

REV. LYNNE D. TROUT



Next hoagie sale will be Saturday April 16th, 2011. Orders must be in by Tuesday March 15th at 5pm.

The Witness

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 8 APRIL 2011

Celebrating 138 years of God's Love



April Dates to Remember

4/4 - 10:00 a.m. Worship and Music Committee

4/5 - 6:00 p.m. Bible Study; 7:00 p.m. Deacons

4/6 - 6:30 p.m. Building and Grounds Committee
7:15 p.m. Finance Committee

4/11 - 7:00 p.m. Session

4/12 - 5:00 p.m. Hoagie order deadline
7:00 p.m. Bible Study

4/16 - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Attic & Basement sale
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Hoagie pickup

4/17 - 11:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Cantata
3:00 p.m. Robert and Joyce Hayes in Concert

4/21 - 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper, Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Communion, Sanctuary

4/22 - 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m. Good Friday Ministerium Community Service, Zion Lutheran Church, Riverside

4/24 - Easter Sunday

March Birthdays

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 4/2 - John Biehn | 4/19 - Hazel Redman | 4/30 - Payton Leigh Olenick/
Polukord |
| 4/7 - Wayne Eaves | 4/25 - Cory Brennan | |
| 4/12 - Ronald Edmonds | 4/25 - Katie Conner | |
| 4/13 - James Verner | 4/25 - Bill Trimble | |
| 4/15 - Julia Diehm | 4/27 - Robert Crabtree, Jr. | |
| 4/17 - Chelsea Bracy | 4/27 - Jacqueline Roberts | |

Hoagie Sale

Orders must be in by April 12h for your delicious hoagies from the crew here at The First Presbyterian Church of Delanco

Call
856-461-6778
856-255-5152
To Order

Hoagie pickup will be Saturday April 16th Between 10:30 am & 12 pm

Environmental Corner

A big thanks and praise goes out to all who have helped to fill up the basket with empty **clean** yogurt containers. As a church and community, we help to find new uses for 2,305 6 and 32 oz. containers as well as an income for the church.

Visit Terracycle's website www.terracycle.net for more information. There is a marked box for the yogurt containers inside the church door on Union Ave. or drop them off at 410 Richards Ave. Delanco.

Rick Trout- Yogurt Coordinator

"God loves it when the giver delights in the giving." Corinthians 9:6 The Message

Did you notice all the bulbs shooting up through the soil and maybe through some tree debris from the winter storms? Spring is finally here. Thank you to all who have paid your per capita for 2011. Each member of the church is responsible for paying his or her fair share. The cost of per capita is \$39 per member. The Westminster Confession says, "all believers, are therefore, under obligation to sustain the ordinances of the Christian religion where they are already established, and to contribute by their prayers, gifts, and personal efforts to the extension of the Kingdom of God throughout the whole wide world". (6.058) Per capita is a fundamental way in which all of the nearly 11,000 congregations and governing bodies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) are connected and participate in the work of the wider church.

Please try to keep your monthly contributions current. Expenses and salaries of our outstanding staff go on. If you have any suggestions about ways to bring in additional income to the church, please contact session members, the finance committee or pastor. In the next few months consider also how you could invest your time and your talents in our church. Setting time each day for Bible study is an investment of time, which many of you do already. Remember our church needs your time, talents and treasures.

God has the power to do great things in us and through us. May each of us continue to spread the light and the word of God through our financial and human giving.

Rick Trout
Finance Committee

Counter's Schedule for April

April 3 Carol Esposito, Dave Convery and Jane Olley

April 10 Gerri Diehm, Linda Ballenger and Sue Mullen

April 17 Debbie Brown, Jackie Nixon and Vera Taylor

April 24 George and Joyce Brookover and Rick Trout

Counters: Counters, it is your responsibility to find a substitute if unavailable to fulfill your scheduled Sunday.

Rev. Lynne D. Trout

First Presbyterian Church of Delanco
505 Union Avenue
P. O. Box 5085
Delanco, NJ 08075
www.delancopc.org Visit us!

(Please! Use Post Office Box for mailing)
(856) 461-2515
(856) 461-8615 FAX
Church Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.—12:30 a.m.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**THE
WITNESS**



Code Blue

As spring approaches and closets are repacked for next winter, please consider donations of gently used blankets to the Tri-Town Ministerium Code Blue Shelter at Zion Lutheran Church in Riverside. Thank you to those who have dug in your closets over the late fall and winter and donated gently used blankets or purchased new ones for the homeless. There is a marked box in the annex for your donations.

Isaiah 58:7 Is it not to share bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house: when you see the naked to cover them, and not to hide yourself from their own kin?

By the calendar, spring is finally here!!! When we think of spring, we also think of Easter as well as flowers, baby animals, and warmer temperatures. One of the Scriptures suggested for Easter Sunday and Christ's Resurrection is John 11:25 and 26 which reads, "Jesus said to her [Martha], 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'" These verses are in the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead in Bethany. Jesus is speaking with Lazarus's sister Martha. He also consoles their sister Mary. Jesus is close friends with Lazarus, Martha, and Mary and frequently visits with them when in their area. Jesus is grief-stricken over Lazarus's death but knows and understands why God causes these events to happen. Neither the disciples nor the family and friends of Lazarus realize Jesus not only can heal the sick but also can raise the dead. Jesus is about to show these witnesses what He is able to do with His power from God. Jesus knows very well what He is doing and why He delays in coming to see Lazarus until after he dies. He also wants to instruct Martha about the resurrection of the dead in verses 25 and 26. More importantly, He wants those present to know He Himself was and is the Resurrection and the Life.

Like many Jews, Martha claims to believe in the resurrection of the dead. Jesus gently takes her from that belief to the necessity of believing in Him. He prompts her to tell whether she believes Him to be the Christ, the Son of God. Martha's positive response is a confession God asks all believers to make. Jesus is with Martha and Mary in the presence of death, knowing with them its pain and terror, but offers life which can turn sorrow into joy and wonder. Jesus weeps with Mary. Jesus grieves at Lazarus's tomb because of the darkness which blinds the people to the Truth. They are unable to see whom it is who comes and what God will do through Him.

Jesus takes over at Lazarus's tomb and commands the stone to be removed. Jesus reminds Martha, Mary, and these witnesses that they will see the glory of God if they will believe. So often God chooses to reveal His majesty unexpectedly in lowly, broken, needy places. As the stone is rolled away, Jesus offers a prayer in which we can sense the intimacy and union between the heavenly Father and the Son. Jesus wants all who have heard Him talking with His Father, these wondering people, to know He is sent by His Father.

Then Jesus shouts, "Lazarus, come out!" This is the shout of life! John says, "The dead man came out." God speaks and something happens. The dead Lazarus hears the voice of the Shepherd and comes to life! He comes out of the tomb still bound in grave clothes. Jesus turns to the people and says, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Each of us is bound by earthly distresses such as illnesses, worries, problems, and complaints of many kinds. Only Jesus Christ can set us free. If we truly believe Jesus Christ is the Resurrection and the Life, if we honestly repent of all our sins, and if we forgive the sins of others, we will be set free of that which binds us and prevents us from living fully in Christ. Our Lord and Savior died to set us free. May we call on Him and answer as March does that we may believe Christ is the Resurrection and the Life and live with Him eternally. "Do you believe this?"

Peace

Pastor Lynne

