



The Pipe Organ

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
New Vernon, New Jersey

VOL. 62 NO. 10

December, 2013



*Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord.
Psalm 27:14*

Rick's Reflections

December 1st is the beginning of the season of Advent. This is a period of time set aside by the church to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Christ. There are four Sundays in Advent. It is a time of waiting and spiritual preparation for Christmas. Since the 4th century, the church has set aside this season, usually symbolized by the color purple. It's not easy to wait. Many times people are eager for us to sing Christmas carols during Advent. But this is a time of waiting, a time of expectation. As we wait, we light candles of hope and joy and peace and love.

There are elements of past, present, and future in this season. We remember and replay the events of incarnation over 2,000 years ago. We prepare for Bethlehem shepherds and an infant in a manger, even though we know that was long ago. We celebrate the future too. Some of the scriptures during Advent point us to an anticipation and waiting for the second coming.

But maybe the most important message of Advent has nothing to do with what was or what will be. It has to do with what is right now. I pray that each of us will experience a personal advent. That means we will have to wait and do the work of preparation for the coming of Christ into our lives in a real and fresh way right now. My prayer is that the coming of Christ to you in 2013 will be a life-changing and life-renewing event that goes way beyond a holiday. May each of us light candles of hope and joy and peace and love in our hearts. My prayer is that you will have a hopeful, joyful, peaceful, loving Christmas. Ready, get set, wait.

Peace,

Pastor Rick



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Prudy Sweeney

Anne Thomas

Eileen Urban

Anne Waite

Christmas Gift Program

Morris County Correctional Facility

Drop Off at Fellowship Hall by December 11

A new white men's crew neck t-shirt, briefs, and white crew socks may not seem like much to us, but to an inmate within the Morris County Correctional Facility it can make all the difference. These, accompanied by homemade cookies, can truly bring a moment of joy to an inmate who receives a Christmas bag from the Chaplaincy Program. We couldn't assemble these bags of hope without your support, so please, if you can, leave some of the following on the stage area of Fellowship Hall.

- ☐ Men's white crew neck t-shirts in lg, X-lg, 2X, and 3X
(no V-necks or pockets allowed)
- ☐ Men's white briefs
- ☐ White crew socks
- ☐ Home-baked cookies—(individual baggies with 5 cookies by bag)

The above items are the **only ones** that will be accepted by security. Please **do not gift wrap** your donations.

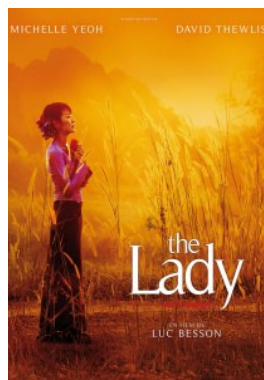
No Time To Bake Cookies?

Nancy Barrett's young neighbor, who likes to bake, will make cookies for the jail @ \$20 a batch. Each batch is about 38 nice-sized cookies. If anyone would like to order cookies from her, you can contact Nancy Barrett at 973-425-1414. A small bag of sample cookies will be given to those who place an order.



December Movie: *The Lady*

Wednesday, December 4: 7 pm
At the Chaney's



The Lady is a French-English co-production directed by Luc Besson, starring Michelle Yeoh as Aung San Suu Kyi and David Thewlis as her late husband, Michael Aris. Based on an inspiring true story, this epic yet intimate biopic tells the story of Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma's leading pro-democracy reformer, who was held under house arrest for 15 years while her English husband worked tirelessly for her release.

Cast: Michelle Yeoh, David Thewlis, Jonathan Raggett

Genre: Biography, Drama, History



NOVEMBER SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



The following are highlights from the November 19, 2013 Session meeting, which began with Jonathan Shelby reading devotions.

Committee Highlights

Adult Education: The Myers-Briggs program led by Jane Kendall was well received. Pastor Rick will host a program on Dec 22nd titled, In the Eyes of Artists, during which he will lead a discussion around depictions of Jesus by different artists.

Congregational Life: Everyone had a wonderful time at the Harvest Festival. There were activities for the children and food and camaraderie for all! Stay tuned for details about the Christmas Luncheon scheduled for December 8th after worship.

