

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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Winter 2011

From Pastor Lou

COME CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST WITH US!

The Advent/Christmas season is upon us! What a blessed time this is every year! The schedule of seasonal services and activities is printed below. Each week has something special. November 27th has the lighting of the first candle of Advent and a Scottish emphasis recognizing Saint Andrew's Day with music, blessing and bagpipes. Wear your kilt and plaid that day. December 4th will bring a sanctuary decorated for the season and a wonderful Advent Communion service. (A brief meeting of the congregation will follow the service.) On December 11th, a tradition changes, yet remains the same. The traditional afternoon Vespers Service will be transformed into a morning Service of Lessons and Carols. During our regular weekly worship time, the Lessons and Carols service will feature the reading of Advent and Christmas texts from the scriptures, along with fabulous music featuring our excellent ensembles. The December 18th service continues our celebration through song and Word and is followed by our Annual Christmas Luncheon. Christmas Eve is a wondrous night of bells, carols and candles. This year Christmas Day falls on a Sunday. We will gather for worship at our regular Sunday time. In the beauty of our sanctuary we will continue to sing the carols and hear the message of Christmas. The Christmas Joy special offering will be received that day. So, each week offers something distinctive to help us prepare for and celebrate the birth of the Messiah Jesus Christ. So, join us each week in this marvelous season of candle lighting, singing, eating and giving as we celebrate God's inexpressible gift to the world – God's Son Jesus Christ.



Sunday, November 27, 2011 - The First Sunday of Advent

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Sunday, December 4, 2011 - The Second Sunday of Advent

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service followed by
the Congregational Meeting to Elect Officers

Sunday, December 11, 2011 - The Third Sunday of Advent

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. Lessons and Carols Worship Service

Sunday, December 18, 2011 - The Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:10 a.m. Sunday School Sing-Along

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Annual Christmas Luncheon following worship

Saturday, December 24, 2011 - Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Service of Bells for children of all ages

8:00 p.m. Family Service

11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

Sunday, December 25, 2011 - Christmas Day

No Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Christmas Worship Service

Christmas Joy Offering

From Pastor Rosanna...

“Praising God and Singing”

Favorite hymns and Christmas carols turn our mind and spirit toward the Lord in times of congregational worship or personal devotion. In this season we sing those special tunes and words that tell of the incarnation, the wonderful mystery that God became a human being in Christ Jesus. We recount the story that we know so well but which always brings tidings of “great joy for all the people” (Luke 2:10). Even in the midst of the darkness of winter, and as we look toward a future that is perhaps uncertain, the light of Christ shines! Through music we can savor and proclaim this good news and what it means for us and the world.

Sometimes God surprises us with the treasure of a song we hear, even briefly, that lifts us heavenward. I was recently on the campus of my alma mater, Princeton Theological Seminary. As I entered Miller Chapel, I heard the delightfully stirring strains of a psalm: “I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help” (Psalm 121:1). Women of a choir of which I had been a member years ago were rehearsing in harmony under the direction of Martin Tel. As I think of it, I can still hear the sounds of the piece and gain strength from its words of Scripture.

Perhaps this is what St. Augustine was referring to when he wrote about the joy and love connected with singing praise to God. He is often quoted as having said, “He who sings prays twice.” A literal translation of the Latin passage is a bit longer and more complex. But the idea is that singing songs of praise brings joy as well as increases our love for God. We should make time in our busyness and preparations for music as a form of prayer and praise.

Music is truly a gift in life; through it we can bring joy to others. That is why our youth group will again go Christmas caroling at The Elms nursing home and at homes of neighbors on Main Street in Cranbury. We found last year that what we intended as a service project and outreach ministry in our community brought happiness to those who heard the songs. But our students remarked on how much fun it was! We realized that God blessed us even more than we had hoped when we set out to bless others.

In the season of Advent, and as we celebrate Christmas and the start of a new year, may each of our hearts be filled with songs of praise!

Grace and peace,
Rosanna

2011 CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Dear Church Members and Friends,

Christmas is a time of the year for sharing the love and generosity of God through all kinds of gifts. The more thoughtful or heartfelt or needed the gift is, the more meaningful it is for those who give and receive it! We find that so much of the happiness we feel at Christmas comes from knowing that we are able to give good gifts that will bring joy, help and blessings to others.

