



# GOOD TIDINGS

A Monthly Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains

## September 2011

### Special points of interest:

- Wednesday Night Pot Luck Dinner and 1/2 Hour Praise will return on Wed., September 14. Perfect for ALL AGES! Come for dinner and worship or just dinner or just worship! It's casual and upbeat—no worries if you are too busy to bring food—just show up!
- RALLY DAY is 9/18 Worship at 10 AM ONLY and it is Bible Sunday!
- Sunday School begins on Rally Day, 9/18 at 10 AM
- Installation of the Rev. Liz Johnson Blythe and the Rev. Scott Blythe on 9/18 at 4:30 pm in the sanctuary
- See the Missions Bulletin Board for opportunities for you and/or your family to serve locally.

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**Please introduce yourself to your new Co-Pastors and be sure to attend their Installation Service & Reception on Sunday, September 18 at 4:30 pm .**



Dear Saints,

You may have noticed that the Bibles in the pews have changed, as has the translation we are using for preaching. We understand many people have strong feelings about that, but the Worship and Music Ministry, along with the co-pastors, made the decision to return to using the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV). We did so for several reasons.

Because the New International Version (NIV) showed up in the pews at PCMP after the NRSV, it is reasonable to assume that it was developed later, but it is actually the older version having been completed in 1978 by a group of American scholars in New York. The NRSV is a newer translation, completed in 1989, based on newly discovered text and incorporating Jewish texts and scholars in translation.

The stated reason for developing the NIV was to produce a word-for-word and thought-for-thought translation so that the ideas and thoughts the ancient writers were trying to convey would become fresh and evident to us in modern language. However, biblical scholars found that high goal fell short. N.T. Write has written, "With the Greek text in front of me and the NIV beside it, I discovered that the translators had had another principle, considerably higher than the stated one: to make sure that Paul should say what the broadly Protestant and evangelical tradition said he said. ...[I]f a church only, or mainly, relies on the NIV it will, quite simply, never understand what Paul was talking about."

The translators of the NRSV were a broad, ecumenical Christian group of scholars that included protestants, Roman Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, and even Jewish representation for the Old Testament. Their principles of revision were based on improved manuscripts, their desire to eliminate archaism like 'thou' and 'thee' that made reading and comprehension hard for a modern reader, and to be aware of and correct some "linguistic gender sexism" (as Bruce Metzger put it) that are inherent to English, but not to the ancient languages.

The Revised Standard Version (RSV) and the NIV had translated words from Hebrew and Greek that were broad and inclusive using masculine noun in a gender-neutral sense (e.g. "man" instead of "person") and in some cases using a masculine word where the source language used a neuter word. Metzger said that the mandate by which they were working was that, "masculine-oriented language [only] should be eliminated as far as this can be done without altering passages from reflecting the historical situation of ancient patriarchal culture" (e.g. using "brothers and sisters" instead of just "brothers"). Within the NRSV, the translators were careful to note where they made these adjustments.

The NRSV is hailed by many scholars and endorsed by many denominations including our own. After hearing this information, the Worship & Music Ministry voted unanimously to begin using the NRSV. We hope that you will find new riches of language within the NRSV and that it will open to you an even fuller understanding of our God at work in our world for all people.

Peace,

*Liz and Scott*



**Sunday, September 18**  
**ONE WORSHIP at 10 AM**

**Bible Sunday & Sunday School**

## News & Notes

### Announcing Women's Bible Study on the Beatitudes

The study focuses on connecting faith with daily life, and it addresses directly some of the most difficult issues facing the world today: the economy, hunger, poverty, Christian community, water issues, a woman's role in society, faith and the public life, and justice and peace. A tall order! The Beatitudes are some of the most beloved teachings of Jesus, yet they may well be some of the most pointed. We are fortunate that our pastor, Liz Johnson Blythe will lead our lesson on Monday, September 19 at 7:30 PM. ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!

