



GOOD TIDINGS

A Monthly Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains

November 2011

Special points of interest:

- **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at 7:30 pm Wednesday, Nov. 23 with our neighbors at Trinity Lutheran Church on Mountain Way**



- **Men's Breakfast on Sat., Nov. 12 at 8:30**
- **Vendor Sale—Do your Christmas Shopping here and raise funds for our ministries! Westminster Hall on Sat., Nov. 19 from 11 am to 7 pm**
- **Pasta Dinner—Mission Trip Fundraiser. Dine here or take out. Sat., Nov. 19 from 5 to 7pm**
- **Citrus Fruit Sale! Pg. 4**

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Pastor's Letter

Yes, friends, it is 'Stewardship Season' again. I know for some hearing the church speak about money seems to somehow appear as a lowering of our focus. However, the deep celebration of our faith, and the one we are approaching at Christmas, is God choosing human form and coming among us to live with us in Jesus. Therefore, at a very deep level our faith calls us to be concerned with the everyday, with creation and with such mundane aspects as money.

More importantly, this church has a long history of being very committed to assisting its neighbors and giving generously to causes that are near to our hearts. On arrival I was given, by Ed Hill, a file which summarized many important and significant events in the history of our church. Within that file there was an article in which Rev. George Vorsheim was sharing with the local newspaper the response of this community to a church in Zanesville, Ohio. The pastor in Ohio was Barbara Thompson, daughter of Lois and Carl Hyde, members of PCMP. Christmas presents to be put under a tree and given out to the poor had been stolen from the church and it seemed there would be no gifts to distribute. However, this church came with car-loads of presents to replenish the gifts for that small community. So, I know this community gets the importance of the everyday and the mundane and how God works through such things and transforms them into the first glimpses of the Kingdom that is emerging all around us daily.

This church has a great tradition of giving and I know that there are many who take seriously the pledge that they make to this church annually. Yet, this year I wanted to raise some important factors for consideration to those for whom 'pledging' might be a new thing. Over the

last ten years this church has been faced with a falling number of pledges. Despite this the pledged income has continued to grow. This shows the generosity of those who continue to pledge here. However, friends we all know the adage '... about going back to the same well ...'.

It is perfectly clear that in the last few years this church has been forced into harsh decisions concerning our budget and costs. We have been forced to eliminate a staff position; we have been forced to cut our giving to mission and in some ways our program budget has had to face similar cuts. Now given the recent economic climate this might not be an unexpected reality. However, aside from the deeply difficult economic situation, the longer-term trends present to this church a serious choice about what kind of church we wish to be.

Do we want to continue in the vein of harsh budgeting decisions, possibly more difficult budget-cutting measures?

Or, would we rather be seeking to plan for new initiatives, new possibilities as the church within this community?

Liz and I believe fully that this church would most definitely always opt for the latter of those two options. It was that energy which we perceived within your PNC and your wider community and encouraged us to come and be your co-pastors. It is to that hope that we are committed to working with you and your families in the future. As we proceed through this 'Stewardship Season' we would ask for those of you who have not been in the habit of pledging in the past to give serious consideration to the choice above and if you would wish for the latter choice, pledge that we might together begin planning for the glorious days that God has always in mind for us!!

Yours gratefully!
Scott



News & Notes

Men's Ministry

Our next FREE, delicious pancake breakfast for men of all ages will be Saturday, November 12th 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 Nov. 12 at 8:30 AM.

Our meetings are held the first and third Mondays at 8:00 PM. **Welcome to All!!**

Retired Men's Lunch

Lunch at the Black Thorn Restaurant on Rt. 46 in Parsippany. Call Russ Haas at 973-267-0420.

December Newsletter Deadline

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

PARKING REMINDER:

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

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!

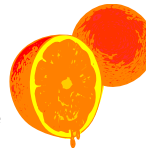


Searching for an Adult "Sunday School" Experience? Or something better?

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!

Citrus Fruit Sale

It's time to order fresh, delicious Florida citrus fruit from the Walsh Memorial Bell Choir Program. The fruit, including Red Grapefruit, Navel Oranges, Hamlin (juice) Oranges, Tangelos and a variety of mixed boxes, is guaranteed fresh and is delivered to us within one week of picking. We receive the fruit on **December 10** and will deliver it to your home that day. Orders will be taken through November 20.



