

The Presbyterian

April 2011

PASTORS' PONDERINGS

Have you ever noticed how Easter comes just as Spring is arriving, and the length of daylight is increasing? Easter—the celebration of Christ's Resurrection from the dead—like Spring, comes into our lives just when darkness and death seem ready to overtake us.

If you are like us, we are extremely grateful for the coming of Spring this year. The Winter seemed longer, and colder and of course snowier than those in recent memory. Being confined indoors for so long, we have celebrated the opportunity to open the windows and to work in the yard and to watch the buds on the trees begin to open.

Without the Resurrection of Christ, we would be stuck in perpetual spiritual winter. The doom and gloom of the world, filled with death and decay would be all we have. Imagine a world where spring would never come, where the landscape would be brown and barren year round . . . That is what life without the Risen Lord would be like.

Yet so many live as if the thaw of spring has yet to occur. Their lives are devoid of joy, filled with hopelessness and despair, marked by bitterness and complaining. The reality of the Living Christ has not enveloped them. How sad!

The Christ of Easter, the Risen Jesus, invites us all to place our faith in Him and to receive the GIFT of new life, of renewal, of everlasting hope, of deep inner peace, of forgiveness from our sinful past! What a gift! What an opportunity! Have you allowed yourself to appreciate the depth of this Easter gift given through God's grace?

Our hope and prayer for each of you this Eastertide is that you would discover again or even for the first time, the blessings of the Risen Lord in your life.

Live as Easter People, filled with hope!
Pastors Cindy and David

At their March 15 meeting, the Elders:

- Discussed the Freehold Borough School's tentative plan to move the Pre-school from our building at the end of June, 2011.
- Approved Spring Cleanup for May 7, 9am-noon
- Decided to designate the One Great Hour of Sharing offering for the Japan disaster relief. Envelopes are in the church offering box or worshippers can make a donation using the envelopes in the pews and clearly marking them One Great Hour of Sharing.
- Continued discussion of the "Spiritual Leadership" book, focusing on our personal leadership styles and the importance to make sure that the bottom line of our leadership is in service to Jesus Christ.
- Learned that since we are not borrowing money to purchase the neighboring lot, Presbytery does not need to approve the purchase. At this point, the owners have removed the contaminated soil and replaced it with clean fill. We are now waiting for the DEP to report.
- Celebrated the good attendance at the Ash Wednesday Service.
- Heard update on the Mission Commission Pasta Dinner and fun Night for Family Promise, scheduled for March 18.
- Learned that there are at least 8 people signed up for the new member class, which begins on Sunday, March 20.
- Learned that \$240,000 from the Rew Estate has been received. The remainder should be available within several months.



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY will be celebrated on April 17 during both worship services and will include the distribution of Palms.

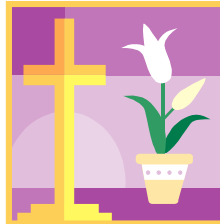
MAUNDY THURSDAY **April 21**, We will have a funeral service “Celebrating the Life of Jesus Christ”. The Service will include Communion. It will be held in the Sanctuary at **7:30pm**.

GOOD FRIDAY **April 22**, the service will be held at the First Baptist Church on West Main Street at **12:30pm** This service is sponsored by the Freehold Clergy Association.

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP **April 24** there will be two services: 8:30am and 11am. The 8:30am Service will present “The Easter Puzzle”. It will be led by children/youth of the church and include special music. At 11am, our celebration will include an uplifting sermon and special music from our choir and trumpeters.

Invite a Friend to Church on Easter! Easter is a great time to invite a friend, neighbor, co-worker, family member to join you in worship! Remember the key words: “Would you like to come with me to Church on Sunday?” Try it!

EASTER BREAKFAST AND EGG HUNT will held at 9:30am on Easter Sunday. Everyone is welcome—reservations are needed. Reserve your spot on one of the Sign up sheets found in the lobbies of both buildings or call the church office at 732-462-0234. Each household is asked to provide an item for the breakfast (bagels, donuts, eggs, fruit salad). During the breakfast an egg hunt will be held for all children up through 5th grade.



