



The Towne Crier

The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury

352 Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

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February, 2012

David's Page

We don't begin dismantling the Christmas tree until Epiphany has rolled past. Christmas isn't done until the Magi make it to the Christ Child. The overweight star going up in the sanctuary is our signal to bring the boxes down from the attic and start the process of stashing the delicate bits of our celebration that grace the branches of our evergreen visitor.

But this year it had to admitted that the tree for a while, and though it drooping and it was is hard to let go. The de-beginning of the ebbing of that dominate our décor for that light is the signal that solemn bit they return to pages of recycled Time and

"We are called by life's requirements . . . to the harsher demands of a faith living in a world that rarely takes a moment to remember the possibility of angels' song."

start earlier. I reluctantly hadn't been drinking water remained green, was becoming brittle. Christmas twinkling of the tree is just a the tide of angels and Santa's the season. But turning off we must move on. Bit by their cocoons of tissue and New Yorker magazines.

Epiphany's symbol is the star, light shinning on a dark world. Part of that darkness is getting on with business as we leave the warmth and take-our-breath-away glory of Nativity's imminence. The necessity of getting the car inspected won't wait for our reluctance. We are called by life's requirements beyond the fuzzy presence of an infantile faith, twinkling in tears and tree lights, to the harsher demands of a faith living in a world that rarely takes a moment to remember the possibility of angels' song. Christmas demands our attention. We come back to hard choices in Epiphany, where the world's demands are more insistent. But as we move on, so the Lord moves with us, through the dark days, beneath the star.

I guess it helps to see such things from a theological perspective. I'm still working on the metaphysical ramifications of pine needles stuck in the rugs.

The Presbyterian Church

At Shrewsbury

352 Sycamore Ave.
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702
Tel. 732-747-3557
Fax 732-747-5512
Email pcas@verizon.net
[www. TPCAS.org](http://www.TPCAS.org)

Sunday Adult Education Classes	9:15am
Sunday Worship Service	10:30am
Sunday School	10:45am
Coffee Hour	11:45am
Tuesday Bible Study	10:00am

CHURCH STAFF MEMBERS

Pastor	Rev. C. David McKirachan
Director Christian Education	Sherry Adler
Bell Choir Director	Robyn Ioviero
Administrative Assistant	Jim Powers-Hill
Sexton	Juan Rivera

TOWNE CRIER

Email: pcas@verizon.net	
Editor	Jim Powers-Hill
Office Angel Coordinator	Sandy Curtis

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- Charles Banks
- Rosemary Bettikofer
- Joyce Davies
- Rich Eittrheim
- Art Fitzpatrick
- Melissa Gibson
- Michael Gibson
- Denise Joerg
- Harriet Kodama
- Jack MacKay
- Doug McCrum
- Caitlin Mcheffey
- Ben McKirachan
- Kellie Hirce
- Erin O’Kane
- William Ross
- Ginny Zebe

Anniversaries

- Johanna and Bob Caddock
- Bonnie and John Tortora
- Jose & Judy Delgado

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Fantastico Auction certificates expire on March 5, 2012. That's only about a month away.



If you paid for a service, be sure to contact the person who is providing it so the transaction can be completed by the expiration date!

Contact Gretchen or Heather if you forget who to contact to redeem your certificate!

Prayer Concerns



Pray for those seeking employment.

Pray for our Troops overseas and bring them home safely to their loved ones.

Pray for the depressed and lonely.

(REMINDER: Names will be removed from this section of Prayer Concerns after two months unless we are otherwise advised. Please keep in touch with the office to keep our prayers up-to-date.)

In God's Care

*Prayers of Compassion for
the families of*

Janet Peters

John D. Halverson

Pray for Our "Shut-Ins"

Pray for God's presence, care and comfort. And why not send them a card, too! Better yet, pay them a visit when you are in the neighborhood!

Jean Conrad King James Care Center,
PO Box 577, Navesink, NJ 07752

Prayers of Love, Comfort and Support

Gina Bettikofer, Phil Levy
Kimberlee Armengol

Prayers for God's Healing

- Ron Armengol - ongoing health issues.
- Delia Camacho - recovering from surgery, friend of Lori Levy
- Dave Muyskens - who has been diagnosed with stomach cancer.
- Ellen Huhn - who is recovering from a fall.
- Kay Jensen- Recovering from surgery.

Psalm 120

"I call on the Lord in my distress, and He answers me."

