

# The Cranbury Presbyterian

*"We praise God that we are called to serve Christ in love. We invite others to join us in this calling."*

(From our Mission Statement)

22 South Main Street, Cranbury, NJ 08512

Phone: 609-395-0897

Fax: 609-860-6352

Email: [firstpresoffice@comcast.net](mailto:firstpresoffice@comcast.net)

Website: [www.cranburypres.org](http://www.cranburypres.org)

January 2011

## **From the Pastor...**

### **New Life Resolutions**

New Year is traditionally a time for making resolutions. Perhaps the most common resolution is losing some of the weight gained over the holidays. Others may be to quit smoking or become more organized. Resolutions show a desire for new habits or patterns in our lives that will help make us better, or at least thinner, people. The Christian life is certainly about new patterns and dimensions in life. The Apostle Paul, at II Corinthians 5:17 says, *So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!* Part of being a Christian means living a new life. In another place, the Apostle tells us what that new life is supposed to look like. At Galatians 5:16-25 he writes,

<sup>16</sup> Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>22</sup> By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. <sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Our lives are to be lived in and guided by God's Spirit. The Holy Spirit's presence in our lives brings forth fruit. The fruit of the Spirit is the nine-fold process that every Christian should resolve, with the help of God's Spirit, to develop in his or her life. These characteristics--love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control--should describe each and every one of us at First Presbyterian Church. This New Year let's make the fruit of the Spirit our New Year, indeed our new life, resolution.

*Blessings, Lou*

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!**

**The Annual Meeting of the Congregation**  
will take place immediately following the  
morning worship service on  
Sunday, January 30, 2011 in the Sanctuary.

### **NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS FOR 2011**

**Monday – Thursday:** 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
(Open all day)

**Friday:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
(Closed from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.)

**From Pastor Rosanna...**

**Good Books Waiting for You!**

Just the other day, I was in the church library for a meeting. Afterward, I noticed a recent book on the shelf by an author whose work I have enjoyed in the past. I didn't realize she had written this new book! Of course, I filled in the card and left it on the desk so that I could start reading it right away.

Perhaps one of your new year's resolutions is to read more books in 2011. Our church library is a wonderful resource for interesting and inspiring books. The library committee does an excellent job of bringing in new books and making a wide range of media available to us all. So the next time you are in the Fellowship Hall building, stop by the library. You never know what good books you will find waiting for you!

Grace and peace, Rosanna

**ADULT EDUCATION**

**Adult Classes during Sunday School Hour (9:15-10:15 a.m.)**

**January 9, 2011:** Bob Kane will lead a new six week series introducing the New Testament epistle "Hebrews" in the Library.

**ADULT EDUCATION AT OTHER TIMES**

**Cranbury Men's Bible Study: Sundays 7:30-9:00 p.m. at The Cranbury Inn:** All men are invited to join us in this relaxed setting for our study of the Westminster Confession of Faith, in the *Book of Confessions*, Part I of the Constitution of the PC(USA). Weekly themes are the starting point for our conversation about confessing Christ in our contemporary context. For more information, please contact Mike Kasper at [cwcollector@aol.com](mailto:cwcollector@aol.com) or Clifford Anderson at [clifford.anderson@ptsem.edu](mailto:clifford.anderson@ptsem.edu). **Please note:** We will not be meeting on Sunday, January 2.

**Martha Circle Women's Bible Study: First Monday of the Month, 1:30 p.m. in the Library.** Rose Eller will lead our group on the first Monday of each month. Our study is *Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today* by Barbara Rossing, the PC(USA) Horizons Bible study. All women are welcome to join us!

**CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Thank you very much to all the students and teachers who gathered for Christmas caroling in the balcony of the Sanctuary before worship on December 19. May the light of Christ shine in your heart and life during 2011 and always!

**"Kids and Communion"**

Students in the Second Grade Sunday School class and their parents are invited to attend this workshop about being welcomed to the Lord's Supper on Sunday, January 30 at 9:15 a.m. Pastor Rosanna will lead this class in the Sanctuary.

**Pre School**

Date	Kindergarten	3-4 Year-Olds
Jan 2	Jesus' Birth Lesson 5	
Jan 9	Jesus Cares Lesson 6	
Jan 16	Jesus Cares Lesson 7	
Jan 23	Jesus Cares Lesson 8	
Jan 30	Jesus Cares Lesson 9	

**Grade 1 to 4 Workshop Rotations**

Date	Workshop Rotation Bible Story
Jan 2	Jesus spoke with Tax Collector Zaccheus, who returned people double what he owed
Jan 9	Tax Collector
Jan 16	Celebration Sunday
Jan 23	Tax Collector
Jan 30	God called David the shepherd to become King of Israel

**5th and 6th Grades**

Date	Old Testament Curriculum
Jan 2	Section 7 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles
Jan 9	Section 7 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles
Jan 16	Section 8 Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job
Jan 23	Section 8 Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job
Jan 30	Section 9 I know Hebrew History!

