

# 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)

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## From Pastor Lou

Now that summer is past, I hope you enjoyed the gift of unhurried time with your family and friends. Meanwhile, here on Main Street, many of our ministries slow during the summer but others continue apace. For example, Vacation Bible School was another success with nearly 80 kids participating. The Youth Mission Trip which included service projects for the Andover Presbyterian Church (in the neighborhood of Camp Johnsonburg in northern New Jersey), was a rewarding experience for a group of 13 teens and chaperones. Two of our people went to Guatemala. Throughout the summer, we continued with our hunger ministry through Skeet's Pantry and monthly trips to help serve a meal at the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen. Our church facilities are frequently in use by community groups and support groups.

We are almost in the last quarter of the year and many of our ministries here crank up for an active end of year push. But first, I want to thank all of you for continuing to support the ministry of Christ's Church here at First Presbyterian in Cranbury. It is your generosity that allows us to continue reaching out both near and far with the good news of the Gospel. Even during the summer months, thanks so much for taking the time to send us support amidst your summer travel schedules. This helped us to sustain our cash flow even during the "slow months". Now that the Fall program year is beginning, stepped up ministry costs are on the horizon. We appreciate your continuing support. Staying current with your pledge (or even a little more to meet some of our unexpected expenses that always arise) is greatly appreciated. Meeting our pledge budget will reduce the need to draw from our reserve funds to make ends meet.

If you need any assistance in making a gift to the church, or have any questions, we are happy to help you by contacting the church office. Please ask to speak to me or Ken Gordon of the Stewardship & Finance Committee.

Blessings,  
The Rev. Dr. Louis Mitchell

## Fall 2011

### Highlights - Save the Dates!

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| August 30    | Sunday School Teacher Retreat on August 30 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (pg. 3)                            |
| September 11 | Homecoming Picnic at 11:00 a.m. (pg. 5)   |
| September 12 | CPNS First day of School (pg. 4)  |
| September 18 | Fall/Winter Worship Schedule begins at 10:30 a.m.<br>Christian Education begins for all ages at 9:15 a.m. |
| September 22 | Senior Breakfast with Joanne Petto sharing her experiences on 9/11 (pg. 8)                                |
| October 14   | Cranbury Coffee House (pg. 4)   |
| October 16   | CROPWalk  |
| October 28   | Senior Breakfast with Pastor Rosanna and Anne Gordon discussing Rembrandt. (pg. 8)                        |
| October 29   | Trip to the Philadelphia Museum of Art to view the exhibit "Rembrandt and the Faces of Jesus". (pg. 3)    |
| November 6   | Inquirers Classes begin (pg. 6)   |
| November 13  | Mission Fair and Jewelry Jumble (pg. 5)   |

See pages 7 and 8 for Senior Exercise Schedule and Events and the Youth Group Activities

**From Pastor Rosanna...**

"Back to the Bible"

When I was growing up, I enjoyed visiting my grandparents during the summer. One year when I was in elementary school, I noticed that my grandmother woke up early every morning to read the Bible. I mentioned this to my mom, and she explained that this had been my grandmother's daily practice for many years. I wondered, "Hasn't she finished it yet?" Smiling, my mom explained that the Bible is a book you don't just read once and then put away.

The Bible is so good, and full of such variety, that you keep reading it over and over. Amazingly, God can show us new things in his word no matter how old we are or how well we think we know it.

I continually find this to be true. By his Spirit, God can open our eyes to see connections between the tough times people in the Bible overcame with his help and the challenges that we face now. When we feel thankful and want to rejoice, the words of the Psalms express praise to God beautifully. Read it- you may be surprised at what you discover! Scripture isn't just a history book; it speaks to us meaningfully of who God is and the promises he will fulfill in the future.

While the Bible combines different books composed over a long period of time, its parts hold together since every book was inspired by the Holy Spirit. The Lord loves to open our ears to hear resonances between the Old and New Testaments. This happened for me recently as I read Genesis 33. Jacob is anxious as he returns to meet his twin brother Esau, whom he had cheated out of his inheritance. Jacob sends ahead a generous gift to pave the way because he is terrified that his brother will seek revenge for his treachery. What happened? "But Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept" (Gen. 33:4). Suddenly, I thought of the forgiving father in Jesus' parable of the "prodigal son" in Luke 15. Jesus described him as similarly welcoming home the younger son who had behaved terribly.