Recently I read that one way to think about an offering is that God is giving us an opportunity to be set free from bondage to our material goods. The Lord wants us to escape the world’s trap of clinging tightly to our stuff and the hold that money can have over our way of thinking. Like everyone in our culture, we can get caught up in being concerned about what we have or things that we want. Instead, God helps us focus on the fact that we have enough and we are even able to help other people who are in need. Surely all that we have comes from God, and he has provided generously for us! We can extend the grace and kindness that we have received by gladly sharing part of it with others.

In December, we have the opportunity to give financial gifts to people in need through our Presbyterian Church (USA) **Christmas Joy Offering**. Half of the proceeds go directly to assist Presbyterian Church workers, some of whom may be retired and on fixed incomes, who may need help with specific medical or housing expenses. This is a wonderful way that we can show our appreciation for people who have served the church faithfully. It is an honor to provide aid in someone’s time of need. The other half of the offering goes to support the racial ethnic schools and colleges of the PC(USA). When I was a minister commissioner to General Assembly in 2010, I served on our denomination’s Committee on Church Growth, Christian Education and the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program. Through my work with that committee, I met with and heard from presidents and other leaders of these Presbyterian educational institutions. I was impressed by their commitment to provide opportunities for learning and career development for these students who might otherwise be forgotten. Let’s continue to uphold these important goals.

May each of us give from the heart as we share in the Christmas Joy offering!

Sincerely,

Pastor Rosanna on behalf of the Youth Sunday School Class
(Grades 8-12)

ADULT EDUCATION NEWS

Adult Education on Sunday Mornings (9:15- 10:15 a.m.)

December 4 and 11

Dr. Gretchen Hull - Messianic Prophecy – start out your preparation for Christmas by learning what the Bible has to say about the coming of our Messiah

January 8 through February 5

Bob Kane - Truth of the Bible - this will be a Video/Discussion series and will encompass both the Old and New Testaments

February 12 and 19

Kurt Heinemann - Science and Faith - our Seminarian will lead this study on the question of whether faith and science can co-exist

February 16 through March 25

Pastor Lou Mitchell - continuation of the study of Romans

Please note that there will be **no Adult Education class on December 18**. Come and join Celebration Sunday in the Fellowship Hall with our other Sunday School classes!

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. 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). 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 or Clifford Anderson at clifford.anderson@ptsem.edu.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

FAMILY FUN DAY

Who? All 3-Year Olds through 6th Graders and their parents

What? A day for fellowship and giving and fun

Why? To share with parents what we learn in Sunday School and in Vacation Bible School

When? Monday, January 16th from 10 a.m. to Noon - Martin Luther King Day

Where? Parish Hall - First Presbyterian Church

What will we do? Gather together, make lunch bags for our friends at TASK (Trenton Area Soup Kitchen), play games, and sing a few songs. There will be jobs for the littlest ones (making pretty bags) and the oldest ones (making sandwiches). We will pray together, work together, play together, and sing together! What about the under-3’s?

Babysitting will be provided. We need you to let us know if you are coming and the age and number of little ones who will need a babysitter – doriswieg@aol.com (609 395-7099) or peter.miller@barrons.com. Let us know if you are coming even if you don’t need a sitter so we can plan accordingly.

Let’s make this a wonderful day of fun for the whole family!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

PRE SCHOOL

| Date | Kindergarten | 3-4 Year-Olds |
|--------|--|--|
| Dec 4 | Jesus is Born in Bethlehem | Angels Announce Jesus’ Birth to the Shepherds |
| Dec 11 | The Angels Tell the Shepherds of Jesus’ Birth | The Shepherds Worship Jesus |
| Dec 18 | The Wisemen Seek Jesus | The Wisemen Worship Jesus |
| Dec 25 | Christmas No Sunday School | |
| Jan 1 | New Year No Sunday School | |
| Jan 8 | Joseph and Mary Bring Baby Jesus to the Temple | Jesus Heals a Man Who Has Been Sick for 38 years |
| Jan 15 | Jesus is Baptized by John | Jesus Feeds More than 5000 People |
| Jan 22 | Jesus is Tempted in the Wilderness | Jesus Heals a Blind man |
| Jan 29 | Jesus Welcomes the Children | A Miraculous Catch of Fish |
| Feb 5 | Jesus Talked to a Samaritan Woman | Zacchaeus Learns to Love Jesus |
| Feb 12 | Jesus Calms the Storm | Jesus Calls Zacchaeus Down from the Tree |
| Feb 19 | Jesus Heals Jairus’ Daughter | Zacchaeus Learns Right from Wrong |
| Feb 26 | | |

