

# *Our Life Together*

The Presbyterian Church in Norwood  
Rev. Fran L. Thiessen, Pastor

**Lent / Easter 2010**

March 2010



Dear Friends,

The other morning a tree in our Memorial Garden was "noisy." There on a branch almost hidden from view was a very chubby sparrow boldly chirping; and each chirp filled every feather in his body so much so that his little feet were lifted from the branch of the tree. There he was bouncing around and making the racket.

Even if this last snow isn't what you want, even though you may yearn for spring and green and flowers, you still can see the snow on the trees and hear the excited songs of nature. And that's beautiful.

Lent is a season of waiting, preparing, and yearning for resurrection. We journey together but each of us is in a different place. Some of us are in the bright joyous places, where we understand that noisy sparrow; and some of us are in difficult, quiet yet chaotic places, places of interruptions and struggle, of confusion and transition.

Our invitation from God is to find the richness of life, of Lent here and now, to stay present with what is and sift for the gold there. It is wherever we are.

The psalmist at a time like our time speaks to God, "even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you." (139:12)

Look out your window, snow is still there and maybe an excited sparrow. Although you may not want it, it is beautiful.

See you at worship.

Blessings,

Your pastor, Fran



## WORSHIP & MUSIC

Carol Watson-Mucciolo, Chair

Even though there is still snow on the ground, spring is just around the corner. And with that comes the start of our Lenten season. We have already celebrated Ash Wednesday with our traditional Soup & Bread Service. We will have many chances to celebrate this Lenten season. Each Wednesday evening we will offer a Lenten Prayer Service at 6:30 P.M. in the Sanctuary, followed by a simple soup and bread supper. We will also be asking all of our church family to sign up for our Day of Prayer for Peace. Choose an hour and devote time to pray for peace in our world. You will find the sign-up sheet on the back table.

Holy Week will begin with **Palm Sunday Service**. The Joy Ringers are preparing "Variations on *Jesus Walked the Lonesome Road*." **Maundy Thursday Service** will be held in the Chris Ed. Bldg. at 7:00 P.M., an "at-table" celebration of the Lord's Supper expressing gratitude for Jesus' gift of himself to us. We walk with Jesus as he journeyed through death to resurrection. The youth and Pastor Samuel Ahn from Cho Dae will join us.

On **Good Friday** we will again join Pastor Samuel Ahn in remembering the tragic events of that Friday continuing our Holy Week journey.

The Gospel and other readings will be offered by members of our church, and special music will be prepared by Cho Dae. This service will be held at the Cho Dae church, 100 Rockland Ave., Norwood, at 7:30 P.M

### EASTER

A suggestion has been made for a sunrise service on Easter Morning at a point overlooking the Hudson River. To see the sun blaze in all its natural wonder and pray "ALLEUIA! HE IS RISEN!" is a stunning image. This service is still being planned. Please share your thoughts with Elder Carol Watson-Mucciolo and Pastor Fran. This would be followed by our traditional Agape Breakfast in the Chris. Ed. Bldg. at 8:30 A.M. and Easter service at 10:00 A.M. in our Sanctuary. Please come and join us for prayer, music, and community this Lenten season.

### MUSIC NOTES

*David Hanson, Minister of Music*

Our Hand Bell Choirs will be up and ringing for the Easter season. Also, the Sunday School children will be singing on Palm Sunday, while the Adult Choir will perform pieces from Handel's "Messiah" during this sacred season.

## YOUTH GROUPS

Amanda Otworth, Judy Banes, Diane Kuenzler

On Sunday, March 7, the Youth Group invites families and friends to a presentation by **Habitat for Humanity**. Habitat for Humanity, already an incredible voluntary organization, now has a Youth Division (ages 16 and under). A representative will be giving a presentation about the volunteer opportunities for our youth. Join us as we learn what our young people can do to help others.

Time: 5:15 P.M.  
Place: Chris. Ed. Bldg.

For more information, call Judy Banes (201-722-0114).