**Youth Class** covers a variety of topics dealing with ethical questions that teens face in their everyday lives. Currently the Youth Class is exploring the question of what it means to be a "Christian" and how this differs from the labels of "Presbyterian", "Catholic", etc... To supplement our discussion we have been watching a video series titled "Real Faith TV" which explores similar topics in our discussion.

**CONFIRMATION CORNER**

- Jan. 2 Class resumes by learning about who the Holy Spirit is and what he does: questions and answers #53-55 in the *Study Catechism*.
- Jan. 9 Class meets and students assist in leading the 10:30 a.m. worship service.
- Jan. 16 No confirmation class, but students who are in town come to the evening interfaith community Martin Luther King, Jr. worship service.
- Jan. 23 Class meets in the McKnight Room as usual.
- Jan. 30 Class meets and we have the first group dinner with mentors from 5-6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Thank you in advance to the Huselid, Moy and Santoro families who graciously volunteered to host the dinner for us!

**CPNS NEWS**

We hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas Holidays and began a very happy healthy New Year. Happy 2011!

The month of January brings cold, snowy days and CPNS gets bundled up in our comfy, cozy pajamas for our P/J Pancake Days. We look forward to this time when we all

wear our pajamas to school and our parents help make delicious pancake treats for all of us. If you happen to be in our building on those days (January 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>) don't be surprised if you smell some delicious things, and see us all ready for bed.

Our Special Person's Day is celebrated on Saturday, January 29, with a snow date of Saturday, February 5. Each child brings a special person to school with them, and they get to share what they do at school with their own special person. It's a fun and exciting time for everyone.

The second session of our Enrichment classes begins in February. We will continue to offer our Power of Play, Art & Literacy, Science & Math, and Mommy's Morning Out. We have a few openings left for some of the Winter/Spring programs. Call or email to register today.

Our registration process for the school year 2011-2012 began in November, and the general public registration took place on December 1. We continue to offer a 4-day, 4/5-year old class with an added enrichment component. Don't miss out on the opportunity of having your child attend CPNS. Please feel free to call Janice Parker at 655-8663 for any information about our nursery school or e-mail us at [CPNSchool@comcast.net](mailto:CPNSchool@comcast.net). Please share the news with friends and neighbors.

We want to thank our retiring board members for all the time and expertise they shared with CPNS. They make our school an extra special place for everyone. A big thank you to Jody Eberly and Craig Vandenberg whose term has expired for their dedicated service to CPNS. Claudette Guy's 3-year term has expired; however she has agreed to do another term and has been nominated as our Moderator for 2011. We want to thank Amy Dixon for serving as our moderator this past year and all of our board members who contributed so much in making CPNS such a special place for children.

We wish everyone warm, loving thoughts as we go through these cold winter months.

Have a Happy, Healthy, New Year!  
Your Friends at CPNS



### **CONGREGATIONAL LIFE NEWS**

#### **CRANBURY COFFEE HOUSE**

As you know the Coffee House is a venue to showcase local musical talent with musical genres such as Jazz, Folk, Acoustic Rock, String Quartet, Barbershop Quartet, Open Mike, Oldies & Brass Band. Our next Coffee House will be February 11. The doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the music will start at 7:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. Jack Jona will be performing and his music is the Big Band Sound. Opening for Jack Jona

will be Paige and Clark Stewart, performing American Songbook songs. We hope you will all mark your calendars and let all your friends and neighbors know about this wonderful opportunity.

Tickets for the February show are \$8.00 per adult, and \$5.00 for children under 12. Refreshments will be available at an additional cost. Dinners are available by ordering them in advance on our website under the link to Cranbury Delights.

Just a reminder, proceeds less expenses benefit Skeet's Food Pantry & the Deacons' Benevolence Fund. Not only do you have the opportunity to relax and listen to wonderful music with friends, but you help those in need in our community.

For more information about how you can help please contact George Conley on his email: [geolive60@aol.com](mailto:geolive60@aol.com). We are still looking for an individual who would be able to help with the press releases. For information about the Cranbury Coffee House please go to our website at [www.cranburycoffeehouse.com](http://www.cranburycoffeehouse.com).

