



The Presbyterian Church at Lakehurst, NJ

*Rooted in God's Love
Growing as Christ's Caregivers
Nourished by God's Spirit*

April 2013

The Presbyterian
Beacon



From the Pastor



Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!

What does that mean to you? New life?

“Mainline Christianity has tried to swim upstream, preserving the standard Sunday morning worship as if “church” couldn’t happen any other way,” writes Tom Ehrich in a recent *Presbyterian Outlook* article. “Reality has been unkind to that desire. Sunday attendance continues to sag, even as other churches with active weekday and off-site ministries thrive.”

We do not want to change our traditional Sunday morning worship. That is who we are and it doesn’t work to pretend we are something else. But **how do we reach people** who are hungry for the Good News of Jesus Christ but try to satisfy that hunger with human communities who share interests in exercise, nature, reading or technology—good people who do not know there is a difference between a caring, supportive community and a **faith community** that is connected to one another and to our living, loving, transforming God?

If you have a computer or have access to one in your club house or library or grandchild’s I-Pad, go to: **www.lakehurstchurch.org** and read each page of our new website. Then, click on the icon that says “Follow us on f” and follow the prompts to join Facebook. Invite your children, grandchildren, siblings and friends to join us on Facebook.

We have 39 “likes” so far. Can we increase that to 200 this month? And can we start on-line conversations about our church and our faith that may include some of those people—friends of friends—who don’t know the power that flows from Christ’s resurrection?

The tomb is empty! Christ is on the loose! Who knows what God is up to with all of this new-fangled technology? ...

With resurrection hope, *Christina*

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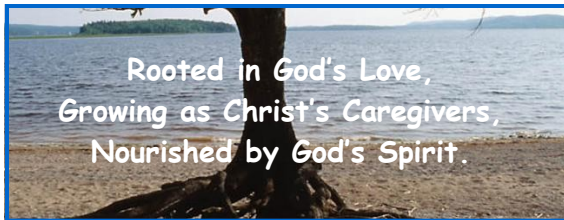
Don’t Forget!

- 4/8 Presbyterian Women
- 4/24 Food Pantry
- 4/27 Officers’ Retreat
- 4/28 Baptism
- 5/18 Deacons Flea Market
- 6/2 Church School Sunday & Confirmation
- 6/16 Men Lead Worship
- 6/24 Vacation Bible School ??



Evangelism & Fellowship Team—Elder Bob Lykes

After Worship is an important time to connect with your church family and to welcome new people. Please join us today! And you can host by signing up on the calendar hanging on the door inside the kitchenette in the Upper Room, or tell us if you want to contribute one item or some cash for a Sunday.



When you check out our new **WEBSITE** click on **“What We Believe”**

and read the Presbyterian Church’s most recent confession: *A Brief Statement of Faith*. It is not too brief, but it is wonderful. Compare it to *The Apostle’s Creed*, one of the earliest confessions of faith. How are they similar? How are they different? How do they speak to and **guide the life of the church today**? Would you invite someone who does not know Christ to read all or a part of *A Brief Statement of Faith*? See it on Page 3.

Worship Team - Elder Carole Sloan

While sharing Joys & Concerns in worship recently, Carol White (who is now retired) said *“I have been in church choirs since high school, and I have never had a choir director like Diana Smerillo!”* This was a joy because Diana truly is a **Music Minister**. And in two years, with God’s help, Diana’s gifts, and the choir’s hard work and dedication, the choir has been transformed from a group of eight who met before worship and sang a hymn as an offertory, to a real Chancel Choir—capable of inspiring over 100 people who came to hear the Easter Cantata, *“Wondrous Love”* by Lloyd Larson.

Thank you, Diana, Carole, Ken, Glenn, the Choir Members, and the 5 singing family and friends who swelled the ranks of our already fabulous Choir! You presented the Gospel in a way that left everyone wanting to hear more. Hallelujah!





A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love, God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles, rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long-silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch For God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.





