



The Presbyterian Church at Lakehurst, NJ

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

February 2013

The Presbyterian
Beacon



From the Pastor

This month, we begin our journey with Christ to the cross, knowing that death does not have the final word. I write this with a heavy but hope-filled heart because I learned today that my youngest brother has died. Bob was very ill for most of his 57 years, and I trust that he is now at peace.

We take this Lenten journey with Christ every year, but it is never the same because the circumstances of our lives change, and because as we study the scriptures together, God opens our eyes to new revelations, draws us closer, and deepens our trust in the power of Christ's resurrection. As we study, God continues to shape us into resurrection people—until everything we do and say radiates resurrection hope.

Our Sunday morning scripture lessons during Lent will be the *Psalms*, which Jesus used as his prayer book and hymnal. And we will study them together, beginning on Ash Wednesday, and then on Sundays after worship for our **Lenten Bible Study**.

We did this during Advent, and the people who participated in that study said that when you sit with a passage of scripture all week, the passage comes to life—at home, at work, in the grocery store. You begin to make connections between the Bible and real life. And then hearing that same passage in worship can be much more meaningful.

Why don't you consider participating in the Lenten study as many weeks as you can. A light lunch will be offered. And the study is designed for everyone—whether it's the 1st time or 5,000th time you opened a Bible. Let us journey with Christ, and listen, and help one another hear the Good News of God's love in Jesus Christ. For we all need that Good News this year.

with love,
Pastor Christina



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Don't Forget!

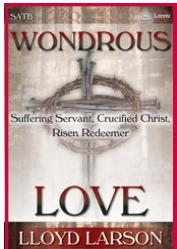
2/3	Scout Sunday
2/9	Officers' Retreat
2/10	Ordination & Installation of Officers
2/11	Presbyterian Women
2/13	Ash Wednesday & Lenten Study
2/17 & 24	Bible Study
2/27	Food Pantry
3/24	Wondrous Love Cantata 3 pm
5/18	Deacons Flea Market



Worship Team



The **Chancel Choir** needs you! We meet on Wednesdays from 2-3:30 pm and Sundays at 9:15 am for practice. Please see our Music Minister, Diana Smerillo, or Elder Carole Sloan to learn how you might share your gifts!



WONDROUS LOVE - CANTATA PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24, AT 3:00 PM

If you cannot make a long-term commitment, consider joining us for a special Holy Week offering of Lloyd Larson's *Wondrous Love*. Women are meeting Tuesdays 12-1 pm and Men 1-2 pm to learn their parts. Everyone is welcome.

Worship—at its meeting in January, the Worship Team decided (and Council agreed) to make some changes: We will say the **Lord's Prayer** at the beginning of worship so that the children can pray with us. Instead of having Announcements before the Introit, we will have "**Life in the Church**" after the sermon, to indicate how our Church embodies or gives life to the Gospel. Finally, we will be getting the **1990 Presbyterian Hymnal** by donation or nominal cost from Presbyterian churches that are acquiring the 2013 hymnal. We have introduced some of the newer hymns already and they have been well-received. (You just have to sing "Amen" in your head.) We will continue to sing your old favorite hymns from the red *Hymnbook*!

Evangelism & Fellowship Team



There is now a calendar hanging on the door inside the kitchenette in the Upper Room, just waiting for you to **sign up to host Fellowship Time** one Sunday after worship. The Deacons host the 1st Sunday and the Pastor hosts the 5th Sunday of each month. All of the rest are open for you.

To host, we ask you to bring a quart of milk and some finger foods, such as a plate of cookies, or a cake or bagels. And clean up after Fellowship Time. You can host with a friend or with pew neighbors, or you can just let us know if you want to contribute one item or some cash for a Sunday, and we'll coordinate the Fellowship Time.

This is an important time to connect with your church family—get to know what is happening in their lives, and get support for the joys and sorrows in your life—and to welcome new people into the church family. Please join us next Sunday!



Annual Congregation Meeting

The **2012 Annual Report** is available at both entrances to the Sanctuary. We hope that you will take time to read all of the reports. They are inspiring!

At the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 27, the Congregation elected the following members who will be ordained and/or installed during worship on **Sunday, February 10**.

Robert Lykes (Ruling Elder, Class of 2016). Bob grew up in Freehold, served in the Air Force in Japan where he met his wife. He has two adult children. Bob retired after 25 years as dispatcher with the Howell Police Dept. Bob is an usher; attends Bible studies; helps with the Food Pantry and Deacons' Flea Market, and he missed his introduction to the congregation because he was in the Upper Room, setting up for the New Member Luncheon!

