



# The Spire

The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, NJ  
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 www.westfieldpc.org



Invite...  
 Grow...  
 Serve...

## Special points of interest:

- 25th Anniversary Ordination Celebration for Dr Roberts, Feb. 7
- High School Ski Trip, Feb. 20-21
- Spiritual Growth Workshop, Feb. 21
- Middle School Snow Tubing, Feb. 27-28
- Women's Retreat, Feb. 26-28

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## Spiritual and Religious: Spiritual Growth Workshop, February 21

Often when I meet someone who is not a member of a church or synagogue they will tell me, "I'm spiritual, not religious."

This always puts me in three minds. On the one hand, I think, "I hope so." This is a rather weak hope because I wonder whether this is possible. The idea that we can be mindful of the deeper, important things of life without a tradition (scripture and the wisdom of those who walked this road before us) or a community (actual people who support our search and challenge our inevitable narcissism) is a particularly modern conceit.

On the other hand, I have no doubt that they are on to something important. They know that it is possible to be deeply religious without being very spiritual. More frequently than one would like, religiously observant people completely miss the point. Also, religious people face special temptations to the sins of pride and self-righteousness. Jesus had a lot to say about supposedly religious people, calling them "whitewashed tombs." By this he meant that while they maintained a pleasing religious exterior, inside they were spiritually dead. The church remembered Jesus' impertinence on this point because it led to his crucifixion, and because this is OUR perennial temptation.

My third frame of mind is that the claim "I'm spiritual, but not religious," stings with a criticism of organized religion. Who doesn't wish that the church were more spiritual? More to the point, who doesn't wish that he or she were more spiritual?

I observe that we too frequently do a better job of asking members to devote time and energy to maintaining the institution, serving on committees that oversee budgets, property, and programs (none of which we can do without), than we do asking people to get involved in classes and activities that would help people connect with God, grow in their faith, and realize all that Christ should mean for their lives. Of course, we can't continue without the former. But we shouldn't continue without the latter. This spiritual purpose is the reason God created the church in the first place! It is the reason for the buildings and budgets.

**Now the Punch Line:** To strengthen the spiritual life of the church we are offering the very first *Spiritual Growth Workshop* on **Sunday, February 21**.

The purpose of this workshop is to teach classic spiritual exercises of Christian faith, such as: prayer, Bible study, and Sabbath keeping that will help you develop your relationship  
*Continued on page 2*



## Thank You! Beaucoup!

During December an incredible amount of high quality donations poured in from members of our congregation for the annual Shopping Spree at Norwood Terrace and the Presbyterian Center in Elizabethport! At Norwood, twelve members of Presbyterian Women set up the "store," assisted residents as they shopped and gift-wrapped their selections. All of the extra donations plus the toys that the high school Sunday School shoppers contributed went on to E'port. Rest assured that all the largesse was greatly appreciated...it isn't every day that someone tells us we're angels!

Thank you all for helping to make someone else's Christmas a little brighter.

— Ann Fontana

# The Spire

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## LAYING A FOUNDATION FOR HOPE, ONE BRICK AT A TIME

Serving others changes lives. As our Youth has experienced over and over, you are trying to fix something not right in the world or in your community. But you end up discovering things that impact the way you look at others – **forever**.

Young people are overwhelmed by the pressures and choices they face everyday. We, as a church can offer them something very unique that can make their lives better now, and in the future:

- Experiences with people different from them that connect them to the world
- Hands-on projects where they discover the amazing things they can accomplish
- Lifelong ties to each other, to caring adults, and to the people they serve
- Increased love and hope in the God who sends them out and who restores them along the way

As a church community, we have the resources to significantly impact the lives of young people – forever. In 2010, our continued goal is to do that through offering youth the following opportunities to serve others:

1. **The Agape Community Kitchen: (Wednesdays, Elizabeth, NJ)**
  - 200 - 300 hungry people are served every week, 52 weeks a year
  - Over 110,000 meals have been served since May 3, 2000
  - Young people run the place – as leaders training others and as hard-workers who show up to serve
  - Between 30 and 50 youth from our church and the surrounding communities volunteer every week
  - 200+ Adults from our church and community cook, bake, launder and volunteer on-site every year
  - **Youth Rebuilding Hope donations will go toward the \$75,000 needed to keep Agape operating this year**

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## Spiritual and Religious

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with God and grow into what the Bible calls, “spiritual maturity.”

I dream that someday I’ll meet someone who doesn’t attend a church or synagogue and they will say, “I’ve heard about the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, I wish I were more spiritual.” I can then be of one mind to invite them to come.

**From the Home Office in Louisville, Kentucky...**

### THE TOP TEN REASONS TO ATTEND THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH WORKSHOP

1. Your relationship with God will become richer.
2. No matter how bleak things seem you will live in hope.
3. You will begin to see the glory and splendor of God in all things and all people, no matter how ordinary.
4. You will find a purpose that gives your life meaning.
5. You will be more available to serve God and neighbor.
6. You will find balance in your life.
7. You will learn wonderful things about God, yourself, and life.
8. You will become wise and mature.
9. You will become who God created you to be.
10. You will seek the excellence of God.

– The Rev. Dr. Raymond R. Roberts

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## Session to Consider Switching to Two Services

When we embarked on the experiment with Sunday morning, we said that we would listen, learn and make changes as we went along. To help with this a review group taskforce of people has been meeting to review the Sunday morning schedule. Over a series of meetings beginning in November, they started meeting to consider successes and challenges.

Successes identified are that Sunday school enrollment and attendance are way up (at least 3 times what it was last year and half again what it was the year before). Children's and Family Ministries have also had a much easier time recruiting volunteers. Some parents who did not want to worship with their 2-5<sup>th</sup> grade children are back. The 11 o'clock service shows real promise and is attracting some new people. Mike Samson's *Words on the Word* class has been very well received, but lightly attended. At the beginning the Fellowship time was a big hit, though attendance petered out as the year wore on. Even without the youth and, for the first few weeks, 2-5<sup>th</sup> graders who started worship in the chapel, attendance was stable and up slightly. Church on Wednesday (the COW program) remains a hit.

The review group also identified some significant challenges. Youth Sunday school ends around 10:15 and youth are not staying for worship at the 11 o'clock service. Without the youth in the balcony and with some members attending the 11 o'clock service, the 9:30 service too often felt "uncomfortably empty." We also learned that kinks needed to be worked out in Life-Long Learning and that some older adults had trouble getting to the 9:30 service, whose style of worship they preferred.

Many conversations were held with, among others, youth, Sunday school teachers and senior adults. After considering several options, the review group taskforce is recommending that the session change the worship schedule to 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., with the suggestion that youth and adult education classes be held at the 9 o'clock hour and again following 10:00 a.m. worship.

Concerning the 11 o'clock service, the original idea was that this service would reach youth and parents who wanted to worship with their children. We have learned that this service did not really reach these people as it was envisioned; though it was nonetheless deemed a success and attracted about 50 people each Sunday. The feeling is that we should go forward with two services for now and reconsider this in the future.

These suggestions have been sent to the commissions. They are polling parents and teachers and working out the logistics of this change. At their February 8 meeting the session will vote on this. Assuming session approval, we may implement some of these changes as early as the first Sunday in March.

— *The Rev. Dr. Raymond R. Roberts*

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## New Bible Study

A new Bible study on the Book of James will begin on February 22, 2010. The group will meet in the church library on the second and fourth Mondays of the month from 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. for this six-session study, and will be using a study guide with a group led discussion.

Everyone is welcome to participate! The cost of the book is approximately \$10.00. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Black, 654-9262 or blackpolak@att.net for more information and to order a book.

