

THE SPIRE

BOONTON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • January 2011

Faith, Hope and Love in ACTION!

DEAR SAINTS,

As I write to you, I'm on vacation at a deliciously-quiet, snow-bound retreat hideaway. Part of this wonderful time away affords me additional freedom to ponder and pray with particular psalms.

Today I opened up to one of my 'favs'—Psalm 84. Psalm 84's overall theme is the JOY and celebration experienced by a sojourner returning to his home-soil and tabernacle (specifically Solomon's temple) and the joy he experiences with God not only at his arrival to the sanctuary, but also the joy and gratitude for the pilgrimage to/from the "Dwelling Place" of the Lord.

Back in the fall I preached on Ps. 84 for the Sunday that we returned to worship in **our** newly renovated tabernacle. It was a perfect text, for a wonderful day, when we joyously processed in with all the elements of our worship space and reconstituted our new tabernacle.

As I read and prayed Ps. 84 again this morning, I was struck by the amazing parallel to this year's Christmas Eve worship services — both of which were joyous, meaningful and a little unusual.

Some of you know we took a survey of regular attendees this fall, to poll whether we might change the hours of the Christmas Eve services, to improve sliding attendance. The results, the comments, and even

the participation were mixed. Since there was no overwhelming trend or desire to change, we left worship times the same as in recent years.

Interestingly, attendance was up 36% at **both** services! This is always encouraging for pastors, choirs, worship committees and staff. But here's the remarkable thing: many of the 'usual suspects' were not in attendance. Instead, there seemed to be an *unusually* high number of visitors, friends

*How lovely is thy dwelling place,
O LORD of hosts!*

of friends of the church, and even individuals who had no connection to the church, who sojourned to worship with us on this Holy night.

Quite a few of the visitors, on their way out, all said something to the effect: "**I'm so glad I came.**" "**I thoroughly enjoyed this.**" "**I WILL be back!**"

This, dear Saints, is very good news that strangers feel welcomed and met by God.

The psalmist speaks to this that "even the sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for herself where she may lay her young." It seems to me that as we continue being more outwardly and more mission focused, our worship time and

space is a very important part of "making disciples of all nations" (Matt 28).

You, Saints, are the ones who have inspired and enabled a wonderful new tabernacle and meaningful worship by offering your gifts of time, treasure and talents, your gifts of hospitality and generosity, your leadership and manual labor, and your genuine friendliness. Together, we have created (with God's grace) a place and space in which God not

only delights in dwelling but also a setting that sojourners from near/far are drawn to, and want to return to.

This brings great joy to my heart as I know it does yours, but most importantly it brings joy to God's heart.

So whether you are able to worship with us in person or in spirit, I encourage you to receive, celebrate (and pass on) the joy of a beautiful and life-giving tabernacle which **allows** us to experience God's movement, **equips** us to make disciples of all nations and **invites** others to do the same.

Blessed Christmas-tide.

**En-JOY-ing worshipping with you
in Christ,**

♥ Jen

Presbyterian Women:



are sponsoring
the annual

SOUP AND CHILI COOK-OFF

Where will you be on Sunday, January 30 at 5:30 PM?

We hope you and your family (including children) will be in Reighart Hall for the start of this year's

SOUP & CHILI COOK-OFF



Now that the busiest part of the Holiday season is over we can turn our minds to the next big event we love so much; the Soup & Chili Cook-off. There is a sign-up sheet located on the door to the bridge for making a soup or chili or, if you prefer, sign up to come and just eat. We'd like to know how many people to plan for.

At the Cook-off you will be asked to vote for the best soup and chili. Prizes will be awarded. A free-will offering will be taken and donated to the Morristown Soup Kitchen.

See you at the Cook-off!

Snow date is February 13th ♥

PW is having a **KNITTING WORKSHOP ON JAN. 9TH.** (time to be announced). We need women who would like to teach knitting and crotcheting as well as those who would like to learn these skills. Bring daughters and nieces. See Shannon or Marisa if you have any questions. There will be a sign-up sheet on the PW board. ♥

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Tekna Theou and R.O.C.K. will be collecting dry goods and financial donations for the Souper Bowl of Caring in February. (stay tuned for more details)
All FOOD will be donated to Boonton Food Pantry
All MONEY collected will be donated to a charity selected by the youth groups.
Please support the youth of our church in this effort. ♥



Dear First Church,

Since its installation and musical debut, it has been a thrill for me to play the new Allen Organ in the newly renovated sanctuary. It is an honor to practice and perform on such a glorious (and worry-free) instrument. I have also been enjoying the new view of the congregation now that the organ is out of its previous 'pit'. Thank you to all those who contributed to the Organ Fund and Trinity Fund over the years to make this venture possible!

