



GOOD TIDINGS

A Monthly Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains

February 2012

Special points of interest:

- **Souper Bowl of Caring on Feb. 5th—Bring in donations of canned goods or dollars for the food pantry.**
- **Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22.**
- **Ladies Lenten Breakfast on Feb. 22 at 10 am in Westminster Hall**
- **Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Dinner of Soup & Bread at 6:30 pm in Westminster Hall**
- **Ecumenical Worship at 7:30 pm in our sanctuary on Ash Wednesday**

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Dear Saints,

Before February has ended, we will be back into a season of preparation in the church. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. We often acknowledge Lent by giving things up – chocolate or caffeine or sugar. Often we choose to give up in Lent what we should probably give up altogether and use Lent as an added bolster to our weak will power. Lent, as a time of preparation for Easter, is, indeed, a time for giving up things, but not simply our bad dietary habits. In the season of Lent we have an opportunity to examine ourselves and our lives and see the thing that we say and do that push us away from God and away from one another. Recognizing those things we may let go of them or take up something new that will help us to put our trust and reliance in God.

On an individual level, you may cultivate a daily prayer life, engage in daily scripture reading, or devote time and energy to service. You may also consider forgiving transgressions, asking for forgiveness when necessary, or letting go of differences between you and someone you love or you and a stranger you judge.

On a community level we have similar opportunities to reach across division and seek the unity and harmony that Jesus desired for his disciples.

Like the disciples in those last hours, we the churches of Christ's body have been all too willing to disperse into the shadows of our separate ways. During Lent this year, we will let go of these divisions by joining with our brothers and sisters. For Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday, we will be joining in Ecumenical worship services with St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Trinity Lutheran Church.

Rather than accepting the divisions that erode our world, this Lent we will give up our schisms and will celebrate our unity in Christ.

May this season be for you a season of forgiveness and unity in Christ,

Peace,
Liz Johnson Blythe



**BEGINS
ON**

**February 22
Ash Wednesday**

Community

Men's Ministry

Our next FREE, delicious pancake breakfast for men of all ages will be Saturday, February 11 at 8:30 AM. One of the greatest blessings of this breakfast has been having the men from the Market Street Mission join us each month. It is wonderful. We hope to see you on 2/11 at 8:30 AM.

Women's Bible Study Bad Girls of the Bible Study.

Wednesdays at 9:30am in the Adult Studies Room with Pastor Liz. All bad girls welcome!



Searching for an Adult "Sunday School" Experience? Or something better?

Search no further! Come to the Sunday Morning Bible Study! Leader, Bob Lipka and the rest of this vibrant group invite you to join them in the Parlor from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. on Sundays. Worship at 11:00 a.m. Newcomers are always welcome!

March Newsletter Deadline

is **February 26**. Email submissions to K.smith@mppresby.org

Facebook PCMP Page

Yes, it's true the Presbyterian Church

of Morris Plains has a presence on Facebook. Join the group and keep up with what is going on.

The Book Club

will meet on February 27 to review "The Girl in the Blue Beret" --a novel by Bobbie Ann Mason. Inspired by a true story,

There is a group for you!

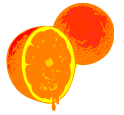
the best selling author of *In Country* offers a gorgeous, haunting novel about an airline pilot coming to terms with his past, and searching for the people who saved him during World War II. We meet at 7:30 in the church parlor. **All are welcome.**
Pat Olson, *Facilitator*

NEW! Bereavement Support Group Starting This Month

Fellowship with others who are experiencing bereavement can provide much needed understanding and comfort. Please join our group if you are grieving the loss of a loved one. If you know of someone who is mourning a loss invite them to join. Participation is not limited to members of the congregation or to those whose loss is recent. We will have six weekly meetings starting this month. Call Caroline Grossmann, Nurturing Ministry Elder, at [973-993-9134](tel:973-993-9134) for more information.

Citrus Fruit Sale

What--already?! Yes, even though you may still be enjoying citrus fruit from the December delivery, or if you wish you had more, it is time to think ahead to the spring sale by the Walsh Memorial Bell Choir to help support its musical mission. Fresh, delicious citrus fruit, including Florida Red Grapefruit, Florida Valencia Oranges, California Navel Oranges and a variety of mixed boxes, arrives on Saturday, March 10 and will be delivered to your home that day. Orders will be taken through February 26. Please consider ordering extra boxes as donations, which we will deliver to local charities of your choice.



