

The Peekskill Presbyterian Church

# The Messenger

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 7

MARCH 2011

## February Session Highlights

The session inserted the following declaration in the minutes: “(Session records its)...heartfelt thanks for the spirited leadership over the past two years of our interim minister, Rhonda Kruse. As pastor, she has cared for the members of this church and community in a multitude of ways. As minister, she has inspired and cajoled us into action, awakening interests in mission, youth programs and adult education. We will miss Rhonda, but with her legacy and God’s help, our church can truly “shine.””

Christine Button was elected to be Peekskill Presbyterian Church commissioner to attend the special February 17 Hudson River Presbytery meeting to vote on proposed changes in church government and a new confession.

Session voted to approve a contract for the months of March and April to hire Barbara Devir, CLP, to give sermons and provide pastoral services to the congregation following the end of Rev. Kruse’s interim pastoral service.

Dan Harrison was elected Clerk of Session.

Session approved Manny Asare’s request that his grandson, Emmanuel Nicholas Asare, be baptized Sunday, February 13.

Corporate and Business Ministry reported that severe winter conditions have escalated costs for both fuel oil and snow plowing, putting pressure on the church budget.

Session approved Mission Ministry’s request to conduct a fundraising effort May 21 and June 18 (car wash and bake sale each day).

Thrift shop hours were extended to include Fridays.

Rev. Kruse reminded session that our church would be hosting a presbytery cross-cultural vision event February 13 to celebrate the cultural diversity of the presbytery and consider how a bi-lingual coordinator could help congregations in the presbytery engage in a cross cultural ministry.

## Men's Breakfast/Bible Study

Men's Breakfast/Bible Study meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month and would love to have more men attend. Breakfast is at 8AM. Men, please join us on March 10<sup>th</sup> and March 24<sup>th</sup>.

## Mission Trip 2011: We're On the Road Again!

Our church is sending another contingent of missionaries on the road again this summer, this time to Maine! We'll be working with PC(USA)'s Rural Community Action Ministry Leeds, Maine doing housing construction, repair, rehabilitation, painting, and more for people who desperately need our help. There is work for church

members of every (or no) skill level. If you can't saw, you can hammer. If you can't hammer, you can paint. If you can't paint, we need people to run to the store and pick up lunch. Whoever you are, and whatever you think you can or cannot do, there is a contribution you can make, and we'll be glad to have you join us. **Trip Dates are July 16 – 23, 2011. The next organizational meeting will be Monday March 14 at 7:30 pm in the Parlor.** If you're interested in coming along, speak to Nancy Horton or Linda Johns. Join us for fun, fellowship, and terrific team-building for our church!



## World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical prayer movement initiated and carried out by Christian women in more than 180 countries. In our area, services are shared among the churches in the Peekskill and surrounding areas and this year, it is hosted by the Mount Lebanon Baptist Church on Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon. All women of the church are urged to attend and participate. There are readings in which we seek your participation. Please see Eartha Brown or Beverly Dyckman for further details.

The country is Chile and the theme is: "How Many Loaves Have You"

## Roast Beef Dinner



The Roast Beef Dinner date is fast approaching. You know the routine and the good food (salad, green beans, mashed potatoes, assorted desserts, tea and coffee). This is the Men's Club major fundraiser. Proceeds are used for scholarships, and this year, new chairs for the social hall were purchased. So come on out, enjoy a well-known delicious meal, socialize with church family and friends and do a good deed to help and support your church.

**Dinner: March 26, 2011**

**Time: 5:30pm to 8pm**

## **Ash Wednesday Retreat**

Ash Wednesday Retreat March 9, 2011; 10AM to 1PM  
Retreat Title: Fresh Brewed Life

The Retreat will be held at the Stony Point Conference Center auditorium with Rev. Dorinda Violante as leader. Participants are asked to bring a sandwich and beverages, fruit and cookies will be provided. We can meet at the church at 8:45AM for car-pooling. Please see Eartha or Beverly for car-pooling details.

## **Easter Breakfast**

Easter Breakfast is Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM. Please join the Men's Club for this treat. Eat and socialize before the services. Hope to see you there.



