

The Inkling

The News of First Presbyterian Church

October 2011

World Communion Sunday

On Sunday, October 2, Christians around the world will mark the celebration of World Communion Sunday. The day is especially meaningful this year, in a world where a wide range of forces have undermined peace and justice – and in a time when fear divides the peoples of God's earth. On this day we celebrate our oneness in Christ, the Prince of Peace, in the midst of the world we are called to serve – a world ever more in need of justice and peacemaking.



This World Communion Sunday, as we gather around the Communion Table, we will be profoundly aware of the God who calls us together in Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.

What does it mean to gather around a common loaf, with a common story? And what does it mean for Christians living in the United States to be fed and satisfied in the midst of a hungry world?

We will explore those questions together this World Communion Sunday, October 2. Worship begins at 10:45 a.m., and Maria LaSala is preaching.

Peacemaking Offering to be received on October 2

"A harvest of justice is sown in peace," is this year's Peacemaking offering theme. The Presbyterian Peacemaking offering supports the efforts of Presbyterians through their congregations, presbyteries, synods and the General Assembly to work for peace by tearing down walls that divide. In 2012 nearly \$2 million was received through the Peacemaking Offering.

We Christians long for a more just and peaceful world, where the worth of every person is valued, where greed no longer rules and hunger no longer results, where bullets and bombs no longer devastate. God's Word shows us the way: that harvest of justice and righteousness will be sown by peacemakers, planted and nurtured in the words and deeds of peace.

Each of us who follow Christ can plant these seeds. Each of us can sow God's love in our homes, our congregation, our world. A portion of the monies received will be sent to Forman Christian University in Pakistan. The rest joins the gifts of others from across the country, in our shared Presbyterian efforts to be peacemakers in the world. Special Peacemaking Offering envelopes are in the pews. Please give generously.



October Church Potluck – October 16

The October Community Potluck will take place on Sunday, October 16 and will be a celebration of the fall harvest. Fall has arrived, and the harvest is full. Bring your favorite dish using the vegetables and fruits of this bountiful season. Please bring a family size dish of an appetizer, vegetable or salad, or a main dish, or a dessert to share. We never know quite what is coming, but somehow there is always enough for all!

Left: "Harvest" by van Gogh

Adult Education

We continue our study of the Bible! On October 9, 16 and 23, Steve Davis will talk about the formation of the Biblical Canon. How was the Biblical Canon formed, and when? Who decided which ancient books would be included, and what was left out? And what has the content of the Biblical Canon meant for our faith?

Then, beginning on October 30th and continuing on Nov. 6 and 13, Wayne Meeks will lead a series on "How to Read, and How *Not* to Read the Bible." Have you ever considered how we read the Bible? We might read from the beginning, or by considering each text as an individual book standing alone. Or we can search for themes that seem to move through the entire text. Professor Meeks will offer his thoughts, based on a lifetime of scholarship and ministry in the academy and in the Presbyterian Church.

Confirmation Class Combines Learning and Fun!

Eleven youngsters are now engaged in learning more about the Biblical story and their own as they continue their journeys of faith. This fall the class will meet on Sunday October 2 and Sunday, October 30, and November 13 and 27. The class will look at the history and tradition of the church, and discuss the ways Christians talk about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the mission of the Church. Co-Pastors Bill Goettler and Maria LaSala are teaching this great group of young people, all who are known and loved by this congregation. Please keep the Confirmation class in your prayers. They are: Leah Miller, Cameron Owens, Anny Yun, Rowyn Davis, Kirsten Duncan, Charlotte Gordon, Sophie Latham, Daniel McCloskey, Alex Rupp-Coppi, Nathanael Matos, and Jake Blackwell.

The Youth Group goes Bowling ... and Apple Picking!