## Many Thanks

The Reverend Victoria Ney and family would like to acknowledge the kind outpouring of sympathy upon the death of her mother, A. Victoria Sheppard, December 19, 2009.

Your kind words and messages of condolence were very much appreciated and comforted us all during our time of loss.



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# February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1</p> <p>9:00am Monday Morning Craftsmen</p> <p>7:00pm Knoxbells</p> <p>8:00pm Chancel Bells</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00am Searching for Work</p> <p>5:30pm Confirmation Leaders</p> <p>6:00pm Confirmation</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:00am Bible Study</p> <p>9:30am Program Staff</p> <p>1:00pm Agape Prep</p> <p>3:15pm Agape</p> <p>5:00pm COW</p> <p>7:00pm Covenant Band</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:00am MS Breakfast</p> <p>9:30am PW Board</p> <p>6:00pm 10th grade Small Group</p> <p>7:00pm 11th grade Small Group</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study w/ Pastor</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:30am Men's Breakfast</p>
<p><b>7</b></p> <p>8, 9:30, Worship</p> <p>9:00am Coffee Hour</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Celebration for Ray Roberts</p> <p>4:30pm MS Advisors</p> <p>5:00pm MS Fellowship</p> <p>7:00pm HS Advisors</p> <p>7:30pm HS Fellowship</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:00am Monday Morning Craftsmen</p> <p>1:00pm Parkinsons</p> <p>7:00pm Knoxbells</p> <p>7:30pm Stephen Ministers</p> <p>8:00pm Chancel Bells</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00am Searching for Work</p> <p>5:30pm Confirmation Leaders</p> <p>6:00pm Confirmation</p> <p>6:00pm Session</p> <p>8:00pm Commission Meetings</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:00am Bible Study</p> <p>10:00am Program Staff</p> <p>1:00pm Agape Prep</p> <p>3:15pm Agape</p> <p>5:00pm COW</p> <p>6:45pm Personnel</p> <p>7:00pm Covenant Band</p>	<p>11</p> <p>PW Circles</p> <p>7:00am MS Breakfast</p> <p>6:00pm 10th grade Small Group</p> <p>7:00pm 11th grade Small Group</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p> <p>8:00pm 12th grade Small Group</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study w/ Pastor</p> <p>12:00pm Lunch/Book</p>	<p>13</p>
<p><b>14</b></p> <p>8, 9:30, 11 Worship</p> <p>9:00am Coffee Hour</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>10:45am Questers, Triangle</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Presidents' Day</p> <p>Church Office closed</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00am Searching for Work</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:00am Bible Study</p> <p>9:30am Program Staff</p> <p>12:00pm Ash Wed. Svc</p> <p>1:00pm Agape Prep</p> <p>3:15pm Agape</p> <p>5:00pm COW</p> <p>7:00pm Covenant Band</p> <p>7:30pm General Facilities</p> <p>7:30pm Ash Wed Svc</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00am MS Breakfast</p> <p>9:30am PW Gathering</p> <p>6:00pm 10th grade Small Group</p> <p>7:00pm 11th grade Small Group</p> <p>7:00pm Zambia</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p> <p>8:00pm 12th grade Small Group</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study w/ Pastor</p>	<p>20</p> <p>High School Ski Trip</p>
<p><b>21</b></p> <p>8, 9:30, 11 Worship</p> <p>9:00am Coffee Hour</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>10:45am Questers, Triangle</p> <p>1:00pm Spiritual Growth Workshop</p> <p>4:30pm MS Advisors</p> <p>5:00pm MS Fellowship</p> <p>NO HS Fellowship</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:00am Monday Morning Craftsmen</p> <p>12:30pm Adult Bible Study</p> <p>7:00pm Knoxbells</p> <p>7:30pm Stephen Ministers</p> <p>8:00pm Chancel Bells</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00am Searching for Work</p> <p>3:30pm Lunch Bunch</p> <p>5:30pm Confirmation Leaders</p> <p>6:00pm Confirmation</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:00am Bible Study</p> <p>9:30am Program Staff</p> <p>1:00pm Agape Prep</p> <p>3:15pm Agape</p> <p>3:30pm Lunch Bunch Delivery</p> <p>5:00pm COW</p> <p>7:00pm Covenant Band</p> <p>7:30pm O &amp; P Mtg</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:00am MS Breakfast</p> <p>9:30am PW Sewing</p> <p>6:00pm 10th grade Small Group</p> <p>7:00pm 11th grade Small Group</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir</p> <p>8:00pm 12th grade Small Group</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30am Bible Study w/ Pastor</p> <p>Women's Retreat to Stony Point NY</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Middle School Snow Tubing Trip</p> <p>Women's Retreat to Stony Point NY</p>
<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Women's Retreat</p> <p>8, 9:30, 11 Worship</p> <p>9:00am Coffee Hour</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>10:45am Questers, Triangle</p> <p>NO MS Fellowship</p> <p>7:00pm HS Advisors</p> <p>7:30pm HS Fellowship</p>						

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### LAYING A FOUNDATION FOR HOPE, ONE BRICK AT A TIME

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#### 2. The High School Mission Trip

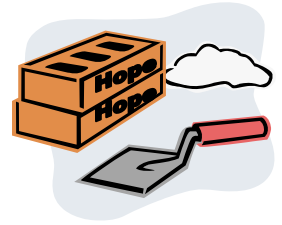
- Every year we work with High School kids on a hand-on construction and re-building project in a needy community
- **Youth Rebuilding Hope donations will go toward construction materials and operation costs for this trip**

#### 3. The Middle School Mission Trip

- Every year we introduce younger youth to what it means to serve others through hands on mission
- **Youth Rebuilding Hope donations will go toward off-setting the cost for each participant to go on this trip**

I would like to invite you to listen to the *Youth ReBuilding Hope Kick-Off on Sunday, February 7th* during the 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. service. Each Sunday in February, please look for a table in the Narthex and outside the Chapel manned by members of the Youth Commission as well as Youth Volunteers who will be able to talk about the programs and accept donations. Donations can also be sent directly into the church office marked as 'Youth Rebuilding Hope'.

I hope you will consider contributing to the **Youth ReBuilding Hope** campaign as the young people of our church and surrounding communities participate in the long history of Presbyterian mission and endeavor to bring hope to those who need it. The impact these projects have on those who receive help is immeasurable.



## Youth Gone Wild!

**MIDDLE SCHOOL SNOW TUBING!** Register for the Middle School Snow Tubing Trip at Fernwood Tubing Center. Youth in grades 6-8 can go tubing on February 27-28. Cost is \$75 (Scholarships are available; please ask Linnette for more details. Includes lunch and dinner for Saturday, transportation, snow tubing and lodging in the immaculate Jim Cole Room!) **Deadline to register is February 10th. Forms can be found in the Parish House Mailroom or on the church website.** For more information and to register, contact Linnette at ext.22.

**SMALL GROUPS!** Small groups are going strong! All 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth are invited to the Jim Cole Room on Thursdays, beginning at 6:00 p.m. for 10<sup>th</sup> grade, 7:00p.m. for 11<sup>th</sup> grade and 8:00 p.m. for 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Great conversations and good times!

**MIDDLE SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUB!** Come join us each Thursday at 7:00 a.m. All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth are invited. We PLAY MANHUNT, have a delicious breakfast, and ride to school together. No sign ups necessary! Bring \$3 for breakfast. Is there a better way to start your day? Meet us in the Jim Cole Room.

**IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO START COMING TO SUNDAY SCHOOL!** Sunday school is every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. for all youth, grades 6th-12th. Even if you haven't come to Sunday school in the past, WE'D LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN US! 6th-9th grades meet in the Jim Cole room at 9:30 a.m. for BAGELS AND DONUTS. 10th-12th grades meet in Lower Westminster Hall at 9:30 a.m. and will also experience the joys of eating.