## **Congregational Life**

Barbara Devir, Lay Pastor has agreed to serve our congregation during the transition period of Rev. Kruse's departure and the arrival of a permanent minister. Barbara will conduct worship services and be available to call upon shut-ins, make hospital calls & other pastoral duties. She may be reached through the church office, by phone at 914-923-3517 or e-mail [barbdevir@yahoo.com](mailto:barbdevir@yahoo.com). We are blessed to have Barbara in our midst again.

The South Salem Presbyterian Church will be using our sanctuary as a neutral pulpit on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Our Pastor Nominating Committee has visited area churches to hear prospective candidates for the position of pastor for our congregation. This is an opportunity to experience first hand one of the processes the committee must include in their search. Please give the South Salem Pastor Nominating Committee a warm welcome!

*Nancy Horton*

## **Women of H.O.P.E.**

Women of H.O.P.E. held its mid-winter meeting on Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup> in the church social hall. The attendance was great and included a few outside guests. In conjunction with the celebration of Valentine's Day and Heart Month, our presenter for the day was Debbie Petranchi, Manager of Cardio/pulmonary Rehabilitation & Exercise Physiologist at Hudson Valley Hospital Center. What a beautiful, meaningful and interesting presentation she made. In lieu of the normal lecture/slideshow routine, Debbie presented the information in the format of "Bingo." We were given Bingo cards, the information was numbered and as she presented the facts, she indicated the number while the

audience was able to indicate the number on their card. We were rewarded with interesting health items. The meeting was enjoyed by all present.

The April meeting will be held April 8<sup>th</sup> in the church social hall. The program will be our "Birthday Luncheon" where we collect a dime for each year of our birth. This money is used to support the mission project of Presbytery and does remain in the USA. A fun time will be held after the meeting which will involve the expertise of a retired physical education teacher who will show seniors how to exercise minus the strenuous aerobics so commonly used. All women please join us on this date – April 8<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon.

Please bring a light lunch - beverages and the birthday cake will be provided.

## **Good News Report**

Good News Ministry will be attending a Saturday March 12, 9:30am-3:00pm presbytery-sponsored workshop entitled "Doing Authentic Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" at the Yorktown Presbyterian Church, but all interested members of the Peekskill Presbyterian Church are among those invited to attend. Four resource people will be covering the following topics: creating and using video in the church, how to get the most out of electronic communication tools such as Facebook and websites, creating learning communities, and clarifying and sharing transformational faith stories with others. Lunch is available (\$10.00). Save the date.

Good News is considering a number of new outreach initiatives for 2011, in addition to a repeat of some of the initiatives that we undertook in 2009 and 2010; more on this later. We are still looking for a person to assist in posting and updating Peekskill Presbyterian Church events on some of the free electronic and print "bulletin boards" that are available to us. Contact Dan Harrison if you have questions at (914) 739-1519.

## **Thrift Shop News**

We are so happy that our thrift shop has a great group of volunteers who have made this shop such a success. Last year we were able to give about \$18,000.00 to the church. We are currently open on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. What we have discussed is the possibility of being open one more day a week, perhaps Fridays. This would help to generate more income for the church and help more people of the community who frequent the thrift shop. In order for us to do this, however, we need to increase our committee members by a few committed people.

If you feel that you could commit to manning the thrift shop with the help of other volunteers, for one day a week that we are open, please contact a committee member. We do have a great time working in the shop and it is extremely rewarding to witness the many people who shop here and are helped by our concern, our inventory, and our reasonable prices. The current committee members are; Faye Meneses, Carol Robinson, Philena Boldon, Hilda Arturi, Barbara Montero, Jean Valente, Tina Wileikis, and Charlene Woods.

We are looking forward to hearing from you and thank you in advance for your willingness to assist our worthy cause. Remember the verse from Galatians which says, "*So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.*"

## Stewardship Corner

For this month's Newsletter; we the members of the Stewardship Committee take this opportunity to say "thank you" for sharing of your *Time and Talent* to:

**Emmanuel Asare** known to us as "Manny".

Born in Ghana, Manny left his homeland and came to the United State to complete his education. After graduation, he had a very successful and long career in the banking/financial industry from which he retired in 2009. He has been married to Julianne for forty years and they are the proud parents of three children and grandparents to a grandson. Of all of Manny's hobbies, gardening is his passion.