An order form with products available and prices is included in this issue of *Good Tidings* and is also available from any ringer or in the church office. To place an order, please fill out the order form and mail it, with payment, to the address shown on the form, or leave it with any ringer or at the church office. You may also place an order at the table in Coffee Hour on Sundays. **All orders must be received by February 26.**

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Kathy Opsasnick at (973) 627-6425 or Carl Loutzenheiser at (973) 267-1258. Thank you for supporting the musical mission of the Walsh Memorial Bell Choir program.

News & Notes

PARKING REMINDER:

Do NOT park in our neighbor's lot on Rosedale at any time or your car may be towed. On Sundays, you may park at the Provident Bank and in the lot between Friendly's and Dunkin Donuts.

Super Bowl of Caring



What began over 10 years ago with one youth group in response to the gluttony of food consumed on Super Bowl Sunday while many went hungry, is now a national event. **Our teens will collect food and monetary donations on Feb. 5th for our local food pantry.**

Teen Mission Trip

We have FORTY people signed up for the mission trip to Somerville, TN which will take place from July 7 to July 15, 2012. GOD IS GOOD!! Praise His Holy name!!

CHURCH FAMILY, as you can imagine, getting 40 people and all their gear and bedding and tools to and from SW Tennessee is quite an undertaking! We could really use your support. We do not want to drive everyone crazy with fundraiser after fundraiser so if you were considering making a donation to the mission trip, please do so at your earliest convenience. Consider sponsoring a teen! Make a donation in **someone's honor** and let them know in their birthday card! If you have connections with a **charter bus company**, let us know!!! Thank you!

Teen Mission Team Meeting

There will be a meeting about the upcoming mission trip to Somerville, TN on Sunday, Feb. 26 at 8 pm in Westminster Hall.

Youth Group—Grades 9 & Older

Make new friends, explore your faith & have fun! [See the schedule online](#) at www.mppresby.org and join "**Morris Plains PYC**" on Facebook to get all the latest news and schedules.

Club Fifty6

Youth Group for **Grades 5—8** meets during the school year on Wednesday nights

from 7:30 to 8:30 PM in The Attic. The [Club Fifty6 schedule](#) can be found on the church website!

Invite to Students

Funplex in East Hanover is hosting a Youth Group Night on Friday, Feb. 10 from 8 pm to 1 am. The cost is \$20. Reservations are necessary. Contact Kim Smith at k.smith@mppresby.org if you and your friends would like to attend.

Snow Tubing Fun for Everyone

Sunday, Feb. 12th. Contact Kim for details and reservations.

Coupon Interest

Do you use manufacturers coupons when you shop? Do you simply throw them away? Would you be willing to drop off your extra coupons at the church for others to use? Many families stretch their grocery budgets by using coupons. If you are interested in donating coupons or using them, please contact Marianne Smith at 862-345-0352 or email her at mariannesmith2007@gmail.com. Maybe we can arrange for a swap box at the church?

CITRUS FRUIT SALE
WALSH MEMORIAL BELL CHOIR PROGRAM

The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains
 400 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, NJ 07950
Delivery on Saturday, March 10, 2012

Name	Date
Address	Phone
Town	Email (opt.)

Item	Unit Price	Quantity	Cost
FLORIDA RED GRAPEFRUIT	¼ bu. box (10-12)		\$14
	small box (16-24)		19
	large box (32-48)		33
CALIFORNIA NAVEL ORANGES	¼ bu. box (14-20)		17
	small box (20-40)		24
	large box (40-80)		39
FLORIDA VALENCIA (JUICE) ORANGES	small box (40-62)		21
	large box (80-125)		35
MINNEOLA TANGELOS	5 lb. bag (18-22)		13
SUNBURST TANGERINES	tray box (30)		20
SPECIALTY BOXES			
CITRUS SAMPLER (24 Navel Oranges, 12 Red Grapefruit)			\$35
JR. CITRUS SAMPLER (12 Red Navel Oranges, 6 Red Grapefruit)			21
TRIO (12 Navel Oranges, 12 Red Grapefruit, 12 D'Anjou Pears)			39
JR. TRIO (6 Navel Oranges, 6 Red Grapefruit, 6 D'Anjou Pears)			22
GIFT (12 Navel Oranges, 12 Red Grapefruit, 12 Red Delicious Apples)			39
JR. GIFT (6 Navel Oranges, 6 Red Grapefruit, 6 Red Delicious Apples)			22
MEDLEY (10 Navel Oranges, 6 D'Anjou Pears, 6 Red Delicious Apples)			25
DUO (10 Navel Oranges, 12 Sunburst Tangerines)			21
MIXED (6 Navel Oranges, 6 Red Grapefruit, 6 Temple Oranges)			21
RED DELICIOUS APPLES ¼ bushel (20-22)			30
RED DELICIOUS APPLES full bushel (80-88)			74
D'ANJOU PEARS ¼ bushel (20-22)			31
D'ANJOU PEARS full bushel (80-88)			75
TOTAL COST			\$