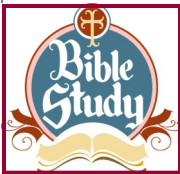
Christian Education Team—Elder Dawn Heaney



Sunday School for Children—begins in worship at 10 am. Children in nursery/toddler, preschool-K and early elementary go to class after the children’s message. PLEASE try to bring your child to Sunday School, as they will be preparing for **Church School Sunday on JUNE 2**. We will also thank the teachers and have a picnic after worship that day. Mark your calendar!



The **Confirmation Class** is exploring what they believe via internet in addition to occasional outreach activities and face-to-face gatherings. (That is another reason the *Brief Statement of Faith* appears on page 3) God-willing, we will receive the Confirmands into membership on **June 2**.



Adult Studies—during Advent and Lent, we studied the lectionary scripture lesson for the following Sunday’s sermon. Participants liked the study and said that having studied the scripture lesson, made worship more meaningful.

During the period between Easter and Pentecost (traditionally, the birthday of the church), the lectionary scripture lessons talk about **what it means to be the church of Jesus Christ**. We will be exploring the *Book of Acts* which contains stories of the early church. Page 8 shows the weekly Scripture lessons, and reflections will be posted on Facebook. We encourage you to join the conversation.



Adult Bible Study—Two people have asked for a Bible study that meets in the evening. And we have a feeling that more would be interested if it were organized. Would you participate in a study on Thursday evening at the church or in someone’s home? Once a month? **Please let the pastor know**, and we’ll get started.



Vacation Bible School will use a PC(USA) curriculum:
“Clean Water for All God’s Children”
Does the **week of June 24th** work for you? Please let us know!

Property Team—Elder Jim Dillon

Thank you to everyone who participated in **Spring Clean Up Day**: Jim, John, Patti, Dawn, Kim & Cub Scout Pack 10, Alice, Nancy, Silvano, Donna, Anna, Dottie, Lynne, Anne, Mary, Stuart, Laure, Glenn, Emily and Christina.





Mission Team—Elder Kim Milana

The Food Pantry is open from **10 to 11 am on the 4th Wednesday** of each month. Members of the church can ‘shop’ for food at other times by contacting Elder Kim Milana or the pastor. Donations of canned vegetables, tuna, peanut butter and jelly, pasta and sauce, and cereal are appreciated. If you can help sort and shelve the food any time, or bag or distribute food and greet our neighbors on the 4th Wednesday, please let Elder Kim Milana know.



Cub Scout Pack 10 and Boy Scout Troop 10

Cub Scouts meet in Fellowship Hall every Friday evening at 6 pm and learn to “do their best, to do their duty, to love God and country.” And they have fun while they are learning. The Cub Scouts are open to all boys in 1st to 5th grade. If you are interested in learning more, please see me. Boy Scouts meet at 7 pm on Sunday evenings.

Alice B. Perry College Scholarships are open, according to Mrs. Perry’s will, to “all needy and worthy students who wish to go to college.” 2013 Applications are now available, in the church entrances, or by calling or writing to the church office, and completed applications are **due before May 1, 2013**.



Thank you for your contributions to **One Great Hour of Sharing** that supports the PC(USA) *Disaster Assistance Program, Hunger Relief, and Self-Development of People*. If you have not given, but wish to, please send your check payable to The Presbyterian Church with the notation OGHS. Thank you.

Property—continued from page 4!





Deacons' Corner—Moderator Alice Loonam

Deacons' Flea Market— Saturday, May 18, 2013



It's almost here! Please see Deacons: Barbara Fair to reserve your indoor (\$7.50) or outdoor (\$5) **table**. (Table prices for non-members are \$15 indoor and \$10 outdoors.) Let Alice Loonam or Carol Reagor know what you plan to **bake** for the Deacon's Table. Let Nancy Lehrach know how many **Deacons' Cookbooks** (\$5) you want to purchase. Let Donna Lemanski and Silvano Lugo know if you can help cook or sell **hot dogs**. And please **pray** for a sunny day!



