

STREAM LINES



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



SEPTEMBER 2010

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September 2010

³⁶ He also told them a parable: "No one tears a piece from a new garment and sews it on an old garment; otherwise the new will be torn, and the piece from the new will not match the old. ³⁷ And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. ³⁸ But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins." - Luke 5:36-38

Every summer, while on our annual family vacation in Vermont, Karin and I like to visit this beautiful little vineyard on the Champlain Islands. Typically, they offer a very cheap wine tasting so customers can sample all of their most popular wines. Although this is usually pretty fun, I've also noticed that sometimes "wine-tasting" can be -- let's just say -- a little "snooty." Sometimes I feel like the resident wine "expert," you know, the one who tells you about "the soft nutty tones and fruity finishes" of each wine, gets a little annoyed with me. Maybe it's because I say sophisticated things like: *mmmm, this is tasty...or boy, this is interesting...or someone please get me a cracker.*

I also feel this way when I'm around some of my friends who are *really* into wine. They talk about old, expensive vintages tucked away in wine cellars, oak barrels for aging, grape varieties -- and I

become a little lost. But what *isn't* lost on me is one very important fact: there is a BIG difference between *old* wine and *new* wine.

Jesus takes this metaphor a bit further here in these two parables. If you tried to patch an *old* piece of clothing with a *new* piece of cloth, it wouldn't work. This is because the new cloth still needs to shrink. If you used it, it would shrink and tear away from the old cloth, probably ruining both. And the same thing is true for wine. The old wineskins had become stretched out and brittle. So, if you put new wine in them, they'd burst. *New* wine needs *new* wineskins.

So what is Jesus saying here? Primarily, he's talking about the relationship between *his* teaching and *traditional Judaism*, but I also believe he's delivering an important message for the Christian Church today. I think the Church has struggled with "what to do" with all the new wine coming its way. For the most part, we've tried to fit *new* wine into *old* wineskins.

"The challenge to the church has always been to distinguish the wine from the wineskins and to be ready always to find new skins for the new wine. Repeatedly, however, the church has fought to preserve its old wineskins...have we cultivated such a taste for the old wine that we *despise* the new?"¹ Churches who've learned to appreciate and cultivate *both* old *and* new wine are growing, while those who haven't—well—aren't. Jesus never said one was better than the other. He just said they are *different*, and that we need to properly care for *both*.

I think this sums up our church at the moment. In order to faithfully follow God's lead and reach our full potential as a worshiping community, we must cultivate and cherish *both* the new and the old wine. And I think we're doing that. And that's a great thing. While this year has caused some wineskins to stretch a bit, I feel we are beginning to really make it work. For the first time in 5 years (maybe even longer), our church has gained more members that it has lost. We have a *fabulous*, rich and beautiful traditional *vintage* (so to speak) here at Avenel. But we're also breaking out some new wineskins. We're launching new ministries and re-launching ministries we haven't had in a long time.

Through God's blessing, we're becoming a pretty sophisticated little vineyard. And that's something we should all be excited about! As we kick-off this new program year, let's "taste" *all the wine* together. Yes, some of us are a bit "nutty" (I couldn't resist), but we are God's *vintage* creation, God's masterpiece, growing from the One True vine, Jesus Christ.

Have a great month!

In Christ,
Rev. Jason Tucker

STREAM LINES INFORMATION

**The deadline for the October 2010 issue of Stream Lines will be
Wednesday, September 22, 2010 at 12:00 noon.**

Remember to email your articles to:

Susan Smolsky at streamlines@comcast.net and
Carol Palmer at avenelpres@verizon.net

**From the
Editor**



The October issue will be available for online reading and printing on or about Wednesday, September 29, 2010 and will be available to those who have no internet service and pick up their copies in the Sanctuary on Sunday, October 3, 2010.

¹ Abingdon Press. *The New Interpreter's Bible: General Articles & Introduction, Commentary & Reflections for Each Book of the Bible, Including the Apocryphal/Deuterocanonical Books*. 13 vols. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1994. Vol IX, p. 132.



Fall Schedule 2010

Kick-Off Sunday

Sunday School classes will begin on Sunday, September 12, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

The Sunday morning worship service returns to a 10:30 a.m. start beginning Sunday, September 12, 2010 in the Sanctuary.

Communion for September will be on Kick-Off Sunday, September 12, 2010, and **not** on the customary first Sunday of the month.

Church Office Hours

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 6, 2010 for the Labor Day holiday.

Adult Sunday School Classes

Adult Sunday School classes, led by Pastor Tucker, will begin sometime in October. The classes will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. See the October Stream Lines and upcoming Sunday bulletins for the start date and place. All adults are welcome.

