



The Presbyterian Church at Lakehurst, NJ

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

January 2013

The Presbyterian
Beacon



From the Pastor

The rush is over. The Christ-child is born! The shepherds' costumes have been put away. Holiday visitors have said good-bye. And we pause to catch our breath.

During the pause, I picked up a book entitled *Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership* which is written for pastors who can get so caught up "doing" ministry that we lose our soul—our connection with God—with devastating consequences in the church. But I think the book is for elders, deacons, parents, grandparents, and everyone whose life is filled with stress and busy-ness.

Ruth Haley Barton suggests that the only way to face the challenges of life is to seek tenaciously after God through spiritual disciplines that keep us grounded in the presence of God at the center of our being. For example, in prayer, meditation, silence and solitude, we listen for the still, small voice of God.

As we move into the season of Epiphany, let us commune with God and listen and trust that God is still speaking and revealing God's grace. Barton offers this prayer to start the process:

Holy One, there is something I wanted to tell you, but there have been errands to run, bills to pay, arrangements to make, meetings to attend, friends to entertain, washing to do ... And I forget what it is I wanted to say to you, and mostly I forget what I'm about, or why. O God, don't forget me, please, for the sake of Jesus Christ. ...

*What I wanted to ask in my blundering way is don't give up on me, don't become too sad about me, but laugh with me, and try again with me, and I will with you, too. Amen. [from Ted Loder, *Guerrillas of Grace*]*

Peace and good health and much love in the new year, my friends.

Pastor Christina



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Don't Forget!

- 1/5 Communion Workshop
- 1/6 Welcome New Members
- 1/23 Food Pantry
- 1/27 Annual Congregational Meeting and Election of New Officers
- 2/9 Officer Retreat
- 2/10 Ordination & Installation of Officers
- 2/13 Ash Wednesday & Lenten Study



Being Presbyterian means, in part, that we are a connectional church, working together to share our faith and our resources as we proclaim the Good News of God's love in Jesus Christ by word and by deed. One way we do this, without realizing it, is in paying medical and pension dues into the Board of Pensions. Yes, the dues are based on the pastor's 'effective salary,' but they are used to support the expenses of all Presbyterians in the system.

In fact, when Superstorm Sandy struck, the Board of Pensions made grants available under its Assistance Program for church workers with urgent financial needs. Our Music Minister sustained significant loss and was able to apply for a small grant. We were surprised by the reach of this program, and we hope you are pleasantly surprised as well.

In addition, with assistance from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), Monmouth Presbytery formed a **Sandy Response Team**, a long-term recovery group ("LTRG"). They are now looking for volunteers. Here is an excerpt from a letter that we received. As we move into the new year, please pray about how you are being called to serve Christ.

"The Presbytery of Monmouth was at the center of the landfall of Sandy. Those who were able responded to the damage in a remarkable fashion. The response was immediate, it was massive and it was needed. That phase of the emergency is winding down. But the recovery will take several years.

The LTRG needs volunteers to coordinate, provide expertise and management skills, answer phones, fill out forms, and enter data, and many other things. The time involved is the volunteers' choice; all that we ask is that it is given freely and with energy. Please review the list of the subcommittees below, and call me or our administrative liaison, Rev. Mary-Lynn Morrison, or send an email to our attention at sandyrecovery@monmouthpresbytery.com.

*Our thanks to you, in God's service,
Walt Vincent, Chair, Sandy Recovery Team (609-448-1697 or 609-815-1280)"*

Long Term Recovery Group Sub-Committees

Case Management/Review: Recruit, supervise, train, support caseworkers to assist clients with disaster caused recovery needs. Prepare and present cases for consideration to entire committee for approval funding or resources.

Volunteer Management: Manage all staff -local and incoming to assist. Provide logistical support for incoming volunteer work teams.

Construction Management: Assess projects and provide materials list, skills needed, and supervision required to complete repair and reconstruction.