*Musically yours,
♥ Sarah Frederick ♥*

Concert - January 30! at 7:30 PM

After the Soup and Chili Cook-off, come to the concert in the sanctuary — featuring the Metropolitan Saxophone Quartet. The concert starts at 7:30 pm, so you have plenty of time to have a wonderful dinner and then enjoy the concert. Admission is free!
See details about the concert on page 3. ♥

NOTES FROM SARAH

JANUARY 2011

<http://www.fpcboonton.org>

*"In the bleak midwinter, frost wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.*

*What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him, give my heart."*

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

The Advent season and **Christmas Eve** services were adorned with uplifting musical presentations by those involved in the music ministry at First Presbyterian Church. **Thank you to the Chancel Choir, Hand Bell Choir, and instrumentalists** for sharing your time and musical talents in worship services during this celebratory season.

Special Note of Thanks to all the participants in the musical presentation of "Journey of Promises" presented on Sunday, December 12. This uplifting and seasonally enriching musical worship service was the result of the support and dedication of the members of Chancel Choir. Additional thanks to our narrators Dan Carhart and Marty Homeijer, as well as Kyle Mlynarski for volunteering their time and talents to this artistic endeavor. Thank you also to the members of the congregation for your ongoing support of the music ministry at First Presbyterian.

During the 7PM **Christmas Eve** service, "Double Take" provided a humorous version of the two inspiring stories of the birth of our Lord. Special thanks to the parents, children, and youth who contributed their time and talents to make this pageant a success!

Attention Choirs: There will be *NO* rehearsals on Thursday, January 6th. Rehearsals will *NOT* be held before or after church on Sunday, January 2nd.

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE:

Rehearsals will resume as follows:

Chancel Choir –
Thursday, **January 13th**
Hand Bell Choir –
Thursday, **February 3rd**
Children's Choir –
TBA – stay tuned!

JANUARY Rehearsals as follows:

Chancel Choir –
Thursdays, 7:30 - 9PM
Hand Bell Choir –
Thursdays, 6:30 - 7:30PM
(Feb 3 & 17; Mar 3, 17, & 31)

If you are interested in becoming a member of any of the above-mentioned choirs, please call or e-mail the organist/choir director, Sarah Frederick (973-334-3535, ext 18, or babbleon247@yahoo.com). Hope to see you at the next rehearsal!



First Presbyterian Church
presents

The Metropolitan Saxophone Quartet

Sunday, January 30, 2011,
7:30 PM

The Metropolitan Saxophone Quartet is setting new standards for saxophone performance. With their excellent precision of classical saxophone techniques as well as their "Burning" jazz and big band charts, the Metropolitan Saxophone Quartet achieves a high level of performance in a variety of settings, while captivating their audiences of all ages. With their excellent and enthusiastic love of music combined with their light sense of humor, the M.S.Q. brings joy and fun into each performance and has audiences wanting more.

The M.S.Q. has been playing in New Jersey and New York since 2004 with performances held at Nyack College in Nyack, New York and throughout churches and community facilities throughout North Jersey. The M.S.Q. has a unique understanding of music which is evident in their arrangements of many classical and jazz selections, touched with humorous movement and excitement in their performance.

The Quartet consists of Erik Conough, soprano saxophone, Andrew Lopez, alto saxophone, John Di Egigio, tenor Saxophone, and Michael Cardillo, alto saxophone.

All are performers and teachers in schools, colleges, and their own private studios.

The program will be held on Sunday, January 30, in the church sanctuary at 7:30pm, directly following the Soup and Chili Cook-off. Admission is free and a free will offering will be taken at the conclusion of the concert.

**New Officer's
TRAINING**
January 8
9 am - 4 pm

**ORDINATION/
INSTALLATION
OF OFFICERS**
January 9
10 am

*Trinity
Celebration
Worship*
January 23
10 am

**Annual
Congregational
Meeting**
January 23
11:15 am

*Trinity
Celebration
Luncheon*
January 23
11:15 am

**PW
Soup & Chili
Cook-off**
January 30
5:30 pm

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

We enjoy receiving *The Spire* every month and love to hear about our dear Boonton friends and God's work in and through First Presbyterian Church. Since our move from Boonton in 1996, our lives have been busy with the joys of raising a family, but we remember fondly the warmth and community of First Church. Enclosed is a donation for the Trinity Fund in memory of Peg and Ray Banta, our dear neighbors in "the flats."

Blessings in abundance,
Cynthia and David Werth
Scottsdale AZ

P.S. Our "babies" were baptized at First Church and are almost 17 and 15 now.

December 2010

Dear Rev. Jen and
First Presbyterian Friends,

Have a Blessed Christmas.








I retired in June and am helping care for Mother, Carolyn (94 years old), in her home. She is very tired and frail. We are committed, through love, until God wants her home with Him.