The Youth Group for youth in Grades 6-12 is going out of doors this month. On Sunday, October 9th youth group members will go bowling. Meet at the church at 3:30 p.m. with \$8. Then on Sunday, October 23rd, the group will go apple picking. The cars will leave at 1 p.m. Sharon Anderson and Anthony Damelio lead the group.



Boo! It's a Halloween Party!

Calling all lions and tigers and bears, princesses, action heroes, and witches and ghosts and goblins. The Annual Church Halloween Party will take place on Saturday, October 29th from 4-6 p.m. There will be games and prizes, a costume parade, and of course a goodie bag filled with treats.

Women at the Well – October 26

Women of the congregation are invited to come together for *Women at the Well* on Wednesday, October 26. The evening begins with a supper of soups and breads at 5:30 p.m. followed by a time of prayer and reflection. The program ends at 7 p.m. All women of the community are welcome. If you would like to make a pot of soup, or bring a loaf of bread or dessert, please indicate that on the sign up sheet.

Join us for Bible Study!

This lectionary based Bible Study meets on Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. in the Miller Gathering Hall. Each week we read and reflect on the texts for the upcoming Sunday. *Please note that there will be no Bible Study on October 6 and 13.*

Right: JESUS MAFA, "Jesus Welcomes the Children" (Cameroon, 1973)



The **texts for October** are:

October 2: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19:1-14; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

October 9: Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

October 16: Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

October 23: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

October 30: Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12

Abraham's Tent Companionship Training for Volunteers

Companionship is a way of being present with another person in the midst of struggle or suffering. On October 17, volunteers from more than 20 area congregations who anticipate participating in the Abraham's Tent program this winter will gather at First Presbyterian Church for Companionship Training.

We will explore the way of companionship – our natural capacity for sensitivity and compassion. We will share in the basic practices of companionship – hospitality, sharing the journey side by side, listening and accompaniment. We will learn how to honor our limits and support a person in building a circle of care. We will explore ways to practice the way of companionship in our lives – at home, in our congregation, and in our community.

First Presbyterian Church will host Abraham's Tent from January 17- January 24, 2012. If you are interested in participating in this year's program, please plan to attend this training on Monday, October 17, 2011 from 6 - 9 p.m. in the Miller Gathering Hall. Dinner will be served. Please bring a dessert to share!

Beginning Hebrew Class at First Presbyterian Church!

The beginning Hebrew language class will meet on Sunday afternoons from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the Sunday School classroom. The class will learn the letters of the Hebrew alphabet and read verses from the Hebrew scriptures. No prior knowledge of Hebrew is required. All are welcome. You might want to bring a bag lunch to eat between the end of worship and the start of class. For more information, please talk with YDS Intern Sungduk Yun.



Learn the Hebrew *Aleph-Bet!*

First, the letter of *Aleph* Hebrew strews, followed by *Bet*, which was left to brew, then *Gimel* was in a midnight blue, and *Dalet* was the next to glue. He followed in lieu of *Vav*, inked in on perfect cue. *Zayin* was in the color of curry roux, and *Chet* rides on a smew in slough. *Teit* will up and join the queue. *Yod*, the metal pen, shall rue. *Khaf* is made from elm and yew, and *Lamed* chews on morning dew. *Mem*'s crew should get a clue, *Nun* will say do you have doux, and *Samech*'s ewes demand their due. Against *Ayin* one can sue, because *Pei* threw through the screw too true, and *Tzadei* moos when Mrs. Who tries to woo. *Qof*'s flue has goo and clew, *Reish* slew pews and talked to Jew, *Shin*'s sous-chef hews sou in Koo. *Tav*'s mewes and phews in loos with flu.

