

# The Presbyterian

February 2011

## **Pastors' Ponderings**

In the Gospel of John, the first followers of Jesus invite others to discover His teaching by simply saying, "Come and See." Three simple words which are a challenge and an invitation rolled into one. Did their invitation work? YES! Their friends and family joined them in learning about the love of God shared by Jesus Christ.

Now, what about you? When was the last time you invited someone to "Come and See" what God is doing at First Presbyterian? These words offer no judgment nor do they demand a specific set of beliefs. They simply put the invitation out for someone to come experience first hand the mission and ministry of our church family.

Come and see what God is doing through our Christian Education programs (Sunday School, Youth Groups, Koinonia Bible Studies)! Come and see what God is doing through our work with day laborers and homeless families! Come and see what God is doing each Sunday in our worship, through our various music ministries and our weekly sermons. COME AND SEE!

Do the people you associate with know how important your participation at First Presbyterian is to you? Does your involvement at church matter to you? So why not invite them to come and see! Many of our neighbors and co-workers are in need of a word of hope, a sign of love, and offer of companionship. We have something that others really need!

On February 13th, we encourage each of you to invite someone to come along with you to Worship and/or Sunday School. Try saying these three words: "Come and See". Afterall, what's the worst that could happen?

Blessings,  
Pastors Cindy and David

## **SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**

### **At their December and January meetings, the Elders:**

- Approved the 2011 Church budget which included increased income and increased expenditures.
- Learned that First Presbyterian Church is the sole benefactor of the William Rew Estate and will be receiving over \$450,000 in the next several months. Session will prayerfully consider how to use these funds. Mr. Rew was not a member of our congregation—so the session is even more grateful for this generous gift.
- Approved exploring the purchase of the property adjacent to the current Church Parking Lot on Brinckerhoff Avenue. The Property and Finance Commissions will be exploring possible purchase of this for a parking lot and other green space.
- Reviewed the Co-Pastors' Terms of Call, including a 3% increase in salary. Also approved increases for other staff members. Church Secretary Kathy McLaughlin will continue to expand her duties and her work hours.
- Continued their discussion of the book Spiritual Leadership, being reminded of the need to allow the Holy Spirit to guide and lead all that we do.
- Approved giving 50% of the Christmas Eve Loose Change Offering to our local Church World Service group; the other half will be put toward our Mortgage reduction.
- Received a check for \$13,100 from the Judy Collins Concert from the Special Music Committee. Special Thanks to Bob DiSogra and to all who helped make this a wonderful success. These funds will be used to continue to reduce the mortgage.
- Celebrated the very uplifting music of Christmas Eve.



## **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

On Sunday, January 23rd at Noon the Annual Congregational Meeting was held in the Sanctuary. Reports of the staff, Commissions and organizations of the church were heard, the budget was received, the co-pastors' terms of call were approved; 46 people were in attendance. Copies of the Annual Report and budget are available in the narthex. Take one home and read about the many wonderful ministries of our church and the variety of ways that you can participate.

## **INVITE-A-FRIEND** **SUNDAY**

What are some ways you can show someone you love them? We all tell others that we love them, but we also need to show our love by our actions. Invite them to church and show them how much you love them!

***February 13th - Invite a Friend to Church and Celebrate God's Love for All People!***

***\*A special coffee hour (with Cake!) will be held in Rooms A & B 10:30am –10:55am***

***If you Bring a Friend:  
Special gifts for you and your friend(s)!***

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

### KIDS CLUB

NOTE TIME CHANGE: Our group for children in Kindergarten—5th Grade will meet on Sunday, February 6 at **12:30pm-2pm**. Our discussion will be about our “Uniqueness”. Reservations are required; contact the church office at 732-462-0234 to reserve your spot!



### BIG YOUTH GROUP



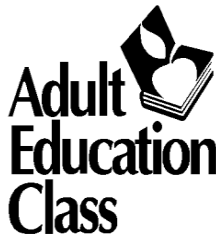
On Sunday, February 6, all 6th-8th graders are invited to join us for a FUN afternoon: **12:30pm-2:30pm** at Monster Golf in Marlboro. Cost is \$7.50 per youth; reservations are needed by Tuesday, February 1. Please note time change!

# CHAOS

(Christians Hanging Around on Sunday)

Our Senior High Youth will be busy in February, meeting Sunday Nights at 6pm, except for February 26 & 27 when they will be participating in the annual 30 Hr. FAMINE to raise funds for hungry children around the world. Look for more information in the bulletin or your mailbox! All Senior High Youth are encouraged to join us for fun and fellowship!