We thank you in advance for all your help and support.

### **MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS**

#### **Stephanie Hodul**

I am a 2008 graduate of The College of New Jersey and currently work in the field of physical therapy. I enjoy sports, traveling and cooking. My fiancé, Bryan Nemeth, and I recently bought a house in Hamilton Square and are looking forward to being a part of this congregation. I am excited to assist in mission work and meeting other members of the church and community.

#### **Bryan Nemeth**

I am a graduate of Rutgers University and have been working there for six years. I grew up in Morris County, but recently bought a home with my fiancée, Stephanie Hodul, in Hamilton Square. I attended a Catholic church growing up as a kid, but have been without religion for some time. I look forward to meeting members of this church and helping out in any way possible.

#### **Beatrice Mabutho**

I was born in Queenstown, South Africa into the Presbyterian Church of Africa. I was the third child of Henry and Eslinah Mabutho. I graduated from the Livingstone College of Nursing in general midwifery and psychiatric nursing. In 1977, I left South Africa for England and from England to Houston, Texas. In December 1983 I moved to New Jersey where I received my bachelor's degree in nursing from New Jersey City University, formerly known as Jersey City College. In 2005, I received a master's in nursing administration and a master's degree in public administration from Kean University in Union. I am currently employed by UMDNJ in Newark as a health care case manager. I have never been married and have no children. I would like to serve as a deacon. Thank you for having me in this wonderful church and community.

## **MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS NEWS**

### **GUATEMALA DINNER FUNDRAISER**

Our Sixth Annual gourmet dinner to support our Guatemala mission is quickly approaching. Don't miss the wonderful opportunity for church fellowship, entertainment and a delicious meal. There are a limited number of tickets being sold, so buy them today.

We will be serving dinner on Friday, January 28 and on Saturday, January 29 beginning at 7:00 p.m. with open seating beginning at 6:30 p.m. As you dine on Friday, you will be serenaded by classical music and on Saturday you will be serenaded by a local pianist and a barbershop quartet. The cost of the meal will be \$50.00 per person (remember this is a fundraiser). You may want to attend both evenings to experience the variety of entertainment being offered. We will be selling only a limited number of tickets, so plan on buying your ticket early. They are on sale now and will be available during coffee hour (see Lil or George Conley) or call the church office.

We are offering a filet mignon, grilled salmon or stuffed chicken as your main entrees along with all the trimmings and a delicious desert to top it off.

Checks can be made payable to The First Presbyterian Church (tax deductible) memo: Guatemala dinner. Any amount above the \$50.00 fee will be greatly appreciated.

Please save this date, we are counting on you for our success in this project.

George Conley, Guatemalan Team, (609) 395-0513

## **OUTREACH NEWS**

### **Book of the Month Club: Philippians**

What better book to curl up with during the long winter months than the Bible?

Beginning in January, the Outreach Committee will be hosting an informal book club. Each month, we will encourage all members in the congregation to read the same book of the Bible and to spend time with other members and friends sharing thoughts and discussions on the book. The first book to be read in January will be Philippians.

There are so many ways to share your thoughts. Get together for coffee, take a walk together, chat during Coffee Hour, start a group in your home, call a member you have wanted to reach out to. We will also be able to participate on line with the newly created Bible Blog on the church website. The first entry in the blog will be written by Pastor Rosanna. Check out the front page of the website for further information on the blog.

Sharing the good news of the Bible... a joyful way to start the New Year!

## **OTHER NEWS**

**SAVE THE DATE - WOMEN'S RETREAT:** Please join us at the **Women's Retreat**, sponsored by Monmouth Presbytery at Camp Johnsonburg **April 8 to 10**. The theme will be *The Spirituality of Women: Finding Time for God and Ourselves in the world in which we live*. It promises to be a wonderful weekend of fellowship and reflection with women of all ages from our church and the entire Presbytery. The cost is \$100.00 and you can pick up a registration form in the church office. For further information, please contact Joanne Petto or Anne Gordon.

## **PRESBYTERY HAPPENINGS**

### **At the Manasquan First Presbyterian Church Tuesday November 23, 2010**

By Don Winchell

During the Mission Council meeting on October 14, 2010, the Moderator Sue McPherson announced that New Brunswick Presbytery had approved the job description for the shared Regional Executive Presbyter position that was recently approved by Monmouth Presbytery. It was moved and carried to recommend that the Presbytery create a temporary, half-time position for the Interim Executive Presbyter position for Monmouth Presbytery, beginning as early as January 1, 2011. A called pro re nata meeting of Presbytery for November 11, 2010 for the purpose of acting on a recommendation to create a temporary, half-time position for the Interim Executive Presbyter for Monmouth Presbytery. I attended that meeting. Whereas the action was tabled until the November 23 Presbytery meeting.