**AGAPE!** Keep your Wednesdays open and come help us serve over 250+ of our friends in Elizabeth. We meet EVERY Wednesday at 3:15 p.m. in the church parking lot. No experience necessary. We need adult & youth volunteers. You will be so glad you came!

**FELLOWSHIP IN FEBRUARY!** Middle School fellowship meets at 5:00 p.m. on February 7 & 21. High School fellowship meets at 7:30 p.m. on February 7 & 28.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

No Youth Fellowships—  
February 14.

No High School  
Fellowship February 21.

No Middle School  
Fellowship February 28.



### Overall Agency Goals

To provide safe, emergency shelter to women and families who find themselves without a home.

To provide safe, affordable housing for disadvantaged people.

To provide services to disadvantaged families which empower and promote personal development, independence, self-sufficiency and community building in stable neighborhoods.

To be a leader in eliminating both poverty and racism through education and advocacy. Housing for all and a community that works for everyone.

## The Spire

### PW CIRCLES FOCUSING ON HOMEFIRST

The Presbyterian Women Circles are focusing their Mission Study time this year on Homefirst, and the issues of homelessness. Some very good questions came from different Circles last month asking how Homefirst ensures that families who go through their program do not get into the same predicament again in the future. Basically, the Homefirst families are chosen because they demonstrate a desire to help themselves. Most are homeless by circumstance such as illness, job loss, divorce, or other such things.

In order to match volunteers with their families' needs, Homefirst has created a Family Success Center. Listed below are some of the various programs offered. There are a multitude of opportunities for every person in the congregation to use our talents at the Family Success Center in the future. If you would like to volunteer for any of these programs, Amy Van Pelt is the Volunteer Coordinator at Home First 908-753-4001 x12.

The Homefirst Family Success Center programs include:

**Expanded Volunteer Opportunities and Stakeholder Engagement** - Homefirst Department of Volunteer Programs in partnership with the Development Department has been working towards leveraging volunteer time and talent as follows:

**Nutrition Program** - The Junior League of Elizabeth and Plainfield has agreed to develop and implement a nutritional program for Homefirst that include healthy cooking and the distribution of nutrient-rich foods.

**Mentoring Program** - Homefirst will recruit and train volunteer mentors who will be linked to local teenagers, adults and families. The goal of the mentors is to build committed relationships with low-income families and individuals, to help them define and meet goals in order to achieve and maintain self-reliance and independence.

**Girl Scouts** - The Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey council has agreed to help form a troop of Girl Scouts in our Plainfield neighborhood. The Homefirst Family Center space will provide a perfect location for local girls to gather together, discover themselves, connect with others and take action to make their world a better place.

**Tutoring Services** - Volunteers will be recruited to provide tutoring services twice a week for children in our community in need of extra support. Computers with internet access will be provided to assist older students with research.

**Specialized Educational Presentations and Forums** - The Center's meeting room will provide a venue to invite local professionals to contribute their expertise to local families. Human resource professionals will be recruited to teach interviewing skills and resume development; writers may guide a group in poetry writing or assist students with research papers; nutritionists and other health professionals will donate their time to discuss medical needs.

**Social Activities** - The Center space will provide a venue for creative expression and enjoyment. Local artisans and crafters will conduct classes in various genres. Book, cooking and movie clubs and/or other group meetings may be held regularly providing social and creative outlets to the Center's participants.

**Thanks to the many volunteers!** More than 60 church members helped during the week of January 17<sup>th</sup> through January 24<sup>th</sup> when our church hosted 13 people (including 7 children) in Lower Westminster Hall. One of the families was able to move from our church directly into a HomeFirst-owned "transitional housing" apartment in Plainfield. All of the many donations collected in December from the PW Circles were delivered to the apartment on Thursday, January 21.

## Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

Presbyterian Women would like to thank all of the elves who made the Christmas Dinner a wonderful evening, especially our youth, Alex DuMont, Caroline Ehrhardt, Christopher and Katherine Fisher, and Leah Heinbokel.

We want to thank Ann Fontana, who arranged the annual shopping spree for the long-term residents at Norwood Terrace, as well as all of the women who helped on the day of the sale, and all of the members who contributed items for the "sale". It was a huge success, and all of the items left went to a similar event at Elizabethport.

Thank you to the youth Sunday School teachers and their students who shopped for the Elizabethport sale. The toys you donated brought smiles to the children.

Thank you to Faye Sobala and Barbara Iannazone who organized the Bake Sale, and to everyone who donated those delicious goodies, and to those of you with a sweet tooth who purchased the items. We raised over \$750 to help support area mission projects.



## For Your Calendar: HomeFirst February 26 House Tour

Homefirst offers monthly house tours, typically on the last Friday of each month. The February tour is currently scheduled for February 26th. The tour starts at the Homefirst office (905 Watchung Avenue/Plainfield) at 9:00 a.m. and lasts for approximately one hour.

Come and chat over coffee with Ellen McGovern, Homefirst Executive Director. She'll bring you up to date on the new housing being built in Plainfield and the new Family Success Center program (see page 6). Both are very exciting developments for Homefirst. You'll meet with a Homefirst client and hear her wonderful story! The tour wraps up with a visit to one of Homefirst's recently renovated properties in Plainfield.

Homefirst would be happy to set up alternative tour dates if there is sufficient demand for them. To sign up for the February tour, or request an alternate date, please contact Rick Porter at Homefirst at 753-4001 ext 24.

**HomeFirst Tour**

**February 26,**

**at 9:00a.m.**

## OUT OF AFRICA: Laying the Foundation Stone for Partnership

The 2009 trip to our sister congregation of the Livingstone Church in Livingstone, Zambia, held an equal blend of highs and lows for our team this visit.

**Introductions and Reunions.** Our first Sunday, Rev. Ray Robert, via translator, led our sister congregation in Sunday worship service. It was delightful to see familiar faces, enjoy another African cooked meal after service and introduce new faces throughout the day.

After lunch was served, the 2009 team, comprised of Rev. Ray Roberts, Mitch Janklow and TJ Elgin, met with each of the groups within the church. This one-on-one time is significant to our sister congregation, showing not only respect, but that each of the groups spoken with is valued. Our team met with the youths of all ages – and was asked about snow! We were also asked to help these young people with musical instruments for worship, computer tutoring, and job training.

**Continued Support of Livingstone Home-based Care Program.** Our team then met with members of the Men's Association and the Women's Guild, individually. Since the 2008 trip, our team has been impressed by the leadership, faith and commitment to the grassroots Home-based Care Program for HIV/AIDs that these groups organize and support. Top concerns were vitamins, food stuff and a cottage industry, possibly sewing, that would help support this program, in addition, to supporting food shortages faced by members of the congregation. This year was the first time the team heard about the food shortages within the congregation.



Robert Nkunika,  
Clerk of Session and  
elected correspondent  
for all official emails  
from PCW

# The Spire

## PCUSA Response to the Disaster in Haiti



More than a million people have been displaced from their homes and are living outside in open spaces in fear of possible aftershocks that could topple more houses and buildings.

The images are shocking and the stories, heart-wrenching. The catastrophe that turned the world's focus onto the nation of Haiti has every one of us praying for the safety and deliverance of the Haitian people. Many of us are left wondering what we, as Presbyterians, are doing to respond to the desperate needs of the world's poorest citizens.

The PC(USA) supports hundreds of mission projects and workers around the world. The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program, also known as PDA, is arguably one of its most vital and indispensable programs. PDA is the emergency and refugee program of the PC(USA), funded through the "One Great Hour of Sharing" offering as well as through designated gifts. PDA provides assistance for people affected by crisis and/or natural disasters.

