

In February

By Rev. Frank Wyche, Pastor

Thursday, Feb. 2, was Groundhog Day. I joked with several people that if the groundhog saw its shadow, maybe we would have our *first* six weeks of winter, because it sure hasn't seemed like winter so far!

We have been extremely blessed with warmer weather, which has been especially helpful to those on fixed or limited incomes, because they have not had to pay as much in heating costs. But we know we still have the coldest part of winter to come, and colder temperatures are sure to be on the way.

This year, Hebron will again receive a special offering to provide blankets and other emergency materials to people in need. (See the two articles on Page 4.)

What used to be called Tools and Blankets Sunday is now called the Blankets-plus (Blankets+) program. We will receive an offering for this program on Sunday, Feb. 26, during morning worship.

For the past two years, we have not taken up a special offering for Tools and Blankets, but the church, through the Commitment/Witness Committee of the Session, has made direct contributions to Church World Service (CWS) based on what was usually given in previous years. The committee, which is in charge of He-

If Church Needs To Be Canceled...

If winter weather is ever severe enough to make us need to cancel church, we will notify television station WHSV-TV3 in Harrisonburg to announce the cancellation.

Also, in the event that church is canceled because of severe winter weather, we will put a message on the church answering machine, so you can call the church office at 885-1648. Ordinarily, we would make a decision to cancel church by 9:00 a.m.

In any case, please use common sense when we have severe winter weather, even if you don't see an announcement! Above all, *be safe!* If your own driveway or street or road is hazardous, please do not take any foolish or unnecessary risks.



FEBRUARY



Sunday, Feb. 3 – *Boy Scout Sunday*, Youth Group, 6:30 P.M.

Sunday, Feb. 10 – *Transfiguration Sunday; the Lord's Supper celebrated*. Youth Group, 6:30 P.M.;

Tuesday, Feb. 12 – Circles 1 & 2 meet, 1:30 P.M.

Wednesday, Feb. 13 – *Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Season of Lent*

Saturday, Feb. 16 – *Sweetheart Dinner*, 6:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall (see article, back page).

Sunday, Feb. 17 – *First Sunday in Lent*; Youth Group, 6:30 P.M.

Sunday, Feb. 24 – *Second Sunday in Lent*; Youth Group, 6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, Feb. 27 – PEP Club, 1:00 P.M.

Thursday, Feb. 28 – Session meets, 7:00 P.M.

bron's distribution of benevolence funds, simply made a contribution on behalf of the church, without calling on the congregation to give to the special offering.

For example, in 2009, the most recent year the offering was taken, the church collected \$825.50 on Tools and Blanket Sunday, so in 2010 the Commitment/Witness Committee gave \$850 to the Tools and Blankets program of Church World Service.

Part of the reason for making a direct contribution instead of taking up a collection was that Hebron was already having a number of special events and/or offerings in January and February, right after a number of special events and/or offerings in November and December.

In November we take up a special Thanksgiving Offering for church programs for young people in need and/or at risk; in December we have special services for Advent and Christmas Eve, receive the Christmas Joy offering, and ask folks to make their year-end contributions; in January we ordain/install new officers and celebrate the Lord's Supper; we have our Annual Meeting of the congregation in January or February; and in February we have Scout Sunday, including giving all of

(Continued On Page 3)

Minutes For Regular Session Meeting Held Dec. 20

The Session of Hebron Presbyterian Church held its stated monthly meeting on Thursday, Dec. 20. Minutes of the meeting were approved at the Jan. 24 Session meeting and are printed here:

Present: Elders: Hannah Bush, Tom Cook, Martha Sieck, James McGavock, Theresa Moore, David Obenschain, Richard Rathburn, Eric Shiflet, Joann Weikert, Jon Arneson, Nicola Cahill, Robert Christian, Treasurer Michael Ruleman, Noah Turnage, Clerk of Session Robin Moyer, and Moderator Rev. Frank Wyche.

Guest: Ross Shull

A quorum being present, the Moderator opened the meeting at 7:00pm with devotions from Daily Guidepost; answering the Call of God.