NEW! Instead of the 8 lb. Bags of Navel Oranges and of Red Grapefruit offered previously, this year the Navel Oranges and Red Grapefruit are each available in a 1/4 Bushel box (about 10 lbs.) in addition to the small and large boxes. Also, a Jr. Citrus Sampler, half the size of the regular box, is available in addition to the Jr. Gift Box and Jr. Trio Box.

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 through November 20.

All orders must be received by November 20.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Opsasnick, (973) 627-6425 or Carl Loutzenheiser, (973) 267-1258.

Thank you for supporting the musical mission of the Walsh Memorial Bell Choir Program.

Book Club will meet November 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Parlor. The book title is "Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot. Doctors took her cells without asking. Those cells never died. They launched a medical revolution and a multimillion-dollar industry. More than twenty years later, her children found out. Their lives would never be the same. All are welcome to join us. Contact Pat Olson with any questions.

More News & Notes

Joyful Noise News

November is a time for giving thanks and that is what we will be doing at Joyful Noise. Our Bible stories, songs, class activities, the Thanksgiving food collection will all reflect gratitude. In addition we will hold an Usborne Book Sale On November 15, 16, 17 making available high quality children's books to Joyful Noise families and the church community. Watch for flyers and more information.

Looking ahead, we will also be getting ready for our Christmas Celebration so you may be hearing little voices raised in Christmas songs!

If any church member would like a closer look at Joyful Noise, please call our office and we would be happy to show you what we do and tell you about our programs. We wish all our church family a Happy Thanksgiving!

Youth Group—Grades 9 & Older

Make new friends, explore your faith & have fun! [See the schedule online](http://www.mppresby.org) 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!



**Saturday
November 19
Fellowship Hall Bistro
Dine In or Take Out
5—8 pm**

Pasta Dinner, Nov. 19th

This full dinner includes bread, salad, beverage and dessert all graciously served by the members of the 2012 Teen Mission Team with a Bistro atmosphere.

Each summer our teens and a few adults travel on a mission trip. 2012's destination is Somerville, Tennessee. The average cost for a mission trip is about \$1,000 per person and through fundraising and donations we keep the out of pocket expense to about \$350 per person for those on the mission team.

We could not go on these life changing trips without your support.

Thank you in advance for supporting our Pasta Dinner and Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale in the coming weeks!

Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale

Place your orders now! Please pre-order! Thank you! Sale the first weekend of December from 9 am to 4 pm. Wreaths available on Nov. 28.



Have
You
Pledged?

Stewardship

Have you received your pledge card for 2012? Any pledge amount helps us create the budget so please remember to turn in your 2012 pledge today.

**Vendor Sale!
Sat., Nov. 19
11 am to 7 pm**

Westminster Hall

**Fundraiser for the Church!
Do your Christmas Shopping
Here and Help Our Ministries!**

Celebrations

Happy November Birthday to:

Blaicher, Lorraine	NOV 1
Morgan, Lora	NOV 1
Simmons, James	NOV 1
Cusmano, Paul	NOV 2
Harrison, Bill	NOV 2
Tryon, Justin	NOV 2
Young, Suzanne	NOV 2
Martella, Joey	NOV 3
Frost, Jeanne	NOV 4
Traub, Olivia	NOV 4
Beal, Juliana	NOV 5
Granade, Matthew	NOV 5
Houston, Evelyn	NOV 5
Morgan, Daniel	NOV 6
Silvestri, Cindy	NOV 6
Housel, Shelly	NOV 7
Yoshioka, Amber	NOV 7
Sandberg, Kyle	NOV 8
Kavaja, Shannon Lynn	NOV 9
Felts, Pietra	NOV 10
Mills, Ruth	NOV 10
Talbert, Grace	NOV 10
McHugh, Phil	NOV 12
Hill, Maggie	NOV 13
Vorsheim, Jack	NOV 13
Rubin, Rich	NOV 16
Wright, Rich	NOV 16
Hartle, Lara	NOV 18
Cusmano, Natalie	NOV 20
Morgan, Joan	NOV 23
Moore, Bill	NOV 24
Ludwig, Dale	NOV 25
McHugh, Kathy	NOV 25
Minor, Elissa	NOV 25
Mull, Alicia	NOV 25

Blythe, Liz	NOV 26
Kieliszewski, Angie*	NOV 29
Cumming, Liz	NOV 30
Jain, Melissa	NOV 30
Wurster, Annaliese	NOV 30

“Welcome!