Currently, PDA is on the ground in Haiti, working to assist the victims of the 7.0 earthquake that tore apart the capital city of Port-Au-Prince on January 12<sup>th</sup>, leaving thousands upon thousands dead and even more homeless and vulnerable. Carlos Cardenas, a PC (USA) missionary working in disaster relief, was sent to Port-Au-Prince as part of the initial response team. Search and rescue, medical assistance for the wounded and food distribution took precedence in the first few days. Food, water and fuel are scarce, so distributing these items is a top concern for PDA. Fifteen locations have been selected to hand out these essentials.

Temporary shelter is also necessary. More than a million people have been displaced from their homes and are living outside in open spaces in fear of possible aftershocks that could topple more houses and buildings. PDA is working with partners to supply 20,000 tents to shelter those living on the street in Port-au-Prince. PDA is asking Presbyterians who want to help to make donations to support their work, to make hygiene and baby kits that will be distributed through the World Church Service, and above all else, to pray for the people of Haiti as well as for those providing aid.

For more information or to make a donation to the PDA relief effort in Haiti, please visit [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org).

– Kristin Pirich, Mission Coordinator

## Pilgrims of Ibillin

The Rev. Robert (Bob) Pryor, a former Interim Pastor at this church, will introduce and participate in a peace-building program, to which the public is invited, on Thursday, February 18, at 9:30 a.m. in the Christian Lounge. Rev. Pryor spoke to a large group three years ago, with great interest expressed by the audience in the question-and-answer period. He and his wife served as Presbyterian missionaries in Iran for 21 years. He especially asked that Rev. Joan Deming from Madison, Wisconsin, join him in this program.

Rev. Deming serves as Development Director for Pilgrims of Ibillin, an American non-profit that supports peace-building programs in Israel/Palestine. Her presentation will highlight the story of Archbishop Elias Chacour and the Mar Elias Educational Institutions founded by Fr. Chacour. The schools are unique with students of all races and religions being accepted into the schools and studying side by side in Ibillin, Israel, to "Build Peace on Desktops." Nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize, Archbishop Chacour is the author of *Blood Brothers* and *We Belong to the Land*.

Many in our congregation have enjoyed and discussed these books. Pilgrims of Ibillin is a mission project of Presbyterian Women.

This is a unique opportunity for our church to invite members of the community to join us in learning from experienced and well-informed mission spokespersons. Please urge neighbors and friends to attend with you. Coffee will be served before the program.

## The Spire

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### Congratulations to Sr. Pastor Raymond R. Roberts on his 25th Anniversary of Ordination

Ray was raised in Farmington, Missouri. After graduating from Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri he attended Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia, receiving his M.Div. in 1984. In 1999 he received a Ph.D. in History and Theology from Union Theological Seminary & Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Virginia under the supervision of Douglas F. Ottati.

On November 4, 1984 he was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church. He has served congregations in Amherst, Virginia; Richmond, Virginia; and Jenkintown, Pennsylvania. He began his ministry at PCW in March, 2005.

Ray is the author of the book *Whose Kids Are They Anyway: Religion and Morality in America's Public Schools*. With Max Stackhouse he co-authored "The Mainline Protestant Tradition in the Twentieth Century" a chapter in *Toward an Evangelical Public Policy: Political Strategies for the Health of the Nation*. In addition, Ray has written numerous articles and book reviews that have been appeared in publications such as *Interpretation*, *The Journal of Political Theology*, *The Christian Century*, and *The Presbyterian Outlook*.

Dr. Roberts serves on the board of the Presbyterian Historical Society and is an active member of the Society of Christian Ethics (an international society of Christian ethicists). His hobbies include gardening, songwriting and playing in the band Reckless and Wild. Ray married his wife Sallie in 1984 and has two college-age children, Harrison and Katherine.

**Please join us to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Ray Roberts' Ordination, as a Minister of Word and Sacrament Sunday, February 7th, 2010, following the 9:30 service in Assembly Hall.**

**Join us Sunday,  
February 7, 2010,  
following the 9:30  
service in Assembly Hall  
as we celebrate  
Ray's 25th Anniversary  
of Ordination as a  
minister of Word and  
Sacrament.**

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### Small Group study continues

The 2009 Calvin study group concluded the reading and use of Princeton's web site this past month and is now moving on to reading 'The Confessions of St Augustine' for our next reading and discussion topic.

Those interested in joining the group are welcome and the group meets on the first and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 7:30-9:00 p.m. Please contact Alan and Nancy Smith (654-9477 alan.nancy.smith@att.net) or Mike Samson for more information.

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### Boutique Sale

In April the Presbyterian Women will be hosting their annual fundraiser to raise money to support local, national and international mission projects. This year we plan to do something a little different. We will be hosting local vendors who will come to sell items such as handbags, stationary, jewelry, clothing, and kitchen items, either of their own creations or items that they sell through a recognized company. The vendors will agree that a portion of their proceeds from the sale will go to benefit mission projects.

If you have a business that you believe would be appropriate for the sale, or if you have a friend who may be interested in participating, please contact Lisa DuMont at dumonts4@verizon.net or Lisa Schwartz at kiretaschwartz@aol.com.

# The Spire

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## "Bear each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2)

As a church, we  
are connected  
by the Holy  
Spirit in love.

In his letter to the church in the ancient city of Galatia, the apostle Paul encourages them to bear each other's burdens. The act of bearing, or carrying, each other's burdens is one of the primary tasks of Christians. Jesus came primarily to bear *our* burdens of sin and death in order to free us to eternally love God and each other. Sin is a spiritual condition each of us is affected by, which is evidenced in our turning away from God and each other to pursue our own ends and ambitions. Whether we admit it or not, we all sometimes find it easier to pursue what we prefer over considering other and God in our pursuits.

In Christ, we are bound together as a family, as brothers and sisters. What affects one of us affects all of us. Family systems theory, a tool used by marriage and family therapists, understands that all members of the family system are affected by difficulties faced by any one of its members. There is no such thing as an isolated member of a family. For example, if a son is affected by cancer, the whole family is affected and the relationships must adapt to that change. The *system* responds to the individual.

Paul also compares the church to a body, a metaphor with which we are all familiar. One cannot ignore injuries done to any part of one's body: a hand, a toe, an elbow, an eye. As a church, we are connected by the Holy Spirit in love. This is a real, spiritual connection. It is a connection that moves us to pray for others, to help others in need, to come to church and worship God *with* each other. In the act bearing of each other's burdens we discover both the obstacle of our condition of sin and the freedom of Christ to overcome the sin within us. Just as going to the gym is good for the body, bearing each other's burdens is good for the soul. It is difficult, cleansing, strengthening, exhilarating, and life-giving. Think about the burdens in your life that you could use help carrying. Reach out and ask for help. Think about the burdens of others that God is calling you to help carry. Reach out and offer to help. The Spirit that binds us in love and power will guide and equip you for the task at hand: to fulfill the law of Christ.

-Rev. Mike M. Samson

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## **BALANCE: Stability produced by even distribution of weight or forces.**



Our lives are delicately balanced. A small shift in one area of life can send us spinning out of control. Stephen Ministers can help when life gets out of balance. They listen and care, and most importantly, bring the stability of Jesus' love and grace into people's lives. If your life has shifted out of balance, consider talking to a Stephen Minister.

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## **Lunch and a Book**

Please join us on Friday, February 12th from noon - 1:00 p.m. when we will discuss, "A Long Way Gone- A Soldier's Story" by Ishmael Beah. This is a story of redemption of a boy who was forced to fight in the war in Sierra Leone in the 1980's. He was eventually released and sent to a UNICEF rehabilitation center. This book is his story of regaining his humanity. The reader's guide is on the church website under Lunch and a Book. If you want to read ahead to next month, our March book is "The Mercy Papers" by Robin Romm. Everyone is welcome, so please join us! Contact Lisa Black, 654-9262 for more information.