FLOWER POWER AT FPC

Each week you see flowers in the front of the church. I hope you enjoy the beauty of the changing displays. I also hope you include the loved ones, remembered with flowers, in your prayers.

Why donate flowers for a worship service?

- 1- Fresh flowers add natural beauty to our worship services while celebrating God's greatness in all creation.
- 2- The flowers celebrate the life and love of special people and those remembering.
- 3- After the service, the flowers are delivered to members of our church family who are unable to join us for worship.

How do I do it? It's easy!

- 1- Contact Laurie Klesitz to schedule the date and choose the wording for the church program.
- 2- Order flowers from our partner florists who deliver the flowers on the day before the service.-or-

You can bring in flowers and use your vase or our vase.
- 3- Let Laurie know if you are taking the flowers home with you -or- if you would like them delivered to a church member.

What if I'd rather make a monetary donation?

If you'd prefer to make a monetary donation to a special fund, just let Laurie know that.

The memorial will appear in the program and beautiful silk flowers will be used for worship that day.

Special thanks the circle members who deliver flowers each Sunday, bringing Love and Thanks to God for every member of our church family! Just call or email me! Laurie 732.370.9526 OR LKlesitz@optonline.net

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

ADULT SUNDAY MORNING CLASS

On Sunday mornings, we will continue our series, "Twenty Four Hours that Changed History". This series explores Jesus' last earthly day. The Adult Class meets at 9:30 am in Rooms A&B. Grab a cup of coffee and a Danish and join us!

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

The Confirmands are nearing the end of their study and will soon be launching into their faith journeys. During April they will be working on their Statements of Faith which they will share with Session when they are examined on May 1st. Confirmation Sunday is May 22, 2011.



MISSION TRIP PLANNING

Plans are continuing for the youth and adults who will be traveling to Bay City, Michigan in June for a weeklong Mission Trip. They are working on their third training as well as preparing for their annual Pancake Breakfast on June 5, 2011.

B.I.G

Our middle school youth group (Grades 6-8) will meet on April 3 from 6pm-7:30pm for The Great Mattress Race. Don't get caught by the "Hunters" as your team tries to reach its goal. Please RSVP to the church office at 732-462-0234.

CHAOS

Our Senior High Youth group will meet:

- Sunday, April 3, 10, 17 We will meet at our regular time: 6pm-7:30pm
- Easter Sunday, April 24 No Meeting
- Saturday, April 30 The youth will participate in Beach Clean-up. Meet at the church at 8am with gardening gloves.
- May 1 will be our final meeting for the school year. We will meet at Noon to go to Hoagie Haven. Bring \$5.

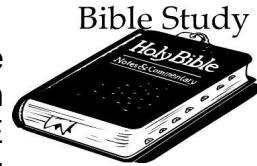
KIDS CLUB

On Sunday, April 3 all Kindergarten through 5th grade children are invited to join us for KIDS CLUB! We will meet at the church from 12:30pm-2:00pm (please, note time change); cost is \$3 per child. Friends are always welcome! We will be talking about and preparing for Easter. This month's theme is Hope. Reservations may be made by calling the church office at 732-462-0234.



KOINONIA

Are you looking for a small group Bible Study? Do you want to share in Christian fellowship with others? Our THREE Koinonia Groups are what you're looking for! The morning group meets every Wednesday at 9:30am at the church; one evening group meets every Monday at 7:00pm at the Bowman's home, 4 Stokes Street, Freehold - the other evening group meets on Wednesday evenings at 7pm at the Bowmans. Childcare is available for the evening groups, if requested. If you are interested in participating, please contact Pastor Cindy. We are currently studying several of the prophets.