Mid-Week Bible Study

The start date for the Mid-Week Bible Study, led by Pastor Tucker, has not yet been set. Check upcoming issues of Stream Lines and Sunday bulletins for the information as it becomes available.

From the Choir Loft

Fall is just around the corner and that means the music program will soon be kicking off again for another year.

The Chancel Choir, under the direction of Francesco Santelli, is our adult choir. You are cordially invited to join us by coming to our rehearsals on Thursday nights from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the Choir Room.

Our first rehearsal is Thursday, September 2, 2010. Hope to see you there!



Youth Ministry Program

Our **NEW** Youth Ministry Program is moving forward, and this year is going to be exciting! All teenagers (grades 6-12) are going to have some amazing opportunities to have fun and grow in their faith.

SEPTEMBER INFORMATION AND EVENTS:

1. **September 19, 2010 – "Eat 'N Greet" (all youth 6th-12th grade and their parents)** - Join us after worship as we welcome our new Seminary Intern, Lenore ("Len") Turner. We will meet in Jacob Morgan Hall at 12:00 noon for a chance to hear all about the Youth Ministry Program and how both teenagers and parents can get involved. Pizza will be provided.
2. **Youth Fellowship Group** - We **WILL** be having a weekly youth fellowship on Sunday nights. Our **tentative** start date is Sunday, September 26. **Stay tuned for details.**

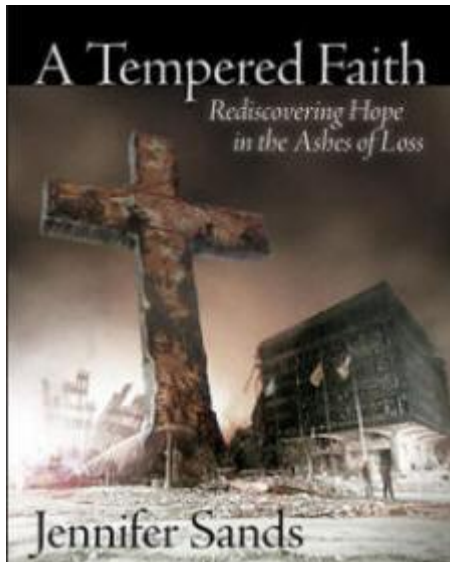
3. **September 26, 2010 - \$50 Mission Trip Deposit Due** - Your \$50 deposit is due for our mission trip to East Bank, West Virginia the week of July 10-16, 2011 (ages 14+). Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church and indicate "WORKCAMP 2011" in the memo section.

In a world that threatens our kids at every turn, youth ministry is needed now more than ever. And we are finally ready to provide our teenagers with the opportunities they need and deserve.

HERE WE GO!

The Joyful Ringers

The Joyful Ringers, under the direction of Randy Hunt, will hold a brief organizational meeting on Kick-Off Sunday, September 12, 2010 immediately following the worship service. Fifth graders through adults are invited to participate – no experience necessary! If you have any questions, please contact Randy or Darla Hunt through the Church Office or speak with them before/after the Sunday morning worship service.



An Evening With **JENNIFER SANDS**
Christian Author and Speaker

A 9/11 Widow's Continuing Journey

COME HEAR HER POWERFUL MESSAGE!

Friday, September 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel, NJ

Jennifer's husband Jim was killed in the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Before that day, she did not know Jesus as her Lord and Savior. But by His abounding love and grace, she has undergone a radical spiritual transformation and is now spreading the Gospel and a message of overcoming trials – and living everyday life – through faith and trust in Christ and in the power of His Word.

Jennifer speaks not only about September 11, or the loss of someone dear, but about broken marriages, health problems, financial crisis, the loss of our dreams, and the burdens, trials, heartaches and challenges we all face – and how God can bring us through.

Jennifer has written three Christian books to date: ***A Tempered Faith***, Rediscovering Hope in the Ashes of Loss, ***A Teachable Faith***, Learning from God in Everyday Life, and ***A Treasured Faith***, Refining a Heart for the Riches of Christ.

To learn more about Jennifer, visit her website at <http://jennifersands.com>

No matter where you are in your walk with the Lord, come on this magnificent and enlightening journey with Jennifer and the congregation here at the Avenel Presbyterian Church on Friday, September 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary.

To view our promotional flyer for this event, [click here](#).

FREE TO THE PUBLIC with free on-site parking. ALL ARE WELCOME!

