

# The Witness

Volume 10, Issue 3

Reverend Lynne D Trout

November 2009

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**Orders must be in by November 17th for your delicious hoagies from the crew here at The First Presbyterian Church of Delanco**

**Call**

**856-461-6778**

Share your Blessings  
Sunday School  
Breakfast

November 15th  
9:30am. All invited



9:00 am-Breakfast with Jesus

9:30 am-Church School

10:00 am-Choir Rehearsal

11:00 am-Worship  
Service

After worship (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday)

Refreshment Time in Annex

## John Calvin (1509–1564)

### Founder of Presbyterian Faith

Born July 10, 1509 in Noyon, France, Jean Calvin was raised in a staunch Roman Catholic family. The local bishop employed Calvin's father as an administrator in the town's cathedral. The father, in turn, wanted John to become a priest. Because of close ties with the bishop and his noble family, John's playmates and classmates in Noyon (and later in Paris) were aristocratic and culturally influential in his early life.

At the age of 14 Calvin went to Paris to study at the College de Marche in preparation for university study. His studies consisted of seven subjects: grammar, rhetoric, logic, arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, and music. Toward the end of 1523 Calvin transferred to the more famous College Montaigu. While in Paris he changed his name to its Latin form, Ioannis Calvinus, which in French became Jean Calvin. During this time, Calvin's education was paid for in part by income from a couple of small parishes. So although the new theological teachings of individuals like Luther and Jacques Lefevre d'Etaples were spreading throughout Paris, Calvin was closely tied to the Roman Church. However, by 1527 Calvin had developed friendships with individuals who were reform-minded. These contacts set the stage for Calvin's eventual switch to the Reformed faith. Also, at this time Calvin's father advised him to study law rather than theology.

By 1528 Calvin moved to Orleans to study civil law. The following years found Calvin studying in various places and under various scholars, as he received a humanist education. By 1532 Calvin finished his law studies and also published his first book, a commentary on De Clementia by the Roman philosopher, Seneca. The following year Calvin fled Paris because of contacts with individuals who through lectures and writings opposed the Roman Catholic Church. It is thought that in 1533 Calvin experienced the sudden and unexpected conversion that he writes about in his foreword to his commentary on the Psalms.

For the next three years, Calvin lived in various places outside of France under various names. He studied on his own, preached, and began work on his first edition of the *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, an instant best seller. By 1536 Calvin had disengaged himself from the Roman Catholic Church and made plans to permanently leave France and go to Strasbourg. However, war had broken out between Francis I and Charles V, so Calvin decided to make a one-night detour to Geneva.

But Calvin's fame in Geneva preceded him. Farel, a local reformer, invited him to stay in Geneva and threatened him with God's anger if he did not. Thus began a long, difficult, yet ultimately fruitful relationship with that city. He began as a lecturer and preacher, but by 1538 was asked to leave because of theological conflicts. He went to Strasbourg until 1541. His stay there as a pastor to French refugees was so peaceful and happy that when in 1541 the Council of Geneva requested that he return to Geneva, he was emotionally torn. He wanted to stay in Strasbourg but felt a responsibility to return to Geneva. He did so and remained in Geneva until his death May 27, 1564. Those years were filled with lecturing, preaching, and the writing of commentaries, treatises, and various editions of the *Institutes of the Christian Religion*.



**CAMDEN**  
**FOOD**  
**SHELF**

Please donate fall & winter clothing. Mark bags: Camden/Phillips and place in closet. Children's clothing s always needed!!! Please donate Coats, Sweaters, Sweatshirts and place them in box in Annex!!

**Interfaith Hospitality Network of Burlington County**

228 Mount Laurel Road  
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054  
856-638-0110  
856-638-0115 Fax #  
[IHNBC@aol.com](mailto:IHNBC@aol.com)

*A Community Response for Homeless Families*

**ART AUCTION**

**Event:** “Taste of the Towns”- Art Auction to benefit Interfaith

Hospitality Network of Burlington County

**Date:** Friday, November 13, 2009

**Location:** First United Methodist Church of Moorestown  
466 Camden Avenue, Moorestown, NJ 08057

**Contact:** Kathy Hiltner, 609-502-3314

Interfaith Hospitality Network of Burlington County will host an Art Auction at the First United Methodist Church of Moorestown at 466 Camden Avenue, Moorestown on Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. A fun-filled preview of the artwork will begin at 6:30pm and will include refreshments from restaurants and caterers from the communities that support the agency. We will have a “*Taste of the Towns*” for everyone to enjoy.

The art auction will begin promptly at 7:30pm. Join us for this captivating evening. Admission is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple, which includes fun, food and prizes. For tickets call 856-638-0110.

November 2009

## Pastor Lynne

This month, on November 26<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate Thanksgiving. In America, most people will sit with other family members and/or friends and share a meal. Before eating, some will offer a prayer blessing the food and thanking God for what they will eat; others will not give thanks. We have many reasons to be thankful. When we stop to think about it, how often do we remember to thank God before eating, or any time? Do we only give thanks on Thanksgiving and other major holidays? Psalm 107:1 says: "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever." The psalmist does not put restrictions on when to give thanks. He does not tell us to give thanks only on Sundays when we are worshiping in church. He simply says to give thanks because the Lord is good and his steadfast love endures forever.

We often seem to take God's blessings and gifts for granted. We know God loves us because we read it in the Bible and learn about his love from the beginning of our lives onward. But do we remember to thank God for any reason, large or small, at any time? After all, it takes very little time or effort to say "Thank you, God." What it takes is remembering to do it.

As we enter the season for formally giving thanks for all the blessings in our lives, we may want to think about beginning a new habit of giving thanks to God every day for at least one thing. We can thank God for everything in our lives since he gives us everything.

Paul knows the importance of thanking God. In Ephesians 5:19-20, he says, "... as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Paul gives us good instructions, if we can remember them.

May we each make an effort to thank God more often for all his blessings and gifts, not only on Thanksgiving, but every day of our lives. In thanking God, we will find God may increase those blessings and gifts. This is one way in which we can strengthen our love and relationship with God and draw closer to him. May we truly be thankful.

*Pastor Lynne*

The IHN will be here Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> and volunteers will be needed. This is a local mission that helps working families from this county. Two of our families recently moved into apartments and one family was placed during their stay with our Church. This is a very worthwhile mission and it can not be done without volunteers from our Church and our two support Churches - Calvary Presbyterian and Sacred Heart Catholic Church (both in Riverton). Volunteers can contact Jackie Nixon, IHN Coordinator, at 461-5044.

*Thank you*

*Jackie Nixon*



*Reverend Lynne D Trout*

First Presbyterian Church of Delanco

505 Union Avenue

P. O. Box 5085

Delanco, NJ 08075

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(856) 461-2515

(856) 461-8615 FAX

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



**THE  
WITNESS**

### A Letter of Love and Thanksgiving for All

I would like to thank everyone for all their prayers and cards that I have received all these many months since I have been sick and in pain. It certainly has been a comfort to know that so many have cared enough and let me know they are thinking of me

I want to thank Pastor Lynne for her many visits to my home as well as the hospital and rehab. She always made my day each and every time we were together.

I to soon be able to fill my seat in the back row of the Church once again.

*Doris McCullough*