

THE MESSENGER

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 6

FEBRUARY 2012

From Pastor Graham

Pastor's Office Hours

Wednesdays 10 am – 3 pm
Thursdays 4 pm – 7 pm
Fridays 10 am – 3 pm
Saturdays 10 am – 3 pm

Drop in and say hello

Upcoming Events

February 5 – Community
Breakfast

February 10, 12 noon Women
of HOPE Meeting

ASH WEDNESDAY Worship
12noon, February 22

Opportunities To Serve

February 5 – Community
Breakfast ; *speak to Linda Johns*

February 21 – Soup Kitchen
Prep; *speak to Christine Button*

Serve as liturgist on Sundays;
 speak to Marsha Vernon

Be an Usher or Acolyte on
Sundays; *speak to Nancy Horton*

Host the Coffee Hour; *speak to
Brenda Martinez*

“He who has begun a good work in you will be faithful until completed.”

Grace and Peace to you Peekskill. My books are $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way unpacked, my mail has been forwarded, and the first session meeting is behind us.

Let's take a deep breath, celebrate our achievements, kick back for a minute or two, and then, let's finish the work.

As I look around at all you have accomplished here at Peekskill, I am energized and inspired. I can only imagine what God is planning for our future.

God could accomplish His work throughout the earth alone, but for whatever reason, God chooses to work through our hearts, hands, and heels.

Still, in most congregations 80% of the work is done by 20% of the people. I am encouraging those of you who have not been as involved as others, to rise to the occasion and let your thoughts, ideas, and concerns be heard. There is much still to be done.

Perhaps like me you prefer working behind the scenes, you don't like attending a lot of meetings, and you are a doer more than you are a talker.

I need your help as we follow the Spirit and chart a new course. Come by the office and have a cup of tea with me. I promise to be all ears. We need every one at the table as we move forward in our future together. God has been faithful to us; now the question is, will we continue to be faithful to God.

I will be looking forward to our visit.
By Faith, Pastor Stephany

Meditation for the Month

The people whom you dislike the most, rub you the worst way, or cause you to react negatively are your greatest blessings. Here's why...

- They act as mirrors so that you can become aware of areas you need to surrender to God. They help to bring your worst stuff to the surface.
- They help to increase your prayer life, which will help you to grow closer to God.
- Once you arrive to a place of unconditional love with them, you are one step closer to taking on the character of Jesus.

*Say a special prayer this month thanking God for people who have come into your life disguised as enemies.

Christian Quotation

"Life becomes harder for us when we live for others, but it also becomes richer and happier" Albert Schweitzer

Save The Date

February 19 & 26, A special Bible Study for Black History Month – "The African Presence in The Bible"

March 18 & 25 A special Bible study for Women's History Month – "Women of The Bible"

Both studies will take place during the coffee hour after worship. All are welcome!

Mission Away - NOLA 2012 Trip

I am very excited this year to be taking my daughter Kaitlyn, my niece Brianna, and her friend Nina on the Mission Trip to Louisiana.

We are leaving February 19th and will be staying at a Lutheran Church this year. Our group consists of 14 adults and 26 children. The cost of the trip this year is around \$1200 per person. This covers our food, a place to sleep (at the Lutheran church), transportation, and purchase of some of the supplies we will be using.

I have raffle tickets for sale and will be doing a bake sale on Sunday, February 12th. Please come and support us. Anyone wanting to make a donation can see me or send a check to the church office made out to Peekskill Presbyterian Church and marked "for the mission trip."

We will be giving a presentation of our trip for the congregation in March.

Again, thank you all for your support.

Cindy Lou Bohler

Memorial Bricks Now Available

Six years ago our Memorial Meditation Garden came to life with a Memorial Brick Path framing the garden. This brick path has a place where you can leave a long lasting memorial to a loved one, someone you respected or anyone else you so choose. The engraved 8 x 8 white granite bricks are again available and will be ordered on March 14, 2012. We hope to place them in the path before Easter. The cost is \$60 for each engraved brick. Each brick can have five lines with no more than fourteen characters per line (letters and spaces).

To order a memorial brick:

Fill out the grid(s) below for each brick. Mail your order to The Peekskill Presbyterian Church, 705 South Street, Peekskill, NY 10566. Enclose a check in the amount of \$60/brick and note it is for the Memorial Path. The order may also be delivered to the church office or placed in the offering plate.

Memorial Brick Order Grid

Your Name:

Phone #

Session Highlights

Session welcomed our new pastor, Rev. Stephany Graham, as moderator of Session. With this important position filled the Session and the pastor together can now direct their attention toward leading this church toward an expanded spiritual role in the life of the greater Peekskill community.

The November and December financials were approved by the Session, as well as the 2012 budget. The new budget has a deficit which is smaller than the actual deficit of 2011, even though 2011 expenditures did not include a pastor's salary. If pledges continue to come in, some other fund raising efforts are as successful as last year's, the mild winter continues (with less heating cost and snow plowing), and the church physical plant doesn't demand an immediate heavy expenditure, new budget should look pretty realistic.