As I wrote this article, I recalled another biblical image of brothers hugging and weeping in a reunion complicated by the need for forgiveness. It played out in the next generation of Jacob's family. We see it in the dramatic confrontation between Joseph and his brothers in Egypt in Genesis 45. They basically confess that their father, Jacob, can't take any more sadness because of their misdeeds. So Joseph reveals his identity and offers them forgiveness with hugs and tears. These powerful passages relate to relationships with our family members and give us insights into the nature of God's reconciling love and grace. We have seen and experienced such divine generosity through Jesus, who continues to guide us to be more like him.

As we prepare to go back to school, or come back to church for the new program year, or return to our usual schedules, let's go "back to the Bible"! Riches of wisdom are in God's

word! Perhaps adults will enjoy reading biblical commentaries on specific books, or join in Bible studies on particular themes. For families with preschool through early elementary age children, I highly recommend *The Young Readers' Bible*. It has a wide range of stories from Scripture written in terms that are easy to understand. Plus, the artwork doesn't look silly. Middle school and high school students may want to check out the *Manga Bible* series by Zondervan. Each volume has a catchy subtitle and covers a few books of the Bible faithfully but with a contemporary twist. This series was created by Korean young men, gifted artists who share their Christian faith in a dynamic way.

Friends, I hope that you will be drawn "back to Bible" through a study in September!

Grace, peace and joy,  
Pastor Rosanna

**From Pastor Joanne Petto**

As I remember September 11, 2001

At 8:46 AM on Tuesday, September 11, 2001 the United States of America was subjected to a trial by fire unlike anything we had previously experienced on our own soil. Although there have been other attacks against us as a nation, never before had they been so widespread, nor had they been deliberately aimed at civilians. Almost three thousand individuals from more than seventy countries lost their lives in the four separate attacks that day and countless other lives were changed forever. Some were immediately drawn closer to one another and to God - others, unfortunately lost their faith.

How many times did we hear people ask not only why do things like this happen but why does God let things like this happen? It is something people ask almost reflexively whenever there is a tragedy. Ten days after his son, Alex, was killed in a car accident, Reverend William Sloane Coffin preached to his congregation at the Riverside Church in New York City. In that sermon, entitled: Eulogy for Alex (1983), Coffin talks about someone who expressed a lack of understanding about the will of God, to which he said this (in an aside), "...God doesn't go around this world with his fingers on triggers, his fists around knives, his hands on steering wheels. God is dead set against all unnatural deaths."

Most of the conversations I had took place on the site of the Twin Towers in the weeks following the disasters as I worked with first responders, offering prayer, support and a listening ear. Crisis ministry has its own fluid design - and that design is dictated by the person to whom you are speaking. As you might expect, everyone had the usual 'why' questions and there was a lot of anger. One thing was fairly constant though, none of those people were looking for theological responses, discussions on free will or quotes from scripture. What they wanted was someone to listen to their concerns, nod in all the right places, validate their feelings

and offer prayers for strength and support. This was never more evident than when we were standing amidst the rubble where the noise of the machinery made conversation nearly impossible. The situation was further complicated by the wearing of ventilator masks for safety. I spent hours “talking” to rescue workers when neither of us could understand a word the other was saying. And yet, at the end of each visit, sometimes with tears in their eyes, I received a hug or a pat on the arm with a thumbs up and a nod of thanks. I didn’t know why they were thanking me.

In the years that followed, I have heard, time and time again, the phrase ‘a theology of presence’. That is what I remember from September 11, 2001. Not just the loss of lives and structures, not just the sense of anger and distrust – but throughout it all, the unwavering sense of God’s presence. Whether it was through another person, or through prayer, or through my own or someone else’s faith – God’s presence envelops us throughout all of the moments of our lives. It is, perhaps, the one thing that keeps us grounded when, although shaken to the core, our faith holds fast, while that of others crumbles.

In A Farewell to Arms, Ernest Hemingway wrote, “The world breaks everyone and afterward many are strong in the broken places.” I hope that as you remember the challenges in your life and who and what has helped you through, you will continue to represent God in this world, to be a ‘theology of presence’ to someone, somewhere so that more can be strong in the broken places.