Clerk's Report: Session received new member Ross Shull by reaffirmation of faith. Session approved the minutes from the Stated meeting on November 15, the Called meeting on November 25, and the Congregational meeting on December 9, 2012. Dates were approved for Robin Ruleman for the use of the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen; Jan. 26th and 27th for Souper Bowl Sunday Jan. 27, Feb. 16th for Sweetheart Dinner, and May 4th and 5th for Relay for Life Luncheon in 2013. Session approved the use of the sanctuary for the wedding of Hobbs and Hill on October 5, 2013.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Mike Ruleman presented a detailed report of Fund Balances as of December 20, 2012 including a Budget vs. Actual report. The general fund continues in the red at (-5,152.09). The total in our checking and savings stands at \$73,210.28. At the present time income is still exceeding expenses.

Called Session Meeting, January 13, 2013

Present: Elders Hannah Bush, Tom Cook, Theresa Moore, Martha Sieck, Eric Shiflet, Joann Weikert, Robert Christian, Noah Turnage, Clerk of Session Robin Moyer, and Elders-elect: Lorrie Dean and Doug Trimble

Excused: Richard Rathburn, Nicola Cahill, and Mike Ruleman

Absent: Jim McGavock, Jon Arneson, and David Obenschain

A quorum being present, the Session was called to order by the Moderator at 10:15a.m.

The Moderator opened the meeting with prayer. The purpose of the meeting was to examine elders-elect Hannah Bush, Tom Cook, Lorrie Dean, Robin Moyer, and Doug Trimble. The five elders-elect answered all the questions to be asked during ordination/installation in the affirmative. Session then voted to conclude and approve the examination and to proceed with the ordi-



Old Business: None

Committee Reports:

Christian Ed (Nicola Cahill, Eric Shiflet)—

No report

Congregational Ministries (Jon Arneson, Joann Weikert)—Shut-ins have been visited.

Session approved a donation from the Commu-

nity Assistance Fund for a family hardship.

Fellowship Committee (Martha Sieck, Robin Moyer)—50 in attendance at the Fellowship Christmas Dinner.

Finance (Theresa Moore, Mike Ruleman)—No report

Personnel (Hannah Bush, Richard Rathburn)—Committee hired Evon Nagel for church secretary with Session approval.

Property (David Obenschain and Noah Turnage; Jon Arneson, Hannah Bush, Robert Christian, Tom Cook, Jim McGavock)—Concrete has been poured and electric upgrade has started.

Worship Committee (Joann Weikert)—Candlelight service is scheduled for December 24th at 8:00pm with communion by intinction. Next communion is Jan. 6, 2013. Ordination and Installation of Officers for Class of 2015 for Jan. 13, 2013 was approved. Rev. Karen McLean will serve as supply minister from Jan. 13 to Feb. 10, 2013.

Cemetery Committee (Tom Cook, Noah Turnage)—No report.

Commitment/Witness (Martha Sieck, David Obenschain)—Zacchaeus' Kitchen items have been delivered. David reported on Scouts. Lunch Bag Program for Beverley Manor is underway. Committee made a contribution to Tools and Blankets. Thanksgiving Offering was \$505. Dates have been reserved for ringing the bells for Salvation Army in 2013. Total collected this year was \$1100.55. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has requested donations of money and not items for the victims of Hurricane Sandy which includes Haiti. PDA is now in Newtown, Connecticut. So far \$130 has been collected for the Christmas Card Project and \$152 for Joy Gift. SACRA donations collected at the benefit concert were \$7,023. Church has been reviewed by committee.

Pastor's Report: The pain in my hip and leg, and exhaustion from lack of sleep continue to limit my activities. We will have Christmas Eve service at 8:00pm on Dec. 24 including Lessons and Carols, and celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Dec. 4 Congregational Meeting

The congregation of Hebron Presbyterian Church met Sunday, Dec. 4, 2011, immediately following the morning worship to elect new officers.

Rev. Frank H. Wyche, Moderator, called the congregational meeting to order at 12 noon. The meeting was opened with prayer by the moderator. By common consent, Alan L. Mayer, Clerk of Session, was appointed to serve as recording secretary of the meeting. A quorum was declared present.

There only item of business for this meeting was to receive the report of the Church Nominating Committee and to elect 5 elders for the Class of 2014.