On November 23, 2010, at the Pre-Presbytery meeting presentation on the Belhar Confession, chaired by the Rev. David McKiracan, Senior Pastor at the Shrewsbury Presbyterian Church. Quite a bit of discussion both pro and con developed among the commissioners in attendance.

Following the Worship Service, the Moderator, Elder Sue McPherson opened and convened the Presbytery with Prayer at 7:30 P.M. Normal business items were presented via the Mission Council, COM, CPM, MDSC group and the Nominating Committee. At this time during the meeting, Moderator Sue was feeling ill and the Vice Moderator, the Rev. Rob Carter moderated the balance of the meeting.

The Rev. Bill Jordon submitted his resignation as Executive Presbyter of Monmouth Presbytery, effective December 31, 2010. Bill will retire from active ministry service and has requested Honorably Retired (HR) status. This was granted by COM. He also asked for his name to be added to guest preacher list.

COM recommended that a contract be offered to the Rev. Carlos Rivera, a minister in New Brunswick Presbytery, for part time services as an evangelist. This would be a shared position among Monmouth, New Brunswick and West Jersey Presbyteries. This was approved.

The Rev. Myrlene Hamilton had been elected as chair of the Regional Executive Presbyter Search committee.

The Presbytery Office is moving. The rent was projected to increase significantly at our current location. The relationship with our current landlord has become untenable. The present lease expires on February 1, 2011. The Presbytery approved the following locations: For the office: a 1490 square foot space in Cherry Tree Plaza, located on the southbound side of Rt. 9, about one mile north of I-195. For the resource center: shared space at the Lakewood Hope Presbyterian Church.

The Belhar Confession after considerable discussion did pass. The moderator had appointed an Administration Commission to be available for dialogue with Sessions and Congregations on the impact of a possible majority vote by presbyteries on Amendment 10-A on ordination standards.

My commentary: One of the reasons articulated for voting against Amendment 10-1, the proposed new Form of Government (nFOG), is the effect 10-A may have on the transferability of ministers of the word and sacrament. Where ministers could face 173 presbyteries, each with a different criteria for membership. Dependent on the standards that each presbytery may impose in relation to Amendment 10-A; in reference to the current G-6.0106b, the constitutional fidelity/chastity ordination requirements. The voting thus far on Amendment A is: 6 for and 18 presbyteries opposing passage of the proposed language. I share with you a quotation that I read recently: "When your presbytery votes on the new Form of Government, Amendment 10-1, you might consider asking why it is necessary, how this particular form of government is better than the current form of government."

Several committees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) are inviting input from "the Church" on matters before them. The Form of Government Task Force, The Special Committee on Civil Unions and Christian Marriage, and the review committee of the Washington Office all are openly asking for feedback. Many in the church are seeking communication.

#### **SENIOR BREAKFAST CLUB NEWS**

Please join us on January 27, 2011 when Judy Grignon will talk about her organization, "Farmers Against Hunger."

The Senior Breakfast Club is open to all who wish to hear these talks at our Thursday, once-a-month breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at the Cranbury Inn in Cranbury, New Jersey. If you wish to attend, and have not done so before, please notify the church office at 609-395-0897 so that we can contact you. We need to notify the Cranbury Inn with a head count of the guests that wish to attend.

#### **SENIOR FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

#### **BEARS – BEARS – BEARS EXERCISE CLASS DRESSES BEARS**

Members of the Senior Exercise Class purchased 54 teddy bears and then dressed them in adorable bear outfits – baby bears, sports bears, little boy and girl bears and sent them to Better Beginnings Day Care Center in Hightstown. Each child in the three pre-school classes received a bear. The joy each child showed when receiving a bear exhibits how much everyone loves teddy bears! This is an annual project for this group and just grows each year; 2010's effort has been the largest number of bears going to a charitable group ever.

Senior Fellowship exercise class is currently keeping a waiting list. If you would like to be placed on the waiting list, please call the church office at (609) 395-0897.