- Sungduk Yun, with the help of Anny Yun

September

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October 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September 25 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour	26 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	27 11:30 AM Dancing with Parkinsons	28 9:30 AM Musical Folk 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	29 9 AM Yoga 6 PM Calvin's Brothers	30	October 1 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
2 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship ... 12 PM Friendship Hour 12:30 PM Hebrew Class 5 PM Confirmation Class	3 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Iraq/Afghanistan Memorial 6 PM Tai Chi 7 PM CE Committee	4 11:30 AM Dancing with Parkinsons 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLDC Meeting	5 9:30 AM Musical Folk 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	6 9 AM Yoga	7	8 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
9 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 12:30 PM Hebrew Class 2 PM Jan Forman's ... 3:30 PM Youth Group Bowling	10 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	11 11:30 AM Dancing with Parkinsons	12 9:30 AM Musical Folk 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	13 9 AM Yoga	14	15 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA
16 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Church Potluck 12:30 PM Hebrew Class	17 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Abraham's Tent Companionship Training 6 PM Tai Chi	18 11:30 AM Dancing with Parkinsons 7:15 PM Session	19 9:30 AM Musical Folk 10:30 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 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 12:30 PM Hebrew Class 1 PM Youth Group Apple Picking	24 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi 8 PM Yale Repertory Theater	25 11:30 AM Dancing with Parkinsons	26 9:30 AM Musical Folk 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Women at the Well 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	27 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	28	29 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA 4 PM Halloween Party
30 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 12:30 PM Hebrew Class 5 PM Confirmation Class	31 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	November 1 11:30 AM Dancing with Parkinsons 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLDC Meeting	2 9:30 AM Musical Folk 10:30 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

October

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November 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October 30 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 12:30 PM Hebrew Class 5 PM Confirmation Class	31 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	November 1 11:30 AM Dancing with Parkinsons 7:30 PM Mission Committee 7:30 PM CLCC Meeting	2 9:30 AM Musical Folk 10:30 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
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20 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 5 PM Youth Group Movie Night	21 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	22 11:30 AM Dancing with Parkinsons	23 9:30 AM Musical Folk 10:30 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 Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship 12 PM Friendship Hour 5 PM Confirmation Class	28 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Tai Chi	29 11:30 AM Dancing with Parkinsons	30 9:30 AM Musical Folk 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	December 1 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	2	3 Columbus House 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA

October Guest Preachers!

On Sunday, October 16th, Jenny Davis will be the preacher for the morning's worship. Jenny, was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in June. Jenny serves as a hospital chaplain at Yale New Haven Hospital and Campus Chaplain to Yale.

On Sunday, October 30th, Reformation Sunday, YDS Intern Sungduk Yun will be the preacher. Sungduk is in his final year of the M.Div. program at Yale Divinity School. He and his family have been worshipping with us since their arrival three Septembers ago. Sungduk has a Ph.D. in Bible from Hebrew Union College. He is married to Younghwa, and has two daughters, Anny and Jenny.

As we are reminded in the book of the prophet Isaiah, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Music at FPCNH, Fall 2011

The music program is off to a good start at First Presbyterian this fall. On September 12, our first Sunday back in the sanctuary, we were inspired by the wonderful singing of the Elm City Girls' Choir, as we continued our tradition of their having a rehearsal and overnight stay at the church on Saturday, before singing on Sunday. Our own choir began participating in the service on September 19. We have a strong group, we love singing, and we always welcome new singers to join us. We sing in worship every Sunday, and we rehearse on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 and Sundays at 9:30 AM; you can come to either rehearsal, or both.

We look forward to a number of special anthems in October. First is Mendelssohn's "See What Love Hath the Father," from the oratorio Saint Paul, on October 9. The choir will also sing at the memorial service for Jan Forman that afternoon—Brahms's "How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place," and Jan's own benediction response, "For Ye Shall Go Forth With Joy." A few weeks later, on Reformation Sunday, October 30-, we will sing a lively contemporary arrangement, by Allen Pote, of the first few verses of Psalm 46, "God Is Our Refuge and Strength." Looking farther ahead, the choir will present its annual Advent/Christmas program in the worship service on the Third Sunday of Advent, December 11.

