

Stream Lines

A Bi-Monthly Publication of the First Presbyterian
Church of Avenel, New Jersey



January/February 2012

Who's Who in the Church

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Administrative Assistant
Webmaster
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Stream Lines Assistants
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Pastor's Email Address
Church Office Email Address
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ELDERS

2012 - Carolyn Stevenson, Carolyn Stockl, Ryan Miller, Lorine Price, J. Bruce McKee

2013 - Rich Culton, Bill McLachlan, Pat Battito, Shirley Benkert, Wayne Dubin

2014- Wayne Collins, Karen Severyn, Gay Patrouch

DEACONS

2012 - Millie Knotts, Joan Collins, Arlene Farley, Vilma Ambis, Linda Sammartino

2013 - Mary Ann Lombardi, Hanna Culton, Huguetta Exantus, Jane McKee

2014- Mary Ann Miller, Janet Gagnon, Laura Meehan



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

All Things New...

Happy New Year, everyone! So how are the resolutions going? It's funny how the turning of the New Year inspires so many of us to re-focus our lives with resolutions designed to make us more like the people we think we *really want to be*—*healthier*, shinier, more successful versions of ourselves. I guess making New Year's resolutions is like hitting the "reset" button to our lives—to make the most of another chance to "do life better." I suppose celebrating the New Year is celebrating *hope*.

As I was contemplating the year ahead, and all *my* hopes, a thought occurred to me that interrupted my yearly daydreaming. Instead of asking, "What do *I* hope for this year?" perhaps I should ask, "What does *God* hope for me this year?" I am reminded of Isaiah's words: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:8-9).

What would happen in my life if I cared more about what God wants for me, than what I want for myself? If God's ways are superior to my ways, then why in the world am I so stuck in *my* ways? Well, I suppose that's what sin does—it breaks me. And my brokenness prevents me from living in the way of Christ. But there is *good news*, isn't there? Through Jesus Christ, I can live in God's ways, because I am forgiven. "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Now *that* is hope. That is the Christian life. It's not a hope based on human determination or pick-yourself-up-by-your-bootstraps optimism, but on the redemption, forgiveness, guiding, and purpose of the Holy Spirit. Let's all "do life better" this year—let's celebrate the hope above all hopes, Jesus Christ.

Pastor Jason

Stream Lines Information

Stream Lines isn't possible without your help! Please send me any committee updates, events, or important dates that should be included in our next issue.

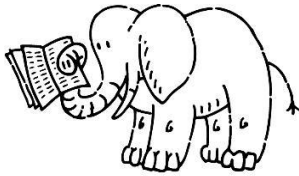
The deadline for the March/April 2012 issue of Stream Lines will be Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 12:00 noon.

Remember to email your articles to:
Delia Culton at deliaculton@hotmail.com



**From the
Editor**

- Valentine's Spaghetti Dinner- Sunday, Feb 12 @6pm
- Annual Pancake Supper – Tuesday, Feb 21 @5pm
- Ash Wednesday- Feb 22
- Lenten Services- Wednesdays, Feb 29- April 4 @5:45pm



Winter Memory Verse

“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him.”

Colossians 2:6



With Sincere Sympathy

The congregation extends its love, prayers, and deepest sympathy to:

Vilma Ambis and family on the loss of her brother, John Zelizi, in December.

Parlacoski Family on the loss of Ronald and Maria's son, Timothy, in December.

January Birthdays

- 01- Eugene Breza
- 02- Holly Ely
- 03- James Krutzler, Ifke Seik, Mikayla Germek
- 05- Steven Welch
- 07- Phillip Prasser
- 08- Gary Stevenson, Michael Kosakowski
- 12- Linda Guarracino
- 13- Monica Shannon
- 16- Luisa Rondoh, Abigail Ragan
- 19- Steven Holtz
- 21- Betty Dobson, Caitlyn Shannon, Joseph Shannon
- 27- Richard Exantus
- 29- Cathy Shaffer, Pat Battito