### Copy Cats Luncheon

COPYCATS, a women's lunch group meets monthly on Tuesdays. Contact Caral Harrison or Ellie Laird for info.

### Men's Ministry

Our next breakfast will be Saturday, September 10th at 8:30 AM. Our meetings are held the first and third Mondays at 8:00 PM. **Welcome to All!!!**

### Retired Men's Lunch

Meets monthly. Contact Ed Hill or Frank Poage for info.

### October Newsletter Deadline

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

### Book Club

New members are welcome. Book Club meets on the 4th Monday at 7:30 pm in the Parlor. Come join us in September! BOOK CLUB will be reading Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese for the September 26 meeting at 7:30 PM in the parlor. Marion and Shiva Stone are twin brothers born of a secret union between a beautiful Indian nun and a brash British surgeon. Orphaned by their mother's death and their father's disappearance, bound together by a preternatural connection and a shared fascination with medicine, the twins come of age as Ethiopia hovers on the brink of revolution. Moving from Addis Ababa to New York City and back again, Cutting for Stone is an unforgettable story of love and betrayal, medicine and ordinary miracles--and two brothers whose fates are forever intertwined. Come join us!

### Sunday School is a wonderful place!

It is a place where all children feel loved and treasured. It is a place where they learn about God's love and the love of their church family.

**Will you take a turn** teaching Sunday School to our youngest members?

Contact Becca Swope or Peter VanEeuwen as soon as possible.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS ON 9/18 at 10 AM. Register your children!

### 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.**

### Handbell Opportunities

The Walsh Memorial Bell Choir Program welcomes all adults and children third grade and above who would like to participate in the music ministry of handbells. It is not necessary to be a church member, or to have previous handbell or music experience.

The Bell Choir Program includes several handbell choirs, with ringers generally grouped by age and experience. Handbell choirs rehearse each week and take part regularly in worship services. They may also have opportunities to play outside the church, including extending their musical ministry in the local community and participating in events with other handbell choirs. If you are interested in participating, or have questions about the handbell program, please contact Kathy Opsasnick, ([973-627-6425](tel:973-627-6425), [ringduets@optonline.net](mailto:ringduets@optonline.net)), or Carl Loutzenheiser, ([973-267-1258](tel:973-267-1258), [carl.bells@mppresby.org](mailto:carl.bells@mppresby.org)).

## News for Our Youngest



**Vacation Ventures Thanks**  
Dear Vacation Ventures Staff and Children,

Thank you so much for inviting the Interfaith Food Pantry to be part of your Vacation Ventures program. I so enjoyed "Shaking It Up" with you. The happy and summery cards you made will cheer our home delivery clients. My client put hers right on the refrigerator...with a great big smile!

Thank you for caring and sharing with your Morris County neighbors.

Sincerely,  
Celest Stracco  
Interfaith  
Food Pantry

**A Big Thank you to all the adults and youth** that helped make this years Vacation Ventures a fantastic success.

Sincerely,  
Susan Cate

**And a BIG thank you to Susan Cate** who volunteered to step in after Carie Morgan left and lead our summer VBS program, Vacation Ventures!

### Bible Sunday on 9/18

**All three year old children...  
All third grade students...  
All eighth grade students...**

Will receive new, age appropriate Bibles during worship on Sunday, September 18. We hope you can be here to help us celebrate **During worship at 10 AM!**

### Joyful Noise News

At Joyful Noise we are busy getting ready for the coming year and excited for all that is ahead. On **September 12th**, our doors will open to many returning and new families. We will welcome 220 children this fall (not all at the same time!) who will fill our classrooms, play on our playground, sing, learn, pray and much more. There are joyous days ahead and we do still have some space available, so tell your friends and neighbors!

