

The SPIRE

BOONTON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • October 2011

Faith, Hope and Love in **ACTION!**

Dear Saints,

It's probably not news to any of us that the housing market continues to be poor. And... more than likely many of you have had recent personal experience with either the devaluation of your own home — or for some of you — great difficulty in selling your home for what you feel its true value should be. We hear these stories almost daily.

However, friends of mine put their house on the market just two months ago and after only a one open house, and four separate offers, they will happily close on their home in two-week's time, at close to the original asking price. What's even more remarkable is that the buyer's home inspection came back with a list (like they all do) but they were all minor requests (my friends say 'miniscule') Why? Because for the 40+ years that they owned it, they cared for and maintained their home with time and money, on a regular basis. This helped to produce a wonderful result for them in this normally difficult housing crisis.

The same can be true for our faith. If we attend to our faith on a consistent basis, it can produce wonderful results for us when crisis strikes. But for most of us, it doesn't even occur to us to tend to our daily faith walk or if it does, it still gets short changed.

One way to attend to our faith regularly is consistent attendance in worship. But it seems that for many of you, Sunday worship gets dwarfed by travel, sports and even emotional or physical fatigue. Another way to tend to your faith is to set aside a daily routine of prayer and devotional time. But again for busy lives, this plan, well intended, also can get pushed aside.

This is why we offer many different types of Christian Education opportunities at First Church Boonton. There is the **Thursday Morning PW Bible Study**, the **Monthly Evening PW Bible Study**, **Sunday School** for children ages 3–9th grade, **youth groups** (for grades 5–8 and 9–12) and the monthly **Lay Listening Group** starting up again in October.

There will be two additional bible studies this fall. The **Men's Bible Study**, Saturday AM, studying the book of *Hosea* and a **Sunday Morning Bible Study** after worship, led by Rev. Jen and Seminary Intern John Molacek. (see page 4)

I know for some of you, you feel that "you don't know enough to attend" but that's not true. None of us knows it all. We are all on this faith journey together and every teacher has to prepare and

'look stuff up' because the bible is an enormous, never ending source of both information and history but most importantly, **food for the soul.**

If your faith is struggling or you're struggling even to get to church, it's probably due to being disconnected to God and others, and God's word.



Trust me when I tell you, regular weekly worship attendance is tough! And maintaining a daily prayer and devotional life is even harder, if you're going it

alone. **But I can also tell you that it's delightful and life-giving to take and share the journey together.**

Besides, how are you going to answer your children's and grandchildren's questions about God, if you don't know who God is, first-hand?

Don't go it alone. Get yourself and your kids involved in studying God's word and see how much more meaningful your life becomes.

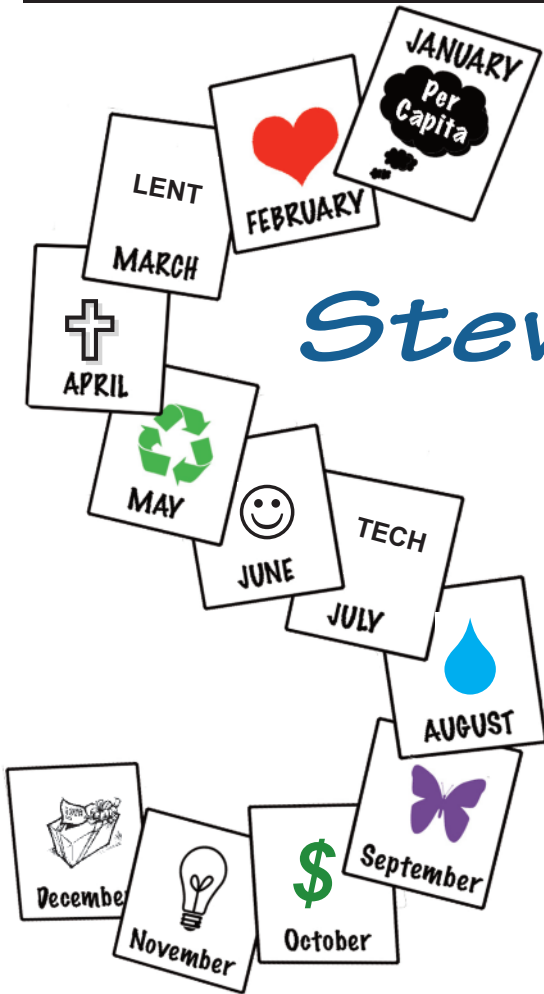
Learning with you in Christ,

♥ Jen

2012 Stewardship Campaign

12 MONTHS OF GIVING

Stewardship



ANNOUNCEMENT:

First Church is in the process of updating our records and preparing a directory with contact information of the actively attending members and friends. The directory will include: name, address, phone #, cell phone #, & email address of adults only (the names of children will be listed under family name).