Welcome!”

*Always
said with
a smile.....*



...that is our very own Mrs. Jean Kindberg! Everyone knows Jean! She never hesitates to share her smile or a handshake or her warm welcome!

Don't hesitate if you're ever looking for Jean because this lady does not slow down! She is busier than a bee! Not only is she an active grandmother, this delightful woman makes and serves lunch to the Red Cross staff on Blood Drive Saturdays, she organizes the kitchen in Westminster Hall, breakfasts and dinners for the congregation,

funeral and concert receptions and then there's our Coffee Hour.....

We always have coffee and tea and goodies on Sundays at 10 AM thanks to Jean Kindberg and her many helpers.

Jean, we give you a million thanks and at least a million more for all that you do for all of us. You are a living example of Christian Love and Hospitality!

Here's the deal, at the young age of 83, Jean is retiring from her many hospitality roles at PCMP.

Jean is ready to pass the torch to a few others. You have the wonderful opportunity to learn from Jean and work along side of her until December 31st and then Jean is passing the torch along to a few new people.

We doubt that most of you would like to live without coffee and goodies so it is up to you to step forward and take charge of one of the many things Jean currently handles. We need people to:

- Inventory and order supplies
- Set Up
- Serve
- Clean Up
- Coordinate

Speak to Jean this Sunday for more info and be sure to thank her.

Community

Benefit Concert Success!

The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains would like to thank the congregation and all those who attended the Market Street Mission Benefit Concert On Friday, Oct. 21. A generous offering was received totaling \$3,531. This will help with the restoration of the Mission's Thrift Shop that was damaged during hurricane Irene. We thank all the musicians and singers for sharing their talent. We especially thank our Director of Music, Skip Yingling, who planned and directed the entire event.

The PCMP Missions Ministry donated \$1,200 to the Market Street Mission for a grand total of \$4,731.00 given to the Market Street Mission. **Alleluia!**

Rally Day Bingo Challenge

Who remembers the Bingo Challenge Scott Blythe put together for Rally Day? Prizes were awarded to the first ones to complete the People Bingo Challenge. Many of you have requested the answers so here they are:

1. Who has an identical twin?
Becca Swope
2. Who likes to do Dutch oven cooking?
Ginny Fisher

3. Who traveled to Europe at the age of 12 alone by ship to visit unknown relatives?
Caroline Grossmann
4. Who has run a marathon in 3 hours and 42 minutes?
Ron Kieliszewski
5. Who has visited all 50 US states and all Canadian provinces?
Kim Smith
6. Who was a Sweet Adeline for 25 years?
Ruth Otey
7. Who attended a worship service where Dakota Fanning was baptized?
Skip Yingling
8. Who in the past has lived in Jordan and Taiwan?
Alan Fu
9. Who drove a car when he was 2 years old?
Shaji Eapen
10. Who was raised in the Moravian Church?
Debbie Rossetti
11. Who speaks fluent Spanish?
Nancy Hulst-Rubin
12. Who has been collecting baseball cards for 25 years?
Katrina Poage

We are all unique and interesting people from amazing backgrounds. We are all Children of God. Together we are the Body of Christ.

THE PCMP CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**SUNDAY, DEC. 11
7:00 pm**



FEATURING:

**THE WALSH MEMORIAL BELL CHOIR
THE CHANCEL CHOIR & PRAISE BAND**

FREE ADMISSION & RECEPTION

THANKSGIVING SERVICE



Wed., Nov. 23 at 7:30 pm

**Worship with Our Neighbors
AT TRINITY LUTHERN CHURCH**

with Mezza Bells and the Chancel Choir

CITRUS FRUIT SALE

WALSH MEMORIAL BELL CHOIR PROGRAM

The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains
400 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, NJ 07950

Delivery on Saturday, December 10, 2011

Name	Date
Address	Phone
Town	Email (opt.)