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.” 2 Corinthians 1:3-5

**September 11 Memorials**

East Windsor	Municipal Building, Sunday, September 11, 2:00 PM
Monroe Township	Memorial Tree Park, Monday, September 12, 6:30 PM
Ocean Grove	The Great Auditorium, Sunday, September 11, 7:30 PM
Plainsboro Township	Rescue Squad, Saturday, September 10, 7:30 PM

**ADULT EDUCATION NEWS**

**Adult Education on Sunday Mornings (9:15- 10:15 a.m.)**  
**September 18 – Join Pastor Lou’s series on Romans.**

**Adult Education at Other Times**

**Martha Circle Women’s Bible Study** meets on first Monday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the Library except for September when we will meet on September 12. All women of the congregation are welcome to join us as we study *Confessing the Beatitudes*. Our discussion is led by Rose Eller.

**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) beginning on September 18. 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 join** us visiting the **Philadelphia Museum of Art** to view the exhibit “**Rembrandt and the Faces of Jesus**” on **Friday, October 28, 2011**. We will depart the church parking lot at **9:15 a.m.** and will depart the museum after lunch, or if you prefer, at 3:00 p.m.

This trip is open to the first 24 people who sign up. The cost is \$24.00 which includes your transportation in the church van or private vehicles, entrance to the museum, and special exhibit ticket. Please mail your check made out to Anne Gordon, 127 North Main Street, Cranbury, NJ 08512. Call with questions: 609-409-7885.

Also, on **Thursday, October 27 at 8:30 a.m.** at the Senior Breakfast at the Cranbury Inn there will be an insightful discussion about Rembrandt, his art, aging and spirituality conducted by Pastor Rosanna Anderson and Anne Gordon. Call Walter Wright or Stan Dickerson to reserve your spot at the breakfast.

**CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

**Sunday School** begins on **September 18 at 9:15 a.m.**

**Calling All Teachers and Adults** who study the Bible! Is God leading you to share your gifts in Sunday school? We have many opportunities to teach and share faith with students of all ages! Speak with our Superintendent Peter Miller, Education Committee chair Doris Wiegartner or Pastor Rosanna if you want to know more about our openings.

**Save the Date! Teacher Retreat** on **Tuesday, August 30 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall**. Every person who helps with Sunday school or youth ministry should attend this mandatory meeting. It replaces the former teachers’ meeting on Sunday morning before Sunday school. Inspirational teaching will be provided by biblical scholar Gretchen G. Hull. We will discuss our goals for the year, pray together, review the Emergency Plan and teachers’ manual, meet with teaching teams and enjoy appetizers and desserts.



## **CPNS NEWS**

We hope everyone had the time to relax and enjoy the summer. You will see a few changes this year at CPNS in our assessment criteria for our children. We have made some changes based on the NJ Department of Education's Preschool Standards. We hope these changes will provide families with the information they need to ensure that their children will be prepared for Kindergarten and all of their future academic success.

As you walk through the halls of CPNS you will see some familiar faces caring for our children as well as a few new ones. CPNS continues to be blessed with a teaching staff that shares their Christian values and loves each child unconditionally and with respect.

Our Christian Education commissioning will take place on Sunday, September 25 and our CPNS teachers will be commissioned as part of this service. The CPNS teachers this year include, Kathy Edwards, Rosellyn Cassidy, Jennifer Colonna, Wendy delaRosa, Pam Dressel, Dorothy Klotzbeacher, Kathy Iorio, Laurie Davis, Kelly O'Keefe, Linda Protinick, Debbie Petro, Denise Reilley, Patty Skapyak, Kathy Wiseman, Sheila Morrissey, Eileen Sahli, MaryEllen Glynn and Janice Parker. Please say hello to them when you see them.

A new and exciting transition to school schedule has been established. We will still have our playground gatherings, our Back to School Night and our Open House for everyone, but our Back to School Night presentations will be held in our classrooms. Fellowship Hall will be set up to showcase all of our Enrichment Programs. Light refreshments will also be served. Everyone is looking forward to meeting our new families and reconnecting with the ones we already have met. The first day of school will be Monday, September 12.

Our enrichment programs this year will include Art & Literacy, Music & Movement, Science and Math as well The Power of Play. We will also offer a Mommy's Morning Out program on Friday mornings. This is open to any child who will be going into our 3-year-old program next September. We also are providing our lunch program 5 days a week

You are all invited to our CPNS Parent Socials on September 27 and 28. This is an opportunity for the parents to get to know each other. Please stop by for light refreshments and meet our parents at 11:00 and 2:30 on September 27 and 28 in the McKnight Room. We will also be kicking off our new Parent Discussion group at this time. You are always welcome to attend even if you don't have a child currently registered at CPNS.

