

The Peekskill Presbyterian Church

# The Messenger

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2010

## **Worship & Study Opportunities For the Season of Advent** **Join us as we celebrate the *Blessings of the Manger***

### **November 28—1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

*The Blessing of God's Future:* Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44  
Blessing of the Advent Wreath  
Adult Bible Study 11:30am in the Parlor

### **December 5—2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Congregational/Community Breakfast 8:30-9:30am  
*The Blessing of Peace:* Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12  
Service of Lessons and Carols  
Sacrament of Baptism  
Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Adult Bible Study 11:30am in the Parlor

### **December 12—3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

*The Blessing of Waiting:* Isaiah 35:1-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11  
Introduction of new members  
Adult Bible Study 11:30am in the Parlor

### **December 20—4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

*The Blessing of God With Us:* Isaiah 7:10-16; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25  
Special music: Hand bells  
Children's Pageant: *'Twas the Night Before*  
Christmas Offering received  
Adult Bible Study 11:30am in the Parlor

### **December 24—Christmas Eve**

*The Blessing of Light:* Isaiah 9:2-7; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20  
Candlelight Service 8:00pm  
Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Special music: solo(s)

## **Smile for the Camera !!**

The Congregational Life Committee will begin taking photos of members of our congregation starting mid-December. We hope to reach all of our church family including shut-ins. An album will be presented to the new pastor to use as a reference. Watch for further announcements or for more information call me.  
- Nancy Horton (914 737 0315)

## **Advent Adult Bible Study**

Don't miss this opportunity to explore the Revised Common Lectionary texts for Advent 2010 on a deeper level as we study Jeanne Torrence Finley's study, *Blessings of the Manger*. These Bible readings will inspire you to live each day with God's blessing of hope through Jesus Christ. From the beginning of its practice, the purpose of Advent has been to prepare for God's coming in human form in the baby Jesus and for the establishment of God's kingdom with the second coming of Christ. Hope is the focus of Advent worship, study and prayer. In this season of Advent, we will discover the blessings that began in the manger and that continue as we look forward with hope to Christ's return. We will meet in the Parlor at 11:30am for four Sundays beginning on November 28<sup>th</sup>. See Rhonda Kruse for more information. - *Rev. Rhonda Kruse, Interim Pastor*

## **Don't Forget the Food Pantries**

Don't forget to bring a couple of non-perishable grocery items when you come to church each Sunday. You can make it a regular part of your weekly offering. Anything you bring will go directly to someone in need here in Peekskill. It's as easy as adding a single box of pasta or a single can of beans to your grocery shopping list, and it will be a real and immediate help to poor and hungry members of our community. For more information talk to any member of your Mission Team: Linda Johns, Phyllis Froeblich, Julianna Asare, Philena Bolden, Juanita Backerman, Judy Benjamin, Christine Button or Cindy Bohler.

## **Update from the Pastor Nominating Committee**

Your Pastor Nominating Committee is working hard. We've been meeting weekly to review resumes and videos of sermons. We have even begun telephone interviews with a couple of promising applicants. Even though it seems like it's taking a long time, the good news is that we are moving more quickly through the process than is typical. However, we're also widening our search. We're hoping that the ads we've placed in the national Presbyterian and Christian magazines bear fruit and bring us more and better candidates for our pastorate. Please pray for us, and for our church. We're confident that God will send the minister that He has prepared for us, but we need your prayers that he'll give us the wisdom to recognize that person. If you have any questions about the process, you can speak to any member of the PNC: Steve Woods, Marsha Vernon, Christine Button, Linda Buckiewicz, Brenda Martinez, or Caroline Renaud.

## **Good News Ministry**

Good News Ministry erroneously reported in the November Messenger that the horse show at which it manned a booth was run by the Lions Club; the event was run by the Rotary Club, not the Lions Club. Apologies for the error.

The church website has been upgraded to include a facebook page. This will enable one to find out the latest information on events, meetings, etc. Click on the word "Like" on the church website to connect to the facebook page.