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS



During February the Adult Sunday School Class will continue its study of John Ortberg's series, "God is Closer Than You Think". This series is aimed at assisting adults to develop a deeper understanding of the presence of God in their lives every day. The series will conclude with some very practical ways to develop spiritual practices which can be used on a regular basis.

All adults are welcome. **NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE IS NECESSARY!** The Adult Sunday School Class meets every **Sunday morning at 9:30am in Rooms A & B.** Instead of dropping the kids off and running—drop the kids off and drop in!

### **2011 MISSION TRIP PREPARATIONS**

Our youth and Adults are gearing up for their trip in late June to Bay City, Michigan where they will participate in the Week of Hope. Training has already begun. On Saturday, February 26 the youth and adults will help with the Day Laborers' Brekfast Meal program. Continue to pray for those involved in this year's Mission Trip.

### **CONFIRMATION CONTINUES**

Our confirmands continue their studies to become members of our church family. Through weekly classes, devotional readings, participation in Sunday School, worship and youth group, as well as volunteer service, the youth are discovering what it means to be a Presbyterian Christian. This years' participants are: Doug Anderson, Jordan Hanley, Danielle Sakowitz and Ryan Sahlin.

### **PROJECT PEANUT BUTTER**

During the month of January, the Sunday School Classes joined together to provide support for Project Peanut Butter, which provides a special mix of peanut butter to children are experiencing malnutrition. \$25 provides enough money to give one child this special mixture for a year. Jars of Peanut Butter were also collected for Open Door. Check out [www.projectpeanutbutter.org](http://www.projectpeanutbutter.org) for more information.



## KOINONIA

Our three small groups for Bible Study and Fellowship are meeting again: the Wednesday morning group meets each week at 9:30am at the church. The evening groups meet at The Bowman's home on Mondays at 7:15pm or Wednesdays at 7pm; childcare is provided upon request. Contact Pastor Cindy if you would like to be part of one of these groups. The groups will continue their study of the book of Samuel.



## **NEW MEMBER CLASS**

Our Next New Member Class will be held on **Sunday, February 13 from 12:15pm-4pm**. This class is for anyone who is interested in becoming a member of our congregation and/or who is interested in exploring what it means to be a Presbyterian Christian in Freehold. Childcare will be provided if needed; lunch will be served. If you would like to be part of this class, please contact Pastor David at 732-462-0234.

## **NEW BAPTISM PROCEDURES**

Baptism is one of two Sacraments in the Presbyterian Church; it is the sign and seal through which we are joined to Christ. As we are baptized with water, Christ baptizes us with His Spirit, washing away our sins. Baptism is also a sign that we are included in God's grace and covenant with the Church. Therefore, we are called to respond to that grace.

In our tradition, baptism is an act of the congregation. It is not solely between you and God; it is an important moment for the church, for the parents and the child as we all acknowledge that God has joined us together through Christ. Because we believe baptism is an important commitment for the one being baptized, or in the case of infant baptism, for the parents, we are changing our Procedures for Baptism. The Session takes the commitment in the Sacrament of Baptism very seriously and wants to help those who request this sacrament to understand it more fully.

Therefore, we will be having 2 baptism classes each year. If you are considering baptism for yourself or your child, you must attend a baptism class before you can request a date. Once you have taken the class and have decided you want to apply, there will be 5 baptism dates each year to choose from. By having special worship services set aside for baptism, we hope to have the congregation better understand this sacrament and their part in it. Parents will also be asked to meet with the session to talk about their faith and intent for baptism.

We hope all who affirm their faith and commitment to grow in faith, will take these commitments seriously and will have a better understanding of the congregational nature of this sacrament.

**Our Next Baptism Class will be held on Sunday, February 13th at 3pm. REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY. Call the Church office by February 7 to sign up for this class. Baptism will be celebrated on February 20 at 11:00am worship.**



## **CHURCH WORLD SERVICE BLANKETS+**

**February 13th is Blanket Sunday at FPC.** Our first Minute for Mission is February 6th. The second minute will be the 13th. Presbyterian Women will be asking for your donations to Church World Service. When disaster strikes, people need blankets, and water and tools.

Please be generous in your support.

Jan Mundy

**Presbyterian Women Mission Coordinator**



## **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 who are 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 bulletin.

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.

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 bulletin and beautiful silk flowers will be used for worship that day.

