



668 Pond Road
Wales, ME
04280
375-8853

Wales Presbyterian Church

August 2009

Welcome

Story Time

- by Rick Ness CLP

A Hairy Deal:

A young man had just earned his drivers license and asked his father to borrow the family car.

His strict father said "I'll make a deal with you. Bring up your grades, read the Bible a bit more, and get your hair cut and we will talk about it."

A month later, the son asked again.

The fathersaid, "Son, I'm proud of the way you've brought up your grades and studied the Bible, but you didn't cut your hair."

The son smiled and replied, "I've been thinking about that. Samson had long hair, Moses and Noah had long hair. Even Jesus had long hair."

"Yes," his father admitted, "and they walked everywhere they went."

Then he was the one smiling.

Psalm 71

In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame. Rescue me and deliver me in your righteousness; turn your ear to me and save me. Be my rock of refuge, to which I can always go; give the command to save me for you are my rock and my fortress. Deliver me O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of evil and cruel men.

Welcome everyone to the new edition of the Wales Presbyterian Church newsletter. The newsletter will be coming out every fall, winter, spring and summer to help keep our members and friends up to date on what is going on here in the church. Each issue will provide updates from Session, Deacons, and Presbyterian Women. There will also be a calendar of events keeping track of turkey suppers, special worship services as well as other community events. A special thanks to new member Sam Theises for her work in getting this newsletter together. I would like to welcome Sam as well as other new members Betty Lou and Jean Legrange, Wayne, Crystal and Ken Shorey to our church family.

I am very blessed to have been called to serve the Wales Congregation as Commissioned Lay Pastor after having been a member here for 9 years. Thank you to everyone for your love, support and prayers. I look forward to our future together in Christ's service.

Speaking of service we have begun to collect used bedding, (sheets, blankets, pillow cases) for the Trinity Jubilee Center in Lewiston. The Jubilee Center is located in the basement of the Trinity Episcopal Church on Bates Street in Lewiston and serves some of the state's lowest income neighborhoods with meals, clothing and other necessities. Anyone that has used blankets, sheets quilts, etc. that they no longer need please drop them off in the youth center after services on Sundays. They also need disposable diapers and men's white sox for those that would like to donate new items as well. I am pleased to mention that our initial trunk load was delivered during the first week of September.

"The true Christian loves Christ and loves his fellow men. More than that, he knows that he cannot show his love to Christ in any other way than by showing his love to his fellow men." Wm. Barclay

Special Verse: 3 John 4

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth."

Message from the Clerk of Session

- by Linda Siderio

□ The Session is excited to have the newsletter back! It gives us a chance to let you know about "new" news and updates on "old" news! We have exciting news from the pulpit. It's filled! We have hired Richard Ness, CLP for our part time pastor position. His leadership and outreach to our church and community has been a welcomed and much needed answer to prayer. We are very blessed that God has placed us on this journey together.

Our church has recently taken on a new mission project, the Trinity Jubilee Center in Lewiston. The center provides much need services to the Lewiston Auburn community, such as diapers, food, and bedding and has a weekly soup kitchen. Our congregation is busy gathering items and looks forward to continuing our friendship with the center.

This summer we have welcomed 6 new members to our congregation. Two of which were transfer of memberships and four members are new to the Presbyterian Church. All of these new members are excited to grow and I contribute to our Lord's work here in our church and our community. This summer we have welcomed 6 new members to our congregation. Two of which were transfer of memberships and four members are new to the Presbyterian Church. All of these new members are excited to grow and contribute to our Lord's work here in our church and our community.

Lastly, the session has set some construction goals for our church, to be completed by the end of the year. We will be working towards starting and completing a much needed upgrade to our bathroom and food bank area, fixing and properly insulating our roof and a new handicap accessible ramp is in the works!

We're praying that you find yourself well and in our God's loving arms.

There If You Need Us!

- by Kelly Beaudoin, Deacon Moderator

Kate Braestrap wrote a book last year called "There If You Need Me." My reading of this book came at about the same time that I was called to be a Wales Deacon. I realized how much that title applied not only to Kate's work as a minister to Maine's Game Wardens, but also to the mission of the Wales Deacons. As Deacons, we have tried to be there for our congregation members as well as our neighbors.

2008 going into 2009, tried everyone's patience. Our country's banking and lending industry was in turmoil, real estate was stalled and foreclosures rose, the Big Three auto makers appealed to Congress for loans to avoid bankruptcy, gas was almost \$4.00 a gallon, heating oil prices were outrageous, millions of dollars were lost on Wall Street and jobs were disappearing. It was and continues to be a time of great uncertainty. Even here in our little part of the world, Wales, Maine, we felt the impact of other's decisions and greed. Our people were hurting and we were concerned.

Now, what can a small rural community church like Wales Presbyterian Church do when faced with mounting problems like this? First, we prayed and then we looked to "God [as] our refuge and strength, a very present help in [times of] trouble." (Psalm 46:1) As Deacons, we made ourselves as available as much as we could. With help from our new pastor, Rick Ness, we visited folks who were ill or who needed some company. Then, we prayed. We sent out cards, delivered flowers and fruit baskets. Then, we prayed. We sent out our annual Christmas baskets, poinsettias, mailed out Valentine's cards with IGA food cards, delivered Easter Tillies, transported folks to and from church. And, again, we prayed. "Never underestimate what a small group of caring people can accomplish." (unknown) We touched loves, we said good-bye to some who went on to be with our Lord, and we hugged and listened. We were there when folks needed us. And, we will continue to be there and do God's work. I know the Deacons are very proud to serve and really enjoy our time together. God has truly blessed us all and given us such a great opportunity, through the Wales Presbvtu. Church, to "Be There If You Need Us!" God Bless.

Wales Presbyterian
Church
668 Pond Road
Wales, ME
04280
375-8853



Presbyterian Women's Group

Throughout the Bible women have played an important role. From Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, Ruth and Ester in the Old Testament to Mary Magdalene, Lydia and Phoebe in the New. Today is no different and The Presbyterian Women's Group (PWG) is part of the leadership experience. From organizing suppers and fund raisers for the church to doing community support projects for the fire dept and the community at large, Presbyterian Women are making a difference.

Did you know that you do not have to be a member of the church or a Presbyterian to join the Presbyterian Women's Group?

There are also fun events such as craft time, social events and field trips. The PWG's from throughout Northern New England gather from time to time for trips and retreats. This can offer a great opportunity to connect with women from around the region to share stories and ideas as well as support for one another. To find out more, stop by one of the meetings (see calendar on back) or contact Fran Moulton or Marilyn Greenwood.

Important Dates:

SEPTEMBER

18th - PWA MTG 9.11 @Y.C.
19th - Pledge Turkey Supper 5.6

NOVEMBER

14th - Christmas Fair 9.2
20th - PWA Mtg 9.11 @Y.C.

OCTOBER

3rd - Turkey Supper to Benefit Fire Department 5.6
16th - PWA Mtg 9.11 @Y.C.
17th - PW Fall Turkey Supper/Deacon's Food Table 5.6

PWA/PW = Presbyterian Woman's Association
Y.C. = Youth Center
Turkey Suppers are held at the Wales Youth Center