The directory is to be distributed to the actively involved only for ministry usage. **BEFORE** we distribute it, we need your consent as part of the privacy policy.

If you would like to opt-out please respond before October 7, 2011 – Office: 973-334-3535 / office@fpcboonton.org

Please confirm you received the change.

THANKS!

As we look forward to 2012, we also look forward to twelve more months in which to serve God and our Church. Over the last twelve months, we concentrated on Mission, making it a core component of our spirituality and stewardship. We are now helping to support the work of Brice Rogers, our missionary in Egypt, in addition to continuing to help support the work of our other missions including Market Street Mission, NJ Truck Stop Ministries, and the NJ Battered Women's Shelter. We also expanded our Christian Education program and adult education programs as part of the Stewardship theme of Renewal for 2011.

The theme for the 2012 Stewardship Campaign is **Twelve Months of Giving**. We are blessed to have a congregation full of talent, knowledge, love, faith and compassion and in 2012 we are going to be providing you with the opportunity to share those gifts with the members and friends of First Church. We are planning a different theme for each month which is intended to not only help us to grow as a church community but to also provide education, nurturing and stewardship to

the church family. Some samples will be a theme of **Love** for February, **Recycling** around Earth Day in May, one month on Health and Wellness, others on Talent and Spiritual Inventory, etc.

In addition to the stewardship of the church family, we are also asking that you consider the stewardship of the Church and the other work that we do. During the weeks leading up to **Stewardship Sunday**, which will be on November 6 this year, we will be providing you with more information on the Twelve Months of Giving and asking that you prayerfully consider how you can continue to return a portion of your treasures to our God. A letter will be sent to you describing the specifics of the mission campaign including a pledge card which will be accepted on November 6th.

This pledging process is critical to us as a church so we can be fiscally responsible in planning and funding our activities for 2012.

♥ *Your Stewardship Committee*



“Glory be to the Father
And to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning
Is now and ever shall be.
World without end, Amen.”



NOTES FROM THE CHOIR DIRECTOR

OCTOBER 2011

<http://www.fpcboonton.org>

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

Come and hear **Dr. Andrew Moore**, New Jersey renowned organist, perform a wide variety of organ music for the **Second Annual Organ Concert** on Sunday, October 23, at 4pm. No tickets are necessary and seating will be first come first serve. A free will offering will be taken at the concert.



The **Children's Choir** will be singing during the worship services (October 23rd & November 27th). Please continue to offer your ongoing support to those young participants who share their musical gifts with the church family.

A **Christmas Choir Cantata** will be presented during morning worship on Sunday, December 11th, entitled “Festival of Lessons and Carols” by Hal Hopson. It will feature the Chancel Choir and readers from the congregation. If anyone is interested in singing with the choir just for this special event, please begin attending Thursday evening choir rehearsals at 7:30PM in the choir room during the months of October, November, and December, beginning on October 6th. All are welcome to attend to celebrate the season and to enjoy this enriching musical experience. Please stay tuned for further important details.

Rehearsal schedules are as follows:

<i>Chancel Choir</i>	Thursday evenings	7:30–9PM
<i>Children's Choir</i>	Sunday mornings	11:15–11:45AM
<i>Hand Bell Choir</i>	Thursday evenings	6:30–7:30PM

(Hand Bells: October 13 & 27; Nov 10; Dec 1, 8, 15)

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, babbleon247@yahoo.com). Hope to see you at the next rehearsal! ♥

Save the Dates!!!

OFFICER'S RETREAT

OCTOBER 1

WORLD COMMUNION

**Peacemaking
Offering**

Sunday October 2

DEADLINE:

October 7

UPDATE YOUR
DIRECTORY INFO.