#### **EXERCISE SCHEDULE**

January 3, January 6, January 10, January 13  
January 17, January 20, January 24, January 27  
January 31

#### **Upcoming Event**

Join Senior Fellowship for our Program Visions in Stone, Tuesday, January 18 at 12 noon. We will also have our annual hot dog and beans lunch. We will view the DVD Visions in Stone on our big screen in Fellowship Hall. This movie made by the US Navy and Maturango Museum features some of the most stunning rock art videography ever recorded. These petroglyphs were discovered by the US Navy during WWII on their bombing range in the Coso Mountain Range, on the western edge of California's Mojave Desert. Theories of the how, the when and the why of the petroglyphs are explored in interviews with archaeologists and others who study rock art.

This program is brought to us and will be introduced by artist Milt Liebson, PhD. who was a professor at the New School in NYC and also Mercer County College. Milt has exhibited large sculptures in metal wood and stone worldwide and is exhibited in various museums.

If you are not on the Senior Fellowship call list and want to attend this program please contact Connie Bauder or the church office 609-395-0897 by Tuesday, January 11. When you call, be prepared to tell us how many hot dogs you would like us to grill for you.

#### **Program Schedule**

Senior Fellowship is open to all seniors in the church or community. We have a wonderful group and would like to have you join us. We provide rides for those who need them. The Senior Fellowship coordinator is Connie Bauder. If you have any questions, please contact Connie.

**STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS**

**Stewardship Campaign Update**

We are happy to report that as the current year comes to a close, the financial condition of our Church remains healthy. Through the efforts of the Session, all Committees and your financial support, we were able to finish the year 2010 without having to use any funds from our Rainy Day Fund to balance the budget. This is the first year out of the last three that we were able to accomplish this. Again, thank you.

While 2010 is ending on a positive note, Session has been in the process of developing a budget for 2011. A key ingredient to that discussion, of course, is pledge commitments from all of you. The Stewardship Campaign for the 2011 budget year is nearing its conclusion. If you have already pledged, thank you! If you have not yet submitted your pledge form and time and talent survey, please give prayerful thought in completing your pledge for 2011 - soon.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss any of the stewardship materials or any other matters regarding our Church please call the church office or any members of the Stewardship & Finance Committee.

The S&F Committee

Ken Gordon, Barrie Sutton, Courtney Brown, Alan Danser, Craig Vandenberg, George Smith and Lou Mitchell

**YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS**

**Youth Group Activities for January**

- Jan. 9 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Youth Group meeting on the Fourth Commandment: Sabbath-keeping
- Jan. 16 (holiday weekend) 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Field trip to the community MLK Worship Service at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 41 John St., Hightstown
- Jan. 23 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Gingerbread cookie baking/decorating with Bev Gerberich  
ALSO: Students make announcement in worship regarding the hoagie sale fundraiser for the Youth Mission Trip 2011
- Jan. 30 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall and Kitchen: Confirmation class dinner with Mentors  
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Youth Group meeting in the McKnight Room with discussion led by Kurt Heineman

<p><b><u>Worship Service</u></b> 10:30 a.m. Worship (Childcare provided)</p>	<p><b><u>Staff</u></b> Rev. Dr. Louis Mitchell, Pastor Rev. Rosanna Anderson, Associate Pastor Rev. Joanne Petto, Parish Associate Kurt Heineman, Seminary Intern</p>	<p><b><u>NEW Church Office Hours</u></b> Monday through Thursday open all day from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  Friday open from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Closed 12:00 noon to 1:00p.m.)  <b>Closed: 1/3 and 1/17</b></p>	<p><i>"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases."</i> <b>(Lamentations 3:22)</b></p>
<p><b><u>Cranbury Presbyterian Nursery School (CPNS)</u></b> Janice Parker, Director Phone: 609-655-8663 <a href="mailto:cpnschool@comcast.net">cpnschool@comcast.net</a>  <b>Closed: 1/17</b></p>	<p>You can view the monthly newsletter, calendar and hear past sermons on our website at <a href="http://www.cranburypres.org">www.cranburypres.org</a>.  If you have suggestions, or want to submit information to be included on the website, send your request to <a href="mailto:webmaster@cranburypres.org">webmaster@cranburypres.org</a>. Requests made by Wednesday will be posted on the website by Saturday.</p>	<p>The deadline for the <b><u>February Newsletter is due on January 20, 2010</u></b>. If possible, please submit articles as attachments via email to: <a href="mailto:FirstPresOffice@comcast.net">FirstPresOffice@comcast.net</a></p>	<p><b><u>Dates and Deadlines</u></b> 1/9 <b>Annual Reports Due</b> 1/13 <b>9:00a</b> Session Material Due 1/18 <b>7:30p</b> Session Meeting 1/20 Newsletter Articles Due 1/30 Annual Meeting of the Congregation (11:30 a.m.)</p>