Elder Hannah Bush, Chair of the Nominating Committee presented the following slate of nominees for the Class of 2014: Jon Arneson, Emily Breeden, Nicola Cahill, Robert Christian, Shirley Fallin, Michael Ruleman, and Noah Turnage.

The moderator called for additional nominations from the floor. There being no further nominations from the floor, the nominations were closed and the congregation was instructed to vote for no more than five persons by paper ballot.

Votes were counted and the following were elected as elders for the Class of 2014, all having received a majority of votes cast: Jon Arneson, Nicola Cahill, Robert Christian, Michael Ruleman, and Noah Turnage. Cahill and Turnage are first-time elders, while Arneson, Christian and Ruleman have served as elders before.

The moderator thanked all who had agreed to have their names placed in nomination. He also thanked the outgoing elders whose terms expired: Jan Botkin, Lorie Dean, Frank Henderson, Alan Mayer, and Lora Turnage; as well as thanking Church Nominating Committee members Emily Breeden, Hannah Bush, Jeff Simmons, and Brenda Smiley.

Blanket Offering And Blanket Collection In February

(Continued From Page 1)

the loose offering that day to the Scouts, plus the Sweetheart Dinner catered by Relay for Life to raise money to fight cancer, plus the Souper Bowl of Caring on the day of the Super Bowl, when churches around the country raise food and money to help the hungry.

Because of all the events and offerings, Commitment/Witness made two changes: 1) Not collecting the Tools and Blankets offering, but giving the money straight to Church World Service; and, 2) Not having the Souper Bowl of Caring on the day of the Super Bowl, but having a special event later in the spring.

The idea was never to stop giving to the Tools and Blankets program, but to give the congregation a break

I continue to serve as moderator of the Craigsville church at the request of Shenandoah Presbytery while they are without a pastor. I will take vacation Dec. 26-Jan. 3. My hip replacement surgery is scheduled for Jan. 8, 2013.

New Business: None

Next Stated Session Meeting – Jan. 24, 2013, at 7:00pm.

Joys and Concerns:

The blessings and prayer concerns of the congregation, friends, and relatives were shared by the moderator and Session for corporate and individual prayer. The meeting was adjourned with prayer by the moderator at 7:53pm.

after calling on them for so many special offerings and special services at the end of one year, and the beginning of the next.

This year, we will again receive the Tools and Blankets offering, now called Blankets+, after a number of people asked about it, and wanted to contribute to it.

Along with the offering for Blankets+, the Commitment/Witness Committee is asking members to bring new or gently used blankets (those in very good condition) to the church, so we can give them to SACRA, to help local people in need during the winter.

Hebron has always given generously to those in need. We thank you for past gifts, and ask your support again on Feb. 26. *Pastor Frank*

Blankets-Plus (Blankets+) Collection Will Be February 26

Hebron Presbyterian Church will receive a special offering on Sunday, Feb. 26, for the Blankets-plus (Blankets+) program of Church World Service (CWS). This program was previously called the "Tools and Blankets" program. Some 8,000 congregations and groups across the U.S. hold CWS Blankets+ events, raising money to help people in need in the U.S. and around the world.

A gift of \$5 will buy a blanket, which can provide warmth, shelter, privacy, and a soft place to rest; while \$50 will provide a hoe, shovel and seeds for 3 families.

For over 60 years, Church World Service has worked in partnership with local communities to identify their needs and access the resources they need to build the foundation for a more viable future, including:



FEBRUARY 26, 2012

- Blankets, tents, food and other emergency supplies following a disaster;
- Tools and seeds for refugees returning home to replant their fields;
- Wells for families living in drought-prone areas to provide clean, safe water

to drink, as well as to irrigate crops and gardens; and,

- Literacy training and small loans for women to educate themselves or open small businesses.

CWS also sponsors the CROP Walk and Hygiene Kits projects, in which Hebron has also participated. Founded in 1946, Church World Service (CWS) is a cooperative ministry of 37 Christian communions, in-

Locally, You Can Help SACRA As Well

Along with taking up a special offering for Blankets+ on Sunday, Feb. 26, Hebron is also collecting new and gently used blankets for the Staunton-Augusta Church Relief Association (SACRA) throughout February.