Session approved a motion to separate the Worship Ministry from the Congregational Life Ministry. The Worship Ministry is expected to have expanded activities so this separation seemed advisable.

Good News Ministry announced a new community outreach program of movie nights this spring and summer utilizing the church's recently acquired Epson Moviemate. Bring your popcorn. Good News also announced that it will also be posting church events on Hudson Valley news media "happenings" sites in addition to what it is already doing on the church website and Facebook; Julia Church of the Ministry will be doing this. Be sure to tell Julia and Christine Button (who does the church website and Facebook) about your upcoming events. Who knows who will see the information and decide to visit the church as a result?

Mission announced that Cindy Bohler will be taking Kaitlyn with her for New Orleans mission service this year. The Bohlers will be commissioned in February, possibly the 12th.



Time to Update Your Contacts!

The church email address is changing . . . it's time to update your contact list!

Beginning February 1st, you can reach Linda at the church office by emailing: office@peekskillpresby.org.

Pastor Stephany has a new office email as well. You can contact her at pastor@peekskillpresby.org.

If you prefer the telephone, you can reach the pastor on her cell at 410-493-6748 or give her a call at the manse at 914-402-1096. The office phone number remains the same: 914-737-3322.



The old church aol address will be discontinued soon. Don't risk having your church emails go astray; update your contacts list now.

The Lord's Attic Thrift Shop

Were you, your family, friends, or neighbors, fortunate enough to replace *something old* with *something new* in your home or kitchen this holiday, or maybe changed your color scheme for 2012?

Well, the Lord's Attic is in need of your gently used or new **household items, dishes, pots, pans, gadgets, Tupperware, coffeemakers, blenders, irons, linens, tablecloths, other assorted equipment, collectables, and giftware.**

We are also, in great need of **4 new volunteers**, male or female, to commit to half a day; a week or month. Give us a try, you will be blessed by the fellowship and joy of assisting your church members and our loyal patrons!

Please drop off your clean donations **during shop hours: TUES, WEDS, THURS & SAT from 10-3.** *If you have any questions, are ready to volunteer, or concerned regarding any other types of items we accept, please, feel free to contact any committee member.*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT !!!

THE LORD'S ATTIC THRIFT SHOP COMMITTEE

CHARLENE WOODS, HILDA ARTURI, PHILENA BOLDEN, FAY MENESES,

BARBARA MONTERO, CAROL ROBINSON, JEAN VALENTE, TINA WILEIKIS

Prison Ministry

When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’... ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ (Matthew 25:39-40)

Familiar words, yet sometimes hard to believe. Even harder to act on. The Prison Letter Writing Ministry has been corresponding with brothers and sisters behind bars for over three years. At times, it seems that the little we do can hardly matter and yet, it does. Listen for some of what we hear from our friends.

*...the love I've been shown by your church as well as others clearly reminds me that God's love is still with us.
(Vashon)*

Thank you all for your time and effort in spreading the word of Christ and showing his love and kindness through your actions. (Vincent)

We hear things like that over and over. We give so little. We meet every other month. We are generally finished in about two hours. It seems so little that we might be tempted not to do it at all. Perhaps you have shared that feeling. Please come and share our mission. It touches real people in real ways. We know that because they tell us. As we get to know them, we realize that they are, after all, people just like us.

I too am addicted to Spider and FreeCell. (Diane)

Like us they feel called to reach out and minister to others.

Your Midnight Run sounds like something I'd love to do. I do something like that here. It's called the HELP fund. We give toiletries to the many women in here that have no one to give them any assistance. We get donations from outside sources of things like shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, body washes, all things of that sort. (Kathy)

And they don't take much for granted. They want to help themselves.

I would like to do The Upper Room but I must ask do I need stamps to mail it back? If so, let me know, and I will get my stamps together. (Alvin)

And we can learn lessons from them.

Lent to me has always been kind of humbling. To think that Jesus loved me enough to make such a sacrifice-well, it's just a little overwhelming. Me- warts and all! (Kathy)

In this season of Lent, won't you consider joining us? Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 14. We meet at 10 AM in the carriage house at Scarborough Church.

Barbara Devir, CLP and the Prison Letter Writing Ministry

A Ministry of First Presbyterian, Peekskill Presbyterian and Scarborough Presbyterian Churches



IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY...

Our Annual Birthday Sunday Celebration 2012 will be on February 26, following worship service in the Social Hall. To make this year's Celebration more special, please invite all your family members, neighbors, friends, and "new friends" to attend our worship at 10:00 A.M.

Come to hear and meet our new minister
Pastor Stephany Graham...