Worship and Music: A Night at the Opera was well attended and enjoyed by all. There will be a carol sing-along after the Christmas luncheon and also in the evening on Wednesday, December 11th. The screen in the sanctuary will enable hymns to be projected and easy to read when the church lights are dimmed or off—be patient as some of the kinks are still being worked out. All are welcome to stay and listen while Amanda plays the postlude at the end of service. Those who wish to leave may do so but please refrain from conversing until in the narthex.

Mission and Outreach: There was a food drive for the Interfaith Food Pantry from November 15th to 24th. Prison chaplain, Reverend Scott, will speak on Dec 15th during worship. Once again, there will be a box on the stage where needed items will be collected and given to the inmates. A representative from each of the 13 non-profits we support will be available during Coffee Hour one Sunday in January.

Finance: Treasurer Mike Phillips submitted a report for the Finance Committee. He gave a complete and comprehensive review of the finances.

Membership: Families and individuals who have not been in attendance have received a pastoral call. Pastor Rick will follow up again in January.

Stewardship: We are very close to our goal—keep those pledges coming in! There are still some uncollected funds from 2013 donors.

Buildings & Grounds: Estimates for the cost of remediation of the oil tank removal were presented. This is a work in progress

Nominating Committee: The new slate of Elders and Deacons is still in progress. The nominees will be presented at the Congregational Meeting on December 15th.

Personnel Committee: We have been actively looking for a replacement for Darlene for nursery duty on Sunday morning. Two of our own youth, Maggie Fischer and Caroline Kelly, have offered to share the position. Helen Lynch will be available as back-up. Increases are being decided upon for staff members.

Youth Education: In lieu of going to Kentucky this year, our youth supported communities closer to home during the school break. Breakfast-to-go bags were assembled for the Community Soup Kitchen. Some worked on the home of an elderly couple in Lavallette. Ministry Architects will help us assess the youth education needs of our church and make recommendations going forward.

Communion will be served on Sunday December 1st.

Reverend Sweeney adjourned the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Coyle – Clerk of Session



Away in a Manger?

I'll bet all of us know the classic Christmas carol "Away in a Manger." Most of us probably consider it to be a sweet song, as do I, but I have grown to consider the title to be misleading. Mind you, I'm not finding fault with the song or the melody, and I don't even have an issue with the lyrics, except for one little word – "away."

Where is away? Somewhere else, right? It's somewhere other than where you are at the moment. Perhaps it's someplace you can't see – over there – out of sight – a place where most things termed "away" tend to slip quickly out of mind. Well, suppose we take a look at this from another perspective.

As most of you who are environmentally astute already know, there is no "away." Everything has to go somewhere. Whether you see it or are conscious of it or not, everything you put or throw "away" continues to exist. Even though you may no longer have to contend with it, it exists...somewhere.

God is like that for some people. Some folks give a small portion of their time to God every week on Sunday mornings, but then he gets put "away." He gets stored in the backs of people's minds. They leave him at church until next Sunday when they visit God's house, as if God actually lives within the confined walls and roof of a church. Ridiculous! The only thing this mindset and behavior does is establish imagined barriers between people and God, and that's not accurate or advisable.

Church is not God's house any more than the place you live or the place you work or the place you go to school or the place you spend any of your time. Church is just a common, agreed upon location where people of a similar faith can join together in common worship. But God does not live there! So where does God live? To answer that, we need to look deeper...

When you sing "Away in a Manger," you think of the baby Jesus being placed in a feeding trough. The nativity story tells us that Mary, forced by necessity to stay in a stable instead of an inn, placed the baby Jesus in a manger. And that's where most people stop...with the image of a first-century infant lying on a bed of hay. Well, don't stop there. Go further. Make the personal connection.

You see, a manger or trough is a feeder that is made of carved stone, wood, or metal construction and is used to hold food. True, mangers are mostly used in livestock raising or to feed wild animals, such as in nature reserves, but keep going. The word "manger" comes from the French word *manger* and the Latin word *manducare* (meaning "to eat" or "to chew"). Have you made the connection yet?