The Hudson valley offers a good number of opportunities for free publicity for church activities. Good News Ministry is looking for one or more volunteers to send information via computer on Peekskill Presbyterian Church activities to such outlets. Contact Christine Button or Dan Harrison if you would be willing to help on this.

You may have noticed some new colorful banners highlighting church events; we are pleased to report that more are coming.

Good News Ministry wishes one and all the blessings of the Christmas season.

## The Youth Are Heading Back to Philadelphia!

The first weekend of December our church's youth will be spending a night in a Philadelphia mission. In a reprise of last year's 24 hour mission trip, the teens will return to the Broad Street Mission. Reclaiming a tumbled down Presbyterian "cathedral", the Broad Street Mission offers a ministry of compassion to Philadelphia's poor and homeless. On this trip our kids will learn about poverty, homelessness, hunger, and health, all within a Christian theological perspective. The main goal will be to break stereotypes and reveal (and learn to recognize) the face of Christ in an impoverished stranger. We'll try to teach the kids that, young as they are, they too have the power to engage in ministry in Jesus' name.

## We're on Facebook!

Our church now has a page on Facebook. You can use it to see updates on events or notices from the pastor. If you click on the 'Like' button, church postings will show up on your own Facebook wall. To find the page, login to your Facebook account and type "Peekskill Presbyterian Church" in the search box. You'll see 2 separate church pages. One belongs to Historic Hudson Valley and discusses the history of our church building. It's got interesting information, but it's not our page. Our Facebook page includes information about our active ministries, church events, and worship. So login, and we'll see you online!

## December Birthdays



*Deleted to protect your privacy online*

## Men's Bible Study

Men, mark your calendars for **December 9, 2010** for the Thursday morning discussion group/bible study held bi-monthly on the second and fourth Thursday. Topics are both modern day issues and bible related. This month's breakfast is limited to only one due to the Christmas holiday approaching. Why not join us this month at 8:00 AM. Regular bi-monthly meetings will resume in January, 2011.

## Presbyterian Women

Thanksgiving is past and Christmas is around the corner. Hope all women of the church have made their reservation for December 10, 2010 to join us for our Christmas Luncheon. Guests/Spouses are welcome. Come to the Piazza Roma Restaurant in the Cortlandt Town Center to enjoy an afternoon of good food and fellowship – all in the Christmas spirit. A beautiful Christmas program has been planned for the day. Please see Vera Sokol or Jean Valente for reservations or more information.

***Remember: December 10, 2010 – 12 noon.***

## Southward Bound Again

Attention anyone interested in a wonderful and meaningful experience! Eric and I will be joining three other churches again for a mission trip back to New Orleans February 20-26. We will be going through the Presbytery this year and will be working down by the 9th Ward in New Orleans, the hardest hit by hurricane Katrina. We really learned a lot last February, had a great time, and would love for others from our church to join us this time. If anyone is interested please feel free to contact Eric or myself. It's a lot of hard work, fun, and great fellowship. We do a lot of fundraising to help pay for the trip. If there is anyone who would like to make a donation towards the trip, you can send your donation to the church office and mark on it that it is for the New Orleans Mission Trip. Thank you all again for your support, and we hope some of you will join us. God Bless, - *Cindy Bohler*

# Christmas Day Dinner

The annual Christmas Day Dinner is fast approaching and preparations are in the making for an even bigger and better eventful day for our community people who would, ordinarily, be dining alone. Dinner will be served from 11:30am to 1:00pm. The goals of this out-reach program are to provide a home cooked dinner in a family-like atmosphere and to send each family home with a food basket and a gift, including toys for the children.

## ***The Food Basket***

We would like each basket to be uniform in content, and therefore, we are asking each family in the church to donate one complete “food basket” for the event. The “food basket” should include the following items:

2 6oz cans tuna fish	2 large cans of soup
1 box macaroni & cheese	1 large can of fruit
1 large jar of pasta sauce	1 pound of pasta

A sample bag has been made up and will be left on the front row pew in the sanctuary for you to see. Your donated bags can be left on the first pew near the piano on Sunday mornings or in the social hall on the stage apron on weekdays between 9am and 3pm. Please attach a festive ribbon or bow to the bag as well as any other decoration you may wish to add.