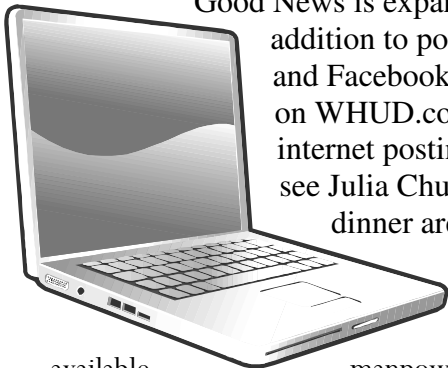
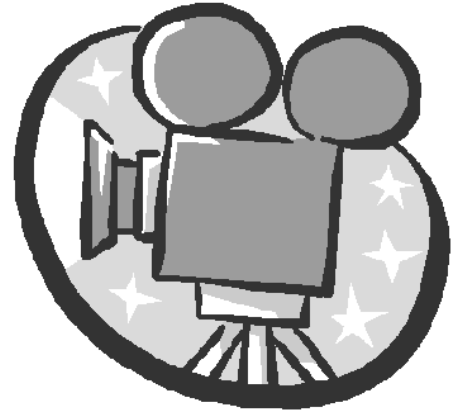
Congregational Life Committee



Good News Report

Good News Ministry welcomes Pastor Stephany Graham to our church and looks forward to working with her in evangelical outreach in the Peekskill area this year.

As part of its outreach to the Peekskill area community the Good News Ministry will be using our brand new Epson Moviemate to offer at least five free movies this spring and summer, two in the spring and three in the summer. If there is sufficient interest, additional movies will be offered during the following fall and winter months. The Ministry is currently in the process of selecting movies to show.

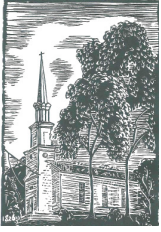


Good News is expanding its presence on the internet: in addition to posting church events on the church website and Facebook, the Ministry will also be posting events on WHUD.com, LoHud.com, Peekskillpatch.com, and dailypeekskill.com. For church internet postings contact Christine Button; for Hudson Valley and Peekskill internet postings see Julia Church. The Friday night book discussion group meetings and annual Christmas dinner are good candidates for such postings, for example.

Good News has a number of projects it is considering this year, including repeats of some that seem especially worthwhile. The scope of our activity is limited by the available manpower to do it; we are small in number, but if more people join in to help we can do much more. Contact Dan Harrison ((914) 739-1519) or any other member of the Ministry (Dick Belliveau, Christine Button, Julia Church, Beverly Dyckman, or Jamel Haight) if you would like to learn more about what we do or to volunteer.

FEBRUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Rev. Graham Office Hours: W, F, Sat: 10-3pm Thrs: 4-7pm</p>	<p>Every Sunday: 10:00 am WORSHIP with nursery care</p> <p>Gates of Heaven: 12 - 1:30</p>		<p>1</p> <p>6:15pm Thrift Shop Mtg. 7:30pm Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:30 pm C orporate & Business Meeting 7:30 pm Gates of Heaven Bible Study</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>2-5pm Private Party, Social Hall</p>
<p>5 8:30 am Breakfast 9am Cong Life Mtg.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:30pm Good News Mtg. 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop #284</p>	<p>7 2 pm Yorktown Soup Kitchen Prep 7:30 pm Ch Ed Mtg. Gates of Heaven Prayer Service</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6pm Worship Mtg. 7:30pm Choir</p>	<p>9 8am Men's Breakfast Bible Study 7:30 pm Session Mtg 7:30 pm Gates of Heaven Bible Study</p>	<p>10</p> <p>12 noon Women of HOPE Winter Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:30pm Bridge, Philena's</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop #284</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:30 pm Gates of Heaven Prayer Service</p>	<p>15 MESEN ARTICLES DUE 1:30 Bridge, Button's 7:30pm Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5-7pm Headstart Parents Mtg. 7:30 pm Gates of Heaven Bible Study</p>	<p>17</p> <p>4-7pm Private Party , Social Hall</p>	<p>18</p> <p>4-8pm Gates of Heaven, Social Hall</p>
<p>19 11am "The African Presence in the Bible" 11:30am Prayer Chain Mt., Mission Mtg. 7-8:30 Boy Scout Ldrs.</p>	<p>20 Presidents' Day OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>21 5:30pm Mission Soup Kitchen prep. 7:30 pm Deacons Meeting, Gates of Heaven Prayer Service</p>	<p>22</p> <p>ASH WEDNESDAY 12 pm <u>WORSHIP SERVICE</u> 7:30pm Choir</p>	<p>23 8am Men's Breakfast Bible Study 7:30 pm Gates of Heaven Bible Study</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:30pm Book Discussion Group</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 11am "The African Presence in the Bible" 11am Birthday Cakes Coffee Hour 11:30 am Stewardship Meeting</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop #284</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:30 pm Gates of Heaven Prayer Service</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:30pm Choir</p>		<p>Church Office: 8:00 - 2:00, M - Th 914-737-3322 phone 914-737-7822 fax peekskillpresby.org</p>	<p>Thrift Shop: (845) 538-2669 Tu, W, Th, & Sa 10:00 - 3:00</p>



**THE MESSENGER
PEEKSKILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
705 SOUTH STREET
PEEKSKILL, NY 10566-3396**

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