GRADE 1 TO 4 WORKSHOP ROTATIONS

| Date | Workshop Rotation Bible Story |
|--------|--|
| Dec 4 | Christmas: God gave his promise of the Messiah through the prophet Isaiah - God fulfilled it in Jesus |
| Dec 11 | Christmas: prophet Isaiah |
| Dec 18 | Christmas: prophet Isaiah |
| Dec 25 | Christmas No Sunday School |
| Jan 1 | New Year No Sunday School |
| Jan 8 | Jesus revealed himself as the Messiah to the Samaritan woman at the well - “I will make in those who believe in me a well springing up to eternal life” John 4 |
| Jan 15 | Celebration Sunday |
| Jan 22 | Samaritan woman at the well |
| Jan 29 | Samaritan woman at the well |
| Feb 5 | Samaritan woman at the well |
| Feb 12 | God called Abram & Sarai to leave home & follow him to Israel, “In your offspring all the nations (the world) shall be blessed” |
| Feb 19 | Abram & Sarai |
| Feb 26 | Abram & Sarai |

5TH AND 6TH GRADES

| Date | Class Themes |
|--------|--|
| Dec 4 | Christmas Session |
| Dec 11 | Christmas Session |
| Dec 18 | Christmas Session |
| Dec 25 | Christmas No Sunday School |
| Jan 1 | New Year No Sunday School |
| Jan 8 | Session 24 Acts 1-8 |
| Jan 15 | Session 25 Acts 9-28 |
| Jan 22 | Session 25 Acts 9-28 |
| Jan 29 | Session 26 I know the Early Church! [games] |
| Feb 5 | Session 27 Paul's Letters [Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, and Ephesians] |
| Feb 12 | Session 27 Paul's Letters [Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, and Ephesians] |
| Feb 19 | Session 28 More Letters from Paul [Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon] |
| Feb 26 | Session 28 More Letters from Paul [Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon] |

CONFIRMATION CLASS

| Date | Class Themes |
|--------|--|
| Dec 4 | Middle School Retreat at Camp Johnsonburg: The Power of Prayer |
| Dec 11 | Salvation Q 48-49 |
| Dec 18 | Other Religions Q 50-52 |
| Dec 25 | Christmas No Sunday School |
| Jan 1 | New Year No Sunday School |
| Jan 8 | The Holy Spirit Q 53-55 |
| Jan 15 | No Confirmation Class |
| Jan 22 | The Word of God Q 56-61 |
| Jan 29 | The Church & Its Mission Q 62-70 |
| Feb 5 | Baptism Q 71-76 |
| Feb 12 | The Lord's Supper Q 77-79 |
| Feb 19 | No Confirmation Class |
| Feb 26 | The Trinity discussion |

SECOND GRADE CLASS AND PARENTS: "Kids and Communion" Workshop 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, January 29 meets in a classroom with Pastor Rosanna as we learn more about The Lord's Supper. Students who feel ready may share in the Lord's Supper on Sunday, February 5.

CPNS NEWS



It's amazing how quickly this year is going. The season of advent is here and Christmas will be here very soon. During Advent our CPNS family is busy getting ready for Christmas. We are baking cookies, singing songs for our senior citizens and collecting pennies for our Pennies for Presents program. This year our pennies will be donated to Skeet's Pantry.

We are all looking forward to hearing the story of Christmas in our beautiful sanctuary told by Pastor Lou and Pastor Rosanna. Sharing the story of Jesus and his birth with the

children is a wonderful opportunity to share the love of Jesus with them. We will be celebrating Christmas with a very special family Christmas sing-a-long around our Christmas tree in Fellowship Hall. Please join us; our programs will be on Wednesday, December 21 and Thursday, December 22 at 10:45 and 2:15. The excitement the children bring, the happiness on their faces and the love in their eyes make Christmas at CPNS extra special.

Our excitement continues into the New Year with our Special Person's Day on Saturday, January 28. Each child brings a special person to school with them and they get to share a day at school with their very own special person.

We want to thank our board members for all the time and expertise they share with CPNS. They make our school an extra special place for everyone. A big thank you to Claudette Guy, our Moderator this past year. We also want to thank Jessica Corriveau, Kristen Hackett, Danny Kinney, Jennifer Kong, Patria Sullivan, Janet Wheeler and Kelly Flannery for all they have done for CPNS this past year. We want to thank Amy Dixon for her dedicated service to CPNS, who is retiring this year, and look forward to spending another 3 years together in the future.