You can buy a new blanket, or you can donate a used blanket if it is in good or excellent condition (please do not bring worn out blankets, or those needing any repair). Simply place the blanket on the short pew in front of the Choir, and we will deliver the blankets to SACRA for distribution for local need this winter.

cluding the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), of which Hebron is a member. CWS works with partners to eradicate hunger and poverty, and to promote peace and justice around the world.

In its programs, 53.9% of CWS work is refugee assistance and resettlement; 42.8% is humanitarian assistance and development; and 3.3% is education, advocacy and partnership. Only 3.7% of CWS funding goes to administration and the operation of CWS; and only 9.6% goes to information and fundraising; while 86.7% goes to the various assistance and education programs and activities.

CWS seeks to embody the love of Jesus Christ; respect all faiths and traditions; work with the most vulnerable; promote the dignity and rights of all people; advocate for a social, political and economic order based on peace and justice; work ecumenically; work in partnership; support the integrity of creation; and be responsible stewards of resources.

Lent, Season of Preparation For Easter, Begins Feb. 13

By Rev. Frank Wyche, Pastor

Ash Wednesday on Feb. 13 marks the beginning of Lent, the Christian season of preparation before Easter.

Lent is usually observed in three ways: by penitence (self-examination and self-denial); by increased almsgiving (and other good works); and by increased devotional activities (attending regular and special worship services, and increased prayer and devotional study).

Many of us grew up paying little or no attention to Lent, because it was considered a "Catholic" holiday in which Protestants did not participate. In fact, Lent is an important season of the Christian liturgical year, and its observance is far older than the split between Protestants and Catholics. Those of us who did not observe Lent were not avoiding a Roman Catholic practice – we were missing a traditional Christian observance.

The English name "Lent" originated before 1000 A.D.

and came from the Old English word "lencten" or "lengten," which literally meant "lengthening (of daylight hours)" and came to mean "spring" – since daylight hours lengthen during the season of spring, which is when Easter occurs.

Sunday, Feb. 19, is Transfiguration of the Lord on this year's Christian calendar, because the last Sunday before Lent is always Transfiguration Sunday.

Many cultures celebrate Carnivale as a time for celebrations and parties before the self-denial and extra devotional acts of Lent. The last day of Carnivale is Mardi Gras (literally, "Fat Tuesday" in French), which is the day before Lent begins. The idea is that if we are going to deny ourselves for 46 days, let's have one last time to get fat before the lean days ahead. (It's 46 days because Lent itself is 40 weekdays before Easter, not counting the six Sundays during that time.)

Update On Hebron's Budget And Financial Information

From the Hebron Session's Stewardship and Finance Committee

In the January edition of the Hebron Herald, we outlined an optimistic plan to increase the income of Hebron church and significantly cut the 2012 anticipated deficit in the general fund. We spoke of how if every contributor would consider increasing their gifts to the church by 20%, we could possibly have a balanced budget for the year. We promised to keep you updated on our progress.

Through the first month of the year, many of you have responded positively to our request by increasing the amount of or frequency of your contributions to the church. Many of you increased your gifts by the asked for 20%, and some by more than that. We cannot thank you enough. It shows us how much you really care about the continued success of Hebron Church and the

confidence you have in the Finance Committee and Session of the church. You have entrusted us with your gifts and expect us to use them as we promised. Once again, we thank you for that trust.

We understand that not everyone is in a position to increase your giving to the church. Only you and God know that. We do ask that you prayerfully reconsider our request. The plan we have in place will only work if we all work together to reverse the trend of spending more than we take in.

We also understand that this change in direction may take us longer than we'd like. Our current situation did not happen overnight and won't be corrected overnight.

Next month we will give you detailed information as to our progress. Once again we thank you for your past support, and ask that you prayerfully consider increasing your support of Hebron Presbyterian Church.

A Schedule To Read All Of The New Testament During Lent

Printed here is a schedule for reading through the entire New Testament during the season of Lent.

Lent is the 40 days before Easter, not counting Sundays. Lent always begins on Ash Wednesday, which will be February 22 in 2012, with Easter coming on April 8 this year.

This schedule lists books and chapters to be read daily, Monday through Saturday.

You can use Sundays to catch up on any reading if you fall behind during the week.

