

Stream Lines

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



2012

Who's Who in the Church

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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, Huguette Exantus, Jane McKee

2014- Mary Ann Miller, Janet Gagnon, Laura Meehan



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

Endings & Beginnings

"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." (Jer. 29:11).

As I sit down to write this last article as your pastor, I am flooded with images of: Sunday morning services, youth fellowship retreats, locking myself out of my office on Easter morning, watching little Jason smash a raw egg on the floor at family game night, and a thousand other memories.

I feel blessed and honored to have served alongside you in ministry over the last three years. There is no doubt (in *my* mind at least) that I was the right pastor at just the right time in the life of Avenel Church. And, I have no doubt that God will do it again.

That being said, some of you may not be sold on that idea. There have been (and will be) many questions and concerns about the church moving forward. Let me just take a moment to speak to some of these issues:

1. The Presbyterian process—can't we just skip it?

Well... no. Here's the thing: we *are* Presbyterian and are governed by a particular way of doing things—a system designed to help congregations discern the direction God is calling them toward, and the leader who will best help them to accomplish that. This process will feel very slow as you move from interim to installed pastor. But, in many ways this is a good (but not easy) thing. God is a God of process (think about discipleship as a process of Christlikeness), and if you make room for Him, He will be with you in the midst of this process.

2. What will happen to the new ministry initiatives we've started?

The youth ministry, contemporary worship service, upcoming small group ministry... will they just fold? Well... no. That is, unless you want them to. The Session just approved the hiring of Lacey Fowler as the part-time youth director for 2012-2013, Princeton Seminary is working out the details for our intern for the Contemporary Service, and the small group leaders are recruited and waiting to go. There is no reason any of these initiatives have to stop once I leave.

3. What should we do next and who is working on it?

As I write this, a special committee is working on a job description for an interim minister, updating the 2008 Mission Study, and working together with COM to map out the road ahead. They will be communicating with all of you very soon.

My family and I will miss all of you. This is a bittersweet transition for us. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you'd like to talk more about all of these things in the coming weeks. My last Sunday will be Aug. 5 and my last day will be Aug. 10. I will be praying for the health and vitality of this church and that you will believe God's promise to "give you a future with hope."

In Christ,

Pastor Jason

Stream Lines Information

The deadline for the Sept/Oct 2012 issue of Stream Lines will be Thursday, August 22, 2012 at 12:00 noon.

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

**From the
Editor**





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

The Dobson Family on the loss of
Elizabeth.

The Appell family on the loss of Jim.

The Woods family on the loss of Bob.



- Office Closed ~ July 4
- Youth Mission Trip ~
July 14-21
- VBS ~ July 23-27

July Birthdays

06- Pingkanita Wattie, Brett Fowler
07- Charles Kurowsky
09- Linda Sammartino
12- Esther Nielsen, Carolyn Stevenson, Katie
Tucker
13- Regina Luntungan
16- Kelly Maye
17- Frank Dodich
18- Caitlyn Germek, Anna Hallenbeck
23- Greven Lewis
24- George Terebush
25- Christian Marshello
28- Darla Hunt
29- Betty Hulsizer, John Turnbull

August Birthdays

01- Kathy Sturtz
04- Donalda Funk
05- Joan Smith, Kelly
Sammartino
08- Ellen Paloti
10- Robert Hornyak
12- Joan Ross
13- Tyler O'Hara
16- Lisa Fowler
18- Eugene Hallenbeck, Erika Hallenbeck
19- Linda Herrington
22- Joan Collins, Cheyanne Kerchner
23- Rolly Luntungan, Barbara Ciocci
29- Kristina Sternesky



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



Our Military Servicemen, Servicewomen and Their Families

Lauren Hansen, Jeffrey Hansen, Daniel Beckner, Benjamin Biron, Bryan Palmer, Chris Kowalski, Edward Merz, Jovan Diaz, Brian Ragas, Anthony Battito, Justin Kitchen, Michael Warren, Lauren Pfeifer, Amy Updike, Robert Bartko, Carson Severyn, Rev. Adam Tietje, Daniel Hedner

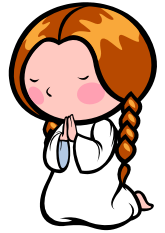
FREEDOM ISN'T FREE.
SOMEBODY PAID.