Sold by: **GOOD TIDINGS**

Please select one of the following:

To be delivered on Saturday, March 10. Indicate any special delivery instructions: _____

Customer will pick up at the church on _____ Saturday, March 10; _____ Sunday, March 11

Later (specify date: _____)

Order forms with payment may be given to any ringer, may be left at the church office, or may be mailed to:

Carl Loutzenheiser
 36 Northview Drive
 Morris Plains, NJ 07950

Make check payable to: **WALSH MEMORIAL BELL CHOIR**

If you have questions or need further information please call Carl, (973) 267-1258.

ALL ORDERS (WITH PAYMENT) MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 26.

Sharing the Love



Happy February Birthday to:

Hill, Pat	FEB 1
Chambers, Kyle	FEB 1
Rodino, Karen	FEB 2
Fawcett, Ann	FEB 5
Yingling, Douglas "Skip"	FEB 6
Caccavale, Frank	FEB 8
Huff, Kevin	FEB 9
Bohn, Jenny	FEB 10
Becht, Kristin	FEB 12
Hill, Daniel	FEB 12
McKechnie, Ian	FEB 12
Sempier, Zach	FEB 13
Curnow, Timothy	FEB 15
Kern, Jenn*	FEB 15
Ferrara, Elaine	FEB 16
Kattermann, Robert	FEB 16
North, Dudley	FEB 16
Swope, Emily	FEB 16
Liotto, Paula	FEB 18
Sandberg, Lucy	FEB 18
Caccavale, Nicky	FEB 20
Ferree, Zachary	FEB 21
Benjamin, Hildy	FEB 23
Johnson, Nadine	FEB 23
Smith, Madalyn	FEB 25

Ayres, Jeffrey	FEB 26
Granade, Shannon	FEB 26
Swope, Becca	FEB 27



Wedding Anniversary Celebrations:

Bud & Doris Miller on Feb. 14th on their 43rd Wedding Anniversary!

Arthur & Mae Martella on Feb. 16th on their 4th Wedding Anniversary!

Bob & Dusty Thomson on Feb. 18th on their 62nd Wedding Anniversary!!!!

Emergency Plan

In light of the recent confusion during the snow storm in October, Session has developed an emergency plan for the church. **If the governor issues a state of emergency that is in effect on Sunday, church will be closed.** That is because a state of emergency includes a directive to stay home and off of roadways for our safety. We do not want people to endanger themselves trying to get to church on a Sunday.

Additionally, if you are unsure about whether or not the church will be open, you may call the church office. If church

will be open, the message will play as normal. If the church will be closed, the message will say so. We hope that these simple plans will eliminate confusion and help to keep everyone safe.

Danielle Becht, age 8, was a soloist at our recent concerts...

Danielle and her family are members of PCMP.

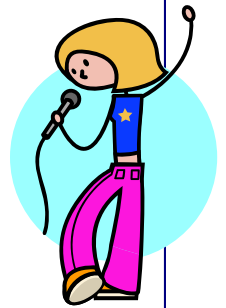
Danielle Becht is a finalist in the 5th Annual Morristown's Got Talent (1 of 16 finalists chosen from 87 acts!).

The show is the main fundraiser for the Morris Education Foundation, which benefits schools in Morristown, Morris Township, and Morris Plains.

This year's finals will be held on Wednesday, **Feb. 29th at 7:00 PM** at the Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown.

Tickets are \$25.00, \$50.00, and \$75.00 and went on sale 1/23/12.

Please come out and support the schools, enjoy the great talent, and cheer on Danielle.



News from Presbyterian Women

Please Mark the Dates:



Lenten Breakfast

Annual Lenten Breakfast - Ash Wednesday, February 22, 10:00 a.m. in Westminster Hall. (All women invited to join us for continental breakfast, devotions and Holy Communion as we begin the season of Lent)

WHOOPIE Pie Sale - Sunday February 26 (place orders by Feb. 20) It's not a PIE....It's not a CAKE....It's not a COOKIE.....It's a WHOOPIE PIE. Also known as "gobs", whoopie pies are baked treats made of two small round chocolate (or other flavored) cakes sandwiched with sweet, creamy filling inside (yum...how could you go wrong?)