Luke mentions Jesus being laid in a manger, which allowed the poor to identify with Jesus. But I'm thinking of another symbolic reason why Jesus became associated with a manger. Here we have Jesus, laid in a place that provides sustenance, a manger, the heart of the stable. Similarly, the core of our existence lies in our hearts. Yes, on a physical level, the purpose of the heart is to circulate oxygen-rich blood throughout the body, but the "heart" is also the poetic, figurative place where our fortitude, courage, faith, love, joy, hope, and depth of character reside. We are fed by what lies in our hearts, and that is exactly where Jesus, the "Bread of Life," resides. Jesus had no use for an inn. I believe he wanted to make it personal. Our hearts are the "mangers" where he lives and from which we are fed. The manger is not "away" in some far-removed location; it's inside every one of us. There is no "away."

Continued on page 5

Think about this when you sing the carol this Christmas season. Maybe you'll come to understand that this is the way the Christmas miracle persists, not only all year, but for your entire life.

In closing, let me say that it has been a great joy and honor sharing my thoughts and my writing with you every month for seven years. If my essays have touched even one of you, then they have attained their goal. As I venture along the next path of my life, I wish you all peace, divine love, and a continuously growing faith in the God that sustains you. After we part, our lives may or may not cross again. I know all too well the lines from Robert Frost's poem, "The Road Not Taken," that speak of dividing roads.

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back...

However, I also recognize our time together was significant, meaningful, and a necessary part of God's plan. It was where our paths aligned for a while. As a child, I would never have guessed I'd be part of this church and call it home for a time. I knew it only as an historic, pretty, white building at which I would gaze from behind my family's car window. But I know enough of life now to realize that it's the unexpected that makes life interesting. I wouldn't prefer it any other way. May you embrace and enjoy the roads of God's plan that lie ahead of you.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I —
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

2013 Sunday School Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 8



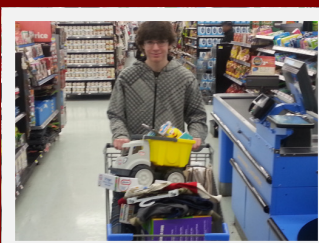
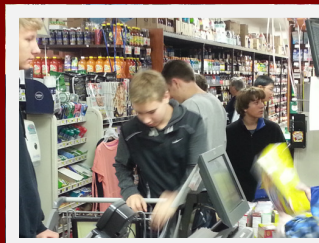
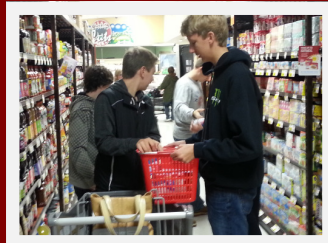
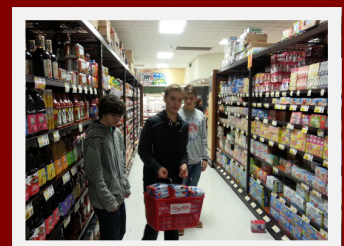
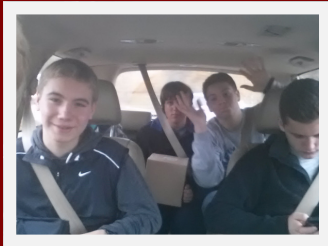
This year, the Sunday School Christmas Pageant will be held on Sunday, December 8 during worship. Our pageant will be a simple retelling of the Christmas story. No lines will need to be learned for any of the roles, but a few songs will be sung.

Information will be shared with students during Sunday School classes beginning Sunday, November 10 through Sunday, December 1.

Please see Susan Fischer in church or contact her at

shfischer@verizon.net if you have a child who would like to participate in the pageant.

Youth Group's Shop, Ship, and Shore Mission Weekend



On Thursday, Nov. 7, Youth Ed. Chair, Kerra French, Mission and Outreach Chair, Kathy Sheeleigh, and Youth Group members shopped for food, then packed it into individual bags for the Morristown Soup Kitchen's breakfast-to-go program. On Friday, Pastor Rick joined the team as they shopped for their adopted Kentucky family, then packed the Kentucky-bound boxes. That evening, they were joined by Prudy for fun, food, and fellowship.



