

tidings!

*We are people who expect to learn from God's Word, expect to work as God's hands,
expect to encounter God in all people, and expect to rejoice in God always.*

OCTOBER 19, 2011

VOLUME 21, #21

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – Page 2

WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE – Page 3

MISSION – Pages 3,4

INSERTS: FALL SMALL GROUP STUDY

NOMINEES FOR CHURCH
OFFICERS

YOUTH MINISTRY – Page 5

MUSIC MINISTRY – Page 5

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE – Page 6

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – Page 7

WORSHIP & SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS –
back cover

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

STEWARDSHIP SEASON

This has been an unbelievably exciting fall for FPCA! We have been awarded a \$30,000.00 grant from The Templeton Foundation for our Science in Congregations project. We have seen the emergence of a brand new Gospel choir which compliments our already established choirs that continually offer excellence and joy in worship leadership. The 10:10 service has been met with incredible enthusiasm. Average attendance is 266 people per week! Our total worship attendance since the start of our new schedule exceeds 930 people per week—up 21% from last fall.

Our missional focus continues to bloom with our commitment to Daybreak and the Roosevelt School. We had an exploratory team just return from Malawi with wonderful stories of God's faithfulness in that part of the world. We continue to lay the groundwork for our participation in the CACLV 6th Street Shelter Expansion Initiative which officially kicks off for us in January 2012. We are also starting to engage in some meaningful dialogue around what it might mean to move into multi-site ministry: looking toward the east to discern if God is calling us to establish a physical presence/location in center city Allentown.

Our spiritual formation life continues to be one of the great strengths of our community. Classroom space is at a premium as hundreds of children, youth, and adults participate in a wide variety of studies, classes, and seminars throughout the week and not just on Sundays. In the coming weeks, we will launch a small group series in preparation for Advent (see details inside this edition of Tidings on how you can sign up!).

Our staff continues to thrive as we push forward with a team-based ministry design. Despite some significant changes in personnel (12 of our 24 staff members have started work with

FPCA within the past three years), we continue to gel and grow closer together as a unit - centered on a collective missional vision for the life of the church.

As you can see, the Spirit is busy and we are doing our best to keep up! What an exciting time it is to be a part of this community of faith. In this stewardship season, my hope and prayer is that you and I will respond faithfully, generously, and sacrificially in terms of our financial gifts to the work and witness of FPCA. Make no mistake, this church is a great investment. Not a spare change / leftover kind of investment, but a "first fruits" / our-very-best kind of investment. As you prayerfully consider your pledge for 2012, consider these challenging encouragements:

- 3% of your household income dedicated to the church is a good place to start. If you are already at 3% or more, consider adding 1% for 2012.
- If you are sitting on a pile of cash for a "rainy day" remember that many people are experiencing—right now!—the torrential downpours of poverty, brokenness, and a loss of hope. Add a percentage of your savings to what you were planning to give for your 2012 pledge.
- If you are not giving to the point where it hurts, you are probably not giving enough.

We need each other and we need each other's resources to be the kind of church Christ is calling us to be. May we respond faithfully...for the sake of the Gospel and the sake of the world!

See you in worship and the world,

Tony

NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called a meeting of the congregation for Sunday, October 30, 2011 at the close of the 10:30 a.m. traditional worship service in the sanctuary for the purpose of receiving the report of the 2011 Nominating Committee and proceeding with the election of Elders, Deacons, Trustees, and at-large members of the 2012 Nominating Committee. According to the Book of Order, no other business will be considered at this meeting. However, your attendance is important since a quorum is required. *Janet Ney, Clerk of Session*

VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION NOVEMBER 8

Please join us for this celebration on Tuesday, November 8th with our Youth Clubbers! We are inviting all Veterans within the congregation to join us to celebrate and honor what you have done for our country during an Americana dinner and program beginning at 5:45 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to Suzanne Toto at suzitoto@ptd.net or at 610-336-8536 by November 1st if you will be attending. We are also looking for one or two Veterans who would like to speak to the children and adults as a part of the program that evening. Looking forward to hearing from you!