New Member Class

Our New Member Class began on Sunday, March 20. There are currently 12 people enrolled in the class. They will meet with Session in April and be welcomed into the congregation at the end of the month. Thank you to Brenda Fitzgerald and Larry Hartzell for their assistance with the class.

Attention High School Seniors: The Christian Education Commission is accepting applications for scholarships. In order to qualify, you must be a church member who actively participates in the life of church and has been accepted into a school/college/program to further your education. Applications can be picked up at the church office.



Summer Camp Information

If you are interested in attending Church Camp at **Camp Johnsonburg** (our Presbytery camp) this summer, information is available in the Church office. There are camping opportunities for youth 7-17.



Information is also available on the **New Wilmington Mission Conference**, a Presbyterian Conference, on the campus of Westminster College, New Wilmington, PA. This year the conference will be held July 23-30. This conference is for all ages—children, youth, young adults, and adults. Please see Pastor Cindy for more information.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Recessed Annual Meeting of the Congregation will take place on Sunday, April 17, immediately following the 11 am Service of Worship. The purpose of this meeting will be solely to hear the report of the Nominating Committee and to elect new Elders and Deacons.

MID WEEK ECUMENICAL LENTEN SERVICES

March 30: First United Methodist Church,
89 West Main Street, Freehold

April 6: Hope Lutheran Church
211 Elton Adelpia Road, Freehold

April 13 West Farms United Methodist Church
153 Casino Drive, Farmingdale

All Services are Wednesdays at 12:30pm; lunch is served at Noon and at 1pm. Sponsored by the Freehold Clergy Association.

COLLECTION FOR JAPANESE DISASTER RELIEF

For centuries, the Presbyterian Church has been involved in mission in Japan; there are currently 9 mission co-workers serving there. The earthquake and tsunami have wreaked great havoc on the Japanese people. Already \$100,000 from the One Great Hour of Sharing offerings has been sent to Japan for Disaster Relief. We are encouraging you to use your One Great Hour of Sharing Envelope, found in your church offering envelope box, to make a donation toward the disaster relief in Japan. Donations should be put in the Sunday worship offering. Thank you!

Mission Focus

“Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” Colossians 3 v.17

CALENDAR DATES:

March 27 Mission Pots collection for Open Door: dollars or dimes!
April 3 Spring/Summer Orientation for Family Promise. Noon -1:15.
April 10-16 Family Promise hosting.
April 17 One Great Hour of Sharing: donate here for Japan disasters
April 24 Mission Pots collection for Open Door
Apr 24, May 1 & 8 Mothers' Day cards – Project Mosquito Nets

What's Mission doing?

~ about the *Japan disasters*? All donations to help with recovery work for the people of Japan following the March earthquake & tsunami will be accepted through One Great Hour of Sharing, which is how the PC(USA) normally routes funds for disaster recovery. The appropriate envelope is in your regular box of envelopes. The collection is normally taken on **Palm Sunday April 17**, but will be accepted at any time before then.

Checks should be payable to First Presbyterian Church as usual, but add “One Great Hour of Sharing” on the memo line, with your donor number. Visitors may donate via cash in a “pew envelope” & the word “Japan” written in big letters on the front of the envelope.

~ we sent on to *Open Door* the **\$233.50** that you dropped in the Mission Pots in Jan & Feb. *Thank you!*

~ the Friday & Saturday morning *Day Laborer Breakfasts & Lunches* are over, now that the coldest months are behind us. Thank you to all those church members (and others in the community) who fed the needy & homeless right here in Freehold over those very bleak 18 weeks, from December to mid-March. No small commitment.... **Over 2,000** meals were served! The Lord truly provides through His people! *Thank you!*

~ our *Mission Co-worker in Central Asia* has asked for our prayers for:

- Her own spiritual renewal during a Spring retreat
 - For improved health awareness & training for children in villages
- For hope for people who are HIV positive & considering suicide

Still needed

2 strong Helpers with a vehicle & a couple of hours to spare – to collect leftover food **from Wegmans** -. If you can help once a week, talk to member Mary Randolph at (732) 625-3896.