If you are interested or if you know of anyone who may be interested in our preschool program we have just a few openings in our 2 1/2, 3 and 4/5-year old programs for the school year 2011-2012. Please remember to tell your friends and neighbors that we are a Christian Preschool that is also accredited by NAEYC, the National Association and

Education of Young Children. We offer a developmentally appropriate academic preschool program for children. Please call Janice at 655-8663 or send us an e-mail at [CPNSchool@comcast.net](mailto:CPNSchool@comcast.net) for additional information. Remember as a church member you will have priority in our registration process.

We are all looking forward to a wonderful and exciting school year and look forward to your visits with us.

Your Friends at CPNS

## **CPNS**

### **Parking Lot/Playground Safety Plan**

We need your help to provide a safe playground for all of our children. We are asking that if you need to park in the church parking lot between the hours of 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. on school days that you use the last few spots closest to the South Lawn. You could also use the overflow parking lot or the spaces in the rear of the parking lot next to the cemetery.

We hope this will eliminate traffic in the playground while children are outside playing.

Please call Janice at 655-8663 with any concerns or questions. We want to thank you in advance for making sure we keep all children safe.

## **CONGREGATIONAL LIFE NEWS**

### **CRANBURY COFFEE HOUSES**

As many of you might know a small group of people have been running a coffee house at our church for the last 2 years. As we start our 3rd year, we are looking for additional helpers, for small jobs at the coffee house.

This year we have proposed 5 shows each on the 2nd Friday in the months of Oct, Dec., Feb., April, and June. In order for us to continue this mission fund raiser/community outreach program we are looking for some additional volunteers to help out at one of the events. A sign-up sheet is posted on the coffee house bulletin board across from the kitchen.

The first job requires you to be at the church before and after the show for set-up (4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.) and clean up (9:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.). Another job is in the kitchen, serving coffee, hot dogs, cakes, pies, danish, your help for this job would be from 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. The last job we need volunteers for is to sell tickets and collect money at the door. This is usually from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Instructions on all of these jobs could be provided ahead of time or the night of. There is usually someone there to give some instructions.

Please contact George Conley at (609)577-7201 with any questions or if you would like to sign up for one of these responsibilities. We hope that we'll have plenty of volunteers so we could continue this community outreach event and provide additional funding for the Deacon's Benevolent Fund and Skeet's Pantry. Yours in Christ, George Conley

## First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury



### Homecoming picnic

Sunday, September 11, 2011  
11:00 a.m. (after the service)  
in the courtyard

A-S last name bring salad/sides  
T-Z bring a desert

Congregational Life Committee will BBQ  
burgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers  
and provide drinks

The Brass Band will perform.

Everyone is invited — help us celebrate!!!



### MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS NEWS

#### CROPWALK

*"He has told you, O Man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God" -Micah 6:8*

Have you ever been hungry? If you know you are going to be able to eat some time soon, it's not bad; our bodies are just reminding us that it's time to refuel. But, if you don't know whether you will be able to eat at all, that's something very different. And even worse, if you don't know if you will be able to feed your hungry children, that's crushing. Imagine what that must be like.

1.02 billion, or one in seven people, are hungry and malnourished worldwide. Many of them are children.\*

As Christians, we are called to be compassionate with those in need. One way in which we can reach out to our brothers and sisters is through our participation in the CROP Hunger Walk. CROP Hunger Walks are inter-faith, community events designed to raise awareness and funds to help eradicate hunger locally and globally.

Once again, our church will be participating in the WHAM/Hightstown CROP Hunger Walk on **Sunday, October 16 at Mercer County Park**. We need people to walk. And we need people to sponsor our walkers.

Last year, CROP Hunger Walks provided over 4 million dollars to some 3,000 soup kitchens and food pantries across the U.S. and over 15 million dollars to assist people around the world, providing food and other essentials to those recovering from disasters, as well as tools and training to communities in places like Guatemala, Indonesia, Haiti, Cambodia, Kenya and more.\*

The Cranbury Presbyterian CROP Walk Team raised 1,064 dollars last year. It is our goal to surpass that amount this year. So, we need *each* of you. And together, step by step we can make a difference in the lives of people in need.

To register to walk with the Cranbury Presbyterian Team, or make a donation, please go to: <http://www.churchworldservice.org/goto/cranburypres>. Please support this cause and come walk with us on October 16!

\*Source: Church World Service

### 2011 MISSION FAIR & JEWELRY JUMBLE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2011 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

This Year's Fair Has New Missions & a New Shopping Opportunity

It's not too early to mark your calendars for this year's Mission Fair - November 13<sup>th</sup> will be here before you know it, and you'll want to be part of this wonderful annual Mission event, sponsored by our Mission, Service & Grants Committee.