There is controversy over the origin of Whoopie Pies and where they got their name. However some stories say that

they got their start from the Pennsylvania Dutch. Amish women would bake the tasty treats from leftover cake batter and put them in the farmers' lunch pails which would bring shouts of "Whoopie!" when the gentle farmers sat down to lunch.

If you haven't had one....Presbyterian Women are bringing you the chance to give them a try. We are offering our first ever "WHOOPIE PIE FUNDRAISER" on Sunday, February 26th. **Orders will be taken on Sunday Feb 12 and 19 at Coffee Hour (and samples will be available!)**

Come visit our table and see what all the "Whoopie" is about! They're guaranteed to put a smile on your face (and maybe a little cream filling too!)

Annual Spring Dinner - PW Celebrates the **25th Anniversary of our first**

*All females are
a part of
Presbyterian Women*

Mother-Daughter Dinner. More details to come, but ladies (of all ages), please mark your calendars and plan to join us for this special event **on Friday, May 12th, 6:30 pm** in Westminster Hall. (Help is needed for planning the program.. *It will be fun!*)

Annual Fall Retreat - It's not too early to plan ahead for our annual return to Grove Hall Retreat Center in peaceful Ocean Grove, NJ. We hope you'll plan to join us for the whole weekend - or part of the weekend for fellowship and relaxation— **Friday to Sunday, September 21-23, 2012.** More details coming soon! For more info on any of these or other Presbyterian Women's activities, please contact Kathy McNall ([973-627-8708](tel:973-627-8708)), Cathy Brabandt ([973-644-3037](tel:973-644-3037)) or Laurie Fu ([973-605-8602](tel:973-605-8602))

Per Capita—No increase for 2012

In essence, per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). **For 2012 the amount remains at \$29 per active member. Our church will pay \$13,601.00.**

Each year our church pays a set amount per active member to Newton Presbytery which is then divided:

\$18.42 to the Presbytery of Newton—locally used to staff and support the Presbytery office located at Millbrook Ave. and Route 10 in Randolph.

\$3.95 to the Synod of the Northeast—regional for things such as college campus ministries, grants, loans and training.

\$6.63 to the PC(USA) General Assembly—national meeting expenses and ecumenical initiatives.

Every Presbyterian shares in the benefit of the PC(USA)'s system of government, so every Presbyterian is asked to share the expenses associated with coordinating and performing the functions of that system.

Why per capita?

The Book of Order states that per capita exists as a way for all Presbyterians to share costs that belong to the whole church, to "give meaning to the interdependent nature of Presbyterian polity" (G-9.0404d).

Per capita is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together.

It exists to allow the whole church to share equitably in those things that make us Presbyterian:

- our theological identity
- our connectedness
- our system of governing bodies that allow elders and ministers together to discern the mind of Christ
- our ecumenical connections that make us part of the church universal
- our core structures that keep us together as a church
- our call to work for full participation in decision making

Per capita allows us to work with other churches to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world.

Exod. 30:11-16 – "...the rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less, than the half shekel [for the sanctuary]...."

1 Cor. 12:7 – "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

www.pcusa.org/percapita for more info

Please remember your Per Capita Offering in early 2012.



Lenten
Simple Suppers

Six Wednesdays
During Lent
Beginning Feb. 22
6:30 pm
Westminster Hall

Bring soup or bread to
share if you are able.

Communion will be served.

Ushering . . . in Dreams of Spring Flowers

Usher Schedule for 9 am Worship

2/5/2012	Ragan, John	Grandusky, M.	Grandusky, Mike	Opsasnick, Kathy	Thompson, Bob	Barwick, John
2/12/2012	Van Orden, Jack	Hill, Daniel	Hill, Dave	Karr, Mark	Poage, Katrina	Olson, George
2/19/2012	Trafflet, Charlie	Siempier, Bill	Siempier, Zack	Opsasnick, Kathy	Cantrell, Dan	Hill, Rob
2/26/2012	Olson, George	Fenney, Alan	Hults-Rubin, N.	Herzog, Rod	Hill, Daniel	Ragan, John

If you cannot make it, please call the alternate first to fill in for you. If you are still unsuccessful, contact the Usher Captain for that week. If you have any problems or are unsuccessful getting a substitute please contact me. You may call me on my cell or even text me if you wish. **New Ushers are always welcome!** Thank you, John Barwick, *Usher Coordinator, Worship & Music Ministry* Home: 973-455-9452 or Cell: 973-476-5220 or Johnlbarwick@gmail.com