On Saturday, Fearless Leaders, Kerra French and Todd Claytor, and the team headed to Lavallette, NJ to work on a 3-bedroom cottage belonging to an octogenarian couple, still displaced by Hurricane Sandy. The cottage was dry walled and spackled when they arrived and the group sanded (under the expert guidance of Todd Claytor) and primed the walls to prepare them for painting. Although many of the participants had volunteered soon after Sandy hit, it was still a surprise to see how much damage remained. Kudos to Kerra French for providing the youth with this meaningful mission weekend opportunity, to all of the adults who lent a hand, and to our amazing youth participants who gave their time and their talent to help all who benefited from their efforts. Youth Group participants over the course of the weekend were: Grant Claytor, Maggie and Nathaniel Fischer, Noah French, Mimi MacCowatt, Kevin Travers, and Gregory and Kyle White. Well done!



FPCNV Book Club

Meeting Dates and Book Selections

Café Beethoven
December 10
5 pm



Meeting Dates and Book Selections

Where: Library **When:** 7:30 pm

DEC 10	Café Beethoven
JAN 14	<i>The Girls of Atomic City</i> by Denise Kiernan
FEB 11	<i>Inferno</i> by Dan Brown
MAR 11	<i>Spark: The Revolutionary New Science of Exercise and the Brain</i> by John J. Ratey and Eric Hagerman
APR 8	<i>The Fish That Ate the Whale: The Life and Times of America's Banana King</i> by Rich Cohen
MAY 13	<i>And the Mountains Echoed</i> by Khaled Hosseini
JUN 10	<i>House of Spirits</i> by Isabel Allende

New members are welcome.



Sing Joy!

Wednesday, December 11, 7:30 pm

Thank you all for your support for the upcoming Christmas program, "Sing Joy!" Please join us on Wednesday, December 11 at 7:30 pm for an evening of Christmas and Advent music. The Chancel Choir will be performing several selections, as well as performances by small instrumental and vocal ensembles, and your participation is needed in the carol sing-alongs. The choir (including some new members) has worked hard for this event. Please bring friends, family, and neighbors to what is sure to be an inspirational evening. All are welcome, and admission is free.

Please note that starting in January, the choir will rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 –9 pm. We hope this will accommodate anyone who wishes to join us.

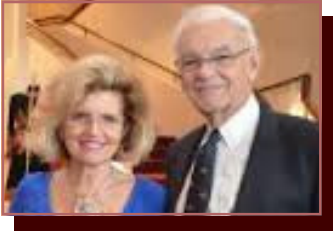
Thank you again for your continued support. Turn on the Christmas music!

Elena Bird Zolnick. elenatbird@gmail.com



Congregational Meeting Called for December 15, 2013

A meeting of the congregation will be held on December 15th after worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers for the coming year and to approve the terms of call for Dr. Sweeney.



A Note from The Chorbas

Merle and I want to thank all of you for a wonderful day at the Crossroads. The honor of Pastor Emeritus and the beautiful citation were a touching reminder of our years in New Vernon, and always will be. The reception and coffee hour after worship gave us an opportunity to see so many people we have missed, and to hear stories we have carried back with us. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts,

George and Merle Chorba

The Congregational Life Committee Invites You to the Annual Christmas Luncheon

**Sunday, December 8
Immediately after Worship**

MENU

Chicken Casserole
Salad
Rolls and Butter
Delicious Desserts
Hot and Cold Beverages

There will be entertainment and carol singing.

Please
Sign up in Fellowship Hall or contact Prudy (973)539-0348 to reserve your place
by Wednesday, December 4th.



Deck the Hall!

Sunday, December 1 at Coffee Hour

Please join us as we celebrate the beginning of the Advent Season. We will gather after worship to decorate Fellowship Hall and the Christmas tree.

There will be simple crafts for children (of all ages): make an ornament, a Christmas card, a candy cane mouse, a winter-themed magnet, or a beautiful 3-D snowflake.

We will also be playing our favorite Christmas music.

Christmas Eve Services

**Something A Little Different This Year
Tuesday, December 24 ~ 5:00 pm and 9 pm**



This year we will celebrate a candlelight service at 5:00 and then again at 9:00 pm. The service itself will be a little different from those of past years as well. You will see what we mean by being here on Christmas Eve.

David Mitchell has designed a special event that will run throughout the season of Advent and culminate on Christmas Eve. This design will give you an opportunity to participate in our preparation of Christmas light.



Comfort and Joy Service

Sunday, December 1
6:00 pm

On Sunday evening, December 1 at 6:00 pm we will hold a service of Comfort and Joy. We realize that, in the midst of all the celebrations around the Christmas season, it is a difficult time for some. If you have lost a loved one or suffered other hardship this year, you know how the season can be a mixture of joy and sorrow.

