint effort between our Stewardship and Finance Committees.
For more information please contact Beth Blink or Linda P. Lawrence

