

# The Witness

Reverend Lynne D Trout

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## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PLANS

**OH MY GOSH!** Yes it is that time again. VBS will be held from **JUNE 29 TO JULY 3** from **9:00 am to 12:00 noon**. Registration is for Pre-K (4 yrs) to 8th grade (based on grade just completed). The cost will be \$3.00 per child or \$9.00 / family (3+). If you register before June 12 then the cost is only \$2.50 per child or \$7.50 / family (3 or more children).

VBS is a big undertaking for one week. We need lots of volunteers and of course, there is some expense involved. So if you want to help us financially, just mark your contribution as "VBS" and put it in the Sunday collection plate.

We need your shoe boxes for our mission project which is "Samaritan Purse." We will publish a list of supplies and food needed at a later date. We really appreciate all the help we get from you, our church family.

—Carol Esposito

## HOAGIES ARE COMING IN JUNE

**Help the Building & Grounds Committee do some fund raising to help pay for necessary repairs around our church. Tell your family, your business acquaintances, your friends, etc. that Hoagies are coming.**

**Exact information such as date and cost, etc. will be forth-coming soon.**

**Please take the time to pass the word and remind others of this tasty way of helping!**

## Bridge of Hope **Ending and Preventing Homelessness One Church, One Family at a Time**

July 11<sup>th</sup> is my birthday and I have a special invitation for all of you. I am a board member of the Bridge of Hope for Burlington County, an affiliate of the national Bridge of Hope. This non-profit affiliate works hard to end homelessness among women and their children. The Bridge of Hope works with mothers to help them achieve permanent housing and financial self-sufficiency. Church mentor groups give support to the family during this time. By October, we hope to have our first homeless mom and her child/children paired up with a church mentor group.

Getting back to my invitation. On the evening of July 10<sup>th</sup> into the morning of the 11<sup>th</sup>, we are having our second annual **Sleep Out** at the MLEFC or Mt. Laurel Evang. Free Church on Mt. Laurel Road to raise awareness of homelessness. Our board is made up of different Christian faiths. All you need is a tent or a big cardboard box. I am looking for a big box. Even if you can't join me, sponsoring me would be greatly appreciated. Please ask me for more information about Bridge of Hope and our **Sleep Out**. You can visit our web site at [bridgeofhopeburlington.org](http://bridgeofhopeburlington.org). Come on out.

—Rick Trout

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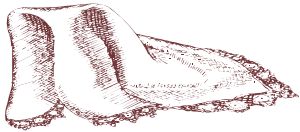
**Annual  
Congregational  
Meeting is  
postponed from  
May to June 14.  
Please turn in  
your Board &  
Committee  
Reports  
by June 1**

**BLOOD DRIVE  
Tuesday,  
June 9 2:00—  
7:30 pm.  
Contact Jackie  
Nixon (856-  
461-5044)  
to set up  
appointment  
for giving your  
gift of life!**



**Starting June 21, 2009**

**9:00am-Fellowship / Fellowship Hall  
9:30 am-Worship Service**



**PRAYER SHAWL  
MINISTRY**

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is up and going strong. New people are always welcome. Our blessed shawls have been distributed to shut-ins and others over the last few months.

The Summer is for all to work on their shawls at their pace, but no meetings are scheduled for June, July & August.

Remember, there are no set standards - you pick your yarn & pattern and create from the heart with love and prayers. Contact Sue Mullen if you need yarn to get started on your own.

**BETTER LATE  
THAN NEVER**

A few years ago, 97-year-old Edmond Fryar became a pastor in North Carolina. When someone asked him why he waited so long to be ordained, he answered, "wanted to be sure God was talking to me."

Christians don't need to wait for God to tell them that they're needed to serve. Not only is this the day the Lord has made, it's the day Christians have kingdom work to do.

**MISSION NEWS!**

—Thank you one and all for your support of the missions we share here at First Presbyterian Church.

