

The Inklings

The News of First Presbyterian Church

January 2011

New Elders Elected, Ordination and Installation Set for January 9, 2011

At a special meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, December 5th, the following people were elected to serve as Elders on the Session of First Presbyterian Church.

The Ordination and Installation of these newly elected Elders will take place during the morning worship service on Sunday, January 9, 2011.

Art Hunt returns

Art works in IT at Yale. On his first term as an Elder, Art was involved in a wide range of projects, including restructuring the Finance Committee and putting all financial affairs onto a computer program, chairing the Property Committee through a time of significant building renovations, and helping significantly with Stewardship.

Nancy Rupp returns

Nancy lives in Trumbull, and has been the visionary chair of the Mission Committee for the last three years, leading us in projects ranging from advocacy and letters to office holders and on behalf of Bread for the World, to strong social action work close to home including our leading role in the Abraham's Tent program. Nancy returns to fill a one-year vacancy.

Julie Ray has been a part of First Presbyterian Church for nearly ten years. Julie is a research associate in epidemiology and public health at the Yale School of Medicine, working with Microbial Diseases. She is the mom of two small boys, and married to Justin Ray, recently ordained at FPC as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church.

Gary Cline, an Associate Professor at the Yale School of Medicine, works in endocrinology. Gary last served on the Session at FPC nearly ten years ago, and during a time of terrific and rapid growth in our congregation he was the Clerk of Session.

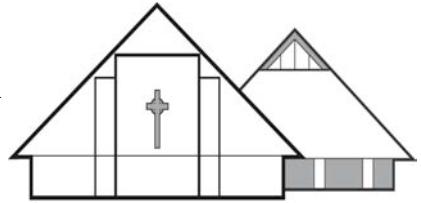
Martha Smith's professional life is in the coastal and watershed systems; Martha has been a leader in sustainability education at First Presbyterian Church for many years. She last served on the FPC session six years ago; at that time, she chaired our Mission Committee.

Christy Purnell is an elementary public school teacher in East Haven. A wonderful musician, Christy has often directed our choir and accompanied us on piano when Pat McCreless has been away. She is the mother of 8 year-old Sam and 3 year-old Rebecca, and is married to Blake Purnell.

Thanks to outgoing Elders Andrew McCloskey, Beth Aura Miller, and Jim Whitney as they end their term of service this month. Well done, good and faithful servants!

125th Anniversary Celebration

The 125th Anniversary Celebration kicks off this month with a talk and tour of the buildings led by Jim Owens, who with John Dinkeloo designed the sanctuary building in 1967. Jim was instrumental in the creation of the Owens Community Building, five years ago. Jim will lead a tour on Sunday, January 23rd after the Friendship Hour.



On February 6th, Bruce Gordon, Professor of Church History at Yale, will present a history of Presbyterians in New England during the past 125 years. And, do mark your calendars for a day of celebration on Sunday, February 20th. It will be a special day of worship, music, historical notes and a proclamation to accompany a meal shared. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Abraham's Tent

First Presbyterian Church will once again host twelve homeless men in our church building during the week of January 17th until January 24th. Beginning on Monday evening over dinner, members and friends of the congregation will welcome our guests. Each night we will offer dinner, a warm place to sleep, a cooked breakfast, and a bag lunch.

Last year's program was a great opportunity for many volunteers from the church to talk with and extend hospitality to some of the least of our brothers. Church member Micah Luce is again coordinating our efforts.

A sign up board can be found in the Copeland Room. Volunteers are needed to cook, sit and talk with our guests, stay overnight, prepare breakfast, and put together sack lunches each of the days. If you would like to participate in this New Haven Wide effort to ease the crowds at the Columbus House overflow shelter, please talk with Micah, or Co-Pastors Bill Goettler and Maria LaSala, or sign up on the Abraham's Tent board.

2011 Ordination Anniversaries

First Presbyterian Church is home to 19 ordained Ministers of Word and Sacrament.

The Rev. Dr. Charles Forman will be ordained 67 years in 2011.

The Rev. Ernest Bodenweber was ordained in 1952, ordained 59 years in 2011.

The Rev. Dr. James Phillips will be ordained 56 years in 2011.

The Rev. Edward Castner will be ordained 55 years in 2011.

