

The Inkling

The News of First Presbyterian Church

November 2011

A Season of Gratitude



The month of November provides many opportunities for us to be grateful for all the blessings in our lives. The season of Thanksgiving reminds us again and again of the gracious and merciful acts of a God from whom all blessings flow.

The church responds to these blessings in many ways. We worship God with our hearts, minds, souls, and our strength. Each Sunday morning, the songs of the faithful ring out. Our prayers are lifted to God by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Word, read and proclaimed, offers us a chance to live out our faith, enacted in love. And it is that love, of God and of neighbor, that motivates our giving and our self-giving.

We learn too, together as a community, as children and adults alike come together to teach and be taught about the wonders of God and the story of God's people throughout all time. Our acts of justice and of kindness and compassion respond to the needs of a hurting world as we reach out and invite in all who come seeking a place to call home, a place to know that God is here. The CCA wheelbarrow is full to overflowing providing food for the hungry of New Haven and each month we plan, cook, and serve a meal to our homeless friends at Columbus House. We stand at the Civil War Monument on Broadway and Elm Streets, offering a witness against the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, we send letters to Congress asking for immigration reform, and each week we hear about the work of our sisters and brothers in the PCUSA, all sharing the good news of life lived in Jesus Christ.

On Sunday, November 6th pledges of financial support will be received. We hope that you will prayerfully consider the ways you have been blessed and consider the ways that your gift will multiply those blessings to others. Yes, the buildings need to be maintained, and Church School curriculum needs to be ordered. Yes, there are salaries to pay and mission co-workers to support. Yes, we enjoy coffee and lunches, and we delight in knowing that the doors of the church open wide. We support all these things so that our witness on Whitney Avenue and to all the world can be achieved.

Join us on Sunday, November 6th following worship to share a meal, to hear again the story of a faithful people at work in the world, and to make your financial pledge for the year to come. We need you to make a difference. Thank you.



All Saints' Sunday – November 6

During worship on Sunday, November 6th, we will pause to remember and give thanks for the lives of loved ones who died in the past year. It is a time to celebrate their homecoming with God. This year we lift up:

Members of First Presbyterian Church:

Janice Forman, wife of Chuck Forman

Lee Shaffer, husband of Anita Shaffer

Family and Friends:

Imogene Bean, sister-in-law of Bonnie Sherman

John R. W. Brown, uncle of Betty Whitney

Virginia Lee Campbell, sister of Jim Owens

Charlie Forsyth, father of Andrew Forsyth

Brian Gordon, brother of Bruce Gordon

Ethel Hess, grandmother of Justin Ray

Gordon Kaufman, teacher and friend of George Rupp

John Miller, friend of Karina Wöltke

Luis Francis Barreno Orozco, boyfriend of Tamara Torrez-Koll, daughter of Karla Koll,

Mission Co-Worker in Guatemala

Howard Rice, grandfather of Hannah Dreitzer

Joseph Chanho Roh, grandfather of Hannah Roh

Alberta Ahler Ross, cousin of Betty Whitney

Derick Schubert, nephew of Deborah Tenny and cousin of Michael Tenney

Elinor Shaffer, wife of Anita Shaffer's brother-in-law, Jim Shaffer

Robert Shaffer, brother-in-law of Anita Shaffer and brother of Lee Shaffer

Nora Stewart, grandmother of Rona Johnston Gordon,

great-grandmother of Charlotte Gordon

Cora Webb, friend of Anita Shaffer

Anne Lawther Webber, mother-in-law of Mary Webber

Loretta West, friend of Margaret Fox

George "Uncle Buster" Woodley, cousin of Tim McCloskey's father

The Mission Committee Hosts an Evening with Nancy Collins

On the evening of November 16, Nancy Collins, our PC(USA) regional liaison for East Central Africa, will share her insights into the work done on our behalf in Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, and Zambia. Nancy has a long history of mission work in Egypt focusing on social justice issues. She worked in the International Relations Department of the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS), and she facilitated Egypt's Joining Hands Against Hunger group, the Together for Family Development Network. Her work in East Central Africa began in 2009 and has a special focus is on evangelism, leadership development, and church-growth, and is sure to strengthen our own church's commitment to missions in the Congo and in the Sudan. A dinner (provided by the Mission Committee) at 6:15 will be followed by conversation with Nancy from 7 to 8 p.m. If you are interested, please sign-up in the Copeland Room, or just drop on in.

November 11 – Services for the Homeless

Volunteers are needed on Friday, November 11 to work with the homeless of New Haven from 7 a.m. until 11 a.m. at the Episcopal Church of St. Paul and St. James in Wooster Square. Volunteers are needed to accompany homeless attendees around a series of essential services to be offered, including haircuts, foot care, and dental care. If you would like to volunteer or provide some supplies like shampoo and toothpaste, please speak with Maria LaSala.