	Item	Unit Price	Quantity	Cost
RED GRAPEFRUIT	¼ bu. box (10-12)	13		
	small box (16-24)	19		
	large box (32-48)	33		
NAVEL ORANGES	¼ bu. box (14-20)	15		
	small box (20-40)	21		
	large box (40-80)	36		
RED NAVEL ORANGES	small box (20-40)	21		
	large box (40-80)	36		
FLAMLIN (JUICE) ORANGES	small box (40-62)	20		
	large box (80-125)	34		
TANGELOS	small box (28-62)	20		
	large box (56-125)	34		
SUNBURST TANGERINES	tray box (30)	19		
CITRUS SAMPLER (24 Red Navel Oranges, 12 Red Grapefruit)		35		
R. CITRUS SAMPLER (12 Red Navel Oranges, 6 Red Grapefruit)		20		
TRIO (12 Red Navel Oranges, 12 Red Grapefruit, 12 D'Anjou Pears)		39		
R. TRIO (6 Red Navel Oranges, 6 Red Grapefruit, 6 D'Anjou Pears)		21		
GIFT (12 Red Navel Oranges, 12 Red Grapefruit, 12 Red Delicious Apples)		39		
R. GIFT (6 Red Navel Oranges, 6 Red Grapefruit, 6 Red Delicious Apples)		21		
TRIDLEY (10 Red Navel Oranges, 6 D'Anjou Pears, 6 Red Delicious Apples)		25		
DUO (10 Red Navel Oranges, 12 Sunburst Tangerines)		20		
MIXED (6 Red Navel Oranges, 6 Red Grapefruit, 6 Tangelos)		20		
APPLES ¼ bushel (20-22)		30		
APPLES full bushel (80-88)		65		
PEARS ¼ bushel (20-22)		31		
PEARS full bushel (80-88)		67		
TOTAL COST				\$

Sold by: *GOOD TIDINGS*

Please select one of the following:

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

_____ Customer will pick up at the church on _____ Saturday, December 10. _____ Sunday, December 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

Please make check payable to: *WALSH MEMORIAL BELL CHOIR.*

If you have questions or need further information please contact Carl, (973) 267-1258, carl.bells@mppresby.org.

ALL ORDERS (WITH PAYMENT) MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 20.

Advent Begins November 27

"Advent" means "coming" or "arrival." During the season of Advent, we celebrate Christ's coming into the world and watch with expectant hope for his coming again.

In its historical origins, the season of Advent was patterned after the season of Lent, a six-week period of penitence and preparation for Easter. Similarly, the four weeks of Advent present an opportunity for communal discernment and personal examination, as the church prepares to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord and looks with hope for Christ's return.

Between memory and hope

An excerpt from the [*Companion to the Book of Common Worship*](#) (Geneva Press, 2003, 96)

In Advent we expectantly wait for the One who has already come. We anticipate the promised justice of God's new world, yet we praise God who raised the "righteous branch" to rule with justice and righteousness. We hope for the restoration of the afflicted, the tormented, and the grieving, yet we delight that healing has come in Christ. We long for the beating of swords into plowshares, yet we rejoice that the Prince of Peace has appeared. We yearn for the barren



"Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Revelation 7:12, NRSV

deserts of our inner cities to flourish, yet we laud the desert Rose that has bloomed. We dream of the land where lions and lambs live in harmony, yet we acclaim the child born to lead us into the promised land.

Christ has come! Christ is risen! Christ will come again! In Advent, we are living between the first and the second coming of the Lord.

Mark Your Calendar

Presbyterian Women Dinner
6:00 pm on Friday, December 2
Details will be announced soon.

Hanging of the Greens
4:00 pm, Saturday, December 3
Come out to celebrate the Christmas Season and decorate the church! Pick up your fresh Christmas Tree or Wreaths from the youth group while you're here!
More details about this festive event will be announced soon. **There is something for all ages to do!**

"A Christmas Carol" Theater Event
We have an amazing discount of \$30 per ticket for people to see the play at the FM Kirby Shakespeare Theater in Madison on December 4 at 2:00 pm. Sign up in the church office.