IN MEMORY
OF THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES AND LOVED ONES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001



**The World Trade Center
The Pentagon
American Flight 11
United Flight 175
American Flight 77
United Flight 93**

**I want to make a promise
To those I never knew
From this day on, for all my life
I will remember you...**

**Believe in God – Believe in Prayer –
Believe in America**

I know for certain that we never lose the people we love, even to death. They continue to participate in every act, thought and decision we make. Their love leaves an indelible imprint in our memories. We find comfort in knowing that our lives have been enriched by having shared their love.
- Leo Buscaglia

An Invitation to Attend

SPAGHETTI FOR THE SOUL

A One-Day Women's Conference
Featuring Kathy Troccoli
and Ellie Lofaro

**Saturday, October 2, 2010 from
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

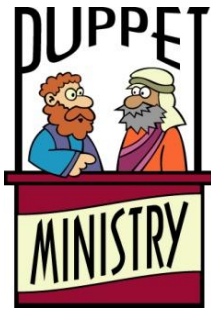
**First Presbyterian Church of
Matawan, NJ**



The First Presbyterian Church of Matawan is presenting a one-day conference for women which will encourage, equip and edify you in your relationship with the Lord. The biblically-based program is focused on the themes of Faith, Hope and Love. The message is presented by Kathy Troccoli, an award-winning singer, songwriter and speaker, and Ellie Lofaro, a Christian writer, speaker and teacher. They will take you on a journey toward better understanding and applying God's grace and truth in our lives through spirit-filled worship, biblical teaching, stories, uplifting music and a healthy dose of humor.

For more information and to register for this conference, please visit the website of the First Presbyterian Church of Matawan at <http://fpc-matawan.org> or call Carol in our Church Office.

COME AND FEEL THE SPIRIT!



The Good News Puppeteers

The Good News Puppeteers, under the direction of Randy Hunt, will hold a brief organizational meeting on Sunday, September 19, 2010, immediately following the worship service. Fifth graders through adults are invited to participate – no experience necessary! If you have any questions, please contact Randy through the Church Office or speak with him before/after the Sunday morning worship service.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF 2010-2011



Superintendent: Mrs. Jackie Turnbull

Office Staff: Ms. Tammy Salimbene, Mrs. Karin Tucker and Mrs. Nicole Musselman

THIS LIST IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Nursery and Pre-K	Mrs. Kathy Sturtz and Mrs. Alyson Rasimowicz
Kindergarten, 1 st and 2 nd Grades	Mrs. Karin Hallenbeck and Mrs. Trish Sternesky
3 rd , 4 th and 5 th Grades	Mrs. Cindy Culton and Mrs. Monica Shannon
Mid-Level	Mrs. Jan Gagnon and Mrs. Sandy Kosakowski
Senior High	Mr. Ryan Miller and Mrs. Karen Severyn
Adult	Pastor Jason Tucker
Substitutes	Mrs. Carolyn Gilligan, Mrs. Jessica Miller, Ms. Jamie Sterlacci and Mrs. Linda Palmerini
Chapel Music	Mrs. Jackie Turnbull



AUDIO-VIDEO MINISTRY

Randy Hunt is looking for people interested in being part of a team responsible for video recording the worship services. Ideally, he would like to have two or three teams of two people (one for video and one for audio) so that we can rotate the responsibility. The more teams we have, the less each person would be scheduled.

No experience is necessary. Randy will work side by side with you until you are comfortable with all aspects of the job.

This is a rewarding and very important ministry. This recording is the first step in producing the podcasts which are available on the web, and the only way that some of our shut-ins get to see our services. We have received comments from people who used to get the audio cassette tapes that say they now feel like they are at the service. Please consider volunteering for this ministry. It is a LOT of work for one person, but would be easy with enough hands.

If you have any questions, please contact Randy through the Church Office or speak with him before or after the Sunday morning worship service.

seminaries and churches together



Meet Our Seminary Intern

It is with great pleasure that we introduce our new Seminary Intern, Lenore ("Len") Turner. She will be working with our Youth Ministry Program this coming year.

Greetings Avenel!

for generations to come

I am looking forward to worshipping with you as I join your community for the upcoming year. I am excited to work alongside you to create a sustainable structure for youth ministry at the First Presbyterian Church of Avenel. It will be wonderful to envision with you what shape the younger generation at Avenel will take by engaging and loving them. I have heard stories of the welcoming and fun environment Avenel provided for teenagers in the community in the past, and I anticipate your help in utilizing the facilities to intentionally and creatively invite youth in as an integral part of the congregation.

Blessings,
Len

Biography

Len is from Knoxville, Tennessee where she is a member of Eastminster Presbyterian Church. She graduated from Maryville College in Maryville, Tennessee with a degree in Mathematics for Teacher Licensure. Following college, she served at Wears Valley Ranch, a children's home and boarding school in the mountains of Eastern Tennessee. Currently, she is pursuing her Masters of Divinity degree at Princeton Theological Seminary where she has one year of study left. She completed an internship at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Trenton last academic year as well as a Clinical Pastoral Education internship at JFK Medical Center in Edison this summer.