See Page 2

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BOONTON

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Kickoff - October 15

JOIN US FOR THE CONCERT

ONE YEAR Anniversary
of the Organ with
Dr. Andrew Moore on
OCT 23 at 4 PM

Join Us & Pledge
**Stewardship
Sunday**

November 6 (see pg 2)

**THE REPORT FROM YOUR
STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

BUDGET 2011

- Income is tracking \$15,000 below budget.
- The expenses are tracking on budget.
- The additional contributions to the restricted funds total \$20322.85 for the period.

JANUARY 1 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2011				
	Pledged	Non-pledged	Plate	Expenses
2011 Budget	105,000.00	46,500.00	3,000.00	183,570.75
2011 Actual	112,443.00	24,422.82	2,322.55	184,780.00
2010 Actual	105,457.40	46,113.88	2,635.51	

MISSION 2011

- Mission Income account - \$2737.26
- We encourage you to use the Mission envelopes when supporting our Mission program.

Welcome!



John Molacek

Please welcome John Molacek as our seminar intern! John is a student at the Princeton Theological Seminary. He will be working in our congregation October 2011 – May 2012 as part of his field education requirement.

DEACON'S DOIN'S

Boonton Food Pantry

When doing your grocery shopping, please remember those less fortunate. The pantry is currently in need of non-perishable items. Please keep in mind that food stamps do not allow for the purchase of health and beauty items. Items such as shampoo, soap, cleansers, paper goods and diapers must all be paid for with cash. So these items are always much needed. The shelves are located downstairs, just outside Reighart Hall.

Your continued support of the pantry is very important and very much appreciated.



Support Your Deacons

The Board of Deacons uses your donations to help support many people in need. The monies used to do this work in the community do not come from the regular Sunday collection.







This is a separate collection.

You can support the Deacons by using the small, **GREEN ENVELOPES** located in the pews on Communion Sundays.

Ever wonder how to share your 'treasures' in a musical way without singing or playing an instrument at First Church-Boonton?? ISO - interested person(s) who would like to share



their 'treasures' by sponsoring new anthems for fall 2011 (\$45 per anthem). Please contact Sarah Frederick via phone 973-334-3535 ext. 18, e-mail babbleon247@yahoo.com, or in-person if interested!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>2</p> <p>10:00 <i>Worship-Communion</i> WORLD Communion Sunday</p> <p>11:15 Coffee Hr/ Book Signing</p> <p>11:15 ROCK Meeting</p> <p>11:15 Children's Choir</p> <p>7:00 A.A.</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>2:00 Evangelism Meet.</p> <p>3:30 NJ Conservatory</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00 Needlers (at Sophy's)</p> <p>7:30 MI and Stewardship Comm. Mtg.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:00 NJ Conservatory</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10 am PW Bible Study</p> <p>7:30 Chancel Choir (Choir Room)</p> <p>Choir Practice</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>Deadline: to Update Directory Info (see pg 2)</p> <p>6:30 Cubs</p>	<p>1</p> <p>OCT 1 at 9 am Officer's Retreat</p> <p>12:30 Girl Scouts</p> <p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>10:00 <i>Worship</i></p> <p>11:15 Coffee Hr</p> <p>11:15 Children's Choir</p> <p>7:00 A.A.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>3:30 NJ Conservatory</p> <p>7:30 SESSION</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00 A.A.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:00 NJ Conservatory</p> <p>7:30 PW Board Mtg.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10 am PW Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 Hand Bell Choir</p> <p>7:30 Chancel Choir (Choir Room)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>4:00 Girl Scouts</p> <p>6:00 Cubs Pack 201</p>	<p>15</p>  <p>9 am MEN's Bible Study KICKOFF</p> <p>12:30 Girl Scouts</p>
<p>16</p> <p>10:00 <i>Worship</i> Baptism - Gian D. Edwards</p> <p>11:15 Coffee Hr</p> <p>11:15 Children's Choir</p> <p>11:15 ROCK/Tekna Theou Mtg.</p> <p>7:00 A.A.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>3:30 NJ Conservatory</p> <p>7:30 Christian Ed. Mtg</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00 Needlers (at Sophy's)</p> <p><i>Bible Study</i></p> <p>7:00 PW Evening Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:00 NJ Conservatory</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10 am PW Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 Cubs</p> <p>7:30 Chancel Choir (Choir Room)</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9 am – Noon Red Tent gathering at FPC Newton (See pg 6)</p>
<p>23</p> <p>10:00 <i>Worship</i></p> <p>11:15 Coffee Hour</p> <p>11:15 Children's Choir</p> <p>4 pm Second Annual Organ CONCERT – Dr. Andrew Moore</p> <p>7:00 A.A.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>3:30 NJ Conservatory</p> <p>7:00 Worship Comm. Meeting</p> 	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>5:00 NJ Conservatory</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10 am PW Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 Hand Bell Choir</p> <p>7:30 Chancel Choir (Choir Room)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>4:00 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>29</p> <p>St. Johns Luncheon ROCK Hosting</p> 
<p>30</p> <p>10:00 <i>Worship</i></p> <p>11:15 Coffee Hour</p> <p>11:15 Children's Choir</p> <p>11:15 Tekna Theou Mtg.</p> <p>7:00 A.A.</p>	<p>31</p> <p>HAPPY HALLOWEEN</p> <p>3:30 NJ Conservatory</p>	<p>NOVEMBER 1</p> <p>10:00 Needlers (at Sophy's)</p> <p>7:30 MI and Stewardship Comm. Mtg.</p>	<p>FALL</p>  <p>October 2011</p>			