Witness Against the Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq

Reclaiming the Prophetic Voice will again be marking the cost of the continuing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan by placing the October stone on the Memorial Cairn at the intersection of Broadway, Elm and Park streets in New Haven on Monday evening, 6 p.m., November 7. This stone will be inscribed with the October death total of US military personnel and the approximate documented numbers of Iraqi and Afghani civilians killed during that same period of time. Rev. John MacIver Gage of the United Church on the Green, New Haven, will lead the service All are welcome.

Just a Reminder to Fall Back! Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 6. Turn back your clocks by one hour!



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.

Please note that there will be no Bible Study on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 24th.

The texts for November are:

November 6: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

November 13: Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

November 20: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100:1-5; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

November 27: Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

Adult Education

“Landscapes of Faith” will be the theme for the Adult Education class through Advent. Each week the class will have the opportunity to explore scripture passages which take us to the places Jesus traveled – the wilderness, the plains, the seas, and the mountains. We’ll talk about what Jesus finds and experiences in each of those places and how such places might be found in our own lives of faith. The class meets in the Miller Gathering Hall at 9:30 a.m. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Confirmation Class Continues ...

This year’s confirmation class continues to bring together the young women and men from the congregation in preparation for church membership. The group is reading through the Gospel of Luke, learning the story of Jesus and his message to the church. Each gathering begins with some fun games, and includes bible study, reflection and sharing time, and dinner. Please hold the members of the confirmation class in your prayers. They are: Jake Blackwell, Rowyn Davis, Kirsten Duncan, Charlotte Gordon, Sophie Latham, Nathanael Matos, Daniel McCloskey, Leah Miller, Cameron Owens, Alex Rupp-Coppi, and Anny Yun.

Youth Group News!

The Youth Groups had a delightful afternoon apple picking last month. They collected enough to share with our friends at Columbus House, and to take home to their own families. This month they are planning, cooking, and serving a meal at Columbus House. Advisors Sharon Anderson and Anthony Damelio will be waiting at the church on Saturday, November 5th at 3 p.m. Then on Sunday, November 20th, the youth will hang out at the church for a movie and conversation night. Fun times will begin at 5 p.m. The Youth Group is for all youth in grades 6-12.



Dinner with Friends – November 12

The second "Dinner with Friends" this fall will take place on Saturday, November 12, at 6:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be on the Welcome Table. The hosts usually prepare a main dish and guests take appetizer, salad, vegetable or dessert. For more information, e-mail Bonnie Sherman at sherman_bonnie@yahoo.com or Candice Gray at cmcrepeau@sbcglobal.net. This is a wonderful way to catch up with old friends and make new ones!

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 3 PM Youth Group at Columbus House

October

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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 CLOC 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 3 PM Youth Group at Columbus House
6 All Saints' Sunday 9:30 AM Choir & CE 10:45 AM Worship - Communion 12 PM Stewardship Lunch	7 3:30 PM Musical Folk 6 PM Iraq/Afghanistan Memorial 6 PM Worship Committee 6 PM Tai Chi 7 PM CE Committee	8 11:30 AM Dancing with Parkinsons	9 9:30 AM Musical Folk 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 9 AM Yoga 11:30 AM Bible Study	11 7 AM Services for the Homeless	12 9 AM Kundalini Yoga 9:30 AM Women's AA 6 PM Dinner with Friends
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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	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 8 PM Yale Repertory Theater	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

Giving Thanks – This Year’s Thanksgiving Offering



Lillian Marquez, CCA’s Director of Emergency Family Services, is one of the many saints at Christian Community Action. Every day she works with families who have lost their housing and are in various other forms of distress. She knows the realities too many of our neighbors face.

Lillian is also deeply involved in Christian Community Action’s annual Thanksgiving Basket program – that program aims to provide families in the hill section of New Haven (and some from beyond) with the Thanksgiving Dinner they otherwise could not afford. Lillian, and CCA, “are expecting a record number of families, seniors and individuals who are disabled to be coming to us for Thanksgiving food this year, due to the economy.” Last year, almost 1,800 families and individuals were helped through this initiative, she said, “and we easily could exceed that number this year, based on the increased numbers we are seeing in our Food Pantry program.”

As in the past, CCA will be relying on The Connecticut Food Bank for most of the turkeys and food items that will be handed out as part of this effort. They count on businesses, houses of worship, civic groups and schools to make up the critical difference between what the Food Bank is able to provide and what they will need to meet the demand. Financial donations, which go toward wholesale purchases, are particularly effective.