# The Spire

## Happy Birthday

### February 1

Annis, Jane  
McMahon, Mrs  
Georgianne  
Simpson, Cailly  
Marhefka, Vlad  
Slifer, Carter  
Slifer, Madilynne

### February 2

Pope, Mrs Mary  
Shea, Mrs Evy  
Beese, Mrs Mildred  
Danser, Mr Frederick  
Morse, Mrs Linda  
Ceria, Laura  
Vierschilling, Mr Scott  
Maccubbin, Tyler  
Ramage, Ellen  
Lapham, Kelly  
Greco, Kristen

### February 3

Roberts, Mrs Erkie  
Fredericks, Bill  
Klofta, Mrs Tisha  
Wilner, Ms Jennifer  
Thode, Ted  
Luker, Mary Kate

### February 4

Johnson, Ms Penny  
Rosin, Mr Chris  
Wright, Mrs Karyn  
Burslem, Connor  
Hall, Jack  
Busse, Paige

### February 5

Longaker II, Mr Robert  
Peterson, Ms Sharon  
Hewitt-Taylor, Mrs Penelope  
Bredlau, Marianne  
Layer, Lajla  
Demers, Eric

### February 6

Liggitt, Mrs Jean  
Scaperrotta, Mr John  
Gerckens, Mrs Lynn  
Taylor, Mrs Chris  
Stravach, Michael  
Johnson, Ella

### February 7

Ramsden-Nary, Dr Barbara  
Marino, Jeff

### February 8

Husch, Mrs Darlene  
Cederqvist, Trudy

### February 9

Kertis, Gene  
Factor, Mr Clint

### February 10

Wahlers, Mrs Jean  
Taylor, Mrs Kim  
Donatelli, Mrs Renee  
Kobasa, Mrs Joann  
Bungerz, Jessie

### February 11

Wolford, Mr Tyler  
Hatfield, Andrew  
Paden, Amanda  
Paden, Dustin  
Paden, Jason

### February 12

Brown, Miss Christine  
Ince, Mr Michael  
Dilzell, Mrs Sue  
Weldon, Mrs Maria

### February 13

Chamberlin, Mrs Ruth  
Miller, Mrs Tay  
Donatelli, Mr Stanley  
Grom, Mrs Holly  
Grom, Mr Tim

### February 14

Farmer, Rosemary  
Maines Jr, Dr Ralph  
Ruiz, Thomas

### February 15

Rippe, Mrs Marienne  
Lenehan, Mrs Janice  
Bredlau, Susan  
McMahon, Meghann  
Ragoza, Ryan  
Reed, Aiden  
Murphy, Sienna

### February 16

Grant, Mrs Nancy  
Phelan, Mr Tom  
Kolb, Mrs Pamela  
Lee, Mrs Mabel  
Hewit, Mr David  
Speir, Mr Randall  
Marhefka, Mrs Laura  
Wang, Simon

### February 17

Maggio, Mr Glenn  
Taylor III, Mr Jet  
Sellers, Katie  
Rotella, Tyler

### February 18

Stefiuk, Mr Steve  
McDaniel, Mrs June  
LaMond, Mrs Cathy  
Klofta, Jacob  
Braun, Heather  
Fallo, Robert

### February 19

Darsie, Mrs Doris  
Keenan, Mrs Jeanmarie  
Sullivan, Evan

### February 20

Smith, Mrs Peggy  
Eickemeyer, Mrs Brenda

### February 21

Kurz, Ms Judy  
Embry, Griffin  
Algarin, Christopher  
Murtishaw, Will

### February 21

Senatore, Mrs Rosemary  
Malcolm, Dr Bruce  
Mott, Mrs Peggy  
Pinkin, Mr Jim  
Enes, Mr Robert  
Fleschler, Mrs Katie  
Cunningham, Mrs Susan  
Shpunder, Mr Theo  
Hyman, Mrs Jeannine  
Harris, Andrew  
Curtis, Matthew  
Grom, Christian  
Zanfagna, Andrew

### February 22

Knuettel, Mrs Ilona  
Ainslie Jr, Dr William  
Meierdierck, Mrs Georgia  
Sobala, Mr Joseph  
Swingle, Mr Joseph  
Pate, Mrs Cheri  
Anderson, Mr Ryan  
Gerckens, Christopher  
Burgdorf, Christian

### February 23

Plenty, Mrs Jean  
Blair, Ms Linda  
Devaney, Mr Michael  
Slifer, Mrs Kimberley  
Zanfagna, Philip

### February 24

Dencker, Mr John  
Boyle, Kaetlin  
Waller, Alexandra

### February 25

Pecka, Mrs Phyllis  
Wildi, Mrs Elaine  
Hannah, Mrs Barbara  
Lorentzen, Mr Kent  
Kolterjahn, Mr Don  
Brug-Panton, Dr Pam  
Dailey, Mr Matt  
Kinsella, Joanne  
Schundler, Mr Robby  
Mann, Mr Scott  
McCurdy, Matthew  
Stierhoff, Matt  
Meyers, Shelby

### February 26

Andreassen, Mrs Inger  
Hevert, Mrs Nancy  
Perry, Mrs Lee  
Ince, Robin  
Dix, Adam  
Zippler, Mr Kevin  
Armstrong, Miss Kristy  
Fortino, Gregory  
Baldwin, Caroline  
Beke, Matthew

### February 27

Wilson, Mrs Marge  
Howell, Mrs Emily  
Stock, Mr Kevin  
Powell, Alex  
Vasel, Kelly  
Kim, Katherine

### February 28

Foster, Mrs Ellen  
Elsasser, Mr Mark  
DuMont, Alex  
Cavallo, Kristen

## Time Out For Parents (TOPS)

Registration for Time Out for Parents will be in April 2010 for September start. Children age three months to three years may attend this special preschool one morning a week. Classes meet in rooms 103 and 104 and the student/teacher ratio is excellent. Approximate cost is \$30 for two and half hours.

Applications and detailed information will be available in the church office after March 18th. Church members have the opportunity to sign up before the general public. For more information please send an email to Mary Kay Danskin at [mkdanskin@comcast.net](mailto:mkdanskin@comcast.net) with any questions.



# The Spire

## Treasurer's Report

### December 2009 Financial Results across all funds

	<u>12 mos 2009</u>	<u>12 mos 2008</u>	Difference <u>09 v 08</u>
Total Cash Receipts	\$2,567,363	\$1,031,800	\$1,535,563
Total Cash Expenditures	\$1,842,148	\$3,257,264	\$(1,415,116)
of which mortgage debt payments were:	\$-	\$1,014,496	\$(1,014,496)

The comparison between last year and this year is a difficult one: expenditures were much higher last year in 2008 vs this year ended 12/09, because the church paid off its mortgage (that was taken out in 2004 to pay for Parish House renovations). And even though it looks like revenue were much stronger in 2009 vs 2008, it is completely due to the investment portfolio performance, as shown below.

**Investment Capital gains/losses:** 12 mos 2009: **\$627,391** 12 mos 2008: **\$(1,482,256)**

In fact, if we take out the 2009 gains for this year, and for 2008, add back those market losses, we see that actual GIFTS to the church were down about \$575,000. Note that in 2008, the church received bequests of significant value.

