

# THE NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2011

## FROM THE PASTOR . . .

Remembering the events of September 11 has dominated radio, television and print for the past few weeks as people honor those who lost their lives and reflect on how this has changed our country. One article by Scott Bader-Saye in The Christian Century\* is especially insightful.

Bader-Saye writes, "Ten years later, I think the most significant change that occurred on 9/11 was that America became a victim..."\* He points out that when individuals are attacked, they often feel they can do whatever they want to retaliate. And when a nation feels it has been victimized, it often uses its suffering as an excuse to avoid moral questions. In the name of 9/11, not only did our nation bomb and invade Afghanistan, killing many innocent women and children in the process, we used the attacks against us as a pretext to invade and occupy Iraq as well. We justified

torture, harassed American Muslims and viewed mosques with suspicion.

September 11 was a horrible crime against our nation and our people. But if our response is violence against the innocent as well as the guilty, we are no better than those who attacked us.

Jesus taught us to do better. He calls us to notice the log in our own eye even when we have been wronged. We can't do whatever we want, just because someone has wronged us. Instead of fighting his enemies, Jesus engaged them. He shared meals in the homes of the Pharisees and debated in the temple, lifting up the truth and turning the other cheek. He stood up for what is right and left any revenge to God.

As we reflect on the ten-year anniversary of 9/11, let us not slide into a "victim mentality" but instead work to build a nation that reflects our best values, respecting those who are

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WEBSITE WWW.LEONIAPRES.ORG

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: WED.-FRI.**  
9 A.M. -12:30 P.M. & 1-2:30 P.M.

out for the weak or helpless, speaking the truth, and caring for all God's children in the world.

Peace,  
Debra Given

\* "9/11: Ten Years Later" in The Christian Century, August 23, 2011, page 10.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS**, See page 2

**CHOIR NEWS**, Information on page 3

**HOLIDAY FAIR CRAFT NIGHT, CAN YOU HELP?** See page 3

**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY—OCTOBER 2** - More information on page 2

**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY at LEONIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

This year's World Communion celebration will be at our church in Leonia. Three other congregations will join us for worship at 11:00 a.m.: Bethany and West Side Presbyterian Churches in Englewood, and the Presbyterian Church in Teaneck. We will have a joint choir, joint Sunday School classes, and the Rev. Gloria Tate will be the preacher. Our congregation has been assigned to bring appetizers and finger sandwiches to share at the reception following worship, so please speak with Karen Peters if you can help out. Our congregation has been working and celebrating with our cluster churches for many years now. Please join us for this festive event, and celebrate our communion with Christians throughout the world.

**COME, LET US WORSHIP GOD...**

**Sunday, Sept. 4**

**10:30 a.m.** Service for the Lord's Day—and Blessing of the Backpacks and testimonies of God at Work

After Worship: Choir Rehearsal & ESL Bible Study

**Sunday, Sept. 11**

**9:30 a.m.** Registration for Church School Classes

**10:30 a.m.** Service for the Lord's Day will include commissioning of Church School Staff and reception of New Members

**Sunday, Sept. 18**

**10:30 a.m.** Service for the Lord's Day will include a celebration of the Lord's Supper

**Sunday, Sept. 25 10:30 a.m.** Retreat Weekend:

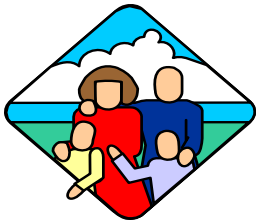
Worship in Leonia will be in the sanctuary

**10:30 a. m.** Service for the Lord's Day will include a celebration of the Lord's Supper at Camp Johnsonburg.

**Sunday, October 2 10:30 a.m.**

**World Communion Sunday at Leonia Presbyterian Church**

**Come celebrate the diversity of God's family with the Presbyterian churches of Teaneck and Englewood.**



**Sunday School September 11<sup>th</sup>**

Get Ready! We will start a great new year of Church School activities! Register

your child and yourself on **Sunday, September 11 at 9:30 a.m.** You do not need to be a member of the church to register or attend. Invite other families and children who you think might be interested. All students and their parents or guardians are requested to meet in the fireplace room at 9:30. Information about classes will be disseminated at that time.

ESL Bible Study for adults is after Worship Service every Sunday!

If you would like to teach or be a substitute teacher please contact Rev. Given or Linda McGarry.