Eleanor Smith and Toni Anderson

Prayer Requests

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



Recent Concerns

Darla Hunt, Carolyn Stockl, Carol Palmer, Rich Culton, Ed Sturtz (Brother of Mike Sturtz)

Those with On-Going Long-Term Concerns

Nancy Leclair (sister of Shirley Benkert), Dot and Pete Allebach, Jennifer Perez, Maureen Nielsen, Harry Musselman, Paul Dias, Kathryn McKelligett, Eugene Breza, Scott Serveryn, Josephine DeVito (mother of Carol Palmer), 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), Ann Marie Carola (friend of John and Linda Guarracino)

We are very excited to announce our new **Youth Director** starting September 2012, our very own **Lacey Fowler!** She will be working in our church about 10 hrs/wk. We are so blessed to have such a spiritual and energetic young person to lead our youth in the fall. Welcome Lacey!



VBS is July 23-27!!

JOIN US FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2012! Children will venture to the **Sky** this summer where "Everything is possible with God" (Mark 10:27). Registration deadline is July 6. Registration forms can be found on the church website. Spread the word about this exciting week at our church!

The Christian Education Committee is proud to announce that this year's recipient of the Bersey Scholarship was presented to **Krista Hallenbeck** on Sunday, May 13 at the 11:15 service. Krista is a graduating high school senior and will be attending Rowan University this fall. Krista has been very involved in the life of Avenel Presbyterian Church. She is an active member of Sunday school, even helping in classes with younger students when needed, has sang in the choir and shared her musical talents during many Sunday services. As a member of the fellowship group she participated in the mission trip last year in West Virginia, where for a week in the summer worked on fixing houses for those less fortunate. This summer she will be again giving a week of her summer in New Hampshire to help families there. Thank you Krista for your service and good luck for your future!



The Christian Education Committee is pleased to announce that **Christian Marshello** received the Mayor's Youth Volunteer Award for 2012. Mayor McCormick presented Christian this award on Sunday, April 29 in the Woodbridge Community Center. Christian is an active young adult in our church, not only participating in many activities such as its Bell Choir, Puppet Ministry, Youth Group, Sunday School, Live Nativity and Church Clean-Up programs, but also has a big heart for serving others through many of our other church programs. Christian has volunteered to care for young children in Sunday Toddler Care and worked with school age children through Adventures in Worship. He has also volunteered many weeks over several summers as a leader in our Vacation Bible School; his enthusiasm is contagious and the kids who attend look forward to being with Christian each year. This past summer, Christian was part of a team of people who traveled to West Virginia for a work camp and spent a week building and repairing homes for less fortunate people in that area. We congratulate Christian not only for his hard work but more importantly for having a heart for serving others. Thank you Christian!

Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, October 27, 2012 @2:00PM to 4:30pm**. We have scheduled our annual **Ladies Tea** for that date. Look for your reservation form in September.



Thanks to the over whelming participation last year we were able to purchase the following: 10 round cloth table clothes, serving utensils, coffee carafes, and serving bowls.

We are holding \$275.00 to put toward the purchase of a new refrigerator. We are hoping to raise enough to replace the kitchen refrigerator. The one we now have is 25years old, and could stop working at any time.

Thank you all for coming last year and we hope to see again this year.

The Ladies Tea Committee

Fellowship & Spiritual Life Committee

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
The Fun Continues

- All you bakers out there, get ready! We will be holding a Church wide bake off & potluck supper on Sunday, September 23, 2012.
- On Sunday, September 30 during the 1st service we will be recognizing Carolyn Gilligan & Marie Bertram who will be celebrating their 50th anniversary as members of the Avenel First Presbyterian Church.
- On Saturday night, October 13, there will be a spectacular Game Night & potluck dinner. Bring your favorite dish & after dinner we will be playing games by that master of game playing, Mr. Ed Benkert. You are really in for a treat! More details to follow.
- Warm up those vocal cords. Even if you think you can't carry a tune in a bucket come on out on Monday evening, December 17th as we once again travel around town to sing Christmas carols to shuts in, senior homes, veterans homes & anyone who is willing to listen to us. Believe me, you will have fun & feel good to too. Refreshments served afterwards.



It's... Back.....! **The Bake Off** is coming!

Mark your calendars and get out those cook books.

Sunday, September 23 at 5pm in Jacob Morgan Hall

We will start with a covered dish supper...then onto the tasting of the Baked Goods! Please bring a dish to share for supper. You do not have to enter the bake-off contest in order to enjoy this delicious evening. Everyone who comes will judge the entries on Presentation and Taste. There is no pre-registration. If you plan on baking, please bring your baked good to the kitchen door no later than 4:45 pm. Please have it wrapped and concealed. Remember, anyone, any age, any gender can participate. Let's see what you got! Questions? Call Cindy Culton

ANNUAL HOLIDAY FAIR

Will be held on

Saturday, November 17, 2012

9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

*please note time change to 2 p.m.