In this quiet service, we will seek to be of comfort to each other as we approach Christmas. If you are not mourning the loss of a loved one or dealing with some other painful issue, then be thankful. Come and be a part of this service because you care about the ones who are hurting.

Advent Candle Installation

We would like to try something new in our observance of Advent this year. We invite you, your family, and friends to light individual prayer candles in the sanctuary each Sunday of Advent.

We will be providing the candles, which will be located on three tables on the altar. When you enter the church on Sunday mornings we invite you to approach the altar, select any candle, and light it.

The purpose of this installation is to motivate us to accelerate our prayer life during Advent and to act as catalysts to hope and change in the world. By “building an altar” together each Sunday, we reaffirm our solidarity as a congregation and as community of light.

The candles are meant to act as a prayer tool to remind us of the beautiful fire that burns in each and every one of us, and to encourage us this month to focus on our ability to create illumination and change in each other’s lives, and to act as sources of light and love to a dimly lit world.

Come join us this month, light a candle, and pray for each other, the unity of the world, and the birth of Christ’s love in our hearts.





2014 Stewardship Campaign Reminder

The “Raise the Roof!” Stewardship campaign is well on its way to the peak! Our campaign goal for the 2014 budget is \$500,000, and we have asked all church members to raise their pledge from last year by 3% to move us toward that amount. Thus far, we are more than 75% to the goal and are reaching out to those who have not yet pledged and asking them to join us in this important effort. Please think deeply and prayerfully about this decision and respond to the Church Office when you can.

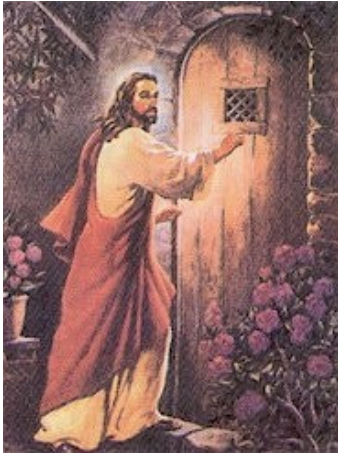
There are now other ways to “Raise the Roof!” As mentioned in church, we are able to accept appreciated securities to fulfill your pledge. The directions are now on the website or you can call me. Also, until year end, IRA owners over the age of 70½ can direct their Required Minimum Distribution to the Church, thus making the payout tax-free. Help us get to the top and nail in the final shingle! We are so thankful for your support, especially in this holiday season.

Best regards,
Jonathan Shelby
973-425-2344

Tell Me Again... What is the Denominational Assessment?

As lucky as we are to have our community of faith at the First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon, we often forget that we are part of a larger organization called the Newton Presbytery. We benefit in many ways from our Presbytery through their resources, guidance, and support to its member churches. For this, there is a financial obligation, and many of our congregation are not aware that FPCNV is assessed an amount each year to fund the programs and staff at Presbytery. Member churches ask their worshipers to pay this capital apportionment at the beginning of each year. This amount is \$32.25 per person and is shown on your pledge cards for Stewardship. Although purely voluntary, Session asks that you join us in paying your individual share of the per capita assessment. **All** your contributions stand as a testament of your faith in the ongoing missions and ministries of our church, and for this we are thankful.

Adult Education: Jesus in Art



Sunday, December 22

11:30 am

On Sunday, December 22nd after worship, the Adult Education Committee will sponsor "Jesus in Art." This will be a chance to view selected artists' renditions of Jesus. You will then have a chance to vote on your favorite and least favorite. This will lead to a discussion of what we are looking for when we view these artists' conception of Jesus. We hope you will join us in the library.



Christmas Eve Services Donations for Sanctuary Decorations

To include a dedication in the Christmas Eve Bulletins, please fill out the form below and return to the Church Office with your donation by Sunday, December 23.

Christmas Eve Decoration Donation Form

I would like my donation to be dedicated as follows:

Your Name: _____

☐ In Memory of ☐ In Honor of

Christmas Offering 2013 To Benefit Two Outreach Programs

An "attitude of gratitude" led us to select the two Outreach programs that will share the 2013 Christmas offering.