Special thanks to 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 [LKlesitz@optonline.net](mailto:LKlesitz@optonline.net)



A special thank you to all who helped with the cookie sale by baking, advertising and buying. The cookie sale was a success bringing in over \$1440 toward the upgrade of the sanctuary sound system.



### **Adopt a Bill**

Thank you to the following:

Anonymous Giver - A Condenser Microphone for the Praise Team.

John Cavicchio - Sound Recording Session

Kimberly Cutrona - Candelabra Candles

Check the board in the church lobby for opportunities to give beyond your Church Pledge,



We will be creating our own Lenten Devotional this year. Any one can participate - individuals, families, youth groups, friends, you! Scriptures are available on the sign-up board in the narthex of the sanctuary. Please take a scripture and prayerfully consider what this scripture means to you or how it has affected your life, and then share your insights and inspiration for as we prepare for Christ's resurrection. Input is due by February 20th.

## ← MISSION NEWS & VIEWS →

"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6 v8

<b>Jan 23-29</b>	Family Promise Hosting
<b>Jan 29</b>	Day Laborer Breakfasts/Lunches at Reformed Church
<b>Feb 5, 12, 19, 26</b>	Day Laborer Breakfasts/Lunches at Reformed Church
<b>March 12</b>	Last Day Laborer Breakfast/Lunch
<b>March 19</b>	Pasta Dinner & Fun Night fundraiser



**Thank you** to those who volunteered to serve the guests of **Family Promise** in January. We made our church a home for homeless families for a week. What a great way to show God's love! ♥

### MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

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



Remember to bring a few cans of non-perishable food that we donate to **Open Door** food pantry every week, to feed people who are barely making it through these tough times.



Remember to bring your loose dollars & pocket change on **January 30<sup>th</sup>**, so we can donate funds to the **Open Door** food pantry.



Want to feed the hungry before it's too late? We're still helping out with the **Day Laborer free breakfast & lunch program** on Saturday mornings over at the Reformed Church. Our Mission trip participants will be serving Feb 26. Last date will be March 12. Hurry – not too many spots left! Serve 7-10am or 10-1pm. If you'd like to cook, put out breakfast, serve lunch or clean up, talk to Yvonne Lindner or call Sandra Whitehill to get on the schedule: (732) 863-7395.



*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.*

Didn't you get to volunteer to help last month? ..... We'll be hosting again **April 10-16** ..... and we really need **YOU!**

You can minister to the homeless, right here in our church. Don't wait to be asked or wait till the last minute. Pick a date and a job now. Then call one of the contacts & fill up your calendar with "**Jesus stuff**"!

**NEW:** If you want to cook, but you just can't afford it, know that Mission Commission can pay for the food you cook. Just not steak or lobster...

**CONTACTS:**

Talk to Coordinator Sue Pascullo about the program (732) 942-0604. Call Tracy Mozingo to 'hang out' one evening (732) 409-7123; Sandy Anderson to cook part of a meal (732) 637-8277; or Will Schartel to sleep over, one night (732) 446-4892.

..... **W A N T E D**.....  
Your old, working, electronic - games (Gameboys) and cell phones!

A local girl scout is collecting the above, to support Family Promise. Look for the baskets in the narthex, outside Room A/B and in the Christian Education Bldg.  
Any questions – contact Susan Pascullo  
[susiekp@optonline.net](mailto:susiekp@optonline.net)

### **Local MISSION TRIP for ADULTS**

The Mission Commission is working on having a very local adult mission trip, one Saturday, a week or so before Easter, ie. around April 16. **Interested?**

**If so,** please talk to one of your Mission Commission elders after worship: Yvonne Lindner, Will Schartel, or Sandra Whitehill.

### **Our Mission co-worker in CENTRAL ASIA ~ Rita Johns**

has asked for our prayers this month - but we must not post them in a public forum, to protect her anonymity.  
So, see the notice board outside Room A/B for her prayer requests



**PASTA DINNER & FUN NIGHT** fundraiser for  
**Family Promise**  
**March 19**

**Come out and have a fun night with us, to raise money for Family Promise.**

We'll have a super pasta dinner, prepared by our own great chefs, with salad, bread, beverage & the best deserts – all home-made, of course.

The evening will include a **SHOW**, with music by our talented church members, as well as fun for the kids.

We'll also have a **SILENT AUCTION** to keep things lively. If you have a business and would like to donate an item for the silent auction, please talk to Yvonne, Will or Sandra. If you have a crazy-looking pink kangaroo that your Aunt Lydia gave you for your birthday, now might be the time to kiss it goodbye – and regift it to us for the auction!