Info Tech/Computers: Determine and recommend supplies, materials, technology and equipment needed.

Fundraising/Budget: Develop funding sources and monitor funds available to obtain materials needed to respond to disaster and to meet ongoing expenses.

Public Affairs and Information: Promote the work of the committee to the public and offer educational opportunities.

Memberships: Recruit individuals and groups that have resources to contribute to the committee.

Donations: Manage donations made to the committee.

Resource Directory: Develop and maintain a directory of resources that can be used to assist in meeting both disaster caused and ongoing needs of clients.

Needs Assessment: Determine scope of disaster and resources needed to respond.

Social Events: Provide opportunities for clients, volunteers and the community to bond and encourage each other throughout the recovery process.

Policy/Advocacy: Assist victims as a group, identify and advocate with policy makers as needed to create changes to make response more effective.

Grievance Procedure: Answer complaints or concerns that a client may have about service delivery or ineligibility to receive services.



Evangelism & Fellowship Team

In December, the Church Council received new members.
Please join us on **Sunday, January 6,**
for a special coffee hour to welcome our newest members:



Nancy Koch grew up in Union NJ and has been active in three Presbyterian Churches, most recently TRPC. She is a full-time wife, mother, grandmother and caregiver, but she also retired from doing human resources. She continues to volunteer for Hope Center at TRPC, and would like to help with office work, food pantry and coffee hour. Also from Union, Bob Koch was raised in the Presbyterian Church. He saw the world in the Navy, and retired after 35 yrs. with G.M. Bob would like to usher and work in our food pantry. Nancy and Bob have four grown children and eight grandchildren.



Bobbie Seidel grew up near Pittsburgh and was baptized in a Baptist church. Bobbie joined the Marines, studied at the Internat'l Culinary School, earned a B.S. in psychology at Geneva College, and is acting director of Family Services at the Joint Base in Lakehurst. Charley grew up in Virginia Beach, was baptized Catholic and went to a Baptist church. He saw the world in the Navy, retired after 20 yrs. and now works for Northrop Grumman. Bobbie and Charley are the proud parents of Charles who will be 8 on Feb. 3. They received an award at the Pentagon as the "2010 Navy Family of the Year." Bobbie teaches Sunday School and would like to sing and do Bible study, and Charley wants to provide lawn care.



Arlene Trelease grew up in Chester NJ and is a lifelong Presbyterian. She is a Registered Nurse, worked for 20 years at Monmouth Medical Center, and still does blood pressure screenings at LVW. Arlene is transferring her membership from First Presbyterian Church, Red Bank, where she was ordained as an Elder and a Deacon, and commissioned as a Stephen Minister and Leader. She also sang alto in the choir and served on the Nurture, Christian Ed and Stewardship committees. Arlene is a widow, and looks forward to her sister, Melodee, moving to LVW.



Ken White grew up in Mississippi, joined the Marines and ended up in NJ where he worked for NJ Bell-Bell Labs-Lucent Technology. Ken was baptized in the Presbyterian church where he was ordained an Elder and a Deacon, and led a singles group that did mission work in Jamaica. From Penna., Carol was baptized in the Methodist, Catholic and Southern Baptist churches, and she was ordained as a Deacon at Red Bank PC.. She worked in information technology at Ft. Monmouth and for FBI. Ken and Carol have grown children, and checked many interests in our church!



Worship Team



COMMUNION STEWARDS—If you are an ordained elder or deacon and would like to help us bring the Lord’s Supper to members who are homebound or in the hospital, please let the pastor know, and plan to attend a **Communion Workshop at 10 am on Saturday, Jan. 5.**



The Chancel Choir is always ready to welcome new voices. We meet from 2 to 3:30 pm on Wednesdays. Please see our Music Minister, Diana Smerillo, to learn how you might share your gifts!