The Rev. Dr. Gerald Anderson was ordained in 1955, 56 years ordained in 2011.

The Rev. Alan Hogle, ordained in 1964, ordained 47 years in 2011.

The Rev. Dr. George Rupp was ordained in June 1971, ordained 40 years in 2011.

The Rev. John Sandel ordained 37 years in 2011.

The Rev. Dr. Nora Tubbs Tisdale was ordained in 1979, ordained 32 years in 2011.

The Rev. Bill Goettler ordained 26 years in 2011.

The Rev. Susan Asher ordained in 1989, 22 years ordained in 2011.

The Rev. Maria LaSala, ordained 20 years in 2011.

The Rev. Steve Davis, ordained in 1998, 13 years ordained in 2011.

The Rev. M. Jan Holton, ordained in 1998, 13 years ordained in 2011.

The Rev. Diane Goudreau, 5 years ordained in 2011.

The Rev. Arthur Shippee, ordained in June 2007, 4 years ordained in 2011.

The Rev. Nancy B. McLaren, ordained 1 year in 2011.

The Rev. Justin Ray, ordained 1 year in 2011.

The Rev. Steven Jungkeit, ordained 1 year in 2011.

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" Romans 10:13



Join us for Bible Study!

The Lectionary Bible Study meets on Thursday Mornings at 11:30 a.m. in the Miller Gathering Hall. Each week we read and reflect on the texts for the upcoming Sunday. Co-Pastor Maria LaSala leads the study.

The texts for January are:

January 2: Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9) 10-18

January 9: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29:1-11; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

January 16: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

January 23: Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23

January 30: Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15:1-5; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

Adult Education in January

Christian Education classes for all resume on Sunday, January 9. Join us at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday morning.

On January 9, Weijia Wang and Qingxin, visiting scholars at OMSC, will share stories about the church in China.

On January 16, Anna Balakrishnan and Andrew McCloskey will share stories and pictures from their summer mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Working with GROUP from the First Congregational Church of Madison, Anna and Andrew met new friends, and had a transforming experience in a new culture. With support from the Mission Committee, Anna and Andrew were able to work with other mission groups to continue the building of a new school.

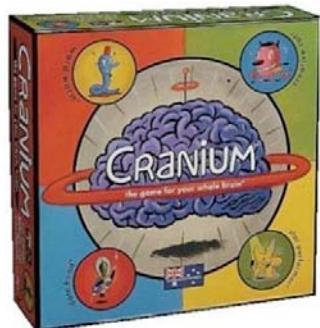
On January 23, George Rupp will talk with us about the work of the IRC, the International Rescue Committee, a leading organization working on behalf of refugees around the world. George is the President of the IRC, and has seen first hand both the struggles of refugee living, and the joy when families return to their homes.

On January 30, Ned Castner will lead a conversation about the work that he does to support the lives of Palestinians. Ned has traveled extensively to Palestine and sees a side often ignored by the American media.

All sessions take place in the Miller Gathering Hall. Coffee and tea will be on.

Middle School and Senior High Event

Middle School and Senior High Youth Groups are invited to an afternoon of healthy competition involving games (Apples-to-Apples! Cranium! Bible trivial pursuit!!) and baking (cupcakes! cookies!) following the potluck on January 9th. We will plan to be together at the church until 3:00. Also, please save the date: on Sunday, February 6th the youth groups will head out to the Ralph Walker rink for the third-annual skating outing. See Nancy McLaren if you have questions.



Eve's Daughters: An Interfaith Approach to Bible Study through Women's Eyes

Eve's Daughters, the women's interfaith Bible Study, will take place on Monday, January 24, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. Women from Congregation Mishkan Israel and First Presbyterian Church will gather for supper and a conversation on "**Hannah* and the Meaning of Prayer for Jewish and Christian Women.**" Sign up at the Welcome Table or RSVP to firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com. Any further questions, please speak with Co-Pastor Maria LaSala.

*Hannah, prays there silently and desperately for a child. The High Priest Eli scolds her, mistaking her voiceless prayer for the ravings of a drunk. "No my lord," she replies. "I am a tormented woman. I have drunk no wine or other strong drink, but I have been pouring out my heart to God." Reproved, Eli blesses her. God answers Hannah's prayer and she becomes the mother of the prophet Samuel (Samuel 1, Chapter 1).