	<u>12 mos 2009</u>	<u>12 mos 2008</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Adjusted revenues	\$1,939,972	\$2,514,056	\$(574,084)
of which Bequests amounted to:	\$3,000	\$511,000	

	<u>ACTUAL for 12 mo 2009</u>	<u>ACTUAL for 12 mo 2008</u>	<u>Difference 09 v 08</u>
<b><u>ANNUAL OPERATING FUND Results</u></b>			
Total Annual Operating Fund Receipts	\$1,313,472	\$1,424,739	\$(111,267)
Total Annual Operating Fund Expenses	\$1,402,156	\$1,451,870	\$(49,714)
YTD NET for the Ann Oper Fund	<b>\$(88,684)</b>	<b>\$(27,131)</b>	<b>\$(61,553)</b>

The (\$88,684) net deficit was much better than the (\$217,817) budgeted, because:

- Actual receipts were \$13,472 more than budgeted
- Actual expenses were \$115K lower than budgeted
  - o \$59K lower energy costs
  - o \$35K lower personnel costs
  - o \$21K in expenses that came from Designated Fund rather than the budget

Deficits also occurred in 2007, 2006 and 2005: (\$22,508), (\$50,307) and (\$9,425), respectively. The Unrestricted Endowment is the source of support when the church runs an operating deficit.

**Total Mission Spending** facilitated by the church during 2009 totaled \$318,942, or 16.4% of all dollars that were received by the church during the year. This figure represents expenditures made directly from the Annual Operating Fund budget, Agape, the Youth Mission Trips, and the numerous special appeals, such as One Great Hour of Sharing, the Joy Gift, and aid to individuals through the Family Crisis Fund.

### **Church Balance Sheet**

U.S. capital markets rebounded strongly in 2009, following a dismal 2008. The \$173,000 current income on the overall Church Investment Account (excluding Van Dellen account) translates to 3.8% return. This was boosted by the \$550,000 (12.5%) in realized capital gains, bringing total return for the year to 16.3%. For 2008, the drop in the Church Investment Account was -22.0%.

– Marybeth Lapham, Treasurer

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR 2010 PLEDGE!