After completing the ordination process and her time at Seminary, she plans to go into pastoral ministry in the PCUSA.

JOANN'S FOOD PANTRY

July 2010

Not only was July a very busy month for the pantry, it was also a very HOT one.

We would like to thank all those who, despite the heat, came out to help. A special thank you goes out this month to Rachel and Matthew Haggerty, grandchildren of Millie and Al Knotts. They were there this summer on pantry day helping give out food, stocking shelves and picking up food from the Mayor's Concerts at the Health Center. Perhaps Grandma and Grandpa are grooming them to take over the food pantry one day.

One of our volunteers, Dottie Smith, had back surgery. We wish Dottie a speedy recovery and hope to see her smiling face back at the pantry very soon. But only if she takes it very easy and doesn't over do it.

Thanks again to all of you who have been helping on Saturday to unload the truck when we get our delivery from the Food Bank. Thanks Al for taking over for me while we were on vacation. You all have been a blessing to us. We couldn't have kept the pantry open without your help. We are always looking for volunteers, and if you believe this is a worthwhile ministry as we do, please consider volunteering.

A special thank you to John Altieri for all his help over the last few years, and we want to wish him the best of everything in the future. Good luck in college John.



Yours in Christ,
Jake & Carolyn Stockl
Coordinators of Joann's Food Pantry



THE PONY EXPRESS IS COMING TO AVENEL!!

Beginning in mid to late September, we will begin our Pony Express Stewardship Campaign to help plan for the 2011 budget. You should already have received a letter explaining a little about how the Pony Express will work.

There will be a saddlebag assigned to each Deacon's parish. One side of the saddlebag will contain blank Estimate of Giving cards and envelopes. There will also be a list of names, addresses and phone numbers of the families in your parish. When you receive the bag, we ask that you complete an Estimate of Giving card for each church member in your household, seal it in an envelope, and place it in the other side of the bag. Then check for the next family on your parish list, and deliver the bag "Pony Express style" to that family. Once your parish "route" has been completed, the bag will be returned to the Stewardship Committee so the Estimates can be tabulated.

We expect the entire process to be completed by the first week in October.

Since the cards will all be in sealed envelopes, you can be assured that your estimate will remain completely confidential until the bag is returned. We'll also be sure to make accommodations for folks who don't drive to help them move the "mail" along.

We hope this will give EVERYONE a chance to share a connection with others in your parish, as well as giving the Finance Committee an idea about potential income for 2011. Please prayerfully consider your Estimate of Giving as you respond to all the gifts you receive from God! But, just like in the Old West, *it is important to keep the bag moving along the "route"!*

Keep listening for the sound of hooves coming down your street!

APRIL/MAY/JUNE 2010 SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



At the April Session meeting, the Elders:

- Approved the recommendation of the Worship Committee that Christmas in July be held on July 11 to benefit our active duty troops with packages of personal items.
- Approved the recommendation of the Building Usage Committee that members of the Indonesian Church hold a birthday party in Jacob Morgan Hall on May 8.
- Approved recommendations from the Christian Education Committee that Jackie Turnbull is approved as Sunday School Superintendent for next year, that Karin Tucker and Nicole Musselman are approved as Sunday School office staff, and that Tammy and Nicole Salimbene be approved as Sunday School office helpers.

At a special Session meeting on May 2, the Elders:

- Approved a request from the Christian Education Committee to hold an Elders retreat on February 25-27, 2011.
- Approved a request from the Building Usage Committee for a memorial service to be held by Ms. Nita Wattie of the Indonesian Church in Jacob Morgan Hall on May 15.

At the regular May Session meeting, the Elders:

- Approved recommendations from the Finance Committee to close the Manse Renovation Fund, and to begin negotiations with Little Fiddler Academy to rent the space formerly occupied by Headstart.
- Approved a recommendation from the Building Usage Committee to allow the Iselin Youth

Athletic Club to use the gym on various dates.

- Approved a recommendation from the Membership Care Committee that a new Pictorial Directory be published.
- Elected Elder Kurowsky as commissioner to the May 25 Presbytery meeting.

At the regular June Session meeting, the Elders:

- Received John and Cyndi Lewis into membership by profession of faith, received Karin Tucker and the Wattie family into membership by letter of transfer.
- Approved a recommendation from the Membership Care Committee that the Church Library be used as a Child Comfort Room.
- Approved a recommendation from the Worship Committee that an Alternative Worship Team be formed to help in implementing a Contemporary Worship service in February 2011 or September 2011.
- Approved a recommendation from the Building Usage Committee that Little Fiddler Academy would rent the space formerly used by Headstart.
- Approved a recommendation from the Property Care Committee that the Furnace in the former Headstart classroom be replaced by Avenel Refrigeration.
- Approved a recommendation from the Memorial Committee that a Memorial Dedication Ceremony be held on October 17, 2010.