David Weeden (Ruling Elder, Class of 2016). Dave was baptized and a life-long member of the Presbyterian Church in English-town. He has four adult children, and retired after 33 years from Jersey Central Power & Light where he was president of IBEW Local 1289. David is a head usher, and helps wherever needed. As a member of the Mission Team, Dave helped us develop an investment strategy for the scholarship funds, and helped launch and works the Food Pantry.

Alice Loonam (Deacon, Class of 2016). Alice grew up in this church and loves everyone here. She sings in the Chancel Choir, is a Worship Leader and serves communion; attends Bible studies and helps with VBS; bakes cakes for birthdays and breads for coffee hour; sends cards to those who are ill; and is Moderator of the Board of Deacons. Alice has an adult daughter and two grandchildren.

Carol Reagor (Deacon, Class of 2016). Carol was baptized in the Presbyterian Church, and has an ecumenical background. She was ordained as a Deacon here last year. She prepares communion, hosts coffee hour, and cares for her "flock," including her 6 adult children and 17 grandchildren. Carol also serves on the Christian Education Team and teaches the pre-school class.

The Congregation also elected three members to serve on the 2013 Church Officer Nominating Committee: **Lenny Earley, Ruth Wittich, and Joseph Wong**.

On **Saturday, February 9**, the Church Council and Board of Deacons will meet for a time of prayer, discernment and study, in preparation for the February 10 Ordination and Installation service.

Please pray for, and celebrate with, our Officers-elect!



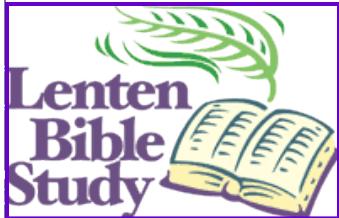


Christian Education Team

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. If you feel called to support the education program by teaching, assisting or providing childcare, please let Elder Dawn Heaney know.



The **Confirmation Class** is meeting via internet in addition to occasional outreach activities and face-to-face gatherings. But we will have the traditional reception of Confirmands on Pentecost Sunday.



Beginning on **Ash Wednesday, February 13, at noon**, and continuing on **Sundays after worship**, the pastor will lead a study of **Psalms** which was Jesus' prayer book and hymnal. All are welcome. Refreshments will be provided. Please call the office or sign up to participate. No prior experience is required!

Property Team

213 Union Ave: when the powder room floor was being replaced, as required by the building inspector, we saw damage that termites had done. That has all been corrected, and we have received the Certificate of Occupancy. The Hunters did most of the C.O. work themselves, and they had to replace the stove and refrigerator. You will note in the 2013 budget that the Hunters are making an offering to the Church each month, which can be equivalent to the pastor's housing allowance without affecting the tax-exempt status of the property. So this is a win-win situation. If anything good could come out of Hurricane Sandy, it is having the Hunters in worship with us each week and taking good care of the old manse!

Litigation: We ask for your continued prayers for **William Cooper, Jr. and Tina Orth** for God's blessings, grace and a change of heart. In January, we filed a Motion to dismiss the appeal or, in the alternative, to be able to defend it without hiring an attorney. We still have not received a copy of the appeal, the lower court transcript or the brief which Mr. Cooper filed with the court. But we believe that only God can resolve this matter. Thank you for your continued prayers.

Basement work: we hope to make a decision and contract with a company to start work in the basement this month.

Leaky faucet in kitchen: has been replaced! Thank God! and John & Jim!





Mission Team

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.



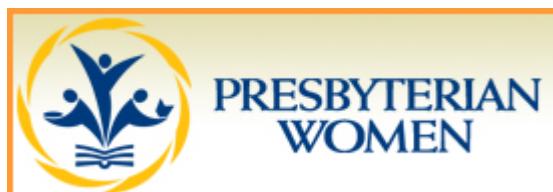
Cub Scouts Pack 10 – *God & Family – or How to Make a Pizza!*

Elder Kim Milana is leading an 8-week program on all of the “ingredients” to make a family healthy and happy, for cub scouts who will earn a God & Family merit badge.



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**.

Presbyterian Women will meet on **Monday, February 11, at 1:30 pm**



to plan the March 3 “Celebrate the Gifts of Women” worship service; to study I Peter 3 “The Ties That Bind,” and to have a mission business meeting. Refreshments will be served. All women of the church are welcome!

Stewardship & Administration Team

Pastor’s Contract – if you missed the Annual Congregational Meeting last week, the Church Council renewed and Presbytery approved the full-time contract of Rev. Hindley.

2012 Annual Report – is available at both entrances to the Sanctuary, along with an updated membership directory.

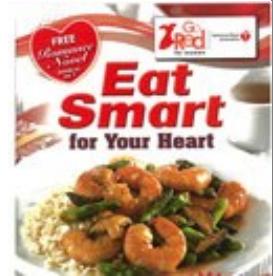
Per Capita – the 2013 contribution for active members is **\$35**. This assessment supports the mission of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA).