In addition to "old favorite" Mission friends from Camp Johnsonburg, Womanspace, NAMI, our own Guatemala and Youth Mission Teams, our Senior Fellowship and Food Programs, we will be welcoming some new Mission groups as well as an "old friend":

#### Faith-to-Faith/ Face-to-Face

This is a special outreach program of Auburn Seminary in New York, and brings together young people from our own country with youth from around the world, to share ideas about peace-making and unity for people of many faiths and traditions. Some of our church youth may even want to get involved!

#### South County Day Care

This is a wonderful but struggling Day Care program in Helmetta, serving children of poorer families who desperately need support. Our church helped get the Day Care program going several years ago, and now we're trying to help them keep this vital service alive and well.

## Habitat for Humanity – Millstone Basin Area

Our church helped start this local chapter of Habitat for Humanity and we've supported their efforts to build, primarily in the Hightstown area. We've missed them at recent Mission Fairs, but this year they will be back with us to share news of their plans for the future. If you've wanted to help build with Habitat, this may be your chance to get involved!

Be sure to visit with all our Mission exhibitors at the Fair, find out what's new with their programs, and how you can help them in all sorts of ways. We're also looking forward to hearing from Sally Osmer, NAMI-Mercer's Executive Director. Sally will be the "guest preacher" at our November 13<sup>th</sup> church service before the Fair.

And, of course, you'll want to enjoy this year's Mission Fair shopping event – a "Jewelry Jumble", together with our ever-popular Bake Sale. Browse and buy jewelry of our sorts, and get some home-baked goodies, too.

We will be collecting gently used costume jewelry of all sorts throughout September and October during Sunday coffee hour. So if you have some earrings, bracelets, necklaces, or pins that you just don't use any more, please think about donating them to our Jewelry Jumble. And then be sure to shop at the "Jumble" for some 'new' pieces of jewelry!

Watch for reminders about the Fair as well as donations of Jewelry and bake sale goodies in upcoming Sunday bulletins and the weekly on-line Church news. If you have questions, feel free to contact Carol Kientz at 609/426-0690 or [cjkientz@verizon.net](mailto:cjkientz@verizon.net).

### **OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS**

#### **INQUIRERS' CLASS**

Are you interested in joining the First Presbyterian Church? Consider joining the next Inquirers' Class starting November 6, 2011.

The class will be held November 6, November 13 and November 21 at 9:15 in the church library. Pastor Mitchell will be leading these sessions. The class is your opportunity to learn more about First Presbyterian, what it means to be a Presbyterian and how you might fit in our church family.

Please call the church office at 609-395-0897 if you have any questions and to let us know you are interested in participating.

We look forward to meeting all who are interested in becoming members of the church family.

### **PEACEMAKING OFFERING**

#### **Peacemaking Offering – October 2, 2011**

Sunday, October 2 is World Communion Sunday, the day on which Presbyterian Church (USA) congregations receive the Peacemaking Offering. As we celebrate this simple meal with Christians around the world, let us remember that our

home on planet Earth is shared by many people in many countries. We are connected to one another through the air we breathe and the soil that provides our food. Because of God's love for the world (the Greek word for the world is *cosmos*, which means "all of creation"), God sent Jesus Christ, the embodiment of peace. As Christ is our peace, so we are all called to be sowers of peace in a broken and hurting world for the whole *cosmos*.

The contributions received through the Peacemaking Offering are divided between the General Assembly peacemaking program, 50%; Synod and Presbyteries receiving 25% for peacemaking efforts; and 25% to a mission chosen by our congregation. Our Mission, Service and Grants Committee is considering using our 25% to help our Presbyterian friends affiliated with the Good Shepherd Hospital in the Congo start a seed program to enable them to grow more produce and improve their nutrition. We are very excited about this idea and hope you are too!

As it is written in the book of James, chapter 3:18 "A harvest of justice is sown in peace". Please help sow the seeds of peace by giving generously to the 2011 Peacemaking Offering on Sunday, October 2.

Yours in Christ, Anne Gordon

### **PRESBYTERY HAPPENINGS**

#### **By Don Winchell**

The big activity at the July 20<sup>th</sup> called Pro Re Nata Presbytery meeting at the Hightstown Presbyterian Church was the Introduction of the Rev. Wendy S. Bailey as the successful candidate selected to be our new Regional Presbyter. Your commissioners from Cranbury were; Marlene and Gaylord French and Don Winchell. Most of the wording in this report is directly from the brochures that were distributed at the meeting.