**We at Joyful Noise appreciate your prayers and your support as we begin the new school year.**

Jane Whitehead,  
Director of Joyful Noise  
973-539-9514

## Celebrations



### Happy September Birthday to:

Zochowski-Thomas, Preston	SEP 1
Hill, Christopher	SEP 2
Thorne, Colby	SEP 3
Emmons, Joan	SEP 6
Mulvey, Shannon	SEP 6
Rossetti, Debbie	SEP 6
Evans, Eleanor	SEP 7
Van Orden, Amanda*	SEP 7
Fink, David	SEP 9
Wright, Cindy	SEP 9
Kull, Erika	SEP 11
Stock, Kari	SEP 12
Van Eeuwen, Emily	SEP 15
Banagan, Ruth	SEP 17
Caccavale, Joe	SEP 18
Kinney, Enid	SEP 18
Hults-Rubin, Nancy	SEP 19
Pitts, Rob	SEP 20
Cantrell, Sarah	SEP 21
Huhn, Karen	SEP 21
Cady, Adam	SEP 22
Hyde, Carl	SEP 22
Traver, Emma	SEP 23
Nutter, Angela	SEP 24
Chambers, John	SEP 25
Grandusky, Michele	SEP 27
Kern, Ryan	SEP 27
Nunn, Candy	SEP 27
Harrison, Caral	SEP 30
Stabbert, Evan	SEP 30

### Happy Anniversary to:

Paul & Terri Cusmano	SEP 2
Herb & Marge George	SEP 8
Rich & Cindy Wright	SEP 10
Karen & David Simmons	SEP 24
Amy & Heath Traver	SEP 30



**October 1**  
Saturday  
9 am—5 pm  
In the  
Church  
Parking Lot  
\$15 each  
Please SignUp

### Presbyterian Women Plan Ocean Grove Getaway September 17 & 18

PW's "Getaway Retreat" at the Grove Hall Retreat Center – just an hour away at the Jersey Shore. Questions? Call Laurie Fu at 973-605-8602.

### Invite Someone to Worship the Lord!

9/4 at 10 AM
9/10 at 8:30 AM (Men's Breakfast)
9/11 at 10 AM
9/14 at 7 PM
9/18 at 10 AM
9/21 at 7 PM
9/25 at 9 and 11 AM
9/28 at 7 PM



### Calling all women of the church to Rise and Shine!

We are hosting Newton Presbytery's Presbyterian Women's Fall Gathering on Saturday, September 24, 2011 and we need your help!

Please consider volunteering to make finger sandwiches, bar cookies or attend this worthwhile, spiritual event and help serve and welcome our guests from all over Newton Presbytery.



**Registration** is from 9:00 - 9:30AM

**Program** is from 9:30 - 2:00 pm

Come and Rise and Shine! Through Bible Study - the Beatitudes

- Rise and Shine! Through the Presbytery's Kenya Partnership
- Rise and Shine! Through Music and Worship.
- Rise and Shine! Through fellowship over a delicious lunch
- Rise and Shine! Through service to others

Cost for the day is only \$5.00

**Call Dois Christians at 973-383-6126 to register.**

Child care provided on request.

**To volunteer see Laurie Fu, Cathy Brabandt or call Kathy McNall (973-627-8708)**

## Community

### Dear Friends,

Words cannot express my gratitude to the members of the Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains for the outpouring of love you expressed to me during the time of my husband's funeral.

I appreciate the food, your cards and words of encouragement. I also am so thankful for the many volunteers who filled in for me in the Church office during that week. I am blessed to work in such a wonderful church.

Ginny Jerr, *Church Secretary*



### FAMILY FUN DAY

Fun Fall festival is on **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15** here at the church! **NOW IS THE TIME** to invite your friends and family!

**NOW is the time** to contact Ginny Fisher or Nancy Hults-Rubin to find out where you are needed. 10 am to 2 pm.

### RALLY DAY at 10 AM on Sept. 18

One worship at 10 AM. Bible Sunday! Sunday School Commissioning and Beginning! Special Reception! Be there!