Kirkridge is a new addition to our list of non-profits. Their initiative to form a Faith & Light Community, a gathering of young people with disabilities, their families, Kirkridge staff and others to share friendship and faith had a very successful fall event that we funded. Please check out the Gratitude Bulletin Board outside Fellowship Hall to see the wonderful thank-you notes, photos, t-shirt, and information they sent to us after the special weekend event.

The Chaplaincy Program of Morris County Correctional Facility continues to nurture, inspire, and support the inmates at the Correctional Facility, and our funds will help close a significant financial shortfall for 2013. Additionally, our donations to the Christmas Gift Program will once again brighten the holiday for a group of men and women who need to know that they are loved and supported by us.

Thank you in advance for your generous Christmas offering. Merry Christmas to all!
The Mission & Outreach Committee



CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM OF MCCF

The Chaplaincy Program of the Morris County Correctional Facility, Inc. was formed in 2001 with the hiring of a part-time chaplain to conduct worship and Bible study serving over 350 inmates. The Chaplaincy Program was initially funded by The Presbyterian Church and St. Peter's Episcopal Church of Morristown, and the **First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon.**

Our contribution to this organization helps fund the salary of the Chaplain, Reverend Herman Scott. Their mission is to be a consistent, gracious presence to the inmates and staff of the Morris County Correctional Facility. Through the supervision of Chaplain Scott, inmates receive effective pastoral care which: restores hope, facilitates healing, fosters reconciliation, and promotes spiritual growth and peace.

Regardless of the reasons for a person being in the county jail, most inmates feel alone, fearful, forgotten and without hope. Chaplain Scott provides the following services to the inmates and staff:

- **Conducts weekly** Bible studies and spiritual development programs
- Advocates for the needs of inmates within the Correctional Facility, and with local churches and civic groups
- Counsels one-on-one with inmates and staff
- Coordinates all religious volunteers at the Correctional Facility
- Organizes and oversees Christmas and Easter worship services and related programs
- Directs a Christmas gift program for giving needed items to inmates, such as underwear, toiletries, and home-baked cookies

The Chaplaincy Program is a small non-profit that exists solely to provide Christian-based hope to those locked up within our county jails and to facilitate the rebuilding of their lives upon release. The program receives no public funding.

We pray that you will embrace the **2013 Christmas Gift Program** and contribute as many of the specified items as you can to help brighten Christmas for the inmates. For more information, please see page 2. We need all of the donations no later than Wednesday, December 11th. Thank you in advance for your continued support.



KIRKRIDGE RETREAT & STUDY CENTER

Shoulders

A man crosses the street in rain,
stepping gently, looking two times north and south,
because his son is asleep on his shoulder.

No car must splash him.
No car drive too near to his shadow.

This man carries the world's most sensitive cargo
but he's not marked.

Nowhere does his jacket say FRAGILE,
HANDLE WITH CARE.

His ear fills up with breathing.
He hears the hum of a boy's dream
deep inside him.

We're not going to be able
to live in this world
if we're not willing to do what he's doing
with one another.

The road will only be wide.
The rain will never stop falling.

~ Naomi Shihab Nye ~

The road for families who have sons or daughters, brothers or sisters or other family members with developmental challenges is a long and wide road. There are times when the road is filled with rain from tears of frustration, loneliness, and worry about what the future will hold for our family members.

For many of us, day-to-day life with an intellectually challenged child is a lonely and difficult journey. We walk the road alone trying to find our way through school systems, insurance, social security, issues of guardianship, and the many questions that transition into adulthood.

Our children, are indeed marked "fragile" and the world sees it. They are different. The children and young adults in our lives literally dance to a different drummer and sing to their own music. Some of them find words to speak, and others do not. As parents and family members, we live in the tragic gap of longing for the world to handle them with great care, knowing how vulnerable they are and realizing we cannot protect ourselves or our

loved ones from ridicule, rejection, and life outside normal possibilities.

You, through your mission dollars, are assisting young adults with intellectual differences, their families and friends to come together on a regular basis to share their experience, encourage strength in one another, and celebrate hope.