Christmas Concert Dec. 11, 7:00 pm

Be a **Beacon of Light**

The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains
Season of Stewardship

All pledges will be celebrated on Commitment Sunday, November 27

More Community

Occasionally one of our members experiences something out of the ordinary and we like to share it with you. The following story has been copied from a SPCA newsletter.

Why We Love Our Pets. . .

SPCA Cat Saves Her Guardian's Life

"Three years ago Evelyn and Doug Houston fell in love with two calico kittens being fostered by their neighbor Ellen Ryan. They adopted both girls, Patti & Maxine.

A kidney transplant recipient with a compromised immune system, Evelyn became infected with a virus in Paril while visiting her father who was ill. On May 12 she felt quite sick and went to bed early. Not wanting to disturb her, Doug went to the guest room to sleep.

At 4:00 a.m. Maxine hopped up on Evelyn's bed to snuggle as usual. Sensing that Evelyn was unconscious, she raced to the guest bedroom and pounced on Doug. The frantic feline repeatedly pounded Doug's head with hers, wailing incessantly. She raced back to Evelyn's room and leaped onto her bed, howling in

distress. Doug found his wife unconscious, called 911 and Evelyn was taken the emergency room.

Evelyn spent several days in the hospital, first in ICU and then on the cardiac floor, before being released. Her doctor said that if the cat had not alerted Doug to Evelyn's critical condition, she would have flatlined. Maxine had saved her Mom's life!"

Show some extra TLC to your pet today!

If you have a story you'd like to share with the church, please email it to Kim Smith at k.smith@mppresby.org and she will try to fit it into **Good Tidings** some time in the future.

Morristown Salvation Army Angel Tree Program

For the past few years, Joyful Noise and church families have been supporting this wonderful Christmas program. The Salvation Army provides us with TAGS listing the name, age and wishes of a local child. Gifts are purchased, labeled with the child's ID # and dropped off at the church before the deadline. The tags will arrive soon.



Angel Tree

Your chance to give to a child in need

175 LOCAL CHILDREN IN NEED
Angel Tree Tags will be arriving very soon. If you are able, choose a child's tag and provide a Christmas gift. Gifts are to be **UNWRAPPED, tagged** and dropped off in the ATTIC Youth Room. Thank you! **Deadline to return will likely be December 8.**

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 it 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!?!

You do your regular errands, shopping and gift giving with the cards and your church budget receives a boost!

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.



**Every Wednesday
6:15 PM
Pot Luck Dinner
7:00 - Worship
7:30 - Bible Study
7:30 - Club 56**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| Nov.19
11:00 to
4:00 PM | Vendor Event
Enjoy Christmas shopping to benefit outreach projects | Dec. 4
9:00 AM
to 4:00 PM | Christmas Tree & Wreath Sales
on the Church Lawn by teens |
| Nov. 19
5:00 PM
to
8:00 PM | Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser Supporting mission trip to TN by Presbyterian Teens | Dec. 4
2:00 PM | "A Christmas Carol" at the FM Kirby Shakespeare Theater
Great family entertainment |
| Nov. 23

7:30 PM | Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve
Worship Service with our neighbors at Trinity Lutheran Church, Morris Plains | Dec. 5-7 | Joyful Noise Celebrations |
| Dec. 2
6:00 PM | Pres. Women Dinner
Westminster Hall | Dec. 11
7:00 PM | Christmas Concert
Singing & Ringing Choirs |
| Dec. 3
4:00 PM | Hanging of the Greens
Help decorate for the holidays | Dec. 24
4:00 PM
7:00 PM
9:00 PM
11:00 PM | Christmas Eve Worship
Pageant & Family Worship
Candlelight Worship
Candlelight Praise
Candlelight Worship |
| 9:00 AM
to 4:00 PM | Christmas Tree & Wreath Sales
on the Church Lawn by teens | Dec. 25
10:00 AM | Christmas Day Worship
One Service at 10 AM |
| | | Jan. 1, 2012-New Year's Day | Worship
10:00 AM One Service at 10 AM |



**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

Community Thanksgiving Eve, 7:30 PM at Trinity Luthern