Everyone is invited to experience a vision of Hawaii's Beauty at the

2012 Philadelphia Flower Show

Bus Trip Sponsored by the PCMP Gardening Group

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Leaving Morris Plains 7:30 a.m. Returning 7-7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$59 Includes ticket, deluxe bus transportation, bus driver tip & continental breakfast. \$25 deposit to hold your reservation, payable to Kathy Opsasnick. Mail your deposit **or** full payment with name, address, phone number, cell phone number and email address to: **Kathy Opsasnick, 46 Parks Road, Denville, NJ 07834**

Questions: call 973-627-6425 evenings or **email** ringduets@optonline.net. Net

Everyone is Welcome to Worship the Lord

Magic Pennies — Scrip Program

Have you noticed someone pay for their groceries or other shopping with a gift card? Maybe the cards were not received as gifts — maybe that person is supporting their church through the Scrip program! Here at PCMP, we've chosen to call it **MAGIC PENNIES** - **for you, using the cards is just like using cash — and for the church, it's like receiving pennies from heaven!** Each participating business gives back a percentage of the gift card value as money to the church!

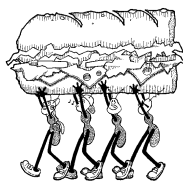
You purchase cards during Coffee Hour or order the types and amounts you'd like, and the church gets to keep a percentage of the money. How easy is that!?!)

Gift cards are available each week during Coffee Hour and for order from Home Depot, Target, Walmart, Shoprite, Acme, Whole Foods, Stop&Shop, gas stations, grocery stores, restaurants, American Express, Disney, hotels & travel, **most stores and even online stores** such as Amazon. com, Overstock.com + more.

Contact Susan Weismantel for info psaweimantel@optonline.net or visit the www.glscrip.com website for a full list of participating retailers and details.

Annual Hoagie Sale Sunday, Feb. 5th—just in time for your Super Bowl Celebration!

The teens prepare FRESH Italian, Turkey and Tuna subs in the morning so you can take them home after worship and enjoy them for lunch, dinner or with friends at your Super Bowl Party! **All food is provided by the GREAT WAZU Deli in Parsippany!**



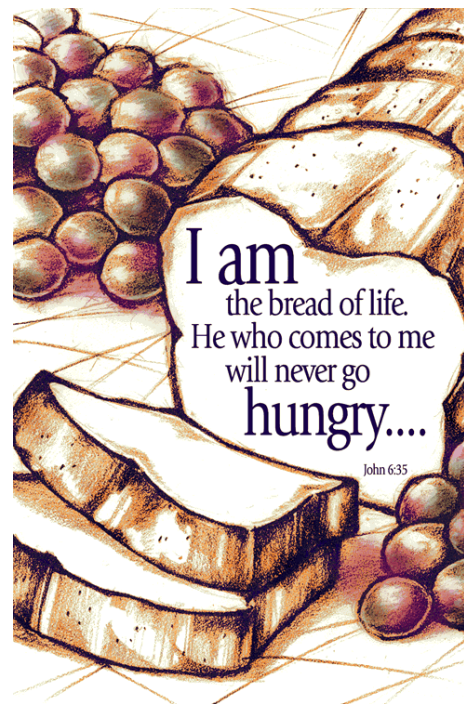
This fundraiser supports the Teen Mission Trip. 40 teens and adults are going to Somerville, Tennessee in July to serve others in need through basic home repairs. Your support is appreciated!!

Please ORDER your fresh HOAGIES NOW so we are sure to make enough on Feb. 5th!

Simply place your order at church or email your order to Kim Smith at K.smith@mppresby.org. Don't take a chance that we will sell out before you get your sandwiches! Order now. Hoagies are \$8. Thank you.

Hoagies available:
Italian - Turkey - Tuna

Ash Wednesday
10 am Lenten Breakfast
In Westminster Hall for all Women
7:30 pm Ecumenical Worship
In our Sanctuary
For the Entire Community



**The
Presbyterian Church
of Morris Plains**

400 Speedwell Avenue Phone: 973-539-3481
Morris Plains, NJ 07950 Fax: 973-539-1225
Web: mppresby.org

TO:

EVERYONE is welcome here to worship the Lord!

Worship on Sun. at 9 & 11 AM and Wed. at 7 PM