Please remember to share the information about our preschool with your friends and family. Remind them that we have achieved accreditation from the National Association and Education of Young Children. We provide the most developmentally appropriate preschool to children in our Christian environment. Thank you in advance for all your efforts in spreading the word.

We wish everyone warm, loving thoughts as we go through these cold winter months. We hope everyone has a joyous Advent season filled with hope, love, joy and peace and a very blessed Christmas. Our hope is that we all carry the Christmas feeling in our hearts wherever we go.

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

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE NEWS

CRANBURY COFFEE HOUSES

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. The coffee house is being held this year every other month on the second Friday through June 2012. Our upcoming event will be on Friday, December 9 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Performing will be Laurie Davis our own Children's Choir Director and CPNS teacher. We hope you will all mark your calendars and let all your friends and neighbors know about this wonderful opportunity.

Tickets for the December show are \$5.00 per person, one price for everyone. If you have children that would like to sit on the floor (there will be space in front of the stage), please bring a blanket. Child friendly refreshments, Danishes and

coffee for the older children (parents) will be available at an additional cost.

Through the effort of a small task force we have been able to make the coffee house happen, however your help and support will be what will make this program a continued success. Remember the proceeds less expenses benefit Skeet's Pantry & the Deacon's Benevolent Fund.

For information about the Cranbury Coffee House or how you can help please go to www.cranburycoffeehouse.com.

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

LIBRARY NEWS

Church Library Catalog On Line!

Lots going on in the library! A software program has been purchased in order to manage and organize the library. The software is designed to manage the following activities of the library:

- catalog, search, and circulate all library collections (books, CDs, video tapes, dvds, documents, equipment, etc.)
- manage member/patron information.
- process check in and check out transactions.
- keep track of the library circulation data

Volunteers are needed to help input the current library collection into the computer. This project will begin in December and continue until all the books have been cataloged. This is a great community service opportunity for high school students! If you are interested in spending a few hours on this project please contact Stan Dickerson or email the Outreach Committee at outreach@cranburypres.org

MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS NEWS

GUATEMALA DINNER FUNDRAISER

Our Seventh 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 20 and on Saturday, January 21 beginning at 7:00 p.m. with open seating beginning at 6:30 p.m. As you dine on Friday, you will be entertained by our very own Don Klotzbeacher and company and on Saturday you will be serenaded by a String and 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 or Lil at (609)395-0642.

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

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

BREAD FOR THE WORLD

Our annual BREAD FOR THE WORLD Offering of Letters will be held February 19 a bit earlier than usual. And the approach this year will be a bit different, too. The general theme will be "Extending A Circle of Protection Around Programs for the Poor and Hungry." Bread for the World will be keeping a close watch on actions that Congress takes, and the emphasis on urging protection for particular programs may vary month by month.

BREAD, the BFW newsletter, informs us that thousands of Christians, people of other faiths, corporations and nonprofit organizations have formed a Circle of Protection around funding for programs that are vital to hungry and poor people here in the United States and abroad. We are all aware of the budget battle going on in Congress and these vital programs are threatened by proposed budget cuts. Nutrition programs that have been with achieved in the last 35 years such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and SNAP (formerly food stamps) as well as poverty-focused development assistance are in danger.

We need to find other ways to balance the budget; we need to keep in mind Christ's injunction to "feed the hungry," and not turn our eyes from the needy hungry among us.

With 12 million people in the Horn of Africa facing the most serious food insecurity situation in the world today, with thousands of Somalis already dead of causes related to malnutrition, most of them children, now is not the time to cut US foreign aid! Yet, in 2011 total poverty-focused development assistance was cut by 7 percent or \$1.5 billion. Food aid was cut by 17 percent. 2011 funding for the Millennium Challenge Account was 19 percent less than 2010. We'll be hearing more about this situation, but I shall close this article by quoting BREAD: "These cuts will do little to balance the U.S. budget, since foreign aid--which includes emergency food aid--accounts for less than 1 percent of it."

Gretchen Stults

TASK...It's About Feeding Bodies and MINDS!

The Trenton Area Soup Kitchen ("TASK") is well-known for its work in feeding the hungry. It is something TASK does very well, but they also meet the needs of hungry minds through the Adult Education Program ("AEP").