Please don't forget to contact the office with your cares and concerns about you and your family and friends.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

February 5th

Mark 1:29-39
 Isaiah 40:21-31
 Sermon: "What's Important?"
 Coffee Hour – Men's Breakfast Group
 Flowers- Litzelman

February 12th

Mark 1:40-45
 1 Corinthians 9:24-37
 Sermon: "In Training"
 Coffee Hour - Stewardship
 Flowers- Langbein

February 19 Transfiguration Sunday

Mark 9:2-8
 2 Corinthians 4:1-9
 Sermon: "Leaking Light"
 Coffee Hour - Worship
 Flowers- Borden

February 26 Lent I

Matthew 4:1-11
 Ephesians 6:10-20
 Sermon: "Hey, Wanna Play?"
 Coffee Hour – Church & Society
 Flowers- Sherri Adler

LENTEN SEASON WORSHIP:

Ash Wednesday February 22, 7:30 PM,
 Worship to begin Lent at which we will
 receive ashes.

Wednesdays 7:00 PM February 22, 29 March
 7, 14, 21, 28 in the Sanctuary, evening prayer
 and Communion

Palm Sunday April 1 5:30PM in Fellowship
 Hall, dinner, drama, and Communion.

Maundy Thursday April 5
 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary, Prayer service for
 healing and prayer and anointing.
 8:00 PM in the Sanctuary, Candlelight
 Communion Service, remembering the Passion
 of our Lord.

9:00PM-Good Friday April 6 9:00AM in the
 Sanctuary "Watch an hour with me" Vigil for
 prayer and Remembrance.

Easter Sunday , April 8 9:00AM, 11:00AM



CHRISTIAN

EDUCATION

Sherri Adler, DCE

Pizza & Polity For Confirmation Classes

Attention Confirmation Class! Our class has been invited to the First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown for a special program led by Joshua Noah, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries, titled "Pizza & Polity". Come meet other confirmation classes, as you have fun with polity and enjoy pizza! This event is on Sunday, February 26th, 3-6 pm (in place of the 12:00 class that day). Save-the-date!

Teacher's/Parent's Meeting

On Sunday, February 12th, at 9:00 am, we will have a Teacher's Meeting to discuss the "Spring" session for Sunday School. Following that meeting at 9:45 am, there will be a Parent's Meeting. Both meetings will take place upstairs in Sunday School and refreshments will be served.

JHYG Snow Tubing

We are planning a JHYG snow tubing trip on Saturday, February 4th. The chaperones/drivers will be Lisa Barnes Nancy Dingelstedt and me. We will be snow tubing at Camelback Mountain in the Poconos. It should be lots of fun. Please see me for Permission Slips and Waiver Forms. The cost is \$25/ person for the three hour session. If we get 15, then the cost drops to \$20/person.

Also, please either plan on packing lunch for your child or sending money so they can purchase lunch up there. Probably some snacks for the car ride would not be a bad idea either! Any questions, please let me know.

Thanks...Diane

Touchdown for Jesus – Sunday School

Please wear your favorite team jersey or shirt for our special Sunday School day on Feb. 5th. During Sunday School, we will play games and "cheer on" our favorite teams! It's our annual "Touchdown for Jesus" day!

Cents-Ability

Please have your children bring in their coins to Sunday School each week. We have a "jug" in our Worship Room, where we collect coins for "Cents-Ability" which aids in the fight against hunger and poverty. Last year, Sunday School collected approximately \$88.00. Thank you.

Important Dates:

- 2/4 JHYG Snow Tubing
- 2/5 Touchdown for Jesus
- 2/12 9 am Teachers Meeting
- 9:45 am Parent's Meeting
- 12 pm CE Meeting
- 12 pm Confirmation Class
- 2/26 2 pm Pizza & Polity – Hightstown Church

ADULT EDUCATION LENTEN STUDY:

Adult Forum Sunday 9:15AM, February 26, March 4, 11, 18, 25 in the Terrace Room

Adult forum will focus on issues that Jesus dealt with and how we Christians can live in faith as He did.

Bible Study Tuesday 10:00 AM February 28, March 6,13,20,27 in the Terrace Room

Will look at the passages from Jesus life. We will consider how they formed our religion and how they inform our faith journey today.