Mr/Mrs Howard Adams	Mr/Mrs. Peter Demers	Mr/Mrs E Paul Hjorth	Mr/Mrs R Mellen	Mrs Valerie Rusch	Mr/Mrs D Williams, Jr
Dr/Mrs William Ainslie Jr	Mr John Dencker	Ms Joyce Hoffacker	Mr/Mrs George Melloan	Mr/Mrs John Sandstedt	Mr/Mrs W Williams
Mr/Mrs John Akerly	Mrs Barbara DePaul	Mr/Mrs C Hoffman	Mr/Mrs Robert Mill	Mrs Wendy Santoro	Mr Edward Wittke, Jr
Mr/Mrs Irondi Aliche	Mr/Mrs Joseph Devlin	Mrs Caroline Holt	Mr/Mrs David Miller	Mrs Linda Scaperrotta	Miss Carolyn Wood
Mr/Mrs Leo Amaker	Mr/Mrs Jeffrey Deyerle	Mr/Mrs K Hoogsteen	Mr Douglas Carol	Mrs Joyanne Schoeman	Mr Douglas Woodfield
Mr/Ms Kevin Anderson	Mr/Mrs Michael Dickey	Mr/Mrs Arthur Horner	Mr Robert Miller	Mrs Jean Schork	Kirsten Woodfield
Mr/Mrs David Andreassen	Mr/Mrs Jeffrey Diehl	Mrs Elizabeth Howarth	Mrs Sarah Miller	Mr/Mrs W Schroeder	Mr/Mrs John Woods
Mr/Mrs Arthur Annis	Ms Kirsten DiTullio	Mr/Mrs Russell Howell	Mr/Mrs Thomas Miller	Miss Helen Schulz	Mrs Deborah Wright
Mr/Mrs Gerald Armstrong	Miss Barbara Doane	Mr/Mrs Gary Hunsinger	Ms Martha Mobley	Mr R Jeffrey Schundler	Mr/Mrs Wayne Yarusi
Mr/Mrs Peter Asselin	Mr/Mrs Stephan Dolling	Mr/Mrs Scott Hunsinger	Mr J Charles Monzella	Mr/Mrs R Schundler	Mr/Mrs Gary Zanfagna
Miss Deborah Bailey	Ms Dorothy Doyle	Mrs Aaria Hunton	Mrs Linda Morse	Mr/Mrs Robert Schwartz	Mr/Mrs Robert Zdenek
Mr/Mrs Jeff Barber	Mr/Mrs Michael Doyle	Mrs Donald Husch	Mrs Laura Stinchcomb	Mr/Mrs D Schwarz	Mrs Kathleen Zipper
Mrs Wilma Barker	Mr David DuBois	Mr/Mrs Jordan Hyman	Mr/Mrs R Muirhead	Mr/Mrs David Seaman	Mrs. Sara L. Burke
Mr/Mrs Robert Bauer	Mr/Mrs Douglas DuBois	Mr/Mrs. Michael Ince	Mr/Mrs F Mulzoff	Mrs Elsie Seastream	Mr. John L. Wieting
Mr/Mrs. Edward Beglin Jr	Mr/Mrs Glen DuMont	Mrs Doris Jackson	Mr/Mrs S Murphy	Mr/Mrs Donald Seeley	Robert Paz &
Mr/Mrs Donald Belcher	Mr/Mrs Roger DuMont	Mr/Mrs Leslie Jacobsen	Mrs Mary Musso	Mr/Mrs James Sellers	Bonnie Borton
Mr/Mrs William Bennett	Mrs Robert Duncan Jr	Mr Ellwood Jacoby	Dr/Mrs C Nary, II	Mr/Mrs F Senatore	Kay Macrae
Mrs Carole Bentley	Mr/Mrs Stephen Dvorak	Mr/Mrs M Janklow	Mrs Leesa Nash	Mr/Mrs Gaither Shaw Jr	Mrs. Carl McMackin
Mr/Mrs Hal Benz, Jr	Mr/Mrs Scott Eakeley	Mr/Mrs Henry Johnsen	Ms Barbara Nelson	Mr/Mrs Alfred Shea	Mr Richard Akerly
Mr/Mrs Lester Bergen	Mr/Mrs Scott Eakeley	Mrs Gladys Johnson	Miss Courtney Nemeck	Mr/Mrs Timothy Shields	Mrs Louise Andrews
Mr/Mrs Ken Bigelow	Mr/Mrs Jeffrey Ehrhardt	Mr Gustav Johnson	Miss Abigail O'Neill	Mrs Loretta Shpunder	Mrs Dorothy Archer
Daniel Bigelow	Mr/Mrs R Eickemeyer	Mr/Mrs S. Johnson	Mrs Betha O'Neill	Mr/Mrs J Shpunder III	Mr/Mrs J Robert Arthur
Mr/Mrs Charles Bing	Mrs Sabina Ekstrand	Mrs Vivian C. Johnson	Mrs Jane Orto	Mr/Mrs T Shpunder	Robert Bethea
Mrs Jane Bischoff	Mr/Mrs Ralph Enes	Mr/Mrs Donald Keenan	Mrs Shirley Oslislo	Mrs Lynn Siegel	Mrs Susan Bethea
Mrs Lillian Blauvelt	Mr Roland Engelke	Mr/Mrs John Kefalonitis	Mrs Marguerite Otto	Mr/Mrs Scott Sinclair	Mr/Mrs George Birchall
Mr/Mrs Garth Boehm	Mr/Mrs Clinton Factor	Mrs Gary Kehler	Miss Alice Ousterman	Mr/Mrs Alan Smith	Mr/Mrs G Fitzhenry
Mr/Mrs Kenneth Boff	Mr/Mrs G Fahrenthold	Mr/Mrs Richard Kender	Mr/Mrs. C Paden Jr	Reid Smith	(Anne Bristow)
Mr/Mrs Scott Bond	Daniel Fahrenthold	Mr/Mrs G Kieczkowski	Mr/Mrs Darius Palia	Miss Nancy Smith	Mr/Mrs Dan Caramagno
Mr/Mrs Eugene Boyer	Mrs Suzanne Fallo	Mr/Mrs L Kinsella	Mr David Park	Mr/Mrs Robert Smith	Mr/Mrs Mark Connelly
Kelly Branin	Mrs Edmund Faltermayer	Mr Paul Kleespies	Mr/Mrs Im Park	Mr/Mrs Joseph Sobala	Mr/Mrs William Cook
Mr Ralph Braun	Mr/Mrs Garrett Falzone	Mr/Mrs David Klemm	Mr/Mrs Steven Parker	Mr/Mrs C Spurlock	Mr/Mrs Frank Cutler, Jr
Mrs Janet Bredlau	Mr/Mrs Terrence Farley	Mrs Valerie Klimas	Mr/Mrs Alfredo Pastro	Mr/Mrs Harold Star, III	Miss Megan Decker
Mr/Mrs Peter, Bredlau Jr	Mr/Mrs Donald Finter	Mr/Mrs Gregory Koch	Mr/Mrs Jeffrey Pate	Mr/Mrs Paul Stierhoff	Mr/Mrs S Donatelli
Mr/Mrs R. Brinkmann	Mr/Mrs Vincent Fischer	Mr/Mrs David Kolb	Mrs Janet Patterson	Mr/Mrs Carl Stocking	Mr John Ekstedt
Mr/Mrs Andrew Brown	Mr/Mrs Mark Fleder	Mrs Marilyn Kole	Mr/Mrs Francis Paulino	Mr/Mrs David Stockwell	Mr/Mrs G Ehrman
Mr/Mrs Carl Brown	Dana Fleming	Mrs Marilyn Kolterjahn	Mrs Phyllis Pecka	Mr/Mrs James Stone	Mr/Mrs David Foltz
Miss Christine Brown	Mrs. Ann Fontana	Mr/Mrs D Kristiansen	Mr/Mrs Jonathan Perry	Mr/Mrs Ronald Straight	Mrs Hunter Grant, Jr
Mr/Mrs Allen Burton	Mr/Mrs Lawrence Foster	Mr/Mrs John LaMond Jr	Ms Erin Peterson	Mr/Mrs Keith Stroever	Mr/Mrs John Graziadei
Mr/Mrs Glenn Buttermore	Mrs Patricia Frawley	Mr/Mrs Steven Lapham	Mr/Mrs Jon Peterson	Mr/Mrs Robert Sugrue	Mr/Mrs George Hansen
Mrs Dorothy Campbell	Mr/Mrs Wm Fredericks	Mr/Mrs James Lau	Mrs Virginia Peterson	Mr/Mrs F Sullebarger	Mr/Mrs Bradley Husch
Mr/Mrs John Campbell	Mrs Marilyn Friedrichs	Mr William Lemke	Mr/Mrs Joseph Phelan	Mr/Mrs Robert Swartz	Mr/Mrs Juan Iglesias
Mr/Mrs Richard Carlson	Mr/Mrs John Fritz	Mrs Jean Liggitt	Mr Thomas Phelan	Mr/Mrs Robert Sweet	Dr/Mrs Theodore Jacob
Mr/Mrs C. Cederqvist	Mr/Mrs Stewart Galt	Mrs Ruth Lindgren	Mrs Michelle Pierce	Mr/Mrs Joseph Swingle	Mr/Mrs John Kane
Mr/Mrs Anthony Cerino	Mr/Mrs Robert Garnecki	Mrs Elizabeth List	Mr/Mrs Joseph Pink	Mr Gene Tate	Mr. Jeremiah A. Lott
Mr/Mrs John Cerra	Mr/Mrs Karl Gerckens	Mr/Mrs R Longaker II	Mr/Mrs James Pinkin	Mr/Mrs John Taylor, III	Mr/Mrs Will Madden
Michael Chirichella	Mrs Gerald Gillespie	Mrs Vera Lough	Mr/Mrs Hans Polak	Mr/Mrs W Taylor, III	Ms Bonnie Murch
Mr/Mrs Steven Colao	Mrs Jean Gillie	Mrs Cheryl Lowe	Emily Polak	Mr/Mrs Charles Timko	Mrs Shirley Oslislo
Mr/Mrs Patrick Collins	Mrs Elizabeth Gorman	Dr/Dr A MacCubbin	Dr/Mrs Robert Potok	Charles Timko	Mrs Ruth Peterson
Mr/Mrs Grover Connell	Mr/Mrs Gregg Gorman	Mr/Mrs F MacPherson	Mr/Mrs John Priesing	Mr/Mrs William Tittle	Mr/Mrs Bruce Phillips
Mr/Mrs Robert Cook, Jr	Dr/ Mrs Dean Gray	Mr/Mrs G MacPherson	Mr/Mrs Thomas Purdy	Ms Susan Tonking	Mr/Mrs Damon Roth
Mr/Mrs John Cote	Mr George Grow, III	Mr/Mrs Glenn Maggio	Mrs Kathryn Quinn	Mr/Mrs James Trimble	Rev/Mrs. M Samson
Mr/Mrs David Cowell	Mr/Mrs Blake Haggerty	Dr/Mrs Ralph Maines Jr	Mrs Mariann Ramage	Mr/Mrs John Trott	Mr/Mrs Jeffrey Schor
Mr/Mrs David Crenshaw	Mr Lee Hale	Dr/Mrs Bruce Malcolm	Mr/Mrs William Rand Sr	Mrs Mary Van Wyk	Susan Seib
Mr/Mrs Stephen Crosby	Mr/Mrs Clifford Hall Jr	Mr/Mrs David Mann	Mr/Mrs R Reinhardt	Mr/Mrs C Vanderbilt	Mr Richard Shepherd
Miss Marion Cubberley	Mr/Mrs Gayle Hannah	Mr/Mrs Todd Manning	Mrs Doris Rice	Mrs Donna Vasel	Mr. Weyman Steengrafe
Mr/Mrs Bruce Cummings	Mrs Betty Hannon	Mr/Mrs L Mannino	Ms Judith Rich	Mr/Mrs M J Vincentsen	Miss Kim Tarabocchia
Mr/Mrs D. Cummings	Mr George Harbt	Mr/Mrs E Marhefka	Miss Judith Richards	Ms Ann Voorhees	Mr/Mrs Peter Tortorello
Mr/Mrs Graydon Curtis	Dr/Mrs R Hartkopf	Mr/Mrs James Marino	Miss Barbara Ringk	Barbara Wager	Mr/Mrs Henry Treger
Mr/Mrs James Cyr	Mr/Mrs Donald Heffner	Mr/Mrs G Marmarou	Mr/Mrs Richard Rippe	Mr/Mrs Thomas Walker	Mr/Mrs Jeff Valentine
Mr/Mrs Matt Dailey	Mr/Mrs Albert Hein	Mr/Mrs Gregory May	Mrs Joan Robbins	Mr Nick Wallwork	Mrs Maria Weldon
Jeff Dalrymple	Miss Megan Hein	Mr/Mrs Kenneth May	Rev/Mrs R Roberts	Mrs Jane Walsweer	Mr/Mrs Charles White
Deborah Dalton	Mrs Anne Heinbokel	Mrs Dorothy Mayo	Mrs Ann Robinson	Ms Nancy Werber	Mrs Carolyn Wilday
Mr/Mrs Frederick Danser	Mr/Mrs R Heinbokel	Mrs June McDaniel	Mrs Nancy Roff	Mr/Mrs M Werder	Mrs Lucy Wilson
Mr/Mrs William Danskin	Mrs Mary Herberich	Dr/Mrs David McIntyre	Mr/Mrs Wallace Roff Jr	Mr/Mrs T Wetlesen	Linda Winter
Ms Alice Davenport	Mrs E Hetherington	Mrs B McLaughlan	Mr H David Rogers	Mrs Lois Wiehl	Mrs Suzanne Wolford
Mrs Theodosia Dean	Dr/Mrs Robert Hevert	Mr/Mrs Wm McMeekan	Mr/Mrs Thomas Rogers	Mr/Mrs Thomas Wight	Mr/Mrs J Roger Yockel
Mr/Mrs Elliot Dee	Mr/Mrs David Hewit	Dr/Mrs R McQuade	Mr/Mrs C Rosin	Mr/Mrs Ernst Wildi	<b>Pledges received as of</b>
	Mr/Mrs G Himmel, III	Mrs Charlotte Meiling	Mr/Mrs D Rotella	Mr/Mrs A Williams	<b>1/26/10</b>

# Searching For Work Group

**Searching For Work Group** (SFWG) is a networking group with a common goal—to assist members in their search for employment. It is an outreach program of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, NJ led by experienced volunteers.