## OFFICERS

Nominations having been presented at our Annual Congregation Meeting, the following is our current slate of officers:

### Elders:

Clerk of Session: Kathy Millstein  
Norm Friberg: Administration & Finance  
Lydia Banes-Kievit: Buildings & Grounds  
Dave Kuenzler: Christian Education  
Doug Henschen: Inv. & Nurture and Mission  
Amanda Otworth: Stewardship  
Carol Watson-Mucciolo: Worship & Music

### Deacons:

Moderator: Judy Banes  
Anne McQuade, Carol Golem, Harry Lanzillo,  
Peggy Douvres, and Bernice Slezak

## MISSION

*An inclusive church working for a better world.*

*Doug Henschen, Chair*

### Sowing Seeds of Hope in Haiti

Our special collection to aid the victims of the earthquake disaster in Haiti raised \$3,330 (as of the end of January). These funds were matched two-to-one by our Mission Investment Fund for a total of \$9,900. Three quarters of these funds (\$7,492.50) will go to Haiti through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and one quarter (\$2,497.50) will go directly to GHESKIO, a clinic in Haiti that fights infectious disease and that is serving as a temporary field hospital and refugee camp. If you haven't given to this cause already, please consider multiplying your donation by giving through the church.

### One Great Hour of Sharing Campaign Gets Underway

Jesus said, "If you love me, feed my sheep." That's the message and theme of this year's One Great Hour of Sharing Campaign. This annual initiative gets underway in March with the distribution of the familiar fish-shaped coin banks and Lenten calendars. We're planning special children's sermons on hunger, self-development of people, and disaster assistance. We will also distribute bulletin inserts and pew envelopes so adults can support this important initiative. The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of gifts, while the Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receive 32 percent.

We encourage parents to read and discuss the Lenten devotionals and messages throughout the season so there is more to it than collecting coins and writing checks. Amid economic struggles, health care challenges, natural disasters, and ongoing fighting overseas, we must look for ways to see God's light. One Great Hour of Sharing is a visible way in which we participate in the ministry of Christ to our world. The sermons will begin on March 7 and continue on March 14 and March 21. We will collect the fish boxes and final donations on Palm Sunday, March 28.



### Sending Our Love to Haiti

This benefit performance, launched in just **3 weeks**, was organized by the Presbyterian Church at Tenafly and Temple Sinai of Bergen County and was sponsored by over 25 churches and synagogues (our church among them), and also a mosque. The sponsorship allowed for 100% of the proceeds to be distributed directly to various Haiti Relief Funds. The display of talent that night was a wonder to behold. Broadway singers, NY Philharmonic instrumentals, dancers, and even school string orchestras. They raised \$75,000 in ticket sales and expected the total to be around \$90,000. Attending from our church were Pastor Fran, Lydia and Jenny Banes-Kievit, and Kathy Millstein. Sending Our Love to Haiti is more than this one night. It is the birth of a genuine interfaith movement in Northern New Jersey and will continue its work into the future. This quote from the event program says it all: "Together we can change our own lives by building relationships across the denominations and doing what human beings created in God's image ought to do: help our fellow human beings live."