Our FPCNH Children's and Youth Choir, under the direction of Beth Aura Miller and accompanist Ken Balakrishnan, has begun rehearsals. Beth Aura and Ken welcome all children and youth of school age, first to twelfth grades, and they rehearse immediately after church in the choir room.

Iraq/Afghanistan Memorial Stone Prayer Witness

Reclaiming the Prophetic Voice will again be marking the cost of the continuing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan by placing the September stone on the Memorial Cairn at the intersection of Broadway, Elm and Park streets in New Haven on Monday evening, October 3 at 6 p.m. This stone will be inscribed with the September death total of US military personnel and the approximate documented numbers of Iraqi and Afghani civilians killed during that same period of time. Paul Bloom, Abbot of the New Haven Zen Center, will lead the service. Each month a different congregation from the New Haven area leads the witness. All are welcome.

Seeking Homework@First Volunteers!

Homework@First is looking to begin it's ministry during the month of October. The program will be on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3-5 in the Miller Gathering Hall. Volunteers are needed to assist students from Worthington Hooker School with their homework and help them flourish academically. Geniuses are welcome, but a volunteer need only provide their interest, care, and time to be a powerful part of a child's life. Please contact Bryce Wiebe at firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com if you are interested in becoming a volunteer.

A Memorial Service for Janice Forman

A memorial service celebrating the life of Janice Forman will be held at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 9, at 2 p.m. All are welcome.

Join us at the Yale Repertory Theatre!

Join us for a performance of Amy Herzog's *Belleville*, at Yale Repertory Theatre on Monday, October 24, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each. Please sign up and pay for your ticket no later than Sunday, October 9. 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!



Amy Herzog, author of *After the Revolution*—heralded by *The New York Times* as “engrossing and incisive” and one of the Ten Best New Plays of 2010—makes her Yale Rep debut with *Belleville*. The world premiere is directed by OBIE Award winner Anne Kauffman, who recently staged *We Have Always Lived in the Castle* at Yale Rep.

Young Americans Zack and Abby have the perfect ex-pat life in Paris: a funky bohemian apartment in up-and-coming Belleville; a stable marriage; and Zack’s noble mission to fight pediatric AIDS. But when Abby finds Zack at home one afternoon when he’s supposed to be at work, the questions and answers that follow shake the foundation of their seemingly beautiful life.

– Yale Rep

Meal-a-Month: Fill the Wheelbarrow!

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

- 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.

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

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 ...

Alan and Teddy Hogle and their family, who are grieving the death of Alan’s sister Beverly.

Joanna Ali, who is on bed-rest during this time in her pregnancy.

Stewart Fritts, who is at The Reservoir Rehab Center in Farmington.

Dick Hasbany, who is recovering from surgery.

Nora Johnston, mother of Rona Johnston-Gordon, who is hospitalized in Glasgow.

Former church member Jean Kirby, who is nearing the end of her life.

Christy Purnell's sister Joey Shoemaker, and Joey's son Todd.

Mary, mother of Fiona Scott Morton, as she struggles with the late stages of ALS.

Alan Hogle, who continues to face issues with his health.

Jordan Matos, who is stationed in Vilsek, Germany.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis: Jim Tenney and Ken Jetter.

Other people and situations in need of our supplications.

CO-PASTORS: BILL GOETTLER & MARIA LASALA

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: PATRICK McCRELESS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR: BRYCE WIEBE

CAMPUS CHAPLAIN TO YALE: JENNIFER DAVIS

PARISH ASSOCIATE: SUE ASHER

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: HANNAH ROH

First Presbyterian Church

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Christian Education for all ages

9:30 a.m.

Worship

10:45 a.m.

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
704 Whitney Avenue
New Haven, Connecticut
06511

Please find your e-copy on the church website at fpcnh.org! We hope to stop printing most copies of the Inkling this fall, moving to an entirely digital format. So take a moment today to check out the newsletter online.