God Bless You, Lyn Friedman

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE FOR 2011!

Eligible students must be attending or planning to attend an accredited college or professional school. Please call 973-334-3535 or email fpcboonton.org for applications and answers to your questions. Look for further information in upcoming issues of *The Spire*.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JANUARY 2011						
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!						

10:00 Worship COMMUNION  11:15 Coffee Hr	7:00 Worship Comm. Meeting 7:30 Evangelism Committee Mtg.	10:00 Needlers (at Sophy's) 7:30 MI and Stewardship Comm.	6:45 Presby/Aires at Country Home 7:30 PW Board Mtg.	7:00 pm Singers, Ringers & Worship Committee at the Kearney's for a Holiday Get-together	6:00 Cubs - Wolves/Webelos 7:00 Cubs - Webelos	9 am - 4 pm New Officers Training (Library) PREBVAIRES Holiday Party Reighart Hall 5:30 PM
Rev. Jen vacation January 4 - 7, 2011						
9:00 Confirmation Class 10:00 Worship Ordination/Installation of Officers 11:15 Coffee Hr. Knitting Workshop 7:00 A.A.	7:30 SESSION	10:00 Presbytery Meeting at Chatham Twp. Presbyterian Cindy Bolbach- Moderator 7:00 A.A.	7:00 Cubs - Tigers 7:30 Chancel Choir 	4:00 Girl Scouts Troop 57	12:00 Girl Scouts Troop 453	
9:00 Confirmation Class 10:00 Worship 11:15 Coffee Hour 7:00 A.A.	Martin Luther King Jr. BIRTHDAY Office Closed 7:30 Christian Education Meeting 	10:00 Needlers (at Sophy's)	6:45 Presby/Aires at Chelsea at Montville	7:30 Chancel Choir 	7 pm Cub Scouts Pack 201 	8 am Cub Scouts Pak 201
9:00 Confirmation Cl. 10:00 TRINITY Celebration WORSHIP Annual Congregational Mtg. 11:15 TRINITY Celebration Luncheon	7:00 Worship Commission Meeting		7:30 Deacons Mtg.	7:30 Chancel Choir 	4:00 Girl Scouts Troop 57	
10:00 Worship 5:30 Soup & Chili Cookoff 7:30 Metro Sax Concert 7:00 A.A. 						

ACTION!!!

Please contact Charles Homeijer - ch.home@yahoo.com to receive *The Spire* by email !!!



BUDGET 2010:

- Income is tracking on budget.
- The expenses are now tracking on budget.
- Currently the budget net income is - \$5,153.00.
- The additional contributions to the restricted funds total \$153,878.12 for the period.

JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 12, 2010					
	Pledged	Non-pledged	Plate	ZERO*Budget	Expenses
2010 Budget	133,653.85	38,461.54	2,403.85	219,278.85	219,278.85
2010 Actual	123,310.40	58,972.88	3,484.56	216,506.00	198,159.54
2009 Actual	133,568.00	37,625.00	2,162.45		

* Current income compared to zeroing out the deficit budget.

2011 Stewardship “Renewal” Campaign



The 2011 Stewardship “*Renewal*” campaign has resulted in 54 pledges to date. An increase over 2010. We **encourage** all to commit a “pledge” of support for next year, which will make our budget planning process much simpler.

TRINITY FUND:

- Currently the **pledged** amount to the Fund is \$383,477.71
- The amount **received** stands at \$357,763.84

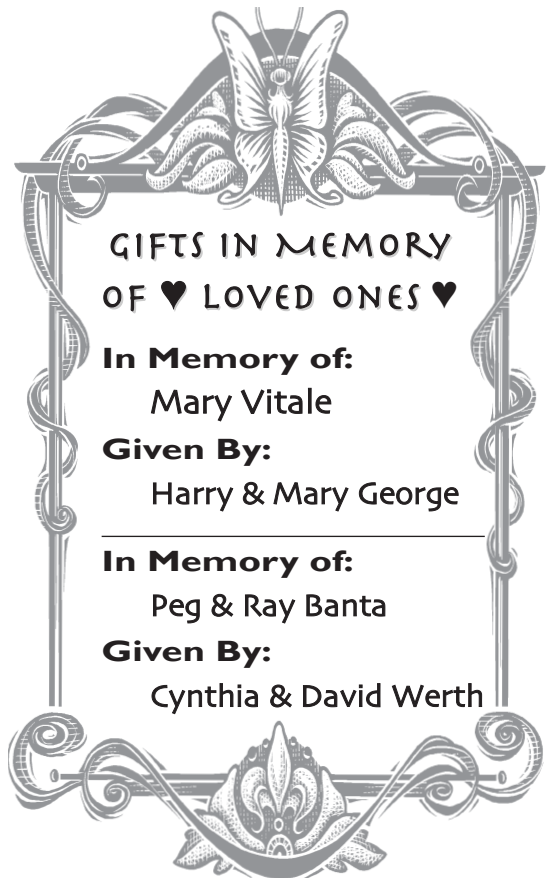
MISSION CAMPAIGN:

- \$7,735.24 has been **collected** in 2010.
- \$5,724.66 has been **distributed** to missions to date.