†† Christian Books Fair brought in \$61 in donations towards mission. Thank you for your donations of both books and money!

†† On May 9th, Gerrie Diehm rocked her support of America's KESWICK in Whiting, New Jersey as part of the 2009 Family Freedom Walk. Thank you to all who donated towards Gerrie's effort to help. \$320 was given to the Colony of Mercy at America's Keswick as a result of your generosity.

—The Colony of Mercy is the oldest residential Christian addiction recovery program in the US. Since 1897 over 18,000 men and their families have learned that Jesus Christ is the answer to freedom over the bondage of addiction. It is not only the man's life that gets transformed when he goes to the Colony of Mercy, the family as a whole is impacted through the ministries of Women of Character, Kids of Promise and Families for Christ. America's KESWICK is helping men from right here in our area and all across the US. It is a mission field in our own backyard.

—When a man goes to the Colony he pays a \$240 application fee and that's it! The rest of the money to pay for his 120-day stay is funded by friends of the ministry just like you and I. It costs over \$7,000 per man and over \$800,000 per year to operate the addiction recovery ministries.

—Gerrie Diehm Call 856-461-6286 for further details and to donate.

Jeanne Mehling and a group will be going to Church World Service in New Windsor, MD on June 21-22 to do volunteer work with SERRV and Church World Service. Our small efforts make an on-going difference. Call Jeanne at the Church Office for any details.



**INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK**

—IHN WEEK will be held at First Presbyterian on June 21-28, 2009 hosting families in need. We always need people to stay overnight (9 pm to 6:30 am) with the families and on emergency basis.

—This is a local mission project, here, in Burlington County. We help local working homeless families. If you have never had an opportunity to help before, take the time now. It is well worth the effort, just ask any former and/or current volunteer.

**Please contact Jackie Nixon 856-461-5044.**



## PASTOR LYNNE

**1 John 1:3 says: "We declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ."**

One key word in this verse is written twice, the word "fellowship." John describes fellowship with us and fellowship with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. By having fellowship with each other, we also experience fellowship with God. Over the past several months we continue to build fellowship within our faith community. Through new and continuing activities, our congregation is joining together and enjoying fellowship with each other. This results in the planning of more activities.

As occurs with all churches from time to time, the economy of our towns, state and country affects the economy of other entities. We have bills to pay with limited income. Our Building and Grounds Committee is in the process of developing activities which will both promote fellowship and raise much-needed money. In the next few weeks and months, we anticipate having hoagie sales on a regular monthly basis and spaghetti, ham, and/or beef dinners occasionally. We cannot do these things using only the committee members. We would greatly appreciate your help as well. There will be many opportunities for all of us to work together, to build fellowship with each other as well as those in our community-at-large, to spread the Gospel, to earn money to help with our bills, and to have greater fellowship with our Lord. For those who want to help but are unable to come to us, we will come to you and let you know how you can help. We anticipate having the whole church involved, even if only to buy the food!

God wants us to continue to build fellowship with each other, with the community, and with Him. May we all become excited about these new opportunities to grow spiritually with one another and with God.

**Pastor Lynne**



**Five steps to a friendlier church!**

- 1. Speak to the other person first. Don't wait for him or her to take the initiative.**
- 2. If there is someone you don't know, introduce yourself to him or her.**
- 3. Be pleasant in your words and expressions. A great church cannot be built with frowns.**
- 4. Invite newcomers to a worship service or to a church event and introduce them to other members.**
- 5. Encourage people to participate in those church activities that interest them.**

**WELCOMED AS  
NEW MEMBERS ON  
MAY 31ST:**

**ANNA CONVERY,  
JONATHAN JENNINGS,  
TAYLOR KING,  
HOLLY SICKLER, &  
KAITLYN TRIMBLE!**

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF  
SHARING OFFERING:  
\$374.36**

WAS DONATED AND  
SENT TO PRESBYTERY  
OF WEST JERSEY!  
THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR CONTINUED  
GENEROSITY!