If you came last year, you'll remember what a great time you had! Invite a friend or bring the kids. Save the date. Mark your calendar and don't miss out!

Remember. It will be a terrific night out: **Pasta Dinner & Fun Night... starts at 5:30pm.**

Tickets will go on sale Feb 27. Cost \$10 / \$5 for ages 4-12. Under 4, free.

Any questions: ask Mission Commission

## **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

*Here at FPC, we are fortunate to have three wonderful circles, but what exactly is a circle? A circle is where faith is nurtured and growth takes place through worship, study, friendship and outreach. A circle is where women are challenged to stretch beyond their limits. A circle is where women move beyond the safe places of life and reach out to others. A circle is where Christian leadership is born, nurtured, and sent forth into ministry. Most importantly, a circle is where we would love to see you. Please consider joining a circle today.*

*In February, the circles will be meeting on the following days:*

***Tuesday, February 8th*** Martha Circle 1:00 pm church

*Ruth Circle 7:30 pm Gail Kurylo's home*

***Wednesday, February 9th*** Morning Glories Circle 9:30 am  
*Dot Crotchfelt's home.*



Thank you for your wreath orders!!  
\$336 was raised for Mission At Eastward in Maine!!  
Jan Mundy  
Mission for Presbyterian Women



# Stewardship Principles

**Respond Gratefully** to what God has first given us.

All that we do is a response to God's grace.

Everything we are, have, and use comes from God.

Best of all,

God gives the gift of Jesus Christ and the community of believers.

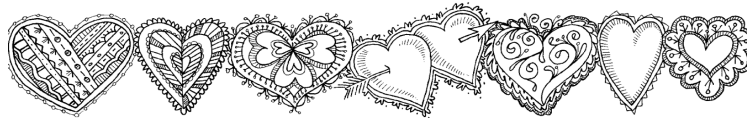
It all begins with God.

Our confession of faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior is not of our doing.

Grateful stewards put God first.

**"...but they gave themselves first to the Lord."**

2 Corinthians 8:5



## **2011 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

2011 Offering Envelope Boxes are available in the Church Narthex (lobby) for each member/member household of the church. Please pick up your box as soon as possible. If you have not received offering envelopes, and would like to receive a box, please contact the Financial Secretary, Kathy McLaughlin at 732-462-0234.

Each box of offering envelopes contains different colored envelopes, each designated for a different fund. The white envelopes are to be used to fulfill your pledge as well as to give an offering to the mission and ministry of the church. Also, the envelopes are now *designed to be mailed if you won't be in church.*

### **INITIAL OFFERING ENVELOPE**

The golden yellow envelope in your offering envelope box is to cover the cost of the envelopes and to dedicate your giving to God. We encourage you to use this envelope to donate at least \$5 to help provide the offering envelopes.

### **PER CAPITA ENVELOPE**

Inside of your 2011 Offering Envelope Box is a light blue envelope with the words "Per Capita Apportionment" written on it. **THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT ENVELOPE!** Every Presbyterian Church is apportioned a share of the expenses of the governing bodies which have oversight of the local congregations. Our apportionment is shared between the Presbytery of Monmouth, the Synod of the Northeast and the General Assembly (our national leadership). The amount of the apportionment is based on the membership of the church—this year our church has been assessed **\$36.00 for each member.** In order for our congregation to pay this expense, we ask that **each member** contribute \$36, payable at your earliest convenience. Thank you for taking care of this matter!

### **SCRIP GIFT CARDS**

Once again you will have the opportunity to order Gift Cards through the Church as a Fundraiser toward our Mortgage Reduction. An order form will be available the last Sunday of every month in the bulletin (also available in the Narthex). Return your order and payment to the church office by the First Sunday of the month, and your cards will be available for you on the Second Sunday of the month. Thank you to Tammy Ciok who got this program underway and has organized it for several years. Tammy is stepping down, and Kathy McLaughlin is becoming the new coordinator.

### **SUNDAY NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We need you! Volunteers are needed to assist our Childcare professional on Sunday mornings at 8:30am and 11am. Please, please, please share an hour of your time with the children of our church. Contact Julie Heinsohn at 732-303-0544 to sign up today! THANK YOU!