Spiritual Discussion Wednesday 8:00 PM February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 28 at the Manse

Will be a class on our hope and our humanity and how they form us and challenge us. It will be held at the McKirachan's home, 348 Sycamore Ave

PW News

PW's 2012 Winter Retreat

How would you start to draw Lilies of the Valley? What do you journal about living a better life this year? The PW's 2012 Winter Retreat found 12 women trying to answer those questions. That gathering helped us discover hidden talents. The food was beyond sufficient and the house close to crashing waves. We enjoyed the company of Jeanne Peck from Texas and Rosemary Bettikofer from Maryland. All together we made a joyful sound to the Lord. January 11th to the 13th, 2013 is just around the corner and we invite women of the congregation to put the date on their calendar. Want a reason to do it? Ask anyone who went down the shore to tell you why!

Loaves and Fishes Meal Ministry

PW has agreed that a PC@S church wide meal ministry be established. "Loaves and Fishes Meal Ministry" will be a way to help our church families in crisis, or temporarily in need of a prepared meal. We will connect with the individuals or families to see if a meal would be wanted, and several people would prepare and deliver the meal(s).

Please, we have to know where the needs are, so please reach out to Pastor David, Jim in the church office, or contact the meal ministry coordinator via. email (pwshrewsbury@gmail.com). I will be the first coordinator of the ministry, so you can contact me directly.

COOKS Needed!

We currently have three folks willing to make meals and if you would like to join the "cooks" please let me know. If making an entire meal is too intimidating to you, you could partner with someone and each take a portion of a meal (one person prepares main course, one person prepares side dishes). If you can help with delivering a meal please let me know.

Lori Levy

Christmas Bazaar Rap Up



It is now deep mid-winter and the Currier & Ives Christmas Bazaar is just a very pleasant memory. The lovely snowscape mural by Bonnie Tortora and Ginny Carlyle is about to come down from the Church House Lobby. Bonnie's decorations (with help from Sandy Crome) which transformed Fellowship Hall are no more. The fancy Victorian hats fashioned by some of our women under Sandy's guidance have been put away for another day. The hustle and bustle of more than a dozen themed booths which, together with activities like Photos with Santa and the Five and Six Pub, brought in boodles of money for PW missions is now quiet. The booth chairs are the real champs and they are too numerous to mention. Some were veterans and other brought fresh new ideas.

Thank you notes have been written. Helen and I would like to thank everyone who worked in various ways to make this bazaar such a success.

Linda Zucaro

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE – February 2012

The Capital Campaign Committee has been working diligently to identify and obtain cost estimates for capital expenditures. Approximately 20 projects have been identified to date. We also are in the process of completing an engineering study of the Church, which is over 200 years old, to evaluate its structural integrity and to determine if any hidden work needs to be performed.

The Committee also is working with Session and the Board of Deacons to develop a mission statement that can be used to guide the Capital Campaign so that we can better evaluate the capital projects in the context of “Who are we?”, “How we can enhance our programs and outreach?”, and “What do we want our legacy to be?”. After this mission study is completed, the Committee will make final recommendations to Session on the scope of the campaign and when in 2012 it should commence. However, before commencing the campaign, we will be reaching out to the leadership of the Church (both financial leaders and spiritual leaders) seeking “pre-campaign” pledging. To date, over \$8,000 has been received from faithful members of the congregation who have provided advance support in 2011 for the campaign.

If you have any questions or would like to participate on the Capital Campaign Committee in any way at all, please contact any member of the Committee: David C. Apy (Chair), Patricia E. Apy, Ken Gibbons, Bob Suarez, Diane Suarez, and C. David McKirachan (ex-officio).

NEWS FROM THE DEACONS

We Need Your Help

The Book of Order states that the primary duty of Deacons is to “minister to those in need, to the sick, to the friendless and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith.” The Board of Deacons is requesting your help with two initiatives that will be ongoing throughout the year. The first is to re-establish connections with those who haven’t been in church for a while and also to improve communication and visitation with those who are ill. An example we often hear at coffee hour or at church, “So and so just got back from rehab” and we never know what happened to the person that required them to go to rehab in the first place and, for this reason, hadn’t been in contact with them in the first place. We are asking that if you know of anyone who hasn’t been in church for a while, or if you know of someone who is ill or injured that could use a visit or phone call, please let one of the Deacons know or contact Jim at the church office so the Deacons can follow up with those people. This effort, combined with the PW “Loaves and Fishes Meal Ministry” which is intended to help our church families in crisis, or temporarily in need of a prepared meal, will be a way to ensure we are able to reach everyone needing assistance.

The second initiative is to generate interest among the congregation in serving as a deacon as well to allow people from the congregation to participate in the Sunday service without the commitment of being an ordained deacon. Instead of four ushering teams of four people, we will have five teams of three people. The fourth usher each week will be someone from the congregation. Team captains will be contacting people two weeks before their team is scheduled to usher. If you are interested in being on this list, please contact Moderator Mike Dingelstedt by phone or e-mail, let one of the Deacons know, or contact the church office. We look forward to hearing from you.