### The churches, synagogues, and mosques who were underwriters are listed below. Let us give thanks to God!

Organizing Partners: Presbyterian Church at Tenafly and Temple Sinai of Bergen County:  
 All Saints Episcopal Church - Leonia, NJ  
 Temple Avodat Shalom – Riveredge, NJ  
 Bethany Presbyterian Church - Englewood, NJ  
 Temple Beth El – Closter, NJ  
 Temple Beth Or - Washington Township, NJ  
 Church of the Atonement (Episcopal) - Tenafly, NJ  
 Congregation Adas Emuno – Leonia, NJ  
 Darul Islah Mosque – Teaneck, NJ  
 Temple Emanuel of the Pascack Valley  
 Temple Emeth – Teaneck, NJ  
 First Presbyterian Church - Englewood, NJ  
 First Presbyterian Church - Hackensack, NJ  
 First Presbyterian Church - North Haledon, NJ  
 The Jewish Community Center – Paramus, NJ  
 Joy Fellowship – Tenafly, NJ  
 Keshet Community Synagogue – Tenafly/Englewood  
 Mideast Evangelical Church (Presbyterian) - Jersey City, NJ  
 Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (Catholic) - Tenafly, NJ  
 Presbyterian Church - Leonia, NJ  
**Presbyterian Church - Norwood, NJ**  
 Presbyterian Church - Ramsey, NJ  
 Society of African Missions - Tenafly, NJ  
 St. John the Theologian (Greek Orthodox) – Tenafly, NJ  
 Topstone Presbyterian Church – Englewood, NJ  
 West Side Presbyterian Church – Ridgewood, NJ

## MEANDERING: A Place to Share Pieces of Our Journey

*A Meander is a winding course, a circuitous journey,  
a dance, or movement*

**Jonathan Kelley**, a son of Katherine Kelley who is a member of our church, was our temporary pastor several years ago. He had a serious head injury from an accidental fall and had been hospitalized. We are pleased to hear that he is improving. Many of you called, sent notes of care, and promised to pray for Jonathan and his family. His response is thoughtful and generous; many of you use these same words to describe him and his time with the church.

### ***A response from Jonathan Kelley...***

Thank you and the church for the outpouring of concern and attention and prayers that I have received from Norwood. Thank you, the Session and the fellowship!

It is humbling to be the recipient of pastoral care and concern, as well as a wondrous experience of God's love and grace through others.

My fall in the grocery store and injury is still puzzling to me and to the doctors. But the good news is that I am mending speedily and well.

I am also so grateful that my mother could drop everything and be with us these past three weeks. She has been a big help in so many ways.

THANK YOU for your cards, calls, and especially your prayers!

With my love,  
*Jonathan*

## **The Book Hook**

*(A place for us to share interesting reads.)*

*Let the Great World Spin*, by Colum McCann, is a fascinating read. Set in 1974 around the walk between the towers by Philippe Petit. Told from a variety of viewpoints of New Yorkers, including a young priest who lives among the poor, a prostitute, the mother/s of sons lost in Vietnam. Really moving and really sad but also affirming. I loved it because it had a lot to say about the city, and strangely, about September 11.



*Submitted by Anne Henschen*

*We pray for healing for our friends on our prayer list.*

The Abramowitz Family  
Family & Friends of Emily Aumiller  
Carol Bard  
Colby & Gretta Barker  
Barbara Barlow  
Ruth Bovee  
Abby Denny  
Terry Dury  
Joan Finke  
Donna Gorgo  
Anne Graff  
Jeff Heyman  
Jason, Carolyn, and Jalena Johnson  
Shelly Kaplan  
Jonathan Kelley  
Harry Lanzillo  
Sharon McKenna  
Sally Mendelson  
Peter Michelmore  
Brian O'Hare  
Ann Pacifico-Carnavale  
Barbara Ritowsky  
Michael Sass  
Donald Tripp and family  
Alice Arnold Watson  
James Watson



All people affected by natural disasters

All people suffering mental and emotional distress

All affected by the economic downturn in this country

### **Pray for Peace**

We remember with gratitude the Service Members and countless citizens who have died in Afghanistan and Iraq

# CALENDAR



## Our Regular Gatherings

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays:

#### **Congregational Book Forum:**

*Theology for Liberal Presbyterians*

### 1st and 3rd Sundays:

5:00 p.m. **Sr. Youth Group**

Tuesdays: 9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

**The Breakfast Club:** All invited.

Stateline Diner, Route 303.

7:00 p.m. **Choir Rehearsal**

### Wednesdays:

12:15 - 1:30 p.m. **The Living Word:**  
*Handel's Messiah: Music and text.*

6:30 p.m. **Each Wednesday in Lent**

there will be a **Prayer Service**  
followed by a light soup supper.  
The Sanctuary.