Prayer To Go

TURN MY SOIL

Turn over
Gently
My dry, cracked soil.

Just a little,
Let it breathe
In the cooling air of autumn
and then be watered
By Your life-giving rain.

Kathy Keay (d.1994), England



Red Tent
gathering

COME TO THE TENT!!

Meet the women in the tent — unnamed women
of Jesus' Ministry

Meet the artist of the Horizons Bible Study
on the Beatitudes

Ann Kim

at

First Presbyterian Church of Newton
54 High St, Newton

OCTOBER 22, 2011 • 9AM – NOON

RSVP to Doris Christians * 973-383-6126 or
email dorisa@nac.net by October 15th



BIRTHDAYS!

October

- 3 Thomas Aldrich
Gayle Lobb
Margaret Thomas
- 5 Declan Ambrosiani
Joelle Stora
- 11 Carol Carhart
Elsie Force
- 12 Carol Holling
James Roberts
- 14 Charles Homeijer
- 20 Daniel Gershaw
- 23 Brian Lanigan
Beau Reed
John Weber
- 25 Jim Riter
- 28 Christopher Cartelli
- 29 Zachery Maida
Daniel Salas

MEMORIALIZE AND HONOR LOVED ONES

In Memory of:

♥ Alice Middleton

Given By:

Cheryl, Chris & Emily Chudzinski
Marilyn & Rich Davis
Lois & Don Estler
Louise & Tom Hasselmann
Carolyn & Thomas Reminsky
Robert P. Venturini
Ruby & William Weller

In Memory of:

♥ Mildred & Aldrich Nix

Given By:

Donald Nix

FOR THE MEMORIAL FUND ♥

AND GOD SHALL GRIEVE WITH ...

THE MIDDLETON FAMILIES — *Alice, wife of Jack & mother of Bruce, was called home to her Lord on Monday, September 19, and is now enjoying heavenly rest. She was a member of First Church since 1944. Please hold strong in prayers for her husband Jack and sons, Bruce and Glen and the Middleton and Albert families.*

THE STEID FAMILY — *Ryan, classmate of Scott Scardena, was hit by a car in March and died last week due to complications. Prayers are asked for comfort for the Steid family and friends.*

MARK & COURTNEY — *brother and sister-in-law of Mary Lynn Ahart, was pregnant with twins and had an early delivery at 23 weeks; the babies did not survive. Please pray for this family as they grieve their tragic loss.*

THE FAMILY OF HARRY KRUSE — *Gail Coe's neighbor, was called home to his Lord after losing the battle with cancer. Prayers are asked for comfort for Harry's family.*

THE WEBER FAMILY — *It is a year since the death of Carl, son of The Rev. John Weber (Retired Minister & Member of the Presbytery, and Parish Associate at FPCB), who died in a plane crash. Please pray for John and his wife Pauline, Kathy, Carl's surviving spouse, and Cheryl, Carl's sister.*