## ***Volunteers Needed***

We cannot reach maximum operation of this project without the help of our church members. We are in need of volunteers to serve in the kitchen as food preparers, dishwashers, waiters/waitresses, delivery drivers, set-up personnel and clean-up personnel. Let's remember that all of these positions are very important for a smoothly run operation. The more cooperative we are with each other, the faster everyone can finish and go home to be with our loved ones. Sign up sheets will be available December 5, 2010.

## ***Donations***

We will be asking the congregation and friends to donate items such as turkeys –(prefer 16lbs to 24lbs); cookies and pies.

You have been very supportive in the past and we solicit your support this year as well. This is our time of sharing with the community. Let us continue to work together in order to successfully reach our goal. Thank you and God bless! - *Ray & Eartha Brown & Christmas Dinner Committee*

## **“Twas the Sunday before Christmas...**

*And all through the hall,                      The children were ready,                      Some big and some small,  
To tell that story, Beloved of old,      Of the night Jesus was born                      For the world to behold.*

On Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> come recapture the wonder of childhood as our Sunday School reenacts in verse and song the story of Jesus' birth. Fred Froeblich is once again directing this year's pageant. The children will be preparing for the event in their Sunday School class. As they learn about how Jesus was born to help us they will be helping others by making Christmas cards for our homebound members.

Since the fall session of Sunday School is drawing to a close the Christian Education Ministry on behalf of the church thanks the following teachers for their time, talent and dedication:

Brenda Martinez, Cindy Bohler, Marjory Trainor, Fred Froeblich

Peekskill Presbyterian Church

# December 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Every Sunday 9am Confirmation 9:15am Choir 10am WORSHIP Sunday School	Church Office Hours 8am-2pm, M-Thrs, 737-3322, 737-7822 fax PeeksPres@aol.com	Thrift Shop Hours (845) 538-2669 Wed., Thrs. Sat. 10-3	1 10:30am Bells 3pm Good News 6:15pm Lord's Attic 7:30pm Ch. Choir	2 7:30pm C&B Mtg.	3	4 4-7pm Baby Shower, Social Hall
5 8:30am Breakfast, 9am CongLifeMtg. DeStefano Baptism 11:15 Nominating, 11:30 Advent Stdy, 12-1:30 - Gates of Heaven	6 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop #284, Social Hall	7 9-3 Presby Mtg., 2pm Yorktown Soup prep. 6pm Worship Mtg. 7:30pm Christian Ed. Mtg., Gates of Heaven Prayer Service	8 10:30am Bells  7:30pm Ch. Choir	9 8am Men's Breakfast Bible Study  7pm Session Mtg.	10 12noon Women of HOPE Xmas Lunch 5pm 2nd Friday Community Youth Gp, 7:30 Book Discussion Group, Parlor	11
12 New Members 11:30am Advent Study, Parlor 12 Gates of Heaven	13 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop #284, Social Hall	14 12:30 PAPA Mtg. 2pm Yorktown Soup Kitchen Prep 7:30 GOH Service	15 MESSENGER ARTICLES DUE 10:30am Bells  7:30pm Ch. Choir	16  5:30-7:30pm Head Start Parents Mtg., Social Hall	17	18
19 Bells Play, SS Pageant, Xmas Offring 11:30am Advent Stdy, Mission Mtg., Prayer Ch Mtg. 7pm Scout Ldrs Mtg.	20 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop #284, Social Hall, Nominating Ministry Soup Kitchen Prep	21  7:30-9pm Gates of Heaven Prayer Service	22  7:30pm Ch. Choir	23	24 8pm CHRISTMAS EVE Candlelight Service 	25 11:30am-1pm COMMUNITY XMAS DINNER 
26 Rev. Glenn Henricksen  12 Gates of Heaven	27  OFFICE CLOSED	28  7:30-9pm Gates of Heaven Prayer Service	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 	Every Sunday 12-1:30 Gates of Heaven Service, also Tuesdays, 7:30-9pm