AEP is a tutoring program that started as a grassroots program in 1992 and has grown into what its students fondly call "The University of TASK". Nine tutoring sessions, held each week in literacy, basic math, preparation for high school equivalency exams, and basic computer skills, make up the core part of the program. A creative writing workshop on Wednesday and a book group to encourage reading are held each Thursday.

Over the past 12 years the program has grown from 15 students to about 80 students a month. Over 220 students have participated in AEP each year. In just the past 10 months, 15 people have earned their GED after enrolling in the program. While it may take several years to reach their goal, with support, lots of hard work and determination students have moved on to job training programs, higher education or full-time employment.

There are all kinds of students in AEP: parents and grandparents have learned to read to their children and grandchildren, long-time Trenton residents who had always struggled with reading obtain their first public library card, immigrants feeling secure enough in their language skills to pass the citizenship test, job seekers gain a new sense of empowerment and pride, passing the driver's education test and many more.

In any conversation with Kelly Hanson, the Adult Education Coordinator, you cannot miss her overwhelming passion, commitment and love she has for the students in the program. She can recall story after story about the life-changing relationships that are formed between students and tutors and among students in study groups. There is a casual, but unmistakable atmosphere of achievement and pride in this program, which is witnessed every day by many patrons who come in for meals. Kelly's excellent work with AEP is growing and changing lives.

Every day is a new day at TASK, especially in this program. Tutors are not assigned to a particular student. Whoever shows up will have an opportunity to learn. Students come and go as do tutors, but over time natural tutor/student relationships form and goals are set and met.

If you would like to change a life and be a tutor at TASK, please email Kelly Hanson at kellyh@trentonsoupkitchen.org or call (609) 695-5456, ext. 107.

Our church takes volunteers to serve the evening meal at TASK the first Thursday of every month. If you would like to help out in this way and see the facility please contact Anne Gordon at kgordon22@comast.net.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS

Beginning in January the Outreach Committee will offer a new opportunity to bring people together for fellowship and fun. Members of the church are invited to deepen and strengthen their ties with one another through conversation and through a meal. Young and old, singles and couples may sign-up because the intent is to get to know people across age and interests.

The host and/or hostess will invite six other people and provide the home, entrée and beverage. The other three couples will provide hors d'oeuvres, salad and dessert. **Sign-ups will be in Fellowship Hall beginning November 21** when you come to have your photo taken, and on Sunday mornings at coffee hour. If you would like to host a dinner please note on the sign-up sheet. Your hostess will contact you after New Years for a dinner date in January.

For more information contact Marlene French at 609-301-8528 or Deanna Anderson at 609-395-6769.

OTHER NEWS

LEAP is a continuing education/bible study/enrichment program offered by the Monmouth Presbytery. All adults in the church are encouraged to attend this unique learning opportunity. Not only are these in-depth courses educational but they are a great way to build relationships with other church-goers. The next course is entitled Old Testament. This course will be an overview of the types of literature which make up the Hebrew Scriptures, looking specifically at how God worked through the Hebrew people to form and sustain a relationship with our ancestors in the faith. The classes will be held at the Old Tennent Presbyterian Church (approximately 35 minutes from Cranbury). Each class will be held on either Thursday evening or Saturday morning based on the requests of those who enroll; the first class will be either January 12th or 14th. The cost is \$100; partial scholarships may be available for those in need. To registrar contact Patty Williams, Christian Education Consultant, Monmouth Presbytery at 609-286-2590 or patty@monmouthpresbytery.net

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP NEWS

EXERCISE SCHEDULE

December 1, December 5, December 8,
December 12, December 15

January 5, January 9, January 12, January 19,
January 23, January 26, January 30

February 2, February 6, February 9, February 13,
February 16, February 20, February 23, February 27

SENIOR BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

Thursday, December 15 - Pastor Lou Mitchell will present a Christmas feature.

Thursday, January 26 - Paul Watkins has published 10 novels and two books of non-fiction, including the bestselling **STAND BEFORE YOUR GOD**, about his days as a student at the Dragon School and Eton which will be the subject of his presentation. For the past 20 years, he has taught fiction and history at the Peddie School in Hightstown, New Jersey and has been featured on the cover of Teacher Magazine.