PHYLLIS GLICK FAMILY — *friend of Shirlee & Fred Faehner, is with her Lord after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer.*



JOYS

JENNIFER — *daughter of Gail Coe's neighbor, the late Harry Kruse, gave birth to twins, Harrison and Lily Anne. Please continue to pray for the Kruse family. Praise the Lord!*



IN OUR PRAYERS: Concerns

REV. JEN — *is recovering from knee surgery. Pray for a swift recovery.*

RUTH EMMONS — *Jean Lobb's sister, has finished radiation for mouth cancer. She continues to have back pain and needs to recover from burns in her mouth. Please continue to keep Ruth in your prayers.*

WALTER THOMAS JR. — *son of Margaret Thomas, is having health issues. Please pray for healing and a speedy recovery.*

REV. DR. PETER H. CAREY, JR. — *Pastor of the Wallington Presbyterian Church (father of Robin Gershaw's friend Mary Ellen Lavery), had open heart surgery. Prayers are asked for good results and swift recovery.*

KEVIN SANDRUE — *brother-in-law of Donna Kurley, has been diagnosed with melanoma and had surgery. Prayers are asked for healing and good results.*

JIM SALVO — *Cathy Harris' father, has prostate cancer, had surgery, and will begin chemotherapy. Prayers are asked for strength and healing.*

FRANK & MARCIA REITZ — *need our prayers as they are trying to recover from flood damage. Frank is suffering from back pain and will need surgery. Please keep them in your prayers.*

NATASHA — *daughter of Linda Meier's friend, was tested for blood cancer. Prayers are asked for good results.*

LIZ DE SOUSA — *former colleague of John Crozier, was recently diagnosed with ovarian cancer and has just begun a difficult round of chemo which is not going well. Keep her in your prayers.*

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.

First Presbyterian Church

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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*

TEKNA THEOU AND ROCK YOUTH GROUPS

Anyone aged 5th to 8th grade is welcome to come join Tekna Theou. 9-12 graders make up the ROCK group. This year, Martel Roberts and Scott Scardena will continue to lead ROCK and new leaders Dan Keoppel and Natalie Pisarcik will be leading Tekna Theou. Below is the tentative schedule for each group for October through December.

TEKNA THEOU

Oct 16	Tekna Theou (TT) Meeting
Oct 30	TT Meeting
Nov 6	TT Meeting
Nov 20	TT Meeting
Dec 2	TT Meeting
Dec 18	TT Christmas Party



ROCK

Oct 2	ROCK meeting
Oct 16	ROCK meeting
Oct 29	ROCK - St John's Lunch
Nov 6	ROCK Meeting
Nov 18-19	ROCK - Jburg Retreat
Dec 4	ROCK Meeting
Dec 18	ROCK - Chinese Christmas Party & Secret Santa

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School began September 18. All children aged Kindergarten (or Pre-K if ready) through 9th grade are encouraged to attend. Classes will be held in the Foundation, Library and BANS rooms (under Reighart Hall). Teachers will be available to guide your children to the appropriate classrooms if you're not sure where they should go.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Please look for the sign-up sheet near the Bridge for Fall Men's Bible Study. This fall's study will be a seven week session on *Hosea – the Prophecy of a Husband and Father*. First meeting, with breakfast, will be held on October 15 at 9AM in Reighart Hall. Thereafter the group can decide on rotating leaders and an appropriate schedule that will work for all. Breakfast will be supplied by Donna Keoppel on day one of the study so please sign up so she knows how much food to make. ♥

Remember The Days When.....???

There weren't any **cell phones**! If you left the house, you just didn't make a call or receive one. You actually had to be out of touch with your "friends". OMG! Think of the horror... not being in touch with someone 24/7! And then there's **TEXTING**. Please! You kids have no idea how "lucky?" you are!!

We didn't have any **Call Waiting**! If you were on the phone and somebody else called, they got a busy signal, that's it!

We didn't have fancy **Caller ID** either! When the phone rang, you had no idea who it was! It could be your school, your parents, your boss, the collection agent... you just didn't know! You had to pick it up and take your chances!

More remembrances to be continued in next issue