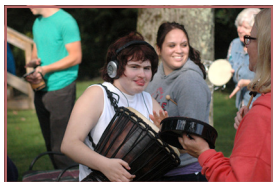
Without knowing us, First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon reached out to us, strangers in another state. We call ourselves TIP, the letters stand for Together It's Possible. We are a group of families dreaming of and working toward new possibilities for cognitively challenged young adults living in the underserved region known as the Slate Belt of northeastern Pennsylvania. TIP's goal is to educate parents, provide support for families, and advocate for change — in access, in opportunities, and in outmoded ways of thinking.

This September, your mission dollars assisted in sponsoring a weekend retreat at Kirkridge Retreat and Study Center in Bangor, Pennsylvania. As you can see by the photos, we had a grand time together!

This year we will continue to meet monthly for potlucks and educational opportunities. It is our hope to create a one-day-a-week, after-school arts program. In the future, your dollars will be used to assist in setting up our studio with materials and equipment and paying for student assistance for our program.

We truly believe that *together it is possible* to find a new way for our young people to live in this world. Thank you for reaching out and carrying us a little way on our journey. Your support offers to our families a ray of hope and is a true gift of love.

With deep gratitude, Rev. Jean Richardson





Maternity Medley

Matt and Katherine Sheeleigh opened their elegant home to 40 friends this past June to raise awareness of the hospital's Maternity Center renovation. The Foundation is raising \$2.7 million to finish the project.

Guests enjoyed a private concert by internationally acclaimed pianist Min Kwon and world renowned violinist Kyung Sun Lee. A highlight of the evening showcased a piano solo by Mrs. Kwon, who delighted the audience with the story of her daughter Sophie's birth at the Maternity Center this past February.

To contribute toward the renovation, please contact Mary Ellen Graf, major gifts officer, at 973-593-2405 or maryellen.graf@atlantichealth.org.

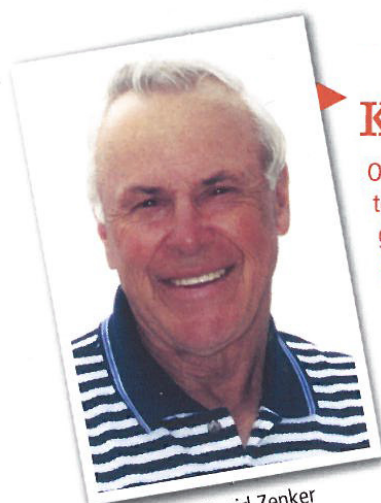


Pictured (l-r) Morristown Medical Center's Fran Drigun, RN, and Joseph Ramieri, MD; musicians Min Kwon and Kyung Sun Lee; and hosts Katherine and Matt Sheeleigh

OUR MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

The three articles found on this page were submitted by Patti Wood from the:

Foundation of Morristown Medical Center Newsletter.



The late Dr. David Zenker

Kindness Comes Back

One grateful donor wants the Barbara D. Tomlinson Medical Intensive Care Unit (ICU) staff to know what a difference they made when treating her husband of more than 60 years. Her generous donation combined with memorial gifts will bring \$28,000 to the unit and help purchase a new ultrasound machine.

In memorializing her husband, David Zenker, MD, Jeanne Zenker says, "The staff made the ICU like a hospice for us."

Born at the hospital, Dr. Zenker practiced medicine at Morristown Medical Center for more than 40 years and was known for his compassion toward his patients.

"David would be comforted to know this was the kind of care also given to him, and it's there for everyone," Mrs. Zenker says.

Endowment Creates Legacy and Helps Nurses

Denise Gilmore, RN, a bronchoscopy nurse for the Respiratory Care Department, was recently awarded the second annual Bessin Family Scholarship. Mrs. Gilmore received \$2,000 to help defray costs toward a master's degree she is pursuing to become a gerontological nurse practitioner.

In November 2011, Mireille Bessin donated \$50,000 to establish an endowment with the Foundation in memory of her late husband, Rolf H. Bessin, MD. Dr. Bessin, the first vascular surgeon at Morristown Medical Center, practiced general and vascular surgery at the hospital for more than 40 years.