Deacons' Corner

February is Heart Health Awareness Month

Did you know that heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States? That's why the month of February is dedicated to raising awareness about heart disease. Educate yourself on the dangers and stay on track to a better, healthier heart! The first step to preventing heart disease is understanding the most common types and the warning signs.



Heart Attack: *Pressure, a feeling of fullness or a squeezing pain in the center of your chest that lasts for more than a few minutes; Pain extending beyond your chest to your shoulder, arm, back, or even to your teeth and jaw; Prolonged pain in the upper abdomen; Shortness of breath*

High Blood Pressure: *Severe headache; Vision problems; Chest pain; Difficulty breathing; Irregular heartbeat; Pounding in your chest, neck, or ears.*

What you can do: Fortunately there is a lot you can do to prevent heart disease. A healthy lifestyle is the key to preventing it. Strive for the following: *Refrain from smoking; Try to exercise for at least 30 minutes a few days a week; Eat a heart-healthy diet; Get regular health screenings.* Also, start conversations and raise awareness.

Here's to a healthier heart and a better world.
B. J. Nelson, Parish Nurse



DEACONS' FLEA MARKET SATURDAY MAY 18, 2013



Thank you for your recipes. The **Church Cook Book** is being compiled as you read this!

Now, we need your help BAKING—cakes, breads, cookies, anything that can be frozen. The Deacons will be selling home-made baked goods at the Lakehurst Community Yard Sale on May 18. If you start baking now, the Church's freezer is ready to receive your treats. And we will have plenty to sell!

If you need any help, shopping, chopping or mixing, let us know and we'll lend a hand. Thank you for support.

The Board of Deacons



FEBRUARY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6 Cub Scouts	2
3 Scout Sunday 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 7 Boy Scouts	4	5 12 Cantata Practice 2 Property Team	6 10 Mission Team 2 Choir Practice 6:30 N.A.	7	8 6 Cub Scouts	9 9 Church Officers' Retreat
10 10 Worship & Ordination 11 Fellowship 7 Boy Scouts	11 1:30 Presbyterian Women	12 12 Cantata Practice 1 Deacons	13 12 Ash Wednesday study 1:30 Choir Pract 6:30 N.A.	14 9 Senior Deaf Club	15 6 Cub Scout Blue & Gold Award Dinner	16 5 Ocean County Deaf club
17 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 11:15 Bible study 7 Boy Scouts	18	19 12 Cantata Practice 6 Council Mtg	20 2: Choir Practice 6:30 N.A.	21	22 6 Cub Scouts	23
24 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 11:15 Bible study 7 Boy Scouts	25	26 10 Bag Food 12 Cantata Practice	27 10 Food Pantry 2 Choir practice 6:30 N.A.	28		



Do you want to give us your birthdate so we can celebrate with you? Many churches list special dates every month. Member Info Forms are available—and we'd love for you to fill one out. In the meantime, we know that Jim Murray, Anna Soukup and Silvano Lugo celebrated birthdays last month, and Dawn and Steve Heaney will be celebrating their 20th wedding anniversary. Congratulations to all!!



Anna at Applebees



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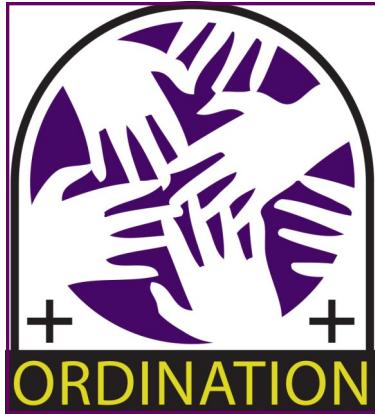


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Rev. Christina Hindley, Pastor
Elder Dawn Heaney, Clerk of Council



Sunday February 10, 2013

WORSHIP WITH US!

February 3 4th Sunday after Epiphany Scout Sunday	Jeremiah 1:4-10 Luke 4:21-30	<i>“Resisting the Call”</i>
February 10 Transfiguration Sunday Ordination & Installation	Exodus 34:29-35 Luke 9:28-36	<i>“Accepting the Call”</i>
February 13 Ash Wednesday	12:00 Noon Service, Study and Soup	<i>“Journey to the Cross”</i>
February 17 1st Sunday in Lent	Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16	<i>“Journey to the Cross”</i> <i>(turn)</i>
February 24 2nd Sunday in Lent	Psalm 27	<i>“Journey to the Cross”</i> <i>(learn)</i>