Look for further information in upcoming streamlines
Don't forget to continue collecting items for the fair, including jewelry, books and household items.





A BIG THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone in the church who has spoiled us in so many ways over the past few years! I especially want to thank all the women of the church who did so much for me as a brand new pastor's wife. From showing me around town, the beautiful welcome tea, getting me involved (wait, should I thank you for that one?) to the amazing baby shower, I thank you! I have felt loved and supported in so many ways. Thank you also for all you did to show Katie and Jason so much love. They know they have a home and a place here and have expressed how they will miss their friends and Sunday School here. I will miss so many of you for so many reasons! I pray that you all feel the love in return that you gave me. Please spoil the next as you have spoiled me. She will be one lucky and blessed woman to have you!

Your sister in Christ,
Karin Tucker



Dear Church Family:

You truly are the Lord's hands and voices. Thank you for surrounding our family with loving concern. Bob was so suddenly gone from us. Thank you for every card, hug, kindness or gift in memorial. You are my extended family. God bless all of you.

Sincerely in Christ,
Liz Roth

Senior Dinner
May 16, 2012

As one of the chairs of The Fellowship & Spiritual Life Committee I would like to thank all those who helped make this dinner a success.

Our wonderful kitchen volunteers, Gaye Patrouch, Ed & Shirley Benkert, Sarah Benkert, Rebecca Tarby, Tammy Salimbene, Karin & Katie Tucker, & Caitlyn Altieri. There were so many helpers in the kitchen at times that if I forgot someone I am sorry, but thank you anyway. You know who you are & so does God. Those many hands made our work light.

Special thank you to George Terebush & Jake Stockl, who helped entertain our guests with their wonderful music. Thank you Gus for making us laugh.

To the committee, Larry Palmer, Carolyn Gilligan, Barbara Ciocci, Lorine Price & Vilma Ambis, thank you. Without all of you, helping to plan, cook & act as servers this dinner could not have happened.

We were just happy that we could pay tribute to the many senior members that have given so much of their time & energy to our church over the years. So to them I send a special Thank you & God bless you all.

Carolyn Stockl

Annual Church Picnic
June 10, 2012

If you couldn't make it, you missed a wonderful day. If you did make it, thank you for coming & making the picnic a success! The day was perfect, sunny & not too hot. The company was great.

I need to thank the Avenel Firehouse for loaning us their grill & Rick Severyn for picking it up for us. Thank you Charlie Kurowsky for the ice.

A big thank you to our grill masters, Larry Palmer & Bob Ragan. Great job!

Thank you to all of you who brought salads, snacks, deserts. Everything was delicious and though I worry all the time there won't be enough food, like the parable of the Loaves & the Fishes, there is always plenty. Everyone always comes through. All those who stayed to clean up, thank you. You always make a big job so much easier.

Hopefully no one was too sore the next day from the baseball game but I know you all had fun. Thanks again everyone. It was a fun day. Maybe we will do it again next year.

Carolyn Stockl
Fellowship & Spiritual Life

Thank you Kitchen Angels

Elizabeth Dobson
January 21, 1921 – May 23, 2012



On May 30, 2012 we held a luncheon for Betty Dobson's family and friends following service held for Betty who passed away on May 23, 2012. Betty was a long time member of the church and one of our Kitchen Angels.

Betty has always been there to help others and the church and now it was our turn to be there for her family. Once again the Kitchen Angels came through to not only feed her family & friends' hunger but also their spirit.

I know I have said this many times before but it bears repeating, it is such a blessing to hear the words "What do you need? What can I do?" when I make my phone calls to start asking for help. Or even, "I can't help this time but please call me again". Your willingness to always be there to help in any way is such a blessing to me.

As I've learned over the years, Angels come in many forms & they aren't only women. We have had men earning their wings by cooking, baking or helping to set up or clean up. So whether it is someone making a casserole, a cake, washing dishes, donating money or just helping set up and cleans up or just being there for the family who has lost a loved one. You have all helped to be a blessing to Betty's son, Mark & her family and to our church. Thank you so much and God bless you always. Remember, we can never have too many angels.

*Yours in Christ,
Carolyn Stockl*