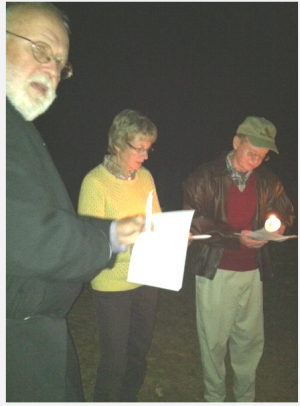
"When donors establish an endowment with the Foundation, they immediately create an enduring legacy that will influence succeeding generations. It is

the perfect way to honor

someone who has made a significant contribution to the hospital, such as Dr. Bessin," says Cynthia W. O'Donnell, JD, director of gift planning at the Foundation. "An endowment produces annual income to help support the programs and services of Morristown Medical Center."

For more information on establishing an endowment, please contact Ms. O'Donnell at 973-593-2418 or cynthia.odonnell@atlantichealth.org.





NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

ALL HALLOWS EVE Rev. Robert Morris led members of our church and community in a Celtic traditional observation of All Hallows Eve. The ceremony began with discussion and mask-making in Fellowship hall, followed by a candle lighting ceremony and procession through the Church's graveyard. It concluded with a service in the sanctuary during which candles were lit on a cake in remembrance of our departed family and friends. Participants were unanimous in finding the ceremony both moving and enjoyable.

Below: Cinnamon Toast Sunday!



December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 First Sunday of Advent Communion Christmas Tree & Hall Decorating Party Comfort & Joy Svc. 6:00 pm	2 New Vernon Garden Club 9 am Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am	3	4 Youth Group Dinner & Cookie Ministry 6:00-8 pm Movie Night 7 pm	5 Bible Study 8:30 am Choir 7:30 pm	6 AA Meeting noon	7
8 Second Sunday of Advent Confirmation Class 9-9:30 am Sunday School Christmas Pageant 10 am Annual Christmas Luncheon 11 am	9 Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am Deacons' Meeting 7:00 pm	10	11 Deadline for MCCF donations Sing Joy! Christmas Concert 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary	12 Bible Study 8:30 am Choir 7:30 pm	13 AA Meeting noon	14
15 Third Sunday of Advent Congregational Meeting 11:00 am	16 Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am Finance Mtg. 7 pm	17 Session Mtg. 7 pm	18	19 Bible Study 8:30 am Choir 7:30 pm	20 AA Meeting noon	21
22 Fourth Sunday of Advent Adult Ed. Jesus in Art 11:30 am	23	24 Christmas Eve Services 5:00 pm 9:00 pm	25	26	27 AA Meeting noon	28
29 First Sunday after Christmas	30 Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am	31 Church Office Closes at noon	Jan 1, 2014 New Year's Day Church Office Closed			

December Worship at FPCNV, 2013

Sunday, December 1

First Sunday of Advent

Communion

Preacher: Dr. Sweeney

Liturgist: Gwenn Claytor

Sermon: *What Time Is It?*

Text:

Matthew 24:36-44

Romans 13:11-14

Sunday, December 8

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday School

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 15

Third Sunday of Advent

Preacher: Dr. Sweeney

Liturgist: Jane Coyle

Sermon: *Have A Dangerous Christmas*

Text:

Isaiah 35:1-10

Matthew 1:18-25

Sunday, December 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Preacher: Dr. Sweeney

Liturgist: Jake Steinmetz

Sermon: *Dreamers*

Text:

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Luke 1:18-25

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

Preacher: Dr. Sweeney

Sermon: *To You!*

Text:

Isaiah 9:2-7

Luke 2:1-10

Sunday, December 29

1st Sunday After Christmas

Preacher: TBA

Liturgist: TBA

Services at 5 pm and 9 pm

The Pipe Organ

First Presbyterian Church
2 Lee's Hill Road, PO Box 218
New Vernon, NJ 07976-0218



Sing Joy!

Wednesday, December 11
7:30 pm
In the Sanctuary



Christmas Concert in the Sanctuary

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

December 1

First Sunday of Advent
Christmas Tree Decorating Party
Comfort & Joy Service

December 8

Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday School Christmas Pageant
Annual Christmas Luncheon

December 11

Sing Joy! ~ Christmas Concert
Wednesday at 7:30 pm

December 22

Adult Ed: Jesus in Art

December 24

5 pm and 9 pm Christmas Eve Services

NOTE: The second Christmas Eve Service
time has been changed to 9 pm

E-mail Addresses

The Church Office is still collecting and correcting e-mail addresses from our members. If you would like to be included in various e-mail mailings, please e-mail office@pcnv.org or call 973-538-8394.

CHURCH OFFICE

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