CAMP JOHNSONBURG

More Than 50 years of Christian Camping Excellence!

Register now for Summer 2012

Camp Johnsonburg, a ministry of the seven New Jersey Presbyteries, is now accepting registrations for our 2012 summer program. We have options for campers from grades K-12. For a full look at all of our offerings for this summer, please visit:

<http://www.campjburg.org/summer/>.

Typical camp activities include:

- o Swimming and boating
- o Arts and crafts
- o Hiking
- o Team Building
- o Archery
- o Bible Study



At Johnsonburg, your children will:

- o Meet new friends
- o Work under the guidance of and trained staff carefully selected¹
- o Learn ways to make good choices

New For 2012:

- o You and Me Camp (for adults and young children)
- o Lifeguard Camp (for senior highs)

(See our website for more information on these options!)



Open houses on April 14 and May 5 from 10 AM- 3 PM. Come visit our site in northwestern New Jersey, meet our staff, and learn more about our summer program!

For information, to register, or request a brochure, call the camp office at 908-852-2349, email us at info@campjburg.org, or visit our website at www.campjburg.org

Summer Job Opportunities at Camp Johnsonburg

Do you love children? Spending time in God's creation?

We firmly believe that the commitment of our summer staff is the key to our program. Each summer we strive to fill our staff with mature, committed Christians who are dedicated to working with young people and accepting them for who they are as children of God.

We are accepting applications for:

- o Male and female counselors (18+ years old and 1 year out of high school)
- o Waterfront Director (21+ years old)
- o Lifeguards (16+ years old)
- o Nurses (full summer and one week positions)
- o Naturalist
- o Arts and Crafts Coordinator
- o Music and Worship Leader
- o Summer Office Assistant



For more information, or to apply, please visit our website at <http://www.campjburg.org>, email us at staff@campjburg.org, or call the camp office at 908-852-2349.

Volunteer Opportunities

Interested in helping out at camp but can't commit to the entire summer? Whether you have a day or a week to offer, we can use your help. Each summer we rely on the efforts of our volunteers to supplement our full-time summer staff. Some ways you can help:

- o Counselor
- o Chaplain
- o Program area support (nature, arts and crafts, etc.)
- o Sunday afternoon registration (especially if you're a nurse!)
- o Kitchen/maintenance
- o Office assistance

If you're interested, or would like more information, please call us at 908-852-2349 or email us at info@campjburg.org

Ash Wednesday and Lent

The celebration of Easter is anticipated for six weeks, during the season of Lent. This time of preparation begins with the receiving of ashes on Ash Wednesday. It is a way of acknowledging our need to face our mortality, our humanity, and our separation from the eternal nature of God. It is the way we begin Lent, which is a time of repentance, literally 'turning again' toward God. During the entire season we try to look into the shadows of our lives, those places where the light of God needs to shine. We try to be better. All of this is to prepare for the ultimate moment of God's love, so clearly evident in the giving of our Lord Jesus on the cross.

The ashes used are created by burning last year's palms from the celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. That day all called Him king and soon left Him to the cross. So we make the ashes from our broken loyalty and our pride. We mix them with a bit of olive oil, and apply them to any who wish to wear the sign of repentance and God's love. Come and join us on February 22nd for a light repast at 6pm and Worship at 7:30pm.

Collier Youth Services

Dear Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury,

My name is Sr. Debbie Drago. I am a Sister of the Good Shepherd and the Executive Director of Collier Youth Services. I am writing to ask for your help in getting the word out about an event we are having to raise funds that will provide camperships for local Monmouth County disadvantaged children to attend Kateri Day Camp next summer. The camp offers free activities, meals and transportation to children in need through donated camperships.

We invite your parishioners to enjoy a Gourmet Buffet and the Trenton Children's Chorus in Concert on Sunday afternoon, March 4, 2012 at Collier School Campus, 160 Conover Road, Wickatunk 07765 (Marlboro Township). The Buffet, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. will feature carving stations, a pasta and antipasto station, a sushi bar; incredibly delicious hot entrees and specialty desserts. The Concert begins at 3:30 p.m. Come for the Buffet \$25. Come for the Concert \$20 or Come for Both \$40. For tickets, email events@collieryouthservices.org; call 732-946-4771, ext. 225 or 213; or purchase on line at www.collieryouthservices.org.