Note: No Session meetings were held in the month of July.

Thank You Notes

August 17, 2010

Dear Church Friends:

Thank you to all for your kind expressions of sympathy upon the passing of my beloved husband, George. He was loved by many, as witnessed by the number of people who came to the viewing and funeral, and he will truly be missed.

Thank you to all our family and friends who made donations to the church in memory of George, and to everyone who sent cards and visited George in the hospital.

My heartfelt thanks to the "Kitchen Angels" who came through again, handling the overflow crowd and providing delicious desserts and beverages for the luncheon.

A special thank you to Jason for his love, prayers, and visits and for being there for me and George at the end of his earthly life. I thank God for George and the many years of happiness we enjoyed.

And, last but not least, thank you to Jack Dunlap for a beautiful and loving funeral service for George.

Again, thank you everyone for your love and prayers.

In Christ's Love,
Cathy Shaffer



August 18, 2010

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all the calls, cards, visits and prayers during my recovery from my recent accident. I am thankful to God for His healing and presence in all of you.

God's Blessings,
Ed Benkert



NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED



During the morning worship service on Sunday, August 8, 2010, four new members publicly professed their faith in Jesus Christ and were welcomed into the fellowship and ministry of our church.

We welcome as members of the church and servants of God:

**By Profession of Faith:
KEVIN MILLER**

**By LETTER of TRANSFER FROM THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of METUCHEN:
FERRY WATTIE, MARIANI WATTIE AND PIERRE WATTIE**

BENEVOLENCE REPORT – July 2010

Description	Debits	Credits	Balance
10% General Receipt Fund Balance - June 2010			\$7,862.28
10% General Receipt Fund Income - June 2010		\$1,257.03	
Unified Mission	\$600.00		
Navajo Mission (construction)	\$50.00		
Navajo Mission (Sunday School)	\$30.00		
Prison Ministries	\$50.00		
Walter Hoving Home	\$50.00		
Elizabethport Children's Programs	\$50.00		
Sudan Mission	\$50.00		
The Salvation Army	\$50.00		
Gambell Presbyterian Church (Alaska)	\$50.00		
Christian Appalachian Project	\$50.00		
Covenant House	\$50.00		
EAPE (Tony Campolo Ministries)	\$50.00		
Elijah's Promise (New Brunswick)	\$50.00		
10% General Receipt Fund Balance - July 2010			\$7,944.31
Church School Missions Fund			\$276.30
Family Promise Fund			\$782.57
Family Promise Fund Additions		\$13.68	
Family Promise Fund Total			\$796.25
Relief Funds Total			\$940.00
Miscellaneous Mission Fund Balance - June 10			\$584.00
Miscellaneous Mission Fund Income		\$270.00	
Miscellaneous Mission Fund Total			\$854.00



A Service of Dedication is being planned by the Memorial Committee for

Sunday, October 17, 2010

in recognition of the gifts that have been given in memory of family, friends and members who have passed. A reception will be held immediately after worship.

Families will receive an invitation requesting an RSVP with the number of persons attending. The congregation is also invited to attend the reception. However, an RSVP is required via a sign-up sheet to be placed in the rear of the Sanctuary. Your cooperation in signifying your intent to attend will assist the committee in planning this event.

Your Memorial Committee

We are the rememberers, the people left behind
To keep the one who's gone from us alive in heart and mind.
The people left to cherish and preserve a legacy
Yes, we are the rememberers, and we will always be.



Church Pictorial

Do you ever see people and wonder what their names are? Have you ever heard an announcement regarding a member and wished you could put a face with a name? Are you a member and wish you had something to help you put names with faces? Well, help is on the way!

We are producing a pictorial family album! There is no cost to you to have your photographs taken, and you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and directory for participating. You

will be able to view your images electronically immediately after the photos are taken. At that time, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends.

We will be taking the photos in October, so watch for weekend sign-ups or visit our website in September. We look forward to seeing you!

IN OUR DENOMINATION

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2010
CHRISTIAN VOCATION SUNDAY



Christian Vocation? What does that mean? Vocation – that’s related to our career, right? After all, we are familiar with the vocational high school downtown where students learn a trade. So, why are we using this word in the church?

Vocation actually refers to a calling, a word packed with religious significance. Basically, God has given each of us gifts and “calls” us to use them in a way that pleases and glorifies God. Our vocation is the way in which we respond to the many gifts God has given us; how we live our life.

From the Book of Order (W.5.6000) of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

God calls a people

- a. to believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior;
- b. to follow Jesus Christ in obedient discipleship;
- c. to use the gifts and abilities God has given, honoring and serving God
 1. in personal life,
 2. in household and families,
 3. in daily occupations,
 4. in community, nation, and the world.