February Birthdays

- 02- Mark Tarby
- 04- Edward Sammartino, Cindy Culton, Sarah and Steven Kosakowski
- 05- Chris Yuhasz
- 07- Diana Dydak
- 09- Linda Palmerini, Dorothea Smith, John Altieri
- 11- Eddy Exantus
- 13- Arlene Farley, Ferry Wattie
- 14- Alyson Rasimowicz
- 15- Jessica Miller
- 18- Toni Anderson, Jonathon Sternesky
- 21- Marjorie Greasheimer, Sarah Benkert
- 22- Patrick Lombardi
- 25- Graciela Goyco, Justine Durham, Jaime Dydak
- 28- Roy Palmerini, Jordan Connolly

If there are any omissions or errors in the birthday lists, please contact the Church Office at 732-634-1631. Thank you!

Jan 2012/ Feb 2012

FPCA YOUTH

Fellowship is Back!

Join us for youth fellowship on Sunday nights 6-8pm!

(Jan. 15, 22, 29, Feb. 19, 26)

Here's what's happening...

Remember, all events are open to youth 6th-12th grades, and you do NOT have to be members of the church!



Everyone is invited to attend our Valentine's Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Sunday, Feb. 12 @6pm!

**Cost: \$6 adults, \$4 kids (10 and under),
Kids 2 and under are FREE.**

**Menu: Spaghetti, meatballs, garlic bread, salad,
beverages, and dessert!**

**All proceeds will benefit the Youth Mission Trip to Sutton,
New Hampshire this summer!**

More information TBA

Did you know that our church has a worship service designed with YOU in mind? Come join us every Sunday morning @11:15am in the Sanctuary for a different kind of church service—with guitars, videos, and worship songs like we have at youth fellowship.

Come grow closer to God!



Our Military Servicemen, Servicewomen and Their Families

Rev. Adam Tietje, Ben Biron, Brian Ragas, Daniel Beckner, Daniel Hedner, Jovan Diaz, Anthony Battito, Justin Kitchen, Edward Merz, Michael Warren, Lauren K. Pfeifer, Bryan Palmer, Amy Updike, Robert Bartko, Chris Kowalski, Scott Rampone, Turner Robbins, Carson Severyn

**FREEDOM ISN'T FREE.
SOMEBODY PAID.**



Eleanor Smith and Toni Anderson

Prayer Requests

To add someone to this list, please call the Church Office at 732-634-1631

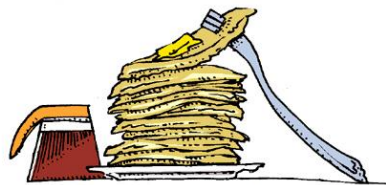


Recent Concerns

Bryan Palmer and his troop (husband of Donna Palmer and son of Carol and Larry Palmer), Pallino Family (student of Delia Culton), Rose Hunt (mother of Randy Hunt), Phil Chiera (friend of Betty Hulsizer), Nicole & James Seibert & Daughter Isabella (niece of Barbara Ciocci), Blake and Taylor (friends of Lisa Fowler), Nancy (daughter of Bill and Barbara Morgan)

Those with On-Going Long-Term Concerns

Betty Dobson, Jennifer Perez, Josephine DeVito (mother of Carol Palmer), Dorothy Piperi (mother of Carolyn Gilligan's co-worker), Diana Dydak, Jeremy Hogan, Esther Nielsen, Phil Prasser, Marjorie Speath (sister of Barbara Morgan), Tessa Campbell (niece of Arleen Schreiber), Eric LaGrand (neighbor of Julie Cahill), Ron McKee (son of Bruce McKee)



