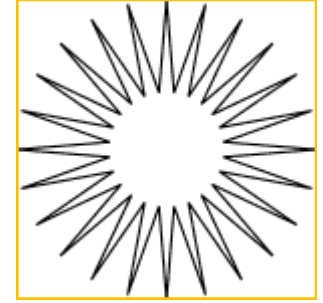
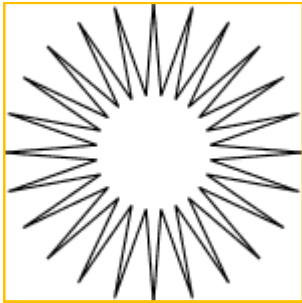


We are His Witnesses

*This is the year when we Fully Rely on God and have a life that is more than abundant.
It's a promise God made to us in John 10:10*

JANUARY 2012

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 5



THANK YOU

From Pastor Lynne and Rick: Thank all of you for all your cards, prayers, and thoughts after the death of Rick's younger brother. We appreciate your concern and are blessed by each of you.

From Pastor Lynne: Thank you to everyone for your Christmas cards and the monetary gift from the congregation. I am grateful to all of you for all your support in the ministry of our church. Thank you for your generosity.

Dates to Remember

Jan. 1 - Communion, Happy New Year!
Jan. 3 - 7:00 p.m. Deacons (undecorate the church)
Jan. 4 - 6:30 p.m. Building & Grounds Comm.
Jan. 8 - Reception of New Member; after worship, Christian Education Comm.
Jan. 9 - 9:30 a.m. Worship & Music Comm.; 7:00 p.m. Session meeting
Jan. 10 - 12:00 noon Delanco Sr. Cit. Luncheon
Jan. 11 - 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee
Jan. 17 - 7:00 p.m. Presbytery Meeting, Audubon, NJ
Jan. 19 - 7:00 p.m. Triple Towns Ministerium Peace & Unity Service, our church
Jan. 24, 31 - 7:00 p.m. Bible Study

January Birthdays

January 1 Hilda Broskey

January 1 Rev. Wanda Sevey

January 1 William Yeats

January 3 Taylor King

January 4 Wesley Stillwaggon

January 4 Adalynn Elliott

January 10 Jane Olley

January 14 Juilanna Olley

January 18 Rev Lynne Trout

January 20 Nicole Olenick

January 22 Cheryl Bracy

January 26 Harry Jenkins

January 28 George Brookover

January 28 Lindsey Sickler



Monetary Musings

Faith is the evidence not seen (Hebrews 11:1).

In many ways, our church's financial state is much like the Hebrews 11:1. Last year our pledged total was \$32,192 and yet by the end of the November \$88,000 had been given to our church. This year we have a commitment of \$21,369 for the coming year. Sixteen members have committed a portion of their financial portfolio to our church. Many of the members consistently give each week without signing a commitment card. We have money coming into the church from outside sources like our monthly hoagie and attic and basement sale, groups using the church like Code Blue and our endowments which are currently paying the pastor salary and a portion of the housing. Code Blue will be at our church through the end of the Code Blue season which is the end of March. Code Blue will be a boost to the budget for 2012. And then after all that there is faith. In many ways our budget Fully Relies On God.

All of us need to make a New Year's Resolution to pay percapita. The amount remains the same \$38.75 per member. In 2010, 47 and of our 89 members paid \$1851 out of the \$3,449 needed. The remaining amount needed to fulfill our obligation to Presbytery was taken from other donations received from the congregation. This could be a resolution kept and done in a very short amount of time not like other lengthier resolutions that take several months or the entire year.

Let's continue to keep Hebrews 11:1 in our hearts but understand God needs commitment too. For 2012 may we give freely of our time, talent and financial treasures.

Outreach

The food and paper products collected at our church go to the larger food closet at Beverly Presbyterian. They are very appreciative of our efforts. They give away 70 to 90 bags of food a month collected from various pantries like ours. Paper products such as aluminum foil and paper towels are requested because they can not be bought with food stamps. Canned meats, pasta and sauce and papers products are needed constantly. If we all contributed one donation a week our pantry would be like Noah's Ark, overflowing. As well as meeting your families needs when you shop consider helping to meet the basic needs of others who are less fortunate. Our portion, \$51, of the Peace Making Offering taken in the fall went to the food pantry.