Information at Your Fingertips

By BJ Nelson, Parish Nurse

As part of the Parish Nursing Program, we are preparing a library of information for healthy minds, bodies and spirits. Currently, material is available on the following topics: My Allergy Guide, American Medical ID, Taking Control of my Bipolar Therapy, Wigs by MaryRose, Philips Lifeline, Tick Identification, and Diets for many different medical conditions. More resources will be added to our little library. If there is a health topic that is of interest to you, please feel free to mention it or give a note to me or to Pastor Christina and we will try to get some information on that subject. (The Library will be set up in the Upper Room as soon as it is painted and renovated this summer. In the meantime, please call me.)



PRAYERS
of the
CHURCH

Please pray for: Annette Barberio; Nellie Breiner; William Cooper, Jr. and Tina Orth; Jim Dillon's friend, Brian; Barbara Fair's friends, Doris, Mary, Joan and Billy; Marge Furze's cousin, Anita; Helen Granazio and friends; Shirley Hiller and friends Ryan, Lou and Beth; Donna Lemanski; Alice Loonam and her family; Jean Maxwell; Alice McCollum; Jim McLean and son, Jimmy; BJ Nelson's sister, Karen; Margaret Plenk; Bobbie Seidel's sister, Lena; Tom Walker; Laura Wilmoth's friend, Denise; Carol White's friend, Carol. All who are grieving. And all who are suffering the effects of Superstorm Sandy and the budget cuts. (Please remember to get the person's permission before you announce their name and circumstance in worship or add them to the public prayer list. We do have a Confidential prayer list too. Thank you.)

I am the Resurrection and the Life, says the Lord.

Fred Steel

January 1, 1937 – March 10, 2013



Nora ("Lee") and her family want to thank everyone who prayed and helped during Fred's illness, for the blanket of loving hands, and a special thanks to the Choir and those who set up the funeral repast.



2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 10 Mission Team 2 Choir Practice 6:30 N.A.	4	5 6 Cub Scouts	6
7 10 Worship & Communion 11 Fellowship 7 Boy Scouts	8 1:30 Presbyterian Women	9 10 Stewardship 1 Deacons Mtg 4 Education Mtg	10 2 Choir Practice 6:30 N.A.	11 9 Senior Deaf Club 6 Fellowship Tm 7 Property Team	12 6 Cub Scouts	13
14 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 7 Boy Scouts	15	16 6 Council Mtg	17 1 Worship Team 2 Choir Practice 6:30 N.A.	18	19 7 Pack Meeting	20 5 Ocean County Deaf Club
21 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 7 Boy Scouts	22	23 7 Presbytery Mtg	24 8:30 Bag Food 10 Food Pantry 2 Choir Practice 6:30 N.A.	25	26 6 Cub Scouts	27 9 Church Officer Retreat
28 10 Worship & Baptism 11 Fellowship 7 Boy Scouts	29	30				



All women of the church are Presbyterian Women, and you are welcome to participate in the monthly gathering for fellowship, study and mission. We meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at 1:30 pm. The next meeting: **April 8.**

Will everyone please call the office with your birth date? Thank you!



The Presbyterian Church
at Lakehurst, NJ



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Facebook: Presbyterian Church at Lakehurst

www.LakehurstChurch.org

Rev. Christina Hindley, Pastor

Elder Dawn Heaney, Clerk of Council



Welcome to
Our Family

On Sunday, April 28,
the Sacrament of Baptism
will be administered to
Delilah L. Hassinger
daughter of
Eric & Claudia Hassinger,
and great-granddaughter
of Joyce Greenwald.

Come and remember
your Baptism

WORSHIP  WITH US!

<p>April 7 2nd Sunday of Easter Sacrament of Lord's Supper</p>	<p>Acts 5:27-32</p>	<p><i>"How to be a Church" (witness)</i></p>
<p>April 14 3rd Sunday of Easter</p>	<p>Acts 9:1-20</p>	<p><i>"How to be a Church" (change)</i></p>
<p>April 21 4th Sunday of Easter</p>	<p>Acts 9:36-43</p>	<p><i>"How to be a Church" (grieve together)</i></p>
<p>April 28 5th Sunday of Easter Sacrament of Baptism</p>	<p>Acts 11:1-18</p>	<p><i>"How to be a Church" (include everyone)</i></p>