**VETERANS DAY****INTERFAITH OPPORTUNITY HERE AT FPC**

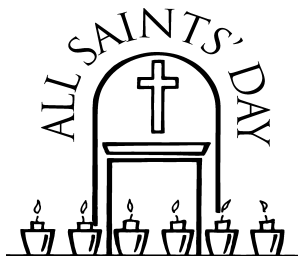
The Institute for Jewish Christian Understanding's Day of Dialogue, Sunday, October 23, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall South, is an opportunity to join with members of different faith communities to discuss the meaningful topic "Being in Prayer, Prayer in Our Being." Brief presentations by Muslim, Jewish and Christian presenters will stimulate our dialogue throughout an afternoon devoted to small-group discussion. There is a \$10 fee (\$25 per family) payable to IJCU. Registration forms are in the brochures available at each information kiosk around the church. Call Debbie Palmer at 610-395-3781 if you have any questions.

SIMPLY CHRISTIAN SEMINAR: WHY CHRISTIANITY MAKES SENSE

Tony Sundermeier continues this seminar based on Tom Wright's book, *Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense*. Wednesdays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m., Room 115; October 26, November 2, 9, 16.

ALL SAINTS' DAY CELEBRATION

This year's All Saints' Day celebration will take place in worship on Sunday, October 30. As a part of that morning's worship services we will remember by name all the Saints of our church family who have died since last year's celebration. If you would like to have the name



of a family member or friend who is not a member of our church included on that list, please contact the church office (610-395-3781) no later than Sunday, October 23. Please share with us the person's full name and date of their death.

BLASNY, BLASNY, GOK, BLIT

It's "The Foreigner". This fall the Thesbyterians are entertaining "The Foreigner" in a fishing lodge in rural Georgia. Come join in the humorous antics of a shy man who, trying to avoid conversation, pretends to be from a foreign country and doesn't speak English. Soon, he overhears sinister plots and delicate situations. Over the next couple of days experience a "different kind of" English lesson, a "truly remarkable storyteller" and a funny climax with an unusual twist. Come join us for dinner and an enjoyable evening November 17, 18 and 19. **Ticket Order Forms are available** in the church office and at www.fpcallentown.org. **SEE PAGE 6.** **Kitchen help** is needed for the dinners. If you have a hankering for dishwashing, or serving up something hot, please contact Lauren Daniel 610-730-5286.

A FREE WORKSHOP: MEDICARE 2012

A free information meeting for Medicare enrollees, their children and caregivers on the Medicare Year 2012 program will be held at our church on Tuesday, October 25 at 2:00 p.m. and repeated on Thursday, October 27 at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. Attorney Bruce Davis, a church officer who has presented a number of these workshops at the church and elsewhere, will host a one-hour workshop and answer questions regarding the Medicare Year 2012 program. No pre-registration is required. Please bring your copy of the recently received federal publication "Medicare and You 2012" to the meeting. The Medicare and You 2012 has several important changes which will be discussed at the workshop.

COLLEGE OF ELDERS - OCTOBER 29

Fellowship Hall North, 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. Topic: **The Latino Experience in the Lehigh Valley: Past and Future.** Guest presenter will be Rev. Charles Olmeda, Pastor of Third Day Worship Center in Allentown. Coffee and doughnuts will be served! Current Elders, non-serving Elders, or Elders from another PCUSA church are welcome to attend.

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO BE A PASTORAL CARE VISITOR?

A new Pastoral Care Visitation Team is being formed by the Board of Deacons to help extend Christian love and compassion to members of our church family. We are looking for individuals with the gift of love, compassion and caring to serve as Pastoral Care Visitors to members and friends of our congregation who are homebound and/or experiencing long term needs due to sorrow, bereavement, illness and/or hospitalization. This ministry will help compliment and extend the pastoral care currently being extended by our pastors and staff and our Stephen Ministers. Pastoral Care Visitors will receive ongoing training and support for this ministry. The first training session will take place Saturday, November 12, from 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon. For a list of expectations of Visitors or to discuss your interest in serving, please contact Kathy Mammele, Director of Pastoral Care, at the church office (Kathy.Mammele@fpcallentown.org, 610-395-3781, Ext. 39) by Sunday, October 30.