We will host Code Blue through the end of March. Please consider volunteering to stay over night with our homeless guests. The backbone of Code Blue is volunteers which we get from the tri-town churches. We continue to collect gently used or new blankets, socks, new underwear, winter hats, gloves, mittens, and outdoor scarves for the men and women who will have a warm place to sleep on a cold harsh winter night. Thank you to Delanco Presbyterian members who have volunteered their time. The January, February, and March sign up calendars are in the annex.

The news of our recycling of # 5 plastic was made its presence known in the community. We are receiving plastic from the surrounding towns. Our family room is evidence thereof. If the plastic collected does not go to Terracycle it goes to other agencies that collect plastic and find usage other than land fills.

Thank you. Rick Trout

Pastor's Nook

According to the Presbyterian liturgical calendar, the month of January does not appear to be too exciting, compared to all the festivities of December. But there are items listed as "awareness" dates, most of which are national or international concerns, even though we may not hear Scriptures lessons or sermons about them. For example, January 11th is "Human Trafficking Awareness Day," a real heavy topic as well as a genuine concern. We also celebrate the birthday of the famous Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 16th. Then January 18th through 25th is the "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity," which the Triple Towns Ministerium will again observe by hosting a special worship service on Thursday, January 19th at 7:00 p.m. This year it will be observed in our church. This has become an annual event for our Ministerium.

When we stop to think about these events and the issues being recognized, there is a common thread connecting them and Epiphany (January 6th), when we read about the wise men from the East. I believe this thread is that we are constantly searching. The wise men or three kings were searching for the Baby Jesus. They followed the Star a long time. Scholars believe the wise men did not necessarily find Jesus as an infant, but more likely as a two-year-old. We want to remember their method of transportation was camels! But they were determined to find Jesus, and they did, for themselves and their families. It is our job to encourage them, introduce them to God, and invite them to attend church and get to know God.

So what it all comes down to is for what are we searching? It may be something different for each of us. But I believe the answer comes from the program we launched in our church in October called F.R.O.G., which means Fully Rely On God. By Fully Relying On God, we realize we are not able to do everything by ourselves. We are to emphasize God as the One who helps us do what He wants us to do. It means giving God all our joys and concerns, thanking Him for our blessings and gifts, and asking for His help and guidance in everything. It means living Paul's words in Philippians 4:4-7, especially vs. 6: "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Fully Rely On God also means we are to love, obey, and respect

In the issue of human trafficking, the object is to search for those who buy and sell people, most often children, and bring them to justice. These monsters have been trading and buying and selling children for various purposes so long and so secretively, they are very difficult to find and put a stop to this lucrative business. Again, the authorities search for them and will not give up until they are put out of business and into prison.

In recognizing and celebrating Christian Unity, we are always searching for more and newer ways to witness to others of Christ's Gospel and to attempt to bring peace on earth and goodwill to all people. This is a year-round and forever project. God wants us to spread His message to everyone, everywhere. There are people in our own communities who do not yet know the Good News. It is up to us to show them and tell them of God's great love of all of us. Those who do not come to church may be searching for a better life God in all things and at all times.

As we enter the New Year of 2012, let us continue to search; but let us also emphasize Fully Rely On God and keep on "Froggin'." In these ways we will grow closer to God, have a more intimate relationship with Him, and grow in our spirituality and in our church as we support one another and spread the Gospel News to others.

Pastor Lynne

Rev. Lynne D. Trout

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JANUARY 2012



THE WITNESS

Youth Group News

Dec 31st- 6pm till ? - Bring a snack to share

Jan 15th - Skating Trip to the Flyers Zone in Pennsauken. Meet st Church at noon

Jan. 29th - Regular Youth Soiree, bring a snack to share

The Youths will be meeting the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month

Have a Blessed, Happy & Prosperous New Year

Counter's Schedule for January

Jan 1 George and Joyce Brookover , Rick Trout

Jan 8 Carol Esposito, Jane Olley

Jan 15 Gerri Diehem, Linda Ballenger

Jan 22 Debbie Brown, Jackie Nixon

Jan 29 George and Joyce Brookover , Rick Trout

Counters: It is the counter's responsibility to find a substitute if unavailable to fulfill your scheduled Sunday.