### Thursdays:

10:00 a.m. **ESL Bible Study** –  
Levels 1&2

4:00 p.m. **Joy Ringers**

## March

**7:** 5:00 p.m. Chris. Ed. Bldg.  
Youth Group hosts Habitat for  
Humanity (see page 2)

**8:** 7:30 Session Meeting

**11:** 7:30 p.m. Spirit on Tap  
Brady's Fox Hunt Inn  
Northvale  
Topic: Politics and Religion

**14:** Daylight Saving Time begins.  
Remember to turn your clocks  
**ahead** one hour on Saturday  
night.

**28: Palm Sunday**  
10:00 a.m. Worship

## April

### **1: Maundy Thursday**

7:00 p.m. Chris. Ed. Bldg.  
"At-Table" Celebration of the  
Lord's Supper

### **2: Good Friday**

7:30 p.m. Cho Dae Sanctuary

### **4: Easter Sunday**

Sunrise Service  
(in planning stages)  
8:30 a.m. Agape Breakfast  
10:00 a.m. Easter Worship  
with Communion

**5:** 7:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting

**12:** 7:30 p.m. Session Meeting

## May

**3:** 7:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting

**10:** 7:30 p.m. Session Meeting

**Looking ahead:** Youth Sunday  
will be celebrated in June. Look for  
our summer issue at the end of June.

*A form for ordering flowers to  
beautify our Sanctuary for  
Easter will be in Sunday  
bulletins. If you would  
like to order but cannot  
attend services, please  
call the Church Office.*



## Happy Birthday



*Birthday wishes are extended to:*

### **March**

Duncan Lewis (2)  
Paul Huppach (6)  
Jenny Banes-Kievit (8)  
B. J. Lewis (8)  
Grace Millard (10)  
Dennis Slezak (15)  
Mark Millstein (16)  
Lydia Banes-Kievit (17)  
Chelsea Rex (23)  
Robert Schuck

### **April**

Kara Millstein (1)  
Zachary Lewis (2)  
Dave Kuenzler (3)  
Emily Otworth (5)  
Christen Downey (6)  
Eve Millard (8)  
Jamie Lewis (9)  
Amanda Lewis (17)  
Jim Kuhn (19)  
David Hanson (20)  
John Carabetta (26)  
Jackson Downey (26)  
Alyssa Otworth (28)

### **May**

Don Tripp (3)  
Carol Watson-Mucciolo (4)  
Dee Fleming (12)  
Cameron Hampton (12)  
Vanessa Navarro (12)  
Marilyn Sticco-Stewart (14)  
Mary Lou Collins (17)  
Karen Friberg (21)  
Kayla Navarro (23)  
Bernice Slezak (24)  
John Grove (26)

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN  
NORWOOD**  
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Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9 A.M. to Noon

*We must be the change we wish  
to see in the world.* Ghandi



*Our Life Together*  
*Lent / Eastser*  
*2010*



**MISSION**  
**STATEMENT**

The Presbyterian Church in Norwood is a fellowship of believers in Jesus Christ who come together to worship God, to hear God's word, and receive the Sacraments. We reach out to all of the community by seeking to meet their spiritual and physical needs in response to God's grace and love.

*We are an inclusive church working for a better world.* All are welcome to share in our worship services, receive Communion, and join our Fellowship Coffee Hour.



Sunday Worship is at 10:00 A.M.  
"Come and Pray."

*Holy Week Schedule*



*Sunday, March 28*  
***Palm Sunday***  
*10:00 a.m. Worship*

*Thursday, April 1*  
***Maundy Thursday***  
*7:00 p.m. Christian Ed Bldg.*  
*"At-Table" Celebration of the Lord's Supper*



*Friday, April 2*  
***Good Friday***  
*7:30 p.m. Cho Dae Sanctuary*

*Sunday, April 4*  
***Easter Sunday***  
*8:30 a.m. Agape Breakfast*  
*10:00 a.m. Easter Worship*  
*with Communion*