Eve's Daughters is supported by a grant from The Women of Vision Society of The Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven.

Calvin's Brothers – January 27

Calvin's Brothers, a theological discussion group for the men of the church, will take place on Thursday, January 27, beginning at 6 p.m. Sign up at the Welcome Table or RSVP to firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com. Any further questions, please speak with YDS Intern Bryce Wiebe.

Book Group Forming!

Do you love to engage in thoughtful, respectful conversation with friends about good, stimulating writing?

If so, consider joining the new First Presbyterian covenant book group. It will meet for the first time in February and will continue for four monthly meetings. In a covenant book group everyone agrees to read the selections and attend each meeting if at all possible. There is commitment involved.



This book group will form around the broad themes of finding grace, and living with reverence and vigor in the local and world community. Readings will include scripture, journalism, work by poets Mark Doty and Billy Collins, as well as fiction by Adam Schuitema and possibly memoir. The group will select later readings together.

Sign up at the Welcome Table or speak with Dick Hasbany, convener.



Homework@First

Homework@First will recommence starting Tuesday, January 11. After a great year in 2010, Homework@First is beginning its second year of serving neighborhood children in need of homework and reading support. We have also greatly enjoyed the process of connecting to neighborhood families and the Worthington Hooker School community. This winter, Homework@First continues to seek interested volunteers and welcomes donations of books and school supplies appropriate for ages 8-13. Thank you for your support of this wonderful outreach initiative.

New Members Welcomed In December

The First Presbyterian Church welcomed six new members on Sunday, December 5th.

Karina Woltke is a familiar face among us. Karina teaches science in the New Haven Public Schools. She attends worship with her sons, Jordan, Nathanael, and Jonah. Karina currently sits on the Worship Committee.

Hannah Roh is also a familiar face to many here. Hannah is a second year Master of Divinity student at Yale Divinity School, headed perhaps into a life of theological scholarship, perhaps into a life of ministry. She is also our Church Administrator.

Ashleigh Elser is a second year M.A.R. student at Yale, too. She is Hannah's roommate and together have been worshipping with us since the fall. Ashleigh has come to New Haven via Folsom, California, St. Olaf College in Minnesota, and time spent in Guatemala.

Jane Splawn comes to us from the Episcopal Church. Jane is a professor at Albertus Magnus and Southern Connecticut State University where she teaches in the English Departments. She holds an M.Div. from Yale Divinity School.

Sharon Anderson is also a second year M.Div. student at Yale. She is currently serving an internship with Columbus House, where she is a lead organizer for the Abraham's Tent program in which dozens of religious congregations house homeless people during the winter months. Sharon grew up in the Episcopal Church.

Margaret Fox is a first year law student at Yale, having lived in New Haven during her undergraduate years at Yale. Margaret also has a degree from Harvard Divinity School. First Presbyterian will be Margaret's first church of membership.

Welcome to our new members. We will all look forward to getting to know one another!

Session "Advance"

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of New Haven met on Saturday, January 8th for a time of conversation and community building. Please keep the Session in your prayers as they begin a new year of working together for the well being of the church.

2011 PLEDGES still being received

We continue to celebrate the generous outcome of our Stewardship campaign. We have received \$269,211 in pledges. The final total, if the remaining pledges we expect to receive come in, could be as high as \$275,000. The congregation responded to our pledge campaign with exceptional generosity. These pledges will ensure that we can balance our budget for 2011. With the careful cuts that we have made to the budget, we will be able to continue the high quality of our programs and our contributions to services in New Haven and around the world. If you haven't yet pledged and would like to do so, please fill out a pledge card (which can be found on the Welcome Table) or speak with Stewardship Chair, Jim Whitney. Thanks to all those who have already pledged to the 2011 operating budget.

"Winter Warm-up" Potluck and "Baby Book Shower" – January 9

This month's potluck will take place following worship on Sunday, January 9. A book bag filled with books will be given to Violet Marie Staley-Goss during the lunch. The theme of this potluck is a Winter Warm-up, so please plan to bring something hearty and hot – a family sized main dish, side dish, or dessert – to share.