Call Walter Wright or Stan Dickerson for your reservations.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Youth Group Activities: Highlights

February 2012

- 2/5 "SOUPer Bowl of Caring" Offering for TASK after worship Hoagie Sale for Youth Mission Trip during coffee hour
- 2/13 (Mon.) 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Family Fun Day: Mission & Service project
- 2/19 5:30-7:00 p.m. Gingerbread Cookie Baking
- 2/26 5:30-7:00 p.m. Youth Group Event with sister church

December 2011

- 12/2-12/4 (Friday 5 p.m. - Sunday 1 p.m.) Middle School Fall Retreat at Camp Johnsonburg
- 12/4 5:30-7 p.m. Youth Group "Does the Bible Really Say That!?" Pt. 3
- 12/11 10:30 a.m. Service of Lessons and Carols - High school students participate as angels and shepherds in this new time for the Nativity Tableau (former Christmas Pageant)
- 12/18 (Christmas Joy Offering) 10:10 a.m. Carol Sing-Along in the Sanctuary, 11:30 a.m. Annual Christmas Luncheon, 2:30-4:00 p.m. Service Project: Caroling at The Elms and on Main Street- Meet at The Elms, then we will walk back to church for cocoa and cookies.
- 12/24 (Saturday) Christmas Eve worship services at 5 p.m., 8 p.m. and 11 p.m.
- 12/25 Merry Christmas! Worship at 10:30 a.m., No Sunday School, No Youth Group

January 2012

- 1/1 Happy New Year! 10:30 a.m. Worship, No Sunday School, No Youth Group
- 1/8 5:30-7 p.m. Epiphany Party! Bring a wrapped \$10 gift for our fun gift exchange in the tradition of a "Yankee swap."
- 1/15 6:30-8:30 p.m. Interfaith Community Worship Service celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr.
- 1/22 5:30-7:00 p.m. Youth Group on Friendships
- 1/29 5:30-7:00 p.m. Youth Group Service Project

Stewardship & Finance News

Financial Update

Year-to-date to 10/31/2011

| | <u>YTD to 10/31/2011</u> | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| | Actual | Budget | Diff | Full Year Budget |
| Pledges | \$301,313 | \$335,910 | (\$34,597) | \$400,000 |
| Plate | 17,011 | 13,750 | 3,261 | 16,500 |
| Prior Yr. Pledge in Cur. Yr | 3,470 | 0 | 3,470 | 0 |
| Other | 509 | 832 | (323) | 18,473 |
| From Rainy Day Fund | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,333 |
| Total Operating Income | \$322,303 | \$350,492 | (\$28,189) | \$437,306 |
| Total Operating Expenses | \$344,080 | \$361,058 | (\$16,978) | \$437,306 |
| Net Operating Income (Loss) | (\$21,777) | | | 0 |

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p><u>Worship Service</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship (Childcare provided)</p> | <p><u>Staff</u> Rev. Dr. Louis Mitchell, Pastor Rev. Rosanna Anderson, Associate Pastor Rev. Joanne Petto, Parish Associate Kurt Heineman, Seminary Intern Donovan Klotzbeacher, Organist & The Chorale Director Patricia Bohrs, Bell/Brass Choirs & Youth Band Director Laurie Davis, Childrens' Choir Director Janice Parker, CPNS Director Sharon Ramkishun, Office Manager Norma Yetsko, Office Assistant</p> | <p><u>Church Office Hours</u> Monday through Friday - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.</p> <p><u>Church Office Holiday Hours</u> December 23 (9 a.m. - 12 Noon) December 27 - December 30 (9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.)</p> <p><u>Closed:</u> December 26 January 2, January 16, February 20</p> | <p><i>"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases." (Lamentations 3:22)</i></p> |
| <p><u>Cranbury Presbyterian Nursery School (CPNS)</u> Janice Parker, Director Phone: 609-655-8663 cpnschool@comcast.net</p> <p><u>Closed:</u> December 23 through January 2, 2012 January 16, February 17 and February 20</p> | <p>You can view the newsletter, calendar and hear past sermons on our website at www.cranburypres.org.</p> <p>If you have suggestions, or want to submit information to be included on the website, send your request to webmaster@cranburypres.org.</p> <p>Requests made by Wednesday will be posted on the website by Saturday.</p> | | <p><u>Dates and Deadlines</u></p> <p>12/15 9:00a Session Material Due 12/20 7:30p Session Meeting - FH</p> <p>1/12 9:00a Session Material Due 1/17 7:30p Session Meeting - FH</p> <p>2/16 9:00a Session Material Due 2/21 7:30p Session Meeting</p> |