## You can help! Here's how!

### The mission of the SFWG...

- Support people actively searching for work, who want to develop their job search skills,
- Help to enhance their networking techniques and participate in a community that encourages spiritual, emotional, and

Learn more about the **Searching for Work Group** on our website: [www.westfieldpc.org](http://www.westfieldpc.org)

**The Presbyterian Church in Westfield**  
140 Mountain Avenue  
Westfield NJ 07090  
(908) 233-0301  
[www.westfieldpc.org](http://www.westfieldpc.org)

### Questions?

Contact Susan V Watson  
(908) 787-3191

[susanvictoriawatson@comcast.net](mailto:susanvictoriawatson@comcast.net)

A significant and growing number of us will find our jobs in jeopardy during our career. Many friends in our congregation are experiencing this awful truth right now. The **Searching for Work Group** would like to expand the essential function of networking to the congregation at large. We ask you to offer your help to those that are laid off, retired but joining the workforce again, seeking to re-enter the job market after raising their children, looking for more opportunities, or just starting out in the workforce. We want to ensure everyone seeking employment is embraced by the church in their journey to find God's plan for their career. Whatever information you provide will only be shared within the **Searching for Work Group** and members of our congregation and those of the local churches who are affiliated with us, who are seeking employment.

Simply complete the attached brief contact form (or you can complete a form on our website: [www.westfieldpc.org](http://www.westfieldpc.org)) and be willing to give whatever assistance you may be able to offer if contacted: provide networking contacts, review resumes, mentor, or just be a friend. This information will be protected and not used for any other purpose. If you have a private business, joining this network will mean that members of our congregation will be able to support you by choosing your services.

It has been said "Prayer without action is a dream." Please seriously consider turning your prayers into action in a simple but very meaningful way by joining the **Searching for Work Group** Network.

### Searching for Work Group Networking Contact Form

#### Contact information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Employment: Company & Location \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief description of the business:** i.e. Financial, Insurance, Electronics, etc. so those seeking help know if this is a good target for their skills: \_\_\_\_\_

**Previous Employment:** Even if you have retired or left a place of employment, you may have contacts that could help others interested in that company. \_\_\_\_\_

Provide networking contacts    Review resumes    Mentor    or just be a friend

Please place the **Searching for Work Group Network** form in the marked box in the church office, or complete the electronic form located at the [www.westfieldpc.org](http://www.westfieldpc.org)

## OUT OF AFRICA: Laying the Foundation Stone for Partnership

— continued from page 7.

Joining in to support the Livingstone in the Home-based Care Program (HBC) and thanks to generous financial support from our Presbyterian Women, PCW suitcased blankets bought in the US for each of the 'clients' of the program. Our team spent one full day hand-delivering these to half of the HBC 'clients.' Remaining blankets were delivered by the congregation after the team's departure. The 'clients' also received a Good News Bible bought in Africa at \$1.50US/each. How the clients loved having our team sign the inside covers of their Bibles. They especially liked if we wrote: New Jersey, USA!

**Attendees at Partnership Workshop.** The goal of this year's trip was to return with a signed Partnership Agreement. Both parties attended an all-day Partnership Workshop led by Ted Wright, Missionary Regional Liaison. Both parties were equally disappointed when, after assessment by our team and designated Livingstone representatives, the decision was reached that required benchmarks for partnership had yet to be obtained. Wright explained that one of the benchmarks – consistent and meaningful communications – had not been accomplished.

In response, our team put into place a plan for communications to meet this benchmark in 2009. To date, the Livingstone congregation, through their point person, Robert Nkunika, Clerk of Session, has communicated monthly with our point person, Debra Janklow, 2008 team member.

**Celebration and Moving Toward Partnership.** Our team spent Thursday hosting a surprise celebration with our sister congregation. Everyone met at the church, which is presently simply a steel, corrugated roof. Livingstone thought we gathered to celebrate the laying of the church foundation cornerstone – which we did. However, they had no idea that we not only had cookies and fruit to celebrate the occasion, but our team also had a Bible to give each head of household. You should have seen the smiles as each household was called and their head of household came to receive their Bible. There was singing and clapping in response to our gift, and one deaconess danced down the aisle to get her Bible. Even better was the next day, seeing those Bibles in the hands of members attending church service.

**Stop and See – Partnership Sandstone, Good News Bible and Photo Album.** Please take time to stop and see the hand carved Partnership Sandstone presented to PCW which is on display behind the receptionist' desk in the Parish House. You will also find a signed copy of the Good News Bible presented to heads of household.

But, best of all, take a moment to leaf through the photo album created by Mitch Janklow that houses all the faces we are getting to know and love. Meet the members of our sister congregation.

**Next Steps – Livingstone Delegation to Visit PCW.** The Workshop also outlined next steps which includes a visit to our congregation by a delegation from Livingstone. Their visit is planned for the near future, so stay tuned. Meanwhile, our team continues to meet monthly and discuss the visa process, pray for visa application appointments and approvals and forward helpful visa process information to Livingstone.

**Ways You Can Support PCW in Zambia.** Africa is a long way away. Not everyone can visit, but you can support the Mission in Zambia with your prayers. Please pray for visa appointments, visa approval, increased membership, increased financial giving for our sister congregation. Please pray for wisdom and discernment, God's guidance and direction for the PCW team.

If you would like to become a member of the Zambia Team, please plan to attend one of our monthly meetings, held every third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the George Plenty Room. The only thing you need to bring is your enthusiasm!

The Zambia Team: Rev. Ray Roberts, Kristin Pirich, Debra Janklow, Mitch Janklow, Linda Morse and TJ Elgin



Rev. Lazarus Mbewe, Senior Pastor, Livingstone Congregation



Deaconess Elina Banda (photo center, light green shirt) leads the church vestry in praise singing and clapping while the church cornerstone is laid on Thursday of the 2009 trip.



Laying of the church cornerstone by Rev. Lazarus Mbewe and Robert Nkunika, Clerk of Session, while left background shows two building contractors and three members of the church vestry in dress shirts L-R; Frank Muwowo, Julius Chihana and Peter Banda (85-yrs of age)

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**SUNDAY MORNINGS AT  
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN WESTFIELD**

- Worship Service in the Chapel at 8:00 a.m.
- Christian Education for 2yrs - 12th grade at 9:30a.m.
- Worship Service in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m.
- Adult Education at 9:30, 10:45 & 11:00 a.m.
- Worship Service in the Chapel at 11:00 a.m.
- **Child care for infants thru 3yr olds is available in our cribbery located on the lower level of the Christian Ed. Building, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**