Manny's service to our church began back in the 1980's when he became a member. He served two terms on the Board of Deacons, was an Usher, a member of the Nominating Committee and is a lifelong member of the Men's Club.

Many of us are accustomed to working with Manny at the various Men's Club sponsored events in our church. He is the known chef and clean-up crew member at Men's Club First Sunday breakfasts, a volunteer at our Annual Christmas Dinners, a waiter at the Roast Beef Dinners and always present at our Work bees. Ask... and Manny is always available to help...

Thank you – The Stewardship Committee



## March Birthdays

*Deleted to protect your privacy online*

## Our Soup Kitchen Ministry Needs Your . . . Recipes!



We've asked for your money, and we've asked for your coats; now we want more . . . your recipes! Our soup kitchen ministry serves about 120 people once a month at the Salvation Army. We need your help to put together a set of recipe options that will increase the amount of protein in the meal. We usually spend \$120 - \$150 to prepare the monthly meal, i.e. about \$1 - \$1.25 per serving. We know it will be hard to increase the protein content on that budget, but we have confidence in YOU! So dig out your old army cookbooks, family reunion menus, and casserole collections. Copy your best cheap meal onto the form included in this month's Messenger and bring it to Worship on March 20, 2011. We'll include the recipes as part of the offering on that day. Jesus said to his disciples, "You feed them." Let's do it!

*~ The Mission Committee: Linda Johns, Judy Benjamin, Phyllis Froeblich, Juliana Asare, Cindy Bohler, Christine Button, Juanita Backerman, Keith Bohler, Philena Bolden*

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECIPE NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ingredients:**

**Directions:**

## Peekskill Presbyterian Church

# March 2011

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
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	1 7:30pm Christian Ed. Mtg. 7:30-9pm Gates of Heaven Prayer Service	2 3pm Good News 6:30 Worship Mtg. 6:15pm Lord's Attic 7:30pm Ch. Choir	3  7:30pm C&B Mtg.	4 8am-5pm Headstart Staff Training, Social Hall 12pm World Day of Prayer, Mt. Lebanon	5
6 8:30am Breakfast, 9am Cong Life Mtg.  12-1:30 Gates of Heaven Service	7  7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop #284, Social Hall	8 2pm Yorktown Presby Soup Kitchen Prep 7:30-9pm Gates of Heaven Prayer Service	9 ASH WEDNESDAY 10-1 Stny Pt Retreat  7:30pm Ch. Choir	10 8am Men's Breakfast Bible Study  7pm Session Mtg.	11 4:30pm 2nd Fridays 7:30pm Book Discussion Group, Steve & Charlene Woods'	12 2-5pm Private B'day Party, Social Hall  CLOCKS FORWARD!
13 <u>1st Sunday in Lent</u> Daylight Savings Time begins 12-1:30 GOH Service	14  7:30 Boy Scouts Mtg.	15 7:30-9pm Gates of Heaven Prayer Service	16 10:30am Bells MESSENGER ARTICLES DUE 7:30pm Ch. Choir	17 <b>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</b> 5:30-7:30 Headstart Parents Meeting	18	19
20 <u>2nd Sunday in Lent</u> 11:30am Prayer Chain/Mission Mtgs, 7:30pm Scout Ldrs., Room 101	21  7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop #284	22 7:30pm Deacons Mtg., Mission Soup Kitchen Prep 7:30-9pm Gates of Heaven Prayer Service	23 10:30am Bells  7:30pm Ch. Choir	24 8am Men's Breakfast Bible Study	25	26  5-8pm ROAST BEEF DINNER
27 <u>3rd Sunday in Lent</u> YOUTH SUNDAY 11:30 am Stwrdsip Mtg 12-1:30 Gates of Heaven Service	28 7:30-9pm Boy Scout Troop #284, Social Hall	29 7:30-9pm Gates of Heaven Prayer Service	30 10:30am Bells  7:30pm Ch. Choir	31	Thrift Shop Hours (845) 538-2669 Wed., Thrs. Sat. 10- 3PeeksPres@aol.com	Every Sunday 12-1:30 Gates of Heaven Service, also Tuesdays, 7:30-9pm