JANUARY

- 2Laura Whittemore
- 4Donna Keoppel
- 4Don Kearney
- 9Sarah Thoele
- 15Louise Hasselmann
- 17Olivia Matalon
- 21Pauline Weber
- 24Chelsea Crozier
- 25Bjorn Hordnes
- 27Vito DeLaro
- 30Andy Crozier
- 30Donald Nix



GIFTS IN MEMORY
OF ♥ LOVED ONES ♥

In Memory of:

Mary Vitale

Given By:

Harry & Mary George

In Memory of:

Peg & Ray Banta

Given By:

Cynthia & David Werth

AND GOD SHALL GRIEVE WITH ...

THE MORRA FAMILY — David, brother-in-law of Peter Lanigan, suffered a massive heart attack and passed away. Please pray for his wife Donna; their sons, David and Matthew; and rest of the family, as they mourn their loss.

THE FAMILY & FRIENDS OF BETH ANN HYDE — long-time friend of Kim Riter, Beth was called home to her Lord after many years of a spirited battle with cancer.

THE FAMILY & FRIENDS OF TAYLOR SEFCIK — 10th grade student in Montville HS, are mourning the death of Taylor, who was called home to his Lord in December.



JOYS

LOYD AND TERRY CHARLTON — welcome their new grandson Jackson Scott Crespo born on Nov 22, 2010 to Bekak and Ray Crespo.

THANK YOU — to everyone who contributed by either volunteering or shopping at the **Boonton Area Ecumenical Council "Ten Thousand Villages Store."** In three short days the store sold over \$3,700 of merchandise. The total amount has been sent back to Ten Thousand Villages, who disburses the monies directly to people, in villages around the world, who made these fine gifts. (See photo below)



IN OUR PRAYERS: Concerns

SHIRLEY FRANKLIN — mother of Jeff Nordfors, was hospitalized and is now home recovering from irregular heart rate. Prayers are asked for a complete recovery.

DOT MCNULTY — friend of Marilyn Terhune-frequent visitor to FPCB, fell and was badly bruised. Please pray for a complete and swift recovery.

DENISE NICKEL — was hospitalized for pancreatitis and had her gall bladder removed. She came through the surgery well and expects to be in full health shortly.

HENRY APPELIAN — was also hospitalized for pancreatitis and is now home resting, awaiting further tests and plans, if any. He is still very weak and strictly on fluids. Please keep Henry and his wife Virginia in you prayers.

ED KALBFLEISCH — friend of the Whipples, was diagnosed with multiple cancers. Please pray for Ed as he waits for further test results and treatment options; and for his wife, Becky; and children, Carly and Zack.

BRENNA HASSELMANN — 10 year-old granddaughter of Tom and Louise, has had numerous surgeries to correct a very rare lung disease. Please continue to pray for Brenna and the entire family as they await additional treatments and options.



Pictured above is the store on Main St., Boonton, which was used to sell the merchandise of the BAEC (Boonton Area Ecumenical Council) "Ten Thousand Villages" Fund raiser.

OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM — Let our prayers be with all soldiers as they defend the freedoms that we hold so dear. We are truly grateful for their service to our nation. We will continue to hold all our service personnel in our prayers until they ALL come home.

Please continue to contribute your change to the "Drop-in-the-Bucket" Font located on the bridge.

First Presbyterian Church

513 Birch St • PO Box 149
Boonton, New Jersey 07005
973-334-3535 • FAX 973-334-3549
Website: www.fpcboonton.org

Rev. Jennifer M. Van Zandt, *Minister*
Sarah Frederick, *Music Director*
Norma Moreno, *Administrator*

LABEL

**Ribbon Cutting
on NEW
Handicap Access
Entrance**

**ANNUAL
Congregational
MEETING
AND
TRINITY
CELEBRATION
LUNCHEON**

**Sunday
January 23**

Come One, Come All!

Spouses and Guests are Welcome!

PresbyAires Holiday Party

Saturday, January 8, 2011

5:30 PM

at

First Presbyterian Church of Boonton

in Reighart Hall

(corner of Church and Birch Sts., Boonton)



The party is a covered dish supper. Please bring a main dish, a salad or a dessert to share.

Bring your holiday spirit, your sense of humor and come have fun and some laughs.



RSVP by January 2
Call Sophey or Heather
973-599-0066