Family Promise[®] of Monmouth County aims to provide food, shelter and comprehensive services to **homeless**

families in Monmouth County in cooperation with a network of interfaith congregations, while advocating innovative solutions to chronic homelessness.

We're hosting homeless families April 10-16 & we need YOU!

Have you planned when you can help? If you're part of this church, we need you to help in this major ministry, for Jesus' sake.

If not you, Who? If not now, When?

NEW DINNER COORDINATOR! CORRECTION!



Oops! We goofed in the March newsletter! Right church/wrong pew.... The correct phone number for Anne Kovacs is **(732) 308-1545**. Call Anne if you can cook part of a meal one evening during the week April 10-16. Remember, funds are available, should you need a little help paying for the ingredients.

Don't call Ghostbusters! Call our own Family Promise CONTACTS:

Talk to Coordinator Sue Pascullo about the program in general & how you can help (732) 942-0604. Call Tracy Mazingo to 'hang out' one evening (732) 409-7123; Anne Kovacs to cook part of a meal (732) 308-1545; or Will Schartel to sleep over in the Education Building one night (732) 446-4892.

SPRING/SUMMER ORIENTATION April 3, noon till 1:15

All volunteers must have attended Orientation before they volunteer, within the last 12 months. It only takes 75 minutes, and light refreshments are provided.

Note: there will be no orientation in June, so come April 3rd. to get your training updated. Call Sandra Whitehill to reserve a spot (732) 863-7395.



Hey..... Like to run?

Want to run the NJ Marathon, Half-Marathon or the 2-Person Relay on April 30th/May 1st in Long Branch?

Our own **David Kiessler** (an 8:30 worshipper) will be running a Half Marathon with Team Family Promise. Give him a call at 732 489-0437 if you'd like to train with him, or contact TeamFPMC@verizon.net

Psst! He's already raised over \$1,300 in sponsorships for Family Promise!!!



RECORD AMOUNT RAISED

A huge Thank You

to all those generous souls who came to the
Pasta Dinner & Fun Night
Fundraiser for Family Promise on March 19.



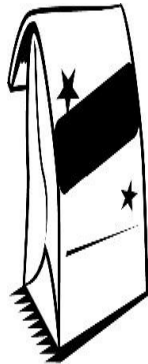
We had a lot of good pasta – thanks to the cooks Yvonne, Charlie & Judie
& good desserts - thanks to all you wonderful bakers in the church
Feet were tapping - thanks to the music of John & the Praise Team
People won great prizes - thanks to all the businesses & individuals who donated
Elmo was a HUGE hit - thanks to Carla, and Joanne for face-paintings & balloons.
Former guest Doreen touched our hearts with her story, as she thanked us!

The biggest winners, of course, are Family Promise of Monmouth Co. as they minister to families who are temporarily without a place to call home. We're very happy to be able to donate **over \$2,000** to them, as our support for 2011!

Again – thanks to all who came, gave or donated in any way to this ministry.



IF there's a mission you would like to see implemented, come along to the Mission Commission on April 5th. and talk to us. We're open to new ideas and loving hearts, to do God's mission in His world.
Mission Elders: Yvonne Lindner, Will Schartel & Sandra Whitehill



*Community
Lunch*

Join us for our
Community Luncheon

Friday, April 29th

11:30am - 1:30pm

Donation \$7. Menu, Choice of two

— salad bar, sandwich, soup —

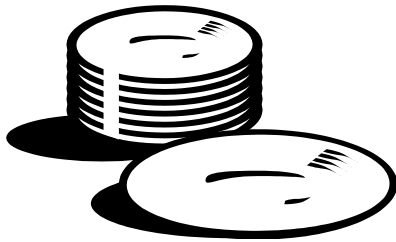
plus beverage and dessert.

Take outs available at door.