**Dear Church Family,**

**My most sincere heartfelt thanks for the prayers, visits, telephone calls, flowers and other gifts during my recent hospitalization. Your visits meant so much.**

**Special thanks to Pastor Cindy who seemed to visit at just the right time, even on my grumpy days. The love and comfort I received was wonderful and I am sure it has helped with my recovery.**

**When the weather has cleared, I hope to see you all at Church. Thank you again for everything.**

**My love in Christ to all of you.**

**Eleanor Hargis**



## Remember in Prayer

**The following are prayer requests from recent worship services:** Ken Van Norman; Pat Applegate; Naomi Fitz; Theresa; Greg Lepore; Karen Giurici's, Aunt Anna's family; Liz Kirchner; Gene Kurylo; Alberti Family; Fran Dolan; Mary Pilla; Ashley Plumber; Choir ailments; Clare Balog; Derek Stillwagon; Anna Rasmussen; Eleanor Hargis; William Roberts; Bryan Mann; Joe Savittieri;

Maryella Howard and Family; Charles Rudderow; Barbara Vadala's Mom; Kathy and Bill Alvarez's granddaughter, Alexis; Ricardo Baptista; Michelle Clark; Bruce Winland on death of his sister; Janice Bailey; Nancy Krol's mother; Carolyn Gritski; Susan Croft; Persecuted Christians; Chris Henneky; Barbara Schmidt; Mark Viggiani; Lori Perfit; Diane Montalto; those dealing with mental illness; Joann Larsen and sister Karla; Bruce; Bert McClellan; Representative Giffords; Coptic Christians in Egypt; Sudan's election; Emily Klesitz; Janice Bailey; Bill Setaro on the death of his mother; William Kull; Gail Kurylo's dad; Gloria Giurici, Chris' mom; Janice Bailey; Rick Baptista; Family of Chris Metlosz; Amber, Kim White's niece; Sherri Reed; John Reed; Patricia Bini; Gramps Russo; Janos; Bev Dame; Mary Lancaster; Joe Savetteri; Amber's baby, Lillie; Baby Perri; Mimi Vorselen; family of Timothy Ganley.

**Joys:** Bob DiSogra and Suzanne Newman were married; Stan and Ruth Brinster; Kristin Mann and South Korea trip; Judy Collins Concert and all the helpers; \$13,100 from Concert; Michelle Clark; Peggy Lettieri; Michael Christopher Pederson.

**Hospitalized:** Eleanor Hargis (Centra State and Wedgewood Gardens); Gene Kurylo (Jersey Shore); Bev Dame (Centra State); Mary Lancaster (Centra State)

**Missionary Prayers:** Bob and Stacy Bronkema and Family, Moscow; Jay and Nancy Adams, Germany; Jeff and Christi Boyd and Family, Cameroon; Barbara and Larry Moir, Ethiopia; Dan and Elizabeth Turk, Madagascar; 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.



*I would like to thank anyone and everyone who cooked, baked, made telephone calls, helped and served at the 2010 Funeral Luncheons. You have my greatest and deepest appreciation. You are always there in a minute's notice.*

*My undying gratitude,*

*Marie Schlechtweg*

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

02/01 Judie Stillwagon  
 02/02 Barry Fitz  
       Charles Rudderow  
 02/04 Eugene Kurylo  
 02/05 Paul Ekdahl  
       Stacey Moss  
 02/07 Cheryl Quandt  
 02/08 Samuel Matino  
       Cassandra Rudderow  
       Charles Rudderow, Jr.  
 02/09 Michael Santangelo  
 02/10 Pilar Smith  
 02/12 Thomas Reynolds  
       Dean Guinan  
 02/13 Larry Hartzell  
 02/14 Shakila John  
       William Hunt  
 02/15 Howard Heinsohn  
       Keith Beith  
 02/16 Kristin Mann  
 02/17 George Smith  
 02/18 Carolee Conway  
 02/19 Greg Schlageter  
       Lisa Anthony  
 02/20 Joe Kennedy  
 02/21 Helen Burke  
       Joseph Amuquandoh  
       Alexander Anthony  
 02/22 Martha Musgrave  
       Jake Jensen



02/23 Rich Mozingo  
       Katherine Ostermiller  
 02/24 Winifred Burlew  
       Althea Dobbins  
       Doris Mayhew  
       Thomas Glick  
       Kimberly Cutrona  
       Katie McCoy  
 02/25 Barbara Eng  
 02/26 Valentine Rolfe  
       Larry Moran  
 02/27 Lorraine Post  
       Margaret Lettieri  
       Charles Sullivan  
       Sarah Minden  
       Laurie McConnell  
 02/28 Karen Giurici