*Happy Birthday*

- Sept. 3 Dane Clarke
- Sept. 6 Luis LaBoy
- Sept. 8 Troy Sahai
- Sept. 18 Dennis McGarry  
Jonathan Mark Phillips
- Sept. 22 Ray Addabbo
- Sept. 23 Linda Green  
Lillian McNaughton  
Allyn Joy Ponella

**Thank you** for the Pentecost wishes, it was wonderful to get all your notes. All is well with us—Taylor got her PhD—some of you remember her when she was 5 years old— Who knew! We presently are in Long Beach Island until October, then back to Florida - We are blessed! Peace & Alleluia, **Linda Heinz-Mitchell**

Nell & Stanley Barlow thank us for our Pentecost greetings. "What a thoughtful thing to do, and we are very appreciative!!!! We are nicely settled in our 3 tier retirement community here in Durham. As its name (The Forest of Duke) suggests, we are blessed with lots of trees as well as the many cultural events and excellent medical care available by virtue of being so close to Duke University. Fortunately, we are still able to spend the winter months in Bradenton, Florida, which we especially enjoy because daughter Ann and her family (four of our nine grandchildren) live nearby in Tampa. In addition, the past March, other offspring from afar came there to help celebrate my becoming an octogenarian. We all cruised to Cozumel, Mexico, and had a grand time. We are indeed blessed....!! We do miss Leonia, the church there, and our many friends and neighbors. We appreciate the church Newsletter and any other bits of news we receive. Again, thank you for remembering us, and do drop in for a visit—we'd love to see you, either in Durham or Bradenton. With love and best wishes, **Nell** (and **Stanley**, too) **Barlow**"

**Thank you all** for keeping in touch and praying for me as well. I am very grateful for all you have done for me. God richly blesses you. Regards, Kwaku Oppong

**Anne Vreeland**, a long time beloved member passed away 9/2/2011 at the age of 99. Anne served as a deacon in our church for two 6 year terms, served as a Trustee, chairing the Property Committee, and was very active in the Women's Club. The memorial service will be Saturday, October 8th at 11 a.m. with a lunch reception to follow.

## CHOIR NEWS

The choir is scheduled to begin rehearsing on **Sunday, September 4 after worship**. If you would like to join the choir, come that day or speak with Renee Guerrero-Harris. Choir rehearses every Sunday at 9:15 and 11:45 starting September 11.

## CAN YOU HELP???

**WHAT ARE YOU DOING MONDAY EVENINGS FROM 7 to 9? DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL CRAFT IDEA YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE? WE ARE LOOKING FOR IDEAS AND HELP TO MAKE CRAFTS FOR THE HOLIDAY FAIR. SO BRING YOUR THOUGHTS, PICTURES, CRAFTS AND TALENTS STARTING MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13 AND JOIN THE FUN AND FRIENDSHIP.**



**Sofie Seyun Hwang** daughter of Angie Chung and Eric Hwang was Baptized on August 21, 2011.

Sarah & Jun Han had a baby boy, **Ethan Seojin**, September 4. Ethan weighed in at 5 lbs. 14 oz. and joins big brother Aiden.



# THE NEWSLETTER

Address Correction Requested

Presbyterian Church in Leonia  
P.O. Box 448  
181 Fort Lee Road  
Leonia, NJ 07605

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## THE NEWSLETTER

### USHER SCHEDULE

September 11	Jeannie Choe, Hwan Hee Kang & Roberta Toolen
September 18	Susan Dindial, Vicky Li & Karen Peters
September 25	Fara Razafy, Lisa & Joe VanDeWeert

### OFFERING COUNTERS

September 4	Pete Shanno & Olivia Taylor
September 11	Anne Stebbins & Richard Stenken
September 18	Fumio Ito & Ginny Brown
September 25	Hyung Kune Shim & Hiroshi Muto

## HOLIDAY FAIR TRICKY TRAY/BASKET DONATIONS

Any donations of items for the "Tricky Tray/Basket" table at this year's Holiday Fair would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be left in the designated box in the entry room or call Karen Peters (201-592-8413) to arrange for pick up of items. Please make your donation by October 31, 2010. Below are some suggested items, but please feel free to use your imagination:

Bottles of wine  
Cat or dog toys/treats and/or pet store gift cards (\$10)  
Food items for theme baskets (i.e. Italian dinner night)  
Music CDs (i.e. easy listening)  
DVDs  
Movie theater gift cards & Candy  
Bic lighter (long type for grill or fireplace lighting)  
Christmas ornaments, Christmas wrapping paper/ribbon, Holiday/all occasion candles  
Christmas cards (boxes) & Christmas gift bags  
Tea/coffee (assorted types)  
Tea cup and/or small tea pot  
Coloring books, Washable markers, crayons, stickers, children's activity books  
Wrapping paper, Ribbons/tissue paper and Gift bags (all occasion)  
Note cards (general/Thank You, etc), Stationery  
Picture frames/albums  
Gift cards for local restaurants/stores (minimal amount i.e., \$10)

In addition, we can also use any of those **new** unwanted gifts you've received that are taking up room on a shelf and you just didn't know what to do with!