Proceeds to benefit Property
Commission.

Come and bring friends.

Volunteer Workers Always Welcome!



The Kitchen Committee is still accepting left over paper products, such as plates, napkins, decorations etc. from your party. You can put them in the cabinet under the microwave in the Kitchen.



Presbyterian Women



Spring is upon us and as we look out our windows, we are greeted by God's grace and the beauty of His hand. The budding trees and flowers, the sweetly singing birds, and the warmth of the sun all remind us of God's infinite glory. I also see God's glory in the ladies of PW. Being a member of PW and participating in a circle enriches someone's life in so many ways. We gain insight into the Bible through our Bible study, participate in meaningful and fulfilling mission projects, and create friendships through fellowship. Please consider joining a circle and experience the beauty of a PW for yourself.

In **April**, the circles will be meeting on the following days:
Tuesday, April 12th Martha circle 1:00 pm church Ruth circle 7:30 pm Nancee Hanley's home

Wednesday, April 13th Morning Glories circle 9:30 am Cheryl Quandt's home

Monmouth Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering

The Monmouth PW Spring Gathering will be held on Saturday, April 16th at the Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury. Registration opens that morning at 9:10 am. The theme of the event is "Blessed are the Peacemakers" and the keynote speaker is Mark Koenig, PC(USA) representative to the United Nations. The Reverend David Cotton will also be introducing next year's Bible study. The cost to attend is \$5 per person which includes "coffee and" and lunch. Deadline to register is Monday, April 11th. Checks are to be made out to "Monmouth PW" and mailed to Anne Post, Treasurer, 49 Stockton Lake Blvd., Manasquan, NJ 08732. For more information, please contact Nancee Hanley @732-409-1124.



Stewardship Principles

Give Willingly as moved by the Holy Spirit.
We have been prepared to give of ourselves.
We give our time, talents, and resources freely.
“ **For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave...**”

2 Corinthians 8:3

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Have you paid your Per Capita yet? Remember: EACH MEMBER IS ASKED TO GIVE \$36 OVER AND ABOVE THEIR PLEDGE to cover the cost of this apportionment which our church must pay to the Presbyterian Church, the Synod of the Northeast and Monmouth Presbytery. As well, are you keeping up with your pledge? Are your children giving their offering in Sunday School? Your gifts to God through the church make a difference. THANK YOU!



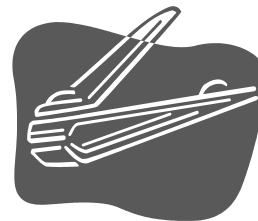
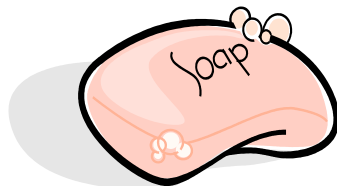
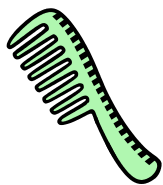
80 AND OVER LUNCHEON

On Sunday, May 1, the Deacons will again host a special luncheon to honor those members of our church family who are 80 years old or older. Invitations will be sent in April; if you are 80 and older and do not receive an invitation by mid-April, please call the church office. Our oldest member, who is also our member who has been part of the church for the longest time is Vivian DeHart, who turned 102 in March!



Special thanks to Althea Dobbins for donating the new clock for the Auditorium.

Church World Service is collecting combs, individually wrapped soap and nail clippers for Health Kits. Please place the items in the designated boxes located in the Narthex and Christian Ed Building.



Mission Trip Fundraiser

All-Day Scrapbook Event

All scrapbookers are invited for an All-Day Scrapbook Event on **Saturday, April 9, 2011 from 10 am until 5 pm in FPC's Auditorium**. Invite your friends to join you. New scrapbookers are encouraged to join the fun and start their day at the Beginners' Lesson. Be sure to come equipped with lots of photos. Albums and supplies will be available for purchase at the event or bring your own. This is a great opportunity to get your photos and memorabilia into albums and have some fun.