Christian Education Team



Sunday School for Children—The children begin in worship at 10 am and go to class after the children’s message. Classes are nursery/ toddler, preschool-K and early elementary. The curriculum is *Heroes of the Bible*.

Confirmation Class will begin **Sunday, January 13, at 5 pm.** Anyone who is interested in exploring their faith and learning how the church started and how it functions is welcome to participate. Please let the pastor know if you will attend.

Horizons Bible Study – At **1:30 pm on Monday, January 14**, Elder Anne Bell will lead the Horizons Bible Study on I Peter 2:11-25 and discuss “the Help” in God’s Household. All women of the Church are welcome. There will also be refreshments and a meeting of Presbyterian Women.

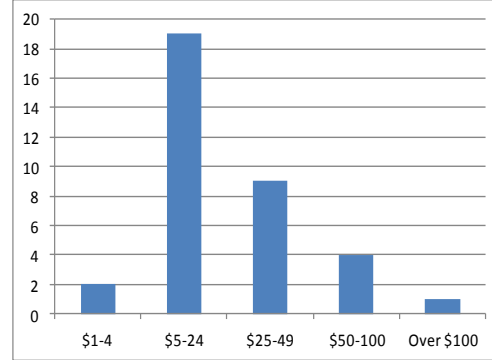
Property Team

We ask for your continued prayers for **William Cooper, Jr.** and **Tina Orth** for God’s blessings, grace and a change of heart. This month, we will file a Motion to be able to defend the appeal ourselves and a Motion to dismiss the appeal.



Stewardship Team

Thank you! We are so grateful for your commitment. We have received 35 pledges totaling \$46,833.80. And while we will have to trim our 2013 budget estimate of \$132,259, we realize that these are challenging economic times. 11 people were able to continue their 2012 level of giving, 6 increased, 4 decreased and we received 14 new pledges. Thank you.



2013 Offering Envelopes are available in the Orchard Ave. narthex. If you have not yet made a commitment to the church for 2013, it's not too late to do so.

Mission Team

FOOD PANTRY

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 tuna, peanut butter and jelly, pasta and sauce, soup and cereal are always appreciated.

If you can help sort and shelve the food any time, or bag the food on the 4th Tuesday, or distribute food and greet our neighbors on the 4th Wednesday, please let Elder Kim Milana know.



The Annual Congregational Meeting will be Sunday, January 27, 2013, immediately following Worship. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Reports will be received from the Church Officer Nominating Committee, Deacons, Church Council Teams and the Treasurer. We will also elect Church officers for the Class of 2016. Refreshments will be served!

2012 Christmas Luncheon

Great Food—Great Fellowship





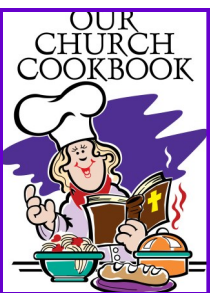
Deacons' Corner



Family & Friends who request prayer:

All of the families at Sandy Hook Elementary School; all who are suffering losses from Hurricane Sandy; Anne Bell's niece, Cathy; Nellie Breiner and her brother Lester and his wife Ruth; Violet Caldwell and daughter and son-in-law, Debbie and Ralph; Al & Gladys Claus' granddaughter, Carol; Patti Coleman's cousin, Eileen, and friends Lisa, Grace and Joe; Grace Corbett; Dorothy Danley and her daughter, Denise; Bonnie Dreier's brother, Phil; Dot Duncan's friend, Peter; Mary Earley's brother Ed and his wife, Laurie, and friend Diane; Marge Furze's daughter-in-law, Dawn, sister Jewel, and friend, Chris; Rev. Helen Granozio's mom, Helen, and her friends, Joan, Frank, Harold, Christine; Shirley Hiller and her friends, Lou, Ryan and Beth; Dylan Hunter; Donna Lemanski's brother, Ken; Alice Loonam and her family; Anna Lugo's friend, Nydia; Joan Mark's niece, Linda; Jean Maxwell; Stuart McAlister and his brother, Robin; Alice McCollum; Hazel Melone's grandson, John; BJ Nelson and friends, Dan and Bob; Margaret Plenk; Carmen Santana's daughter, Carol; Carol Shan's son, Kenny, and niece, Marie; Carole Sloan's friend, Ella; Anna Soukup; Fred Steel; Mary Tappen's sister, Annabelle, and son-in-law Robin; Estelle Werner; Carol White's relative, Lou; Joe Wong's brothers, Frank and Lenny; Nancy Wright's daughter, Beverly; Annette Zeisler's friend, Emily; and those who are grieving, especially Carol Zeisler, Annette Zeisler, Charity Vandenheuvel, Isabelle Lewis' daughter and their families, and the family and friends of Helen McMunn. (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. Thank you.)