CCA is also looking for volunteers to help sort and stuff bags of food on the weekend before the holiday (Nov. 19 and 20). See Ralph Jones if you’d like to help!

CCA serves families. DESK – Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen – serves meals to homeless individuals five days a week. This year our Mission wanted to expand the Thanksgiving offering to include both families and individuals. So, this year our offering will be divided between Christian Community Action, Connecticut Food Bank and Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen (40%-40%-20%). These efforts receive additional support from our Mission Committee’s regular budget; however, this offering is our opportunity to give thanks by contributing directly to the well being of our neighbors.

Join the Choir for Special Christmas Music

The choir will present its annual Advent and Christmas music during the sermon time on the Third Sunday of Advent, December 11. Like last year, we will present a selection of carols and choruses from different times and places. Included will be the opening chorus from one of J.S. Bach’s Christmas cantatas (Cantata No. 63), carols from Denmark and England, John Gardner’s setting of “Tomorrow Will Be My Dancing Day,” and “His Yoke Is Easy,” the final chorus from the first section of Handel’s Messiah. We hope you will join us!

Children’s Play and Potluck – December 4 at 5 p.m.

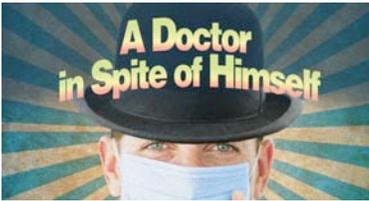
The season of sleigh bells, manger scenes and peace on Earth is fast upon us, and that means the annual Children’s Play and Potluck at the First Presbyterian Church. On the Sundays of November, the Children in Worship time will be devoted to preparations for the play. Then we’ll gather on the second Sunday of Advent, December 4th, for a potluck dinner and the production of the show! It promises to be great fun, and a great way to usher in the Christmas season. Additionally, we would like to highlight the talents of some of our children and youth. If your child has a song to sing, and instrument to play, or a reading to offer, please get in touch with Bryce to be included. There will be a time of ornament making immediately following the program in Miller Hall.

Thanksgiving Food Drive with Worthington Hooker School

As the holiday season approaches we turn our thoughts to turkey dinners and time with family. We here at First Presbyterian also turn our thoughts toward those without the means to provide a Thanksgiving feast for themselves and their families. Again this year, First Presbyterian Church is partnering with Worthington Hooker School and Christian Community Action to gather food for the vulnerable members of our community. Students at the school will collect non-perishable food items during this month and members of the church will see to their transportation and distribution to our food pantry partner, Christian Community Action.

Join us at the Yale Repertory Theatre!

Join us for a performance of Molière's *A Doctor in Spite of Himself*, at Yale Repertory Theatre on Monday, November 28, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each. Please sign up at the Welcome Table.



"Playing doctor" takes on a whole new meaning as a marital squabble escalates into comic pandemonium. The spirited Martine exacts revenge on her scoundrel of a husband, Sganarelle, by convincing the town that he's the best doctor around and that he can cure any ailment. But the trickster turns the tables on his wife—and everyone else—with his own definition of "in sickness and in health."

- Yale Rep

Camp Winni

'Camp Winni' is a weeklong summer conference/camp - in 2012, from Saturday, July 28 through Saturday, August 4 - celebrating family, friendships and community on the beautiful shores of Lake Winnepesaukee at Geneva Point Center, a non-profit family camp. Mary and I have attended with our daughter, son-in-law and two grandchildren for the past two years and loved it so much we wanted to spread the word.

Camp Winni is educational as well as recreational. Ten classes are offered during three periods from Sunday through Friday between about 9 am and noon. Class topics are in the areas of Religion/Spirituality, Social/Political, and Personal Development.

More details are on the Camp Winni web site at <http://www.campwinni.org/home.htm> and the Geneva Point Center web site at <http://www.genevapoint.org/>. Any questions, see Art or Mary Hunt.

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

The Alternative Gift Market will be back during the Advent season to entice you to consider 'green' gifts for your family and loved ones. Alternative Gift Market creates an opportunity for others to give gifts of food, shelter, medicine, water, education or so much more for needy people in your honor. AGI's policy each year is to select certain projects that are considered high priority. Please look over the catalog, available later this month, that contains a variety of life-changing gifts. It's a wonderful mission project that helps people throughout the world live a better life.

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 ...

Blanca Thiebaut, who was abducted in Kenya. Blanca works for the Spanish division of Doctors Without Borders and is a friend of George and Nancy Rupp.

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

Dick Hasbany, whose healing continues.

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

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.

Christian Gagnon, Isabella Quagliato's boyfriend, who is diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia.

Jordan Matos, who is stationed in Vilsek, Germany with the U.S. Army.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis, including Jim Tenney & Ken Jetter.

Prayers for 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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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

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