A person responds to God’s call to faith in Jesus Christ through Baptism and through life and worship in the community of faith.

Persons respond to God’s call to discipleship through the ministries of God’s people in and for the world.

Persons respond to God’s call to honor and serve God in every aspect of human life

- a. in their work and in their play,
- b. in their thought and in their action,
- c. in their private and in their public relationships.

God hallows daily life, and daily life provides opportunity for holy living. As Christians honor and serve God in daily life, they worship God. For Christians, work and worship cannot be separated.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2010

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE (“PEACE DAY”)

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN PEACEMAKING PROGRAM: “PEACEMAKING: THE BELIEVERS’ CALLING”

The International Day of Peace, observed each year on September 21, brings a global call for a day of ceasefire and non-violence. It is a time to reflect on the benefits of peacefully resolving disputes.

The International Day of Peace provides an opportunity for individuals, organizations and nations to create practical acts of peace on a shared date. It was established by a United Nations resolution in 1981 to coincide with the opening of the General Assembly. The first Peace Day was celebrated in September 1982.

Anyone, anywhere can celebrate Peace Day. It can be as simple as lighting a candle at noon, or just sitting in silent meditation. Or it can involve getting your co-workers, organization, community or government engaged in a large event. The impact of millions of people in all parts of the world coming together for one day of peace is immense.

2010 marks the 30th anniversary of *Peacemaking: The Believers' Calling*, the 192nd General Assembly statement (1980) that called for a new emphasis on peacemaking across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and led to the creation of the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and the Peacemaking Offering. This statement affirmed that peacemaking is central to the gospel message and to living as disciples of Jesus. Since 1980, individual Presbyterians, congregations, middle governing bodies, and General Assembly programs have engaged in amazing peacemaking ministries in the name of Jesus Christ. In this 30th anniversary year, the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program suggests that congregations celebrate ministries past and present and look forward to new adventures following Christ, who is our peace.

This year's observance focuses on youth and development, under the slogan: "Peace = Future." Young people already play a crucial role in working for peace, yet can do even more. So this International Day comes with a challenge for young people everywhere: Expand on your work to build peace, and share your plans and ideas with creativity and passion. The world's concerns will soon be in your hands.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2010
NATIVE AMERICAN DAY

How it all Began

In 1993, the Presbytery of Genesee Valley in the Synod of the Northeast sent an overture to the 205th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) requesting that Columbus Day be replaced on the Presbyterian planning calendar with Native American Day. The General Assembly considered the overture and proposed that a day other than Columbus Day be selected and that the General Assembly Council report back to the 206th General Assembly in 1994.

In consultation with the Native American Consulting Committee (NACC) and the national Native American Caucus, the fall equinox, which falls on September 22 or 23 each year, was selected. This day marks harvest time for many American Indian tribes and is a time of celebration and preparation for winter. This year, the fall equinox is Thursday, September 23.

The overture establishing Native American Day was approved at the 206th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in 1994 at Wichita, Kansas. The purpose of the overture was to "raise awareness of Native ministries and recognize contributions of Native peoples." In our churches it can be the catalyst for education, awareness, understanding and remembering the American Indians in our midst and across the nation -- those living on reservations and tribal lands, as well as those living in urban areas.

Celebrate the Three Sisters: Corn, Beans and Squash

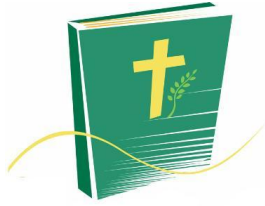
According to Iroquois legend, corn, beans and squash are three inseparable sisters who only grow and thrive together. Corn, beans and squash were among the first crops. The Iroquois believe corn, beans and squash are precious gifts from the Great Spirit, each watched over by one of three sisters' spirits, called the "Do-o-ha-ko," or "our sustainers."

Planting season is marked by ceremonies to honor them, and a festival commemorates the first harvest of "green" corn on the cob. By retelling the stories and performing annual rituals, Native Americans passed down the knowledge of growing, using and preserving the Three Sisters through generations. Traditional planting of these three vegetables close together works well for soil and is good nutrition.

Corn, beans and squash also complement each other nutritionally. Corn provides carbohydrates and the dried beans are rich in protein, balancing the lack of necessary amino acids found in corn. Finally, squash yields both vitamins from the fruit and healthful, delicious oil from the seeds.

Recognize, celebrate and offer thanksgiving for these gifts which sustained generations of Native Americans, other civilizations and the Pilgrims, well-known through the story of their encounter with the New World.

Celebrate Native American Day by giving recognition to the presence of Native Americans in our society and ministry today.