Ash Wednesday, 1st day of Lent, Feb. 22, Matt. 1-7

Thursday, Feb. 23, Matt. 8-12

Friday, Feb. 24, Matt. 13-18

Saturday, Feb. 25, Matt. 19-24

Sunday, Feb. 26, 1st Sunday in Lent; catch up on any missed readings.

Monday, Feb. 27, Matt. 25-28

Tuesday, Feb. 28, Mark 1-6

Wednesday, Feb. 29, Mark 7-11

Thursday, March 1, Mark 12-16

Friday, March 2, Luke 1-4

Saturday, March 3, Luke 5-9

Sunday, March 4, 2nd Sunday in

Lent; catch up on any missed readings.

Monday, March 5, Luke 10-13

Tuesday, March 6, Luke 14-19

Wednesday, March 7, Luke 20-24

Thursday, March 8, John 1-5

Friday, March 9, John 6-9

Saturday, March 10, John 10-14

Sunday, March 11, 3rd Sunday in Lent; catch up on any missed readings.

Monday, March 12, John 15-19

Tuesday, March 13, John 20-Acts 4

Wednesday, March 14, Acts 5-9

Thursday, March 15, Acts 10-15

Friday, March 16, Acts 16-20

Saturday, March 17, Acts 21-26

Sunday, March 18, 4th Sunday in Lent; catch up on any missed readings.

Monday, March 19, Acts 27-Rom. 4

Tuesday, March 20, Rom. 5-10

Wednesday, March 21, Rom. 11-1 Cor. 1

Thursday, March 22, 1 Cor. 2-9

Friday, March 23, 1 Cor. 10-15

Saturday, March 24, 1 Cor. 16-2 Cor. 9

Sunday, March 25, 5th Sunday in Lent; catch up on any missed readings.

Monday, March 26, 2 Cor. 10-Gal. 4

Tuesday, March 27, Gal. 5-Phil. 1

Wednesday, March 28, Phil. 2-1 Thes. 2

Thursday, March 29, 1 Thes. 3-1 Tim. 5

Friday, March 30, 1 Tim. 6-Heb. 1

Saturday, March 31, Heb. 2-10

Sunday, April 1, 6th Sunday in Lent; catch up on any missed readings.

Monday, April 2, Heb. 11-James 5

Tuesday, April 3, 1 Pet. 1-1 John 1

Wednesday, April 4, 1 John 2-Jude

Thursday, April 5, Rev. 1-7

Friday, April 6, Rev. 8-15

Saturday, April 7, Rev. 16-22

Sunday, April 8: Easter, the Day of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ Our Lord. The Lord's Supper will be celebrated during morning worship at 11:00 A.M.

6 *Presbyterian Women's News*

The January Circle meeting, which was well attended on a beautiful day, was opened with devotions by Hilda Dundas. Thank-you notes were shared. The sick and bereaved were remembered.

Donna Kirtley, Treasurer, presented an itemized report. It showed the women had \$1,533.18 in the treasury at the end of the year.

Profits from Evening of Comfort and Joy were given as follows: Verona Food Pantry, \$515; Valley Mission, \$515; SACRA, \$192 plus canned goods; Food Bags for BMES, \$515.

The ladies voted to purchase the Lenten Devotion booklets which each day will introduce a different Biblical character. They will come from the Society of St. Andrew.

Betty Piner volunteered to be chairman of our annual Yard, Bake, Jelly and Jam Sale which will be held **April 19th and 20th**. All profits from the sale will be given to Weekday Religious Education programs in the area.

Martha Sieck, past chairman of the Sessional Commitment/Witness Committee, gave a detailed report on the latest project, "Food Bags for BMES".

The ladies discussed when to prepare the "goodie" boxes for our college students. A decision will be made later.

Jean Miller closed our meeting with an inspirational and challenging Bible Study.

Cattle Sales Raise \$1530 For Church

One question arising after the distribution of the Annual Report was, What happened with money from the cattle sale this year?

Each year, Hebron buys cattle and lets them feed on the pasture behind and around the church. The Hewitt Family makes this possible by securing and transporting the cattle, as well as covering any veterinary costs that may be necessary.

When the cattle are sold, the proceeds are divided evenly between the Men of the Church and the Hebron Youth Group.

In 2011, however, the Men of the Church stopped meeting after the spring, as no one agreed to come forward to serve as President or any other officer of the group. And because the group hasn't been meeting since last spring, no one prepared or submitted an annual report for the Men of the Church.