#### **What is a Regional Presbyter?**

New Brunswick and Monmouth Presbyteries have teamed up to design a new position for presbytery leadership. Instead of the traditional Executive Presbyter" serving an individual presbytery, we have joined forces to call one person - a Regional Presbyter to serve both Presbyteries. The objective of this new position (from the job description) is to "lead both Presbyteries in a time of missional and structural change. Facilitate cooperative ministries within the presbyteries and beyond. Lead in motivating our Presbyteries as missional body of Christ while honoring and celebrating the ministries of individual Presbyteries and congregations."

Notice the absence of the word "executive" in the position title. This is a new position for a new day. We are looking to Wendy to provide visionary and Transformational leadership In a rapidly changing world. Because she is serving two Presbyteries, we do not expect her to be at every meeting of every group that exists. She will delegate,

innovate, and coach – As we all seek to be the Church of Jesus Christ together.

### **First Things First**

The following goals and priorities have been established for this Ministry:

### **Building Relationships**

This is priority number one. Wendy will be out and about, visiting Congregations, pastors and sessions. These visits will help her to get to know us, and from these visits will grow three other priorities:

### **Visioning**

While working with each presbytery on mission and goals, Wendy will assist us in a process of discernment about the future of our relationships (i.e. whether to remain two presbyteries or to merge into one).

### **Resourcing**

Wendy will help us to become more effectively linked together, so that we can share resources  
And encourage broad participation in mission

### **Assessing and Engaging**

Working with other leaders in the presbyteries, Wendy will help us strategize for greater vitality and closer working relationships. This will involve, among other things, active engagement with various emerging movements within the denomination.

Wendy became a Presbyterian when she joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church in Jamestown, NY soon after her marriage to Dwayne over 30 years ago. Raised in a Missouri Synod Lutheran Church on Long Island, NY, she felt a call to ministry at a very young age; it was the Jamestown church, however, which recognized her call and took her under care as she finished her BA degree at the State University of NY at Fredonia with a major in Psychology and her M.Div at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Ordained in 1987, Wendy was installed as Associate Pastor of the Allen Park Presbyterian Church in Allen Park, MI, and in 1991 as Associate Pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia, MI in the Presbytery of Detroit, Wendy served on the Evangelism and Redevelopment Committee, the search committee and administrative commission for the New Church Development in Hartland, MI, as well as other committees and task forces. Wendy served as pastor of the former Westminster Presbyterian Church in Baytown 1998-2004, leading the congregation through an intentional process of transformation and renewal.

As a member of the Presbytery of New Covenant, she has served the Evangelism and Renewal Committee, the New Church Development committee, Ministries Division Steering Committee and General Council. Elected to the position of Associate General Presbyter in November 2004, Wendy has served the Presbytery of New Covenant in the

areas of congregational transformation, new church development, and congregational care. She has worked with the 105 congregations and over 12 new church development projects, has been instrumental in the charting of 5 new congregations, and has developed programs and projects including the "Future Story Project," "Vision Consultants," and Transition Care Teams."

Wendy and Dwayne have one daughter, Kate, who is a graduate student at the University of North Texas. They also claim many other "daughters" as they have hosted five international exchange students from Korea, France, Germany, Thailand and Austria, and have had many other young people in and out of their home over the years.

Dwayne is an elder of Faith Presbyterian Church in Baytown, serves on the worship committee, plays electric bass and sings in the Praise Band. He makes his living as a computer analyst. For enjoyment, Wendy loves to sing, play guitar and piano, ride her motorcycle with Dwayne, spend time in conversation with friends, and connect via Facebook or Skype with friends and relatives.

Dwayne and Wendy are very active in the Baytown Little Theater. They both act, direct, volunteer back stage and behind the scenes. She is serving as vice-president of the Executive Board and kept busy, as they are in the midst of a \$4.5 million capital campaign to build a new theater. They are both looking forward to moving to New Jersey. While Texas and Michigan have each been wonderful, a piece of the northeast has always been "home" to them. Wendy will begin as our Regional Presbyter during September 2011.