December

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January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 26 10:45 AM Worship (Agape Feast)	27	28	29	30 9 AM Yoga	31 New Year's Eve	January 1 New Year's Day Columbus House 9:30 AM Women's AA
2 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour	3 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLDC Meeting	4 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	5 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	6	7	8 9 AM Session "Advance" Meeting 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
9 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship - Ordination/Installation 12 PM Church Potluck	10	11 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	12 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	13	14	15 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
16 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 7 PM McCloskey Court of Honor	17 6:30 AM Abraham's Tent	18 7:15 PM Session	19 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	20 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	21	22 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
23 Abraham's Tent 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 1 PM J. Owen's Anniversary Talk	24 6:30 PM Eve's Daughters @ FPC	25	26 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	27 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study 6 PM Calvin's Brothers	28	29 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA 5 PM Game and Movie Night
30 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour	31 February 1 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLDC Meeting	2 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	4	5 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA	

January

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March

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February 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 30 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour	31	February 1 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLDC Meeting	2 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	4	5 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
6 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 1 PM 125 Anniversary - Bruce Gordon	7	8	9 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	11	12 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM PSNE - Fairfield 9:30 AM Women's AA
13 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Annual Meeting and Pot Luck	14	15 7:15 PM Session	16 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	18	19 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
20 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM 125th Anniversary Celebration	21	22	23 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	25	26 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
27 9:30 AM CE - All Ages 9:30 AM Choir 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 7:30 PM Gavin Black - Harpsichord	28 6:30 PM Eve's Daughters @ CMI	March 1 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLDC Meeting	2 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	4	5 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA

Andrew McCloskey's Eagle Scout Court of Honor

You are cordially invited to attend the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Andrew McCloskey on Sunday, January 16, 7:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. Light refreshments will follow. To RSVP, please contact Tim McCloskey.

Game and Movie Night on January 29

The CLOC committee invites you to "Game Night," beginning at 5 p.m. on Saturday, January 29. We will gather in the Miller Hall for some fun to include playing games in one of the side classrooms or watching a movie. There will be five movies to choose from; the movie with the most votes wins! Pizza and popcorn will be served.



Dinner with Friends – February 12

Enjoy the fun of sharing a casual dinner with a small group of First Presbyterian Friends.

All the good things in life – friends, talk, laughter, and community in Christ – made even better by good food.

- There is a place at the table for everyone who signs up. You are especially welcome if this will be your first Dinner with Friends.
- Please RSVP at the Welcome Table or contact Art or Mary Hunt. Let us know if you would like to host a small Dinner with Friends group.
- The dinner preparation is shared – the host chooses the menu and asks each guest to contribute.
- There will be several hosts so each hosts a small group of six to eight guests.
- Art and Mary match the guests to the hosts.
- Dinners with Friends are held four times each year.
- To complete the evening, we just need you.

Add your name to the *sign up sheet* on the **Welcome Table** or call Art or Mary Hunt at (203) 288-3530.

Save the next date for Dinner with Friends: Saturday, April 30, 2011

"Feasting on the Word: A Dinner of Biblical Foods"

Plans are being made for a sit down dinner program of foods from the Middle East. The evening will welcome chefs from the congregation who will prepare appetizers, main dishes, and desserts which appear in the biblical story. Imagine a table spread with hummus and carrot salad, figs and olives, pita bread, eggplant and honey sweetened desserts.

This will not be a potluck dinner and reservations will be required. Tickets will soon be available for purchase. If you would like to be on the planning team or offer your services as a chef, please speak with Maria LaSala, Bill Goettler or YDS Intern Bryce Wiebe.

A Thank You Note from the Alternative Gift Market

Many thanks to all who supported the Alternative Gift Market during the Advent season. Together, we raised a little over \$2,400. Your kindness will benefit many needy projects throughout the world. The AGI catalog is current through June so keep it in mind for any other celebratory occasion you may wish to observe.

Meal-a-Month

Your generous donations go to the Christian Community Action food pantry.

