

REV. LYNNE D. TROUT



Next hoagie sale will be Saturday March 19th, 2011. Orders must be in by Tuesday March 15th at 5pm.

March Dates to Remember

Tues., Mar. 1 - 6:00 p.m. Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Deacons

Wed., Mar. 2 - 6:30 pm . Building & Grounds

Sun., Mar. 6 - Christian Ed., after worship

Tues., Mar., 8, 22, 29 - 7:00 p.m. Bible Study

Wed., Mar. 9 - 8:30 a.m. Ash Wednesday Worship with Communion

9:00 a.m. Breakfast

7:00 p.m. Worship with Communion

Mon., Mar. 14 - 10:00 a.m. Worship and Music
7:00 p.m. Session

Wed., Mar. 16 - 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee

Thurs., Mar. 17 - 7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl

Sat., Mar. 19 - Hoagie pick-up; A&B sale



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MARCH 2011

Celebrating 138 years of God's Love

Seeking comments from members

We would like your opinion on the following questions:

- 1. How would you go about growing our congregation?**
- 2. How can we as a church serve you?**
- 3. Would like the pastor or a church officer to visit you?**

Please prayerfully consider these questions

Please add other questions if you wish?

In the next few weeks an elder or deacon will be contacting you for your response to this questionaire.

March Birthdays

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 3/01 - Mark Thurman | 3/14 - Janice Bienkowski | 3/28 - Arlene Phillips |
| 3/04 - Rev. Dr. Virginia Smith | 3/17 - Alissa Stillwaggon | 3/30 - Lenora Krenze |
| 3/08 - John Matzer | 3/17 - Hailey Stillwaggon | |
| 3/12 - Robin Brown | 3/20 - Steve Diehm | |
| 3/12 - Eileen Wolverton | 3/21 - Rev. Ron Rathje | |
| | 3/22 - Linda Ballenger | |

Hoagie Sale

Orders must be in by March 19h 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 March 15th Between 11am & 12:30pm

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 Co-ordinator

Monetary Musing from the Finance/Stewardship Committee

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

As spring is just around the corner and the renewal of God's earth is set in motion, we as a church go forward with the approved budget for 2011 behind us. There will be financial hurdles ahead as evidenced by the need to borrow from our endowments during 2010. Thank you to the members of Delanco who committed during the stewardship drive in support of Delanco's ministries locally and regionally. Thank you for investing your time, talents and treasure for our church. There are still a few who have not picked up their envelopes. They are in the annex. Please pick them up as soon as possible.

God has blessed our church in so many ways that we all need to be thankful and grateful for what God has done and continues to do for our church. Please attempt to keep your contributions current. This enables us to pay bills in a timely manner, pay staff salaries, meet our per capita expenses and support our missions. A reporting of the income and expenses will resume next month.

Rick Trout, Finance/Stewardship Committee

Counter's Schedule for March

March 6 Carol Esposito, Dave Convery and Jane Olley

March 13 Gerri Diehm, Linda Ballenger and Sue Mullen

March 20 Debbie Brown, Jackie Nixon and Vera Taylor

March 27 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

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

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Church Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.—12:30 a.m.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



THE WITNESS

Code Blue

The Tri-Town Ministerium is collecting gently used or new blankets for the Code Blue Shelter at Zion Lutheran Church in Riverside. Thank you to those who have dug in your closets to find gently used blankets or purchased new ones. There is a marked box in the annex for your kind donations. Code Blue will go through to the end of March.

See Rick Trout if you want more information concerning donating prepared meals or staying over night at Zion during a Code Blue night.

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?

On March 9, 2011, we begin Lent with the observance of Ash Wednesday. We will have our annual worship service with communion at 8:30 a.m. followed by breakfast in the fellowship hall at 9:00 a.m. for a donation of \$3.00. We will also have a worship service with communion at 7:00 p.m. for those who are unable to attend the morning worship. In preparing ourselves for this Lenten season, I suggest we read Psalm 51, subtitled “The Penitent’s Psalm.” It is David’s prayer for forgiveness and his confession of all sins committed with Bathsheba. When looking at this psalm, it seems to be in three parts: recognizing and acknowledging his sins, praying for forgiveness, and God’s accepting everything David says.

We all long for renewal in every area of our lives. Renewal is a deep inner belief of our own sin and poverty followed by a fresh cleansing and filling in with God’s Spirit. Renewal also involves an amount of pain. The deepest renewal is spiritual with a moral base. Since God is holy and He has given us a conscience, we cannot be renewed unless we confess our sins to Him and are forgiven. Psalm 51 is a key to new life and opens the door to a radical change for each of us who are willing to pray this prayer from the heart.

David makes a mess of his life with a whole chain of sins starting with lust and ending with murder. When he tries to cover his tracks, he digs his hole even deeper. In this sense, David is no different from us. Finally the Lord confronts him through Nathan the prophet. When David confesses to Nathan, David receives mercy. Psalm 51 I David’s deep, prayerful, agonizing response to his catastrophe. David discovers all sin is against God because it is God who orders all of life. To fall on our faces before the Lord, as David does, is a new beginning. It is to recognize our sins as rebelling against the living and true God.

God looks for us to admit our sin, acknowledge our sin is against God, and get to the depths of our sins in utter helplessness by throwing ourselves on God’s mercy. Knowing God loves us, we cry out for cleansing.

Verses 10-13 are a focal point. *“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.”* In these words David, and we, pray for a re-creation reflecting the original creation itself. We look with David for a radical new beginning in mind, a longing ultimately fulfilled in Christ. We look for total newness so we do not fall back into our sinful ways.

Beyond a new heart is worship and witness. As David asks for joy earlier, he now connects it to salvation which includes deliverance from the penalty and power of sin. This is God’s gift to us. As God brings deliverance, it will come. This is the joy of enemies defeated, of victory over death. Beyond these benefits, there is the joy of the Lord’s presence. Jesus promises our sorrow over His death will be short. Jesus is here; this is joy! This is true worship before Him!

Pastor Lynne