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### **SENIOR FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

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#### **EXERCISE SCHEDULE**

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September 8, September 12, September 15, September 19,  
September 22, September 26, September 29

October 3, October 6, October 10, October 13, October 17,  
October 20, October 24, October 27

November 3, November 7, November 10, November 14,  
November 17, November 28

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#### **Upcoming Event**

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Senior Fellowship will travel to **Allaire State Park** on **Wednesday, August 31**. After eating our brown bag lunches in the picnic area, we will tour the Visitor Center Museum dedicated to the Iron Works village built by James Allaire, 1785-1858. The Iron Works produced steam engines from brass and iron from materials found in the area. We will learn about these natural resources and the manufacturing processes. We will see examples of cast iron pots, utensils pipes and stoves.

Please bring a brown bag lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided. People not on our calling list who wish to go need to preregister by August 25 by calling the church office. Please be in the church parking lot by 10:15 a.m.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Senior Fellowship requests that any participants who sign-up for participation in any program who are unable to attend for some reason, please contact us as soon as possible. Please know the phone number of the person who calls you and call that person, Connie Bauder or the church office so that we can have an accurate count for planning the program.

### **SENIOR BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP**

Please join the Senior Breakfast Fellowship on Thursday, **September 22** when the Rev. Joanne Petto will share her experiences from September 11, 2001.

Also, please join the Senior Breakfast Fellowship on Thursday, **October 27** at 8:30 a.m. at the Cranbury Inn. The Senior Breakfast group will host their monthly meeting with Pastor Rosanna Anderson and Anne Gordon for an insightful discussion about Rembrandt, his art, aging and our spiritual journeys along with a delicious breakfast buffet.

Call Walter Wright or Stan Dickerson for your reservations.

### **YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS**

#### **A Message from the Andover Presbyterian Church:**

July 20, 2011

Cranbury Presbyterian Church  
22 Main Street  
Cranbury, NJ 08512

To The Session and Congregation,

There are almost no words adequate enough to describe the effort and love we experienced from your youth and their leaders on their trip to Camp J'Burg and Andover Presbyterian Church. It is a living testimony to faith and mission. Their hard work under exhausting conditions is nothing short of heroic.

In spite of extreme heat, humidity and constant exposure to the sun, the "children" and adults alike continued doggedly with a physically demanding project. The end result is a wonderful framed planter that is no longer an eyesore. We now have a solid structure that should endure for many years to come. Words of advice your team can pass along: Only plant lilies of the valley if you never plan to dig them up! (It was an endless and painstaking task ridding the flower bed of an unwanted root structure).

They also scraped and primed our stair rails and railings all the while enduring the constant glare and heat of the sun. Our sexton, a retired painter, "allowed" the group to pick up paint brushes and actually paint. You have to know Stu to appreciate this fact.

When the outdoor workload was waning, the youth cleaned windows, cleaned shelves in our thrift shop and organized clothing racks in the shop as well-all more welcome tasks in

the coolness of a basement setting. Hannah and Marley even helped organize for Saturday's VBS.

Thanks and gratitude is owed to Mike Kasper, Linda Cody, Anne Gordon, John Kirkenir and Tom Senko for their excellent leadership and skills. You are truly blessed to have individuals with such passion, commitment and dedication. We are the fortunate beneficiaries of their time and talent.

Everyone was impressed by the conduct of your young people; they never missed an opportunity to say thank you or be helpful. It was a joy to work alongside them. We are looking forward to sharing pictures of Jenna, AJ, Andrew, Hannah, Marley, Warren, Katie, Steven and Cassi with our congregation. Hopefully this proved to be as wonderful an experience for them as it was for our church.

Thank you for the blessings you bestowed upon us and for sharing your faith and energy. We are truly grateful. God bless you all.

Faithfully,

Wendy Doedge  
For Andover Presbyterian Church

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### **Youth Group Activities: Highlights**

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#### **Save the Dates!**

#### **September**

- Sept. 10 (Sat.) **Service Project: Assist with the Helene Cody Memorial 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run** on Cranbury Day. Meet at 7:30 a.m. before the 8:00-10:00 a.m. event. **To volunteer, please contact Mike Kasper** at [cwcollector@aol.com](mailto:cwcollector@aol.com).
- Sept. 11 **Bring a Friend to Church Day!** 10 a.m. Worship & **11 a.m. Homecoming Picnic** Join us at the Youth Group tables decorated with cranberry-colored ribbons!
- Sept. 17 (Sat.) **Youth Group Great Adventure Day & Steven Curtis Chapman Concert!** This is a fun opportunity for youth and families. Parents, we need your help to make this happen! Tickets cost \$29.50 and cover admission to the park and concert. You have the option of buying a meal voucher for \$13. **RSVP by email to Tom Senko at [ts0629@verizon.net](mailto:ts0629@verizon.net)**. Turn in your signed permission form and check made payable to Cranbury Presbyterian Church as soon as possible, but no later than Friday, September 2. We will meet in the church parking lot at 11:00 a.m. and return at 7:00 p.m.
- Sept. 25 5:30-7 p.m. **Youth Group** in Fellowship Hall - We will launch our new series, **"Does the Bible Really Say That!?"** Musicians, please bring your guitars!