Meal-a-Month GROCERIES

- Bags of rice
- Bags of beans (red or black)
- Pasta / pasta sauce
- Canned tuna
- Canned fruits (low sugar preferred)
- Canned meats
- Canned vegetables (low-sodium)
- Boxes of mashed potatoes
- Pasta sauce
- Peanut butter
- Low-sugar breakfast cereals (Cheerios, etc.)
- Low-sodium soups
- Dessert items – Jello, pudding mixes, etc.
- Canned juices: tomato, V8, grape, orange
- Instant milk
- Coffee and/or tea
- Flour
- Sugar

- CCA's clients select the items they need and want for families ranging from one or two to seven or eight.
- A variety of sizes are appropriate.
- Use this list as a guide. Check the specials aisle for similar items on sale.
- The CT health department prohibits distribution of fresh foods.
- Census data show Connecticut had the largest percentage increase for all people and for children living in poverty in the country, despite our goal of cutting the child poverty rate in half by 2014. That's almost 315,000 Connecticut residents living under the Federal poverty level.

Prayers for Our Community

In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. (Philippians 4:6)

When you pray, offer prayers for ...

Kevin Balakrishnan who is recovering from surgery.

Lee Shaffer and Alan Hogle who continue to struggle with health issues.

Jim Owens' sister, Virginia Campbell, who is struggling with cancer.

The family of Kay Jetter. Kay died on January 1 after a long illness.

The family of Robert Shaffer, Lee Shaffer's brother, who died on December 31, after a long hospitalization.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis: Jim Tenney, Jan Forman, and Ken Jetter.
Other people and situations in need of our supplications.

Christmas Greetings from PCUSA Mission Co-Workers

Karla Koll currently serves in Guatemala. Here is an excerpt from her Christmas 2010 letter:

CEDEPCA seeks to prepare women and men to follow Christ in working to overcome violence together with people from other churches and traditions. Some of our students are pastors who have studied as much as they can in the Bible institutes or seminaries of their respective denominations. They come to CEDEPCA looking for broader theological perspectives and they discover a God who, in the words of one student, "is free of religious traditions and ecclesiastical stigmas." Others are professionals with degrees in other areas who are seeking to deepen their knowledge of the Bible and their walk of faith. Some are young people just starting out in ministry. All are excited about the opportunity to learn more.

The testimonies of students and former students point to the continuing need for the kind of alternative theological education that CEDEPCA and the UBL offer. We are stepping out in faith, not at all sure where the resources will come from, as neither our students nor their churches can pay more than modest fees. The demand far exceeds our ability to respond. Not a week goes by without a church or community organization contacting me to ask if CEDEPCA can help train their leadership. We are making plans to offer university-level courses on Saturdays in Guatemala City as well as a certificate program in Christian education. We hope to provide more people with the opportunity to discover a different God, a God who loves the world and who calls women and men to serve the cause of justice and peace.

This is what Christmas is all about, an encounter with a different God. The One who arrives as the Babe of Bethlehem comes to save, not to condemn. This God doesn't make people poor but chooses to be born among those who were poor. This God comes not with the power of a conqueror but in the vulnerability of a child.

To read the entire letter, go to:

<http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/missionconnections/koll-karla-ann-2010-christmas/>

And Mary Nebelsick, with her husband Paul Matheny and daughter Rachel Marie serve as Mission Co-Workers in the Philippines:

The Christmas season in the Philippines is usually a time of plenty when the farmers gather the heavy sheaves of rice, shuck them and lay the grains of rice in golden patches along the busy roads. In the north, where agriculture still forms the basis of the economy, cars swerve precariously around swaths of golden grain as they hasten from one town to another.