PLEASE HELP!



We earned most of the flea market money by renting table space and selling food and baked goods. So, that will be our focus next year. We also plan to develop and sell a Church Cook Book. Please give your recipe, along with your name and any interesting story about the recipe, to any Deacon: Donna Lemanski, Silvano Lugo, Nancy Lehrach, Alice Loonam, Carol Reagor or Barbara Fair. The **Deadline is February 1, 2013**. Thank you!

2012

Children's Christmas Pageant





JANUARY

2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 NEW YEAR'S DAY OFFICE CLOSED	2 10 Mission Team 2 Choir Practice 6:30 N.A.	3	4 6 Cub Scouts	5 10 Communion Workshop
6 10 Worship 11 Welcome New Members 7 Boy Scouts	7	8 10 Property 1 Deacons 4 Christian Ed	9 10 Evangelism 2 Choir Practice 6:30 N.A.	10 9 Senior Deaf Club	11 6 Cub Scouts	12
13 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 5 Confirmation 7 Boy Scouts	14 1:30 Presbyterian Women	15 10 Stewardship 6 Council Mtg	16 1 Worship Team 2 Choir Practice 6:30 N.A.	17	18 7 Pack Meeting	19 9 Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby 5 Ocean County
20 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 7 Boy Scouts	21	22 10 Bag Food 7 Presbytery Meeting	23 10 Food Pantry 2 Choir Practice 6:30 N.A.	24	25 6 Cub Scouts	26
27 10 Worship 11 Congregational Meeting 7 Boy Scouts	28	29	30 2 Choir Practice 6:30 N.A.	31		

CHURCH OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Church Officer Nominating Committee (“CONC”) will meet this month to discern who God is calling to serve as a Deacon, Ruling Elder and member of next year’s CONC.

If you would like the CONC to consider someone, please give to Elder Carole Sloan the name of the person and why you believe God is calling him or her to serve the Church as an officer.



**The Presbyterian Church
at Lakehurst, NJ**



101 Orchard Street, Lakehurst NJ 08733
Phone (732) 657-5211
E-mail: lakehurstpreschurch@verizon.net

Rev. Christina Hindley, Pastor
Elder Dawn Heaney, Clerk of Council



**Annual Church
ELECTION**

**Annual
Congregational
Meeting
is January 27
after worship**

**Please come and
vote for your
Ruling Elders
and Deacons**

WORSHIP  WITH US!

December 30 1st Sunday after Christmas	Luke 2:41-52	<i>“House of the Lord”</i>
January 6 Epiphany Welcome New Members	Isaiah 60:1-6 Matthew 2:1-12	<i>“The Light of the World”</i>
January 13 Baptism of the Lord	Luke 3:14-17,21-22	<i>“God’s Beloved”</i>
January 20 2nd Sunday after Epiphany	I Corinthians 12:1-11	<i>“Word of the Spirit”</i>
January 27 3rd Sunday after Epiphany Congregational Meeting	Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10 I Corinthians 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21	<i>“Rebuilding Begins”</i>