**October**

- Oct. 2 (World Communion Sunday/Peacemaking Offering) Sunday afternoon: Go to the **Medieval Festival** at The Cloisters, the medieval branch of the Metropolitan Museum of Art "Manhattan's Fort Tryon Park is transformed into a medieval market town decorated with bright banners and processional flags. Performers, guests and festival goers dress in medieval costume. Visitors are greeted by authentic medieval music, dance, magic, and minstrels, as well as jugglers and jesters. The afternoon is concluded with a thrilling joust between four knights on horseback. Costumed vendors will be on hand to demonstrate and sell a wide variety of medieval crafts as well as food and drink." Admission is free, including falconry demonstration and tours of the museum and gardens. Bring some cash for refreshments and souvenirs.
- Oct. 9 5:30-7p.m. **Youth Group** in Fellowship Hall: "Does the Bible Really Say That?!?" Part 2
- Oct. 16 1-4 p.m. **Service Project: CROP Walk** to raise funds and awareness for Church World Service at Mercer County Park

- Oct. 23 5:30p-7:00p Youth Group: **College Student Care Packages**
- Oct. 30 Outdoor Activity: Visit Ocean Grove or go hiking in the mountains

**November**

- Nov. 6 (Daylight Savings Time Ends) 5:30-7 p.m. **Youth Group: "Make Your Own Pizza" Night** in the Kitchen
- Nov. 13 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. **Youth Mission Trip table at the Mission Fair** 5:30-7 p.m. **Service Project: Sort food for Thanksgiving Baskets** in Fellowship Hall
- Nov. 18-20 (Friday 5 p.m.- Sunday 1 p.m.) **High School Fall Retreat** at Camp Johnsonburg
- Nov. 20 6:30-8:30 p.m. **Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Worship Service**
- Nov. 27 (Thanksgiving weekend/ First Sunday in Advent) No Youth Group

<p align="center"><b>Worship Service</b></p> <p>10:00 a.m. <b>Worship</b> (ends on September 11)</p> <p>10:30 a.m. <b>Worship</b> (begins on September 18) (Childcare provided)</p>	<p align="center"><b>Staff</b></p> <p>Rev. Dr. Louis Mitchell, Pastor          Rev. Rosanna Anderson, Associate Pastor          Rev. Joanne Petto, Parish Associate          Kurt Heineman, Seminary Intern          Donovan Klotzbeacher, Organist &amp; The Chorale Director          Patricia Bohrs, Bell/Brass Choirs &amp; Youth Band Director          Laurie Davis, Childrens' Choir Director          Sharon Ramkishun, Office Manager          Norma Yetsko, Office Assistant</p>	<p align="center"><b>Church Office Hours</b></p> <p><b>Monday through Friday - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>Closed:</b>          September 5          November 24 and November 25</p> <p>November 23 - Open from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon</p>	<p align="center"><i>"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases."</i> (Lamentations 3:22)</p>
<p align="center"><b>Cranbury Presbyterian Nursery School (CPNS)</b></p> <p>Janice Parker, Director          Phone: 609-655-8663  <a href="mailto:cpnschool@comcast.net">cpnschool@comcast.net</a></p> <p><b>1st Day of School - September 12</b></p> <p><b>Closed:</b>          October 28, November 10, November 11, November 23, November 24 and November 25</p>	<p>You can view the newsletter, calendar and hear past sermons on our website at <a href="http://www.cranburypres.org">www.cranburypres.org</a>.</p> <p>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>.</p> <p>Requests made by Wednesday will be posted on the website by Saturday.</p>		<p align="center"><b>Dates and Deadlines</b></p> <p>9/15 <b>9:00a</b> Session Material Due          9/20 <b>7:30p</b> Session Meeting - FH</p> <p>10/13 <b>9:00a</b> Session Material Due          10/18 <b>7:30p</b> Session Meeting - FH</p> <p>11/10 <b>9:00a</b> Session Material Due          11/15 <b>7:30p</b> Session Meeting</p> <p><b>11/17 Newsletter Articles Due</b></p>