September Memory Verse

1 Peter 3:9 (NLT)

Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will bless you for it.



Transferred to the Church Triumphant

August 2010 – **Joseph "Joe" DesPlaines**, our beloved friend, former Elder and Deacon, and very actively involved long-time church member since November 1955. We will miss you Joe.



Thought of the Month

Thank God for what you have. Trust God for what you need.

September Birthdays

If there are any omissions or errors in the September birthday list, please contact the Church Office at 732-634-1631.

Thank you!



- 01 Suzanne Warren
- 02 Sean Battito
- 03 Renee Germek, Patrick Lombardi, Sr., Leslie Yuhasz, Lynn Merz, Melissa Kosakowski
- 04 Vilma Ambis
- 07 Dawn Connolly
- 09 Cheryl Mock, David Exantus
- 10 Barbara Morgan
- 12 Jacob Manente
- 13 Kiersten Shannon
- 14 Richard Olsen, Sophie Culton
- 15 Gisela Olsen, Kerry Rittenour
- 16 James Englert
- 17 Jenny Holtz
- 18 Joseph Shannon
- 20 Dani Juarez
- 21 Karen Severyn
- 22 Christopher Exantus
- 24 Vincent Meehan
- 25 Vic Stulga
- 27 Erika Ferrie
- 28 Frank Battito, Briana Tarby
- 29 Susan Haggerty, Ilene Dodich, Jessica Kaczur
- 30 David Pallas



Autumn

In the garden, autumn is indeed the crowning glory of the year, bringing us the fruition of months of thought and care and toil. And at no season, except perhaps in daffodil time, do we get such superb color effects as from August to November.

Rose G. Kinglsey



Our Military Servicemen, Servicewomen and Their Families

Rev. Adam Tietje, Brian Ragas, Daniel Hedner, Anthony Battito, Robert Bartko, Michael Barany, Jovan Diaz, Justin Kitchen, Carson Severyn, Edward Merz, Michael Warren, Lauren Pfeifer, Bryan Palmer, Amy Updike, Jason Bone

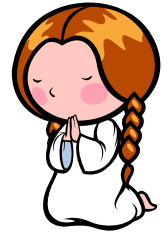
**FREEDOM ISN'T FREE.
SOMEBODY PAID.**



Jolan Farkas, Eleanor Smith, Toni Anderson, Linda Bisgaard and Edith Cloidt

Prayer Requests

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



Recent Concerns

Jean McCauley (Mary Ann Miller's friend), Barbara Leahy (Mary Ann Miller's friend), Charlotte Lankford (Bruce and Jane McKee's friend), Pam Vignapiano (Carol and Larry Palmer's friend), Ann Kowel (Jackie Turnbull's friend), Sherry Zigre (Holly Ely's friend), Linda and Anthony Lattanzio (Janice Klausmann's sister and brother-in-law), Christian (great-grandson of Lorine and Ralph Price), Noah McKee (great-grandson of Bruce and Jane McKee), Rev. Adam Tietje (Suzanne Hatatah's nephew), Josephine DeVito (Carol Palmer's mother), Eleanor Smith, Mattera Family, Chris Thomas (the Collins' friend)

Those with On-Going Long-Term Concerns

Edward and Betty Dobson, Jennifer Perez, Dorothy Piperi (mother of Carolyn Gilligan's co-worker), Diana Dydak, Jeremy Hogan, Don Gilligan, Esther Nielsen, Phil Prasser, Marjorie Speath (Barbara Morgan's sister), Josephine DeVito (Carol Palmer's mother), Mary Corigliano (Carol Palmer's cousin), Tessa Campbell (Arleen Schreiber's niece)



The Missing Rib

A girl in love asked her boyfriend, "Tell me, who do you love most in this world?" "You, of course!" "In your heart, what am I to you?"

The boy thought for a moment and looked intently in her eyes and said, "You are my rib. In the Bible, it was said that God saw that Adam was lonely. During his sleep, God took one of Adam's ribs and created Eve. Every man has been searching for his missing rib. Only when you find the woman of your life will you no longer feel the lingering ache in your heart."

After their wedding, the couple had a sweet and happy life for a while. However, the youthful couple began to drift apart due to the busy schedule of life and the never-ending worries of daily problems. Their life became mundane. All the challenges posed by the harsh realities of life began to gnaw away at their dreams and love for each other. The couple began to have more quarrels, and each quarrel became more heated.

One day, after a quarrel, the girl ran out of the house. At the opposite side of the road, she shouted, "You don't love me!" The boy hated her childishness, and out of impulse retorted, "Maybe it was a mistake for us to be together! You were never my missing rib!"

Suddenly, she turned quiet and stood there for a long while. He regretted what he said, but words spoken are like thrown away water – you can never take them back. With tears, she went home to pack her things and was determined on breaking up.