Church Treasurer Mike Ruleman said that money was taken equally from the Men of the Church and the Hebron Youth Group funds to spend \$7,471.80 to buy the cattle last spring, which the Hewitts then delivered and unloaded.

February Birthdays And Anniversaries

February birthdays are:

Frank Kirtley	1			
Jeff Simmons	1			
Tom Cook	2			
Jessica Rathburn	2			
Martha Sieck	4			
Jon Arneson	5			
Guy Smiley	7			
Jennifer Sieck	8			
Donna Kirtley	11			
Glenn Kennedy	12			
Ruth Rathburn	12	<h3>Birthdays & Anniversaries</h3>		
Katie Botkin	13		Vicki Drumheller	22
Bill Drumheller	15		Ryan Shiflet	23
Moffet Shiflet	16		Wil Shiflet	23
Shara Shiflet	18		David Obenschain	24
Noah Turnage	20		Philip Sieck	25
			Tracy Mayer	26
			Richie Moyer	27
			Glenn Mader	28

Very special birthday wishes to Guy Smiley, who will be 82 on Feb. 7; and to Moffet Shiflet, who will be 83 on Feb. 16.

Congratulations to Moffet and Shara Shiflet, who will be married 62 years on February 17.

If you know of someone who should be included, please call the church at 886-1648.

After pasturing the cattle through the summer, the Hewitts then loaded, transported and sold the cattle for the church, bringing \$9,000.80 at sale, for a profit of \$1,530. That \$1,530 was then evenly divided, with the Men of the Church and the Hebron Youth Group each receiving \$765.

Many thanks to the Hewitt Family for their support for so many years in this special project, which funds the Men of the Church and the Hebron Youth Group to support so many special missions and offerings to the church and community, as well as national and international mission and emergency needs.

MONTHLY
CALENDAR
INSERT

HEBRON HERALD

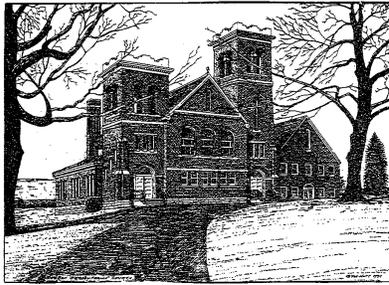
Hebron Presbyterian Church
423 Hebron Road, Staunton, VA 24401

Church Office: (540) 885-1648

Church FAX: (540) 885-9512

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Website: www.hebronpc.com



Hebron Presbyterian Church

Rev. Frank H. Wyche, Pastor
Hannah Bush, Director of Music
Ministries available to all ages

Sunday Services:

Sunday School, 9:55 A.M.

Morning Worship, 11:00 A.M.

Youth Group, 6:30-8:00 P.M.

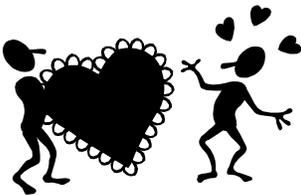
Bible Study, 7:00-8:00 P.M.



February 2013						
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		



Relay for Life Sweetheart Dinner Will Be Feb. 16



Hebron's annual Sweetheart Dinner will be held on Saturday, Feb. 16, at 6:00 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall.

All men and their spouses or significant others are invited to join us. The cost will be \$10/person. We would also like to invite all of our single women as guests of the Men Of the Church.

If you would like to attend but don't drive at night, or if you otherwise need transportation, please contact the church office at 885-1648. If you do not reach anyone, please leave a message at either number.

Dinner will be prepared and served by members of our local "Relay for Life" team. All proceeds from the Sweetheart Dinner will go to benefit Relay for Life.

"Relay For Life" is a fun-filled overnight event designed to celebrate survivorship and to raise money for research and programs of the American Cancer Society.

During the event, teams of people gather at schools, fairgrounds, or parks and take turns walking or running laps. Each team tries to keep at least one team member on the track at all times.

It is important that we know how many people plan to attend the Sweetheart Dinner. A sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board outside the choir room.

If you are unable to sign up at church, you can register by telephone through Thursday, Feb. 9. Please call the church office at 885-1648. If you do not reach anyone, please leave a message at either number.