**DEAR DEACONS:**

Thank you once again for your generosity. I am very blessed to be a part of such a caring fellowship. This fall, I will be completing my Bachelor's degree in Speech Pathology and Audiology, and will be serving as President of the Speech and Hearing Club at the Richard Stockton College of NJ.

I finished this year with a 3.87 GPA, and hope to graduate magna cum laude or even summa cum laude. I could not have done this without your support. Many Thanks and God Bless!  
Sincerely,  
**Lindsey Sickler**

*Reverend Lynne D Trout*

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THE  
WITNESS



### **"America"**

Samuel Francis Smith, a Baptist pastor, wrote the hymn "America" in 1831. Smith was studying a tune he had never heard, although he knew the British used it for the hymn "God Save the King." The British had borrowed the tune from the Germans, who gave it patriotic lyrics.

Smith described what happened as he contemplated the tune: "I instantly felt the impulse to write a patriotic hymn of my own, adapted to the tune. Picking up a scrap of waste paper which lay near me, I wrote at once, probably within half an hour, the hymn 'America,' as it is now known everywhere."

Smith's friend and classmate Oliver Wendell Holmes once told him, "Your name and fame will live when I and my works are forgotten."

**CHURCH NOTES**

**Edward S. Price (79) passed away on May 5, 2009**

Edward who loved chocolate chip cookies was a long-time resident of Delanco and Riverside and member of First Presbyterian Church. Ed and his late wife, Carol were former owners of Ed's Garden Mart in Delanco. He also made and sold wood lawn ornaments in his retirement with his late wife. Ed retired from US Pipe, was a former employee of F W Woolworth, Philadelphia and a former member of Riverside Turners. Ed and Carol have three children, Patricia Rich (Boyton Beach FL) , Denise Leith (Beverly) & Douglas Price (Monroe NJ).



**Recent Graduates**

Zachery Ciemiengo—BA in Elementary & Special Education—Holy Family University—with honors  
 Elyse Convery—Riverside High — accepted to Rutgers University  
 Taylor King—8th grade—Delanco  
 Lindsey Sickler—Richard Stockton College—next fall—BS of Speech Pathology & Audiology—with honors  
 Stephan Mehling—BS in Aerospace Engineering—Florida Institute of Technology—May 2009—summa cum laude—started graduate school—will graduate with Masters degree in May 2010



**Chancel Flowers Dedications**

Two flower bouquets are used at Sunday worship services.

Each flower bouquet costs \$8.00. Please make checks to Deacon's Flower Fund. When dedications are not made then the flowers are paid out of donations for other purposes. You may take them home or donate to shut-ins.

Flower dedications are available all year long:

1. sign up for a date in the Annex
2. contacting Vera Taylor (856) 461-6074
3. write to the church with your dedication and check for one or two bouquets.

Flowers Needed for Jun/Jul/Aug/Sep/Oct

**Choir Rehearsals in September—May**  
**2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**and each Sunday at 10:00 am**  
**Contact Nancy Gager**

**UPDATES OF SOLDIERS IN MILITARY**

\*Owen Brennan — Deploying to Mexico  
 \*Chief MSgt. Chris McCullough — Texas—congratulations!  
 Jason Carroll—IRAQ  
 Dan Morales—IRAQ  
 Nate Griscom —IRAQ & Afghanistan

**DELANCO SENIOR CITIZENS**  
**MEETS AT NOON EVERY SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH FROM SEPTEMBER 2008 UNTIL MAY 2009.**

**Monthly Meetings During September—June**

**Worship & Music Committee Meeting**  
**on 1st Monday at 10:00 a.m.**

**Deacons Meeting**  
**on 1st Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.**

**Christian Education Meeting on 1st Sunday**  
**after worship**

**Session Meeting on 2nd Monday at 7:00 p.m.**

**Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting**  
**3rd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.**

**Mission Committee Meeting**  
**(See Gerrie Diehm)**