### Volunteer Opportunities

Visit the newly designed and updated website, [www.vmcnj.org](http://www.vmcnj.org), and explore the possibilities for both individuals and groups to volunteer in our area **OR** consider helping one of the many ministries within our church.

### Dear Friend of Market Street Mission,

Many of you have asked what our needs are at the Mission and how you and your church/ministry/organization can help us. We have an ongoing need for clothing and personal hygiene items for the men in our recovery program.

We currently are running low on many items especially the following:

- T-shirts XL, 2X
- Boxers Lg., XL., 2X
- Socks- white
- Double blade disposable razors
- Deodorant

As always, your friendship is important to us and we are thankful for your faithful support of the Mission, which helps us minister to those in need.

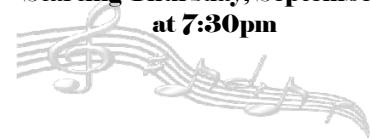
Sincerely,  
Nancy C. Hanna, *Volunteer Coordinator*

### Served at the Soup Kitchen

**Thank you** to Robert and Daniela Traub for volunteering their time on Wednesday, August 24th to serve at the Community Soup Kitchen in Morristown. Their help was appreciated by all.

## CHANCEL CHOIR

**Thursday Night Rehearsals  
Starting Thursday, September 8  
at 7:30pm**



## PRAISE TEAM

**Wednesday Night Rehearsals  
at 6pm**

**Sunday Morning Rehearsals 45 min-  
utes prior to Worship Services  
Starting Wednesday, September 7  
Sunday, September 11**

**All who have a musical gift to share  
are welcome to join us!**

Contact Skip Yingling, Minister of Music  
[s.yingling@mppresby.org](mailto:s.yingling@mppresby.org)  
973-539-3481 ext. 15

## Everyone is Welcome to Worship the Lord

### **Magic Pennies—Scrip Program**

Gift cards are available each week during Coffee Hour for Target, Walmart, Shoprite, Acme, Stop&Shop, gas stations, grocery stores, restaurants, American Express, **hotels & travel**, most stores and even online stores such as Amazon.com + more. **Stop by the Magic Pennies table in Westminster Hall to see just how easy and convenient** this program is and how it can benefit **your church!** Contact Susan Weismantel for info at [psaweis mantel@optonline.net](mailto:psaweis mantel@optonline.net) or visit the [www.glscrip.com](http://www.glscrip.com) website for full details.

### **Youth Group—Grades 8-12**

Make new friends, explore your faith & have fun! [See the schedule online](#) at [www.mppresby.org](http://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—7** 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!

### **RALLY DAY & BIBLE SUNDAY—9/18**

**One Worship at 10 AM followed by an extended celebration in Westminster Hall. Sunday School Teachers will be commissioned. Bibles will be given out to 3 year olds and students in grades 3 and 8. Sunday School will begin! It's a great day in the life of our church!**

### *Installation*

The Installation Service for The Rev. Liz Johnson Blythe and The Rev. Scott Blythe, Co-Pastors, will be held in the sanctuary on Sunday, September 18th at 4:30 pm.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

There will be a Reception following the service in Westminster Hall.  
Please join us!

To allow space for our guests, please park at Provident Bank or in the lot between Dunkin Donuts & Friendly's  
For the Installation.  
Thank you!

Everyone is  
Welcome Here!

### Worship Schedule

Wednesdays  
7 to 7:30 PM  
Resumes 9/14  
With the Praise Team  
(Pot Luck Dinner 6:15)

Summer  
Sundays  
at 10 AM

FALL SCHEDULE RESUMES on  
9/25 at 9 am and 11 am

2nd Saturdays  
WILL BE HELD  
September 10  
8:30 to 9:30 AM  
At the MEN'S  
BREAKFAST & PRAISE



The  
Presbyterian Church  
of Morris Plains

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TO:

EVERYONE is welcome here to worship the Lord!

Sun. at 9 & 11 AM Begins on 9/25 Wed. at 7 PM on 9/14