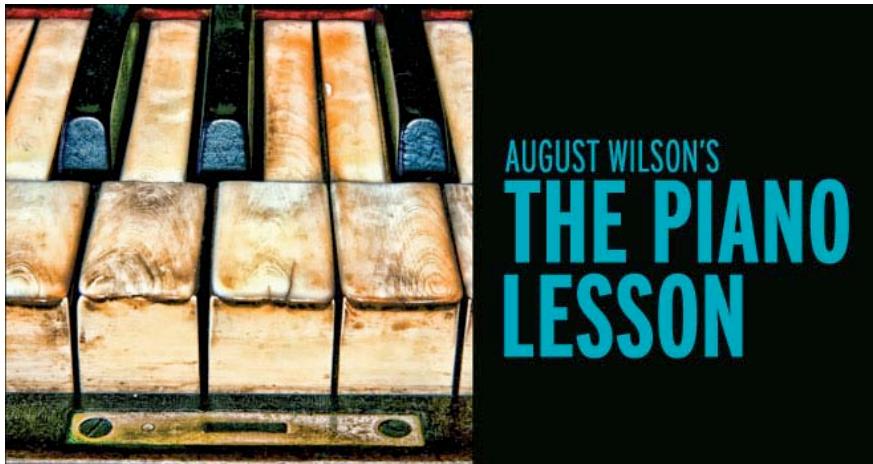
The joy that comes from the hope of a plentiful harvest is contagious, even in the congested concrete jungle that is Manila. A few weeks ago, I was part of the outreach program of Philippine Christian University where I spend joyous hours as a professor and chaplain. Every week I minister to the students of PCU on both of its campuses. These campuses could not be more different. The Dasmariñas campus lies under the spreading branches of mango trees while the Manila campus that sits squarely on congested, noisy Taft Avenue. It was at the PCU campus in Manila, amidst the drizzle and noise, that the PCU students hosted a Christmas party for the children from a neighboring slum-area.

Even at Christmas time, Jesus is not just a darling baby born in a manger for these slum children. They take the longer view. They know that they are Jesus' own children. Jesus is the Papa who they can turn to in all their distress. Jesus is the Papa who loves them in all their sadness and distress. Papa Jesus is the one who provides them with the joy of the season in the form of the sacred story. Papa Jesus is the one who has unlocked the hearts of those caring Christians in countries near and far who have provided them with sacred songs for their souls, satisfying food for their stomachs and blessed assurance that somewhere there are Christians who care about them.

We thank you for your prayers, your support and for being a part of our lives. Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and may we all continue to search for the Christ Child and the hope he brings!

Join us at the Yale Repertory Theatre!

Join us for a performance of August Wilson's *The Piano Lesson*, at Yale Repertory Theatre on Monday, January 31 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each. Please sign up and pay for your ticket no later than Sunday, January 16th. A sign up sheet and envelope for your check (made payable to First Presbyterian Church) or cash will be found on the Welcome Table. It is important that you pay for your ticket at the time of signing up. Thank you!



Winner of the Pulitzer Prize in Drama, August Wilson's *The Piano Lesson* returns to Yale Rep, where it had its world premiere in 1987.

Pittsburgh, 1936. An ornately carved upright piano sits in the home of Berniece Charles, who plans to pass it along to her daughter. But her brother, Boy Willie, has another plan for the prized, hard-won heirloom: to sell it for the hard cash to buy the same Mississippi land that their family once worked as slaves. *The Piano Lesson* is the intimate story of a brother and sister and their struggle to embrace or deny their epic inheritance.

The Piano Lesson was one of six plays in August Wilson's 10-play cycle chronicling the African American experience in the 20th century to premiere at Yale Rep. Director Liesl Tommy made her Yale Rep debut with the critically-acclaimed production of *Eclipsed* in 2009.

- Yale Rep

CONNECTICUT FOLK CONCERTS



On the first Friday of each month, First Presbyterian Church hosts folk music! The church receives 10 complimentary tickets. Email or call the church to reserve yours, the week before any scheduled concert.

February 4 – Amy Speace
March 4 – Tim Grimm; Michael Smith
April 1 – Buskin & Batteau; John Flynn
May 6 – Danny Schmidt

For more information, check out the CT Folk website at ctfolk.org.

CO-PASTORS: BILL GOETTLER & MARIA LASALA

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: PATRICK McCRELESS

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTER: NANCY McLAREN

CAMPUS CHAPLAIN TO YALE: JENNIFER DAVIS

PARISH ASSOCIATE: SUE ASHER

YDS INTERNS: ASHLEY HURST & BRYCE WIEBE

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: HANNAH ROH

First Presbyterian Church

704 Whitney Avenue

New Haven, Connecticut 06511

Phone: (203) 562-5664

Fax: (203) 562-1202

Email: firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com

Web site: www.fpcnh.org

Christian Education for all ages

9:30 a.m.

Worship

10:45 a.m.

Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
704 Whitney Avenue
New Haven, Connecticut
06511

Afraid that you might lose this Inkling? Find your e-copy on the church website at fpcnh.org! Please note that for privacy reasons, the e-copy may be slightly different than the hard copy.