Please be sure that any food donations are **NOT PERISHABLE** items. Thank you.

### INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

Leonia will observe the International Day of Peace on Wednesday, September 21st. A day set aside by the United Nations in 1981 for all people to rededicate themselves to peace. We will gather at the Leonia High School Peace Pole at 5 p.m. where the students will present readings and choral music by the boy's choir. From the high school; we'll walk (or ride) to the Peace Pole on the lawn of the Methodist church, gather there at about 6 p.m. The program will continue with music, reading and prayers given by members of our community. Our special focus this year is to "Let Our Voices Be Heard" and "Bring the War Dollars Home."

A special offering will be taken for the United Nations High Commission on Refugee Relief. We hope you will be able to join us.

## *Committee Membership—Would you like to join a committee?*

Committee members are not only welcome, but needed to do the vital work of the church. Please contact the chairperson of the committees you would be willing to serve on or just come to their next meeting and let them know you are interested. Experience is NOT required, merely an interest and a willing spirit.

- **Asian Ministry - Fumio Ito** – Develops outreach to our Asian neighbors and plans programs to foster appreciation and understanding between people of different cultures, and oversees our weekday English conversation classes.
- **Budget Finance - Maurice Lovell** – Recommends the annual church budget and, along with the Treasurer monitors income and disbursements throughout the year. Also responsible for long-range financial planning.
- **Christian Education – Linda McGarry** – Oversees the Sunday Church School and nursery, recruits and trains Church School teachers; recommends curriculum; helps provide for adult education.
- **Fellowship – Karen Peters** - Plans social events: fellowship hours, potlucks, brunches theater parties and other outings; maintains the Sunday beverage cart.
- **Mission & Stewardship – Susan Shanno** – Plans and conducts programs for the financial stewardship (including special offerings) of the congregation, and interprets and promotes our mission locally and worldwide.
- **Membership & Outreach – Nancy Salvati** – Evaluates our church’s communication, both within the congregation and to the wider community. Proposes, plans and executes various efforts to welcome and incorporate new members.
- **Personnel – Leah Puzzo** – Oversees the work of church employees, conducts annual performance reviews, and makes compensation recommendations to the session.
- **Property – Pete Shanno** – Oversees the regular maintenance of the church building and grounds; proposes and implements improvement projects.
- **Retreat – (Vicky Li & Linda McGarry)**– Plans and implements annual retreats of the congregation.
- **Worship – Leah Toutounjian** – Conceives and plans special services of worship, providing for services in the Pastor’s absence and for routine tasks, such as communion preparation, reading of Scripture, ushering, and preparation of the sanctuary for worship and special services.

### **NATURE LOVERS UNITE:**

**September 20 (Tuesday) 10 a.m.** Harrier Meadow, Meadowlands. Bird banding and walk to see migrants, shorebirds, egrets and herons. Meet at 10 a.m. entrance to Harrier Meadow or 9:45 a.m. first parking lot at DeKorte. See Nancy Salvati for more information.

**October 2 (Sunday) - Time: 12 Noon to 4 p.m.** Nature Cavalcade with the Nature Program Cooperative Stateline Lookout—Palisade Interstate Park— adjacent to Palisade Interstate Parkway. Eagles, hawks & other raptors. See Nancy for more information.





# Fall Retreat

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF THE PRESBYTERY OF PALISADES**

**Saturday, October 23, 2009**

**9:15 a.m.—1:30 p.m.**

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TEANECK**

**PASTOR: Reverend Dr Gloria Tate**

**1 Church Street, Teaneck, NJ 07666 201-837-2904**

**LEADER: REVEREND BEVERLY DEMPSEY**

**THEME: “PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN, SELF-IDENTITY”**

The Program will cover:  
**BIBLE STUDY, GROUP DISCUSSIONS, WORSHIP & LUNCH**



Registration: \$2.00

Bring a bag lunch; dessert will be provided.

**This is one Event you don't want to miss!!**

**It has been prepared ESPECIALLY for “US”- Presbyterian Women  
Please make plans to stay for the entire program . . . You'll be glad you did!!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Sophie Corporan 201-488-1068, Barbara Tilburg 201-445-7593 or Abbie Slaman 201-384-6024