Annual Pancake Supper

*Tuesday, February 21, 2012
5 – 7 p.m.*

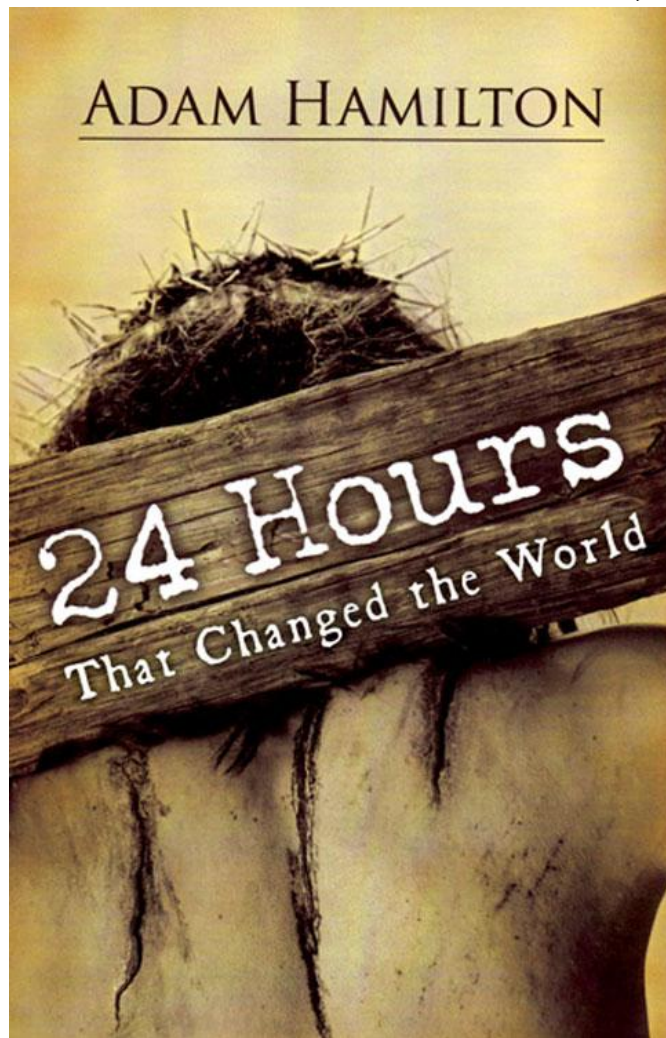
Mark your calendars and come join us on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 for our annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper. It is open to everyone, so bring your friends!

Donations will be accepted at the door. The suggested donation is \$5.00 per adult and \$2.00 for each child. Seating is available from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Jacob Morgan Hall.

Hope to see you there!

Sponsored by the Christian Education Committee

A New Lenten Series for 2012
Wed. nights February 29-April 4



Wed. night schedule:

5:45pm Soup Supper
6:45pm Chapel Service
7:10pm Small Groups

No single event in human history has received more attention than the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. Adam Hamilton guides us through the last twenty-four hours of Jesus' life. Each session is designed to help us experience and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death in a new way. Whether you are long-time Christians or simply curious about the story of Christ's crucifixion, you are invited to join us in retracing the last 24 hours of Jesus life.

Childcare will be provided from 6:30-8pm! Donations accepted.

Big Thank You!

Thank you to all who made "A Night In Bethlehem" a success for the third year in a row! We had over 35 volunteers and over 100 people attended. We heard a lot of great feedback and excitement about next year! We hope everyone had a great time and was able to be touched by the night of our Savior's birth. Thank you again to all the volunteers who helped with set-up, tear down and actually working the event. I love doing it and hope you did too. And a special thanks to our precious "baby Jesus" and mom for being willing and able to be there!

*Get ready for next year,
Karin Tucker*



The Tucker family wishes to thank everyone who contributed to the Pastor Appreciation Gift! It was a huge blessing to us, and we are so thankful to have so much support. We're feelin' the love!

Jason, Karin, Katie, Jason, and baby Tucker

Annual Holiday Fair 2012

The day after New Years, while taking down my tree, I was able to pack a large bag and one box for the fair. I collected empty jewelry boxes and ornaments that I've never used and held onto for too long, and various household items. Please try to remember the Fair when you're letting go of things around your house. We also take new items for the silent auction.



Any questions, call Cindy Culton.



Please be aware that the *His Hands Ministry Clothes Closet* is available to all in need; whether a church member or non-member. Any questions please call Karen Severyn.