The registration fee for the All-Day Scrapbook Event is \$30 which includes *a donation to the church*, snacks, lunch, goody bag, ample table space, prizes, lots of ideas, raffles, time to work on your albums and more. Please note on the registration form if you plan to attend the Beginners' Lesson.

Due to limited seating and planning, registration with fees must be paid in advance. Call Alice Funk for more information at 603-352-4611 or email her at alicefunk@rocketmail.com.

Registration for the All-Day Scrapbook Event

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone & Email: _____

Enclosed Fee: \$30/ person payable to "Alice Funk"

Send to: Alice Funk, 427 Hurricane Road, Keene, NH 03431 Confirmation of your registration and other follow-up materials will be sent to you prior to the event.



The following have been prayed for during worship recently:
Ken Van Norman; Pat Applegate; Naomi Fitz; Betsy's friend,
David; Peter's Family; Phoebe and Kierra; Marilia, Sue, Joan
and Sara; Bev Dame; Trammel Family; Edgar Rollins; New
Zealand; Kurylo Family; Julio Cruz; Dave Whitney; Dale Davis'
Family; Christy McCoy; Gramps Russo; Jon; Stanziola Family;
Joao Oliveira; Nancy; Judy Cavicchio's Mom, Ruth Zorn; Janice
Bailey; Jenn Kelly's 3 year old cousin; Dot Crotchfelt; Family of
Bill Cleaveland; Family of Joe Lanzaro; Lia Prendergast's
brother, Thom Bashore; Barry Mortenson; Japan Earthquake;
NYC Bus accident; Cara Smith; Bob and Deidra Shiazza; Rose
Scalcione; Carol; Gene Kurylo; Gail Kurylo's Mother; Gene
Kurylo's Mother; Libya; Olga Littlefield.

JOYS

Polar Bear Plunge raised largest amount of funds; Lorraine Post's
Birthday; 30 Hour Famine and Leaders, Amanda & Rich; Vivian
DeHart's 102 Birthday; Raised over \$2,000 last Saturday night at
the Pasta Dinner for Family Promise.



MISSIONARY PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK: Jay and Nancy Adams and Family, Germany; Barbara and Larry Moir, Ethiopia and Ashley and Mark Wright and Family, Honduras.

This year the Sunday School Classes are each corresponding with and praying for the Missionary families from around the world. Every Sunday, we will be including a reminder to pray for one of these families. This is another way we stay connected with our brothers and sisters in Christ.



Our Prayers and Sympathy are extended to Gail Kurylo on the death of her father, William Kull.



Our Prayers and Sympathy are extended to Bev Dame on the death of her husband, Marshall Dame.



Our Prayers and Sympathy are extended to Chris Giurici on the death of his mother, Gloria Giurici.



Happy April Birthday!

4/01	Jennifer Walker	4/14	Margo Reynolds
4/02	Kyle Canto		David Bowman
	Kevin Canto		Jasmin John
4/03	Linda Zaveta		Alan Bailey
	Jillian Pizza	4/15	AJ Nolan
4/04	Carolyn Vacca	4/16	Yvonne Lindner
4/05	Eleanor Hargis	4/17	Andress Hiss
	Lindsay Lloyd	4/18	Connor Kennedy
4/06	Alexandra Patterson	4/21	Corriane Kennedy
	Steven Ramroop	4/23	Donna Dawes
	Alexis Green		Robert Hiss
4/07	Silvia Wardell	4/25	Fred Scott
4/08	Stephen Buffett		Alex Anthony
	Joseph Nadolny	4/27	Laura Horne
4/09	Doris Clayton		Brielle Campbell
	Douglas Craig	4/28	Kyle Horne
4/10	Alex Kelly		Andrew Nadolny
4/11	Madison Hunt	4/30	Carol Matino
4/13	Terry Miller		
	Lee Kimberlin		