Before she left the house, the girl said, "If I'm really not your missing rib, then please let me go." She continued, "It is less painful this way. Let us go on our separate ways and search for our own partners."

Five years went by. He never remarried, but he had tried to find out about her life indirectly. She had left the country and came back. She had married a foreigner and divorced. He felt anguished that she never waited for him. In the dark and lonely night, he lit his cigarette and felt the lingering ache in his heart. He couldn't bring himself to admit that he was missing her.

One day they finally met – at the airport – a place where there were many reunions and goodbyes. He was going away on a business trip. She was standing there alone, with just the security door separating them. She smiled at him gently.

(b): "How are you?"

(g): "I'm fine. How about you. Have you found your missing rib?"

(b): "No."

(g): "I'll be flying to New York on the next flight."

(b): "I'll be back in 2 weeks time."

(g): "Give me a call when you get back. You know my number. Nothing has changed."

And with a smile, she turned around and waved goodbye.

One week later, he heard of her death. She had perished in New York – in the event that shocked the world.

Midnight. Once again, he lit his cigarette. And like before, he felt the lingering ache in his heart. He finally knew that she was the missing rib that he had so carelessly broken.

Sometimes people say things out of moments of fury. Most often than not, the outcome could be disastrous and detrimental. We vent our frustrations 99% of the time at our loved ones. And even though we know that we ought to "think twice and act wisely," it is often easier said than done.

Things happen each day, many of which are beyond our control. Let us treasure every moment and everyone in our lives. Tomorrow may never come. Give and accept what you have today.

COMIC RELIEF

"A cheerful heart is good medicine...." Proverbs 17:22

The Wrong Wish

A married couple, both 60 years old, were celebrating their 35th anniversary. During their party, a fairy godmother appeared to congratulate them and grant them each one wish. The wife wanted to travel around the world. The fairy godmother waved her wand and poof – the wife had tickets in her hand for a world cruise. The husband wanted a wife 30 years younger than him. So the fairy godmother waved her wand and poof – the husband was 90 years old.



Senility Prayer

God grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked, the good fortune to recognize the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference!



Mirror, Mirror

My face in the mirror isn't wrinkled or drawn
My house isn't dirty, the cobwebs are gone
My garden looks lovely and so does my lawn
I think I might never put my glasses back on!



RECEPTION

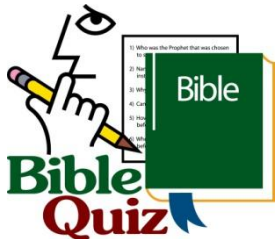
Join us in the Sanctuary immediately following the morning worship service on Sunday, September 19, 2010 to meet our new Seminary Intern, Lenore ("Len") Turner. Len will be working with our Youth Ministry Program this coming year.



YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2011

The \$50.00 deposit for the Youth Mission Trip 2011 to West Virginia is due no later than Sunday, September 26, 2010.

For more information on the mission trip, see our FAQ flyer at <http://avenelpresbyterianchurch.org/missiontrip.pdf>.



Monthly Bible Trivia Quiz

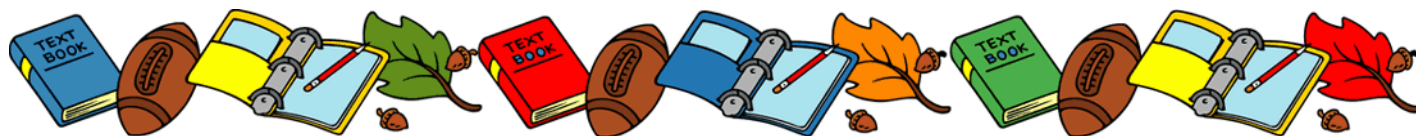
See how well you did by finding the answers elsewhere in this newsletter

Quiz Title: Missing Words III

-
- The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a _____ for your feet." - Psalm 110:1
 - The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means _____. - Matthew 1:23
 - "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will _____ me." - Matthew 26:23
 - A champion named _____, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. He was over nine feet tall. -1 Samuel 17:4
 - Jesus answered them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the _____." - Luke 5:31
 - Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be _____. - Matthew 5:6
 - A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a _____ will bear fruit. - Isaiah 11:1
 - "The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face _____ upon you and be gracious to you." - Numbers 6:24-25
 - Are not two _____ sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. - Matthew 10:29
 - Pray for the peace of _____: "May those who love you be secure." - Psalm 122:6

<p>Answers: 1) footstool 2) God with us 3) betray 4) Goliath 5) sick 6) filled 7) branch 8) shine 9) sparrows 10) Jerusalem</p>
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STREAM LINES



SEPTEMBER 2010

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