FOOD ON THE FIRST - NOVEMBER 6

Peanut butter, spaghetti sauce and soup are the requested food items for the next “Food on the First.” Sauces should be in smaller, about 15 oz. jars/cans.

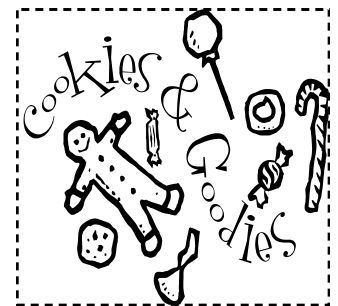


WESTMINSTER VILLAGE'S LEMON TREE BAZAAR

The church is now accepting items for the “Attic Treasures” portion of the Lemon Tree Bazaar, which will be held at Westminster Village on November 12. Please bring the items either to Westminster Village or to the church. If you bring them to the church, kindly put them in the box marked “Attic Treasures” on the shelf above the coat racks to the immediate left in the FPC office area. If you would like Linda Henry to pick items at the church which she will deliver to Westminster, please call her at 610-435-9834. We do not accept any clothing or large appliances.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE WESTMINSTER BAZAAR

We are still looking for help to provide items for the annual Westminster Bazaar, held in November to benefit Westminster Village, a Presbyterian Senior Living Community. If you are interested in making a few items to sell at the FPC table at the Bazaar, please join us on Wednesday mornings in Fellowship Hall. We meet from 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and would love to have you. Bring a project or work on one of the projects we have available. Projects could involve sewing, knitting, crocheting or making crafts. Some projects can be completed at home if you are unavailable on Wednesdays. We are also looking for any Gourmet Goodies that you can make for us. Jellies, jams, cookie mixes, flavored popcorn, candy. Finished projects may be dropped off in the church office. Please place them in the box marked “Westminster Bazaar” which is located on the shelf above the coats, to the left in the FPC Office. You may also bring the items to Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays or arrange for pickup of items with Sandy Meenen. If you have any questions or would like to discuss what you might contribute, please contact Sandy Meenen at 610-366-1315 or smeenen@ptd.net.



MISSION



THE ALLENTOWN CROP WALK WAS A HUGE SUCCESS !

Sunday October 9 was a wonderful day for our community and the world! Over 340 walkers participated in the Allentown Crop Walk and raised over \$24,000 to help fight hunger. 25% of these funds will be used by the Lehigh County Conference of Churches for the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank and the Soup Kitchen. Included in this total was over \$4,250 raised by First Presbyterian walkers and envelope donations. A total of 70 walkers represented First Presbyterian, including 47 from our Youth Fellowships! The Middle School youth challenged the High School members to compete for the most funds for CROP and managed to come out on top by a few hundred dollars. The energy and caring of our youth and leaders was catching and helped to bring out the largest group of adult walkers in many years. Our youth even decorated custom CROP T-shirts that they wore proudly.

Thanks to everyone that contributed and supported the CROP Walk. Special thanks to our youth, advisors and their parents for the time and energy to provide transportation and keeping track of everyone !

BEING MISSIONAL - FOR THE SAKE OF THE GOSPEL AND FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD

When the Pharisees ask Jesus what is the greatest commandment, he answers, "You shall love the Lord you God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind [and] You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37-39) In other words, our relationship with each other is a reflection of our relationship with God. This connection is clear throughout scripture with exhortations to honor God in our treatment of each other. And it is this love, which is not limited by class, race, geography, or other divisions, that defines the Church.

The Mission of the Church is to share the Good News of the Gospel. As Christians we are called to profess that Jesus is Lord, not only with our tongues but by our actions and relationships. Mission can take many forms, including hospitality, understanding, generosity, and friendship, but it is always girded by love and grace. As we accept God's love and grace, we cannot help but to show that same love and grace to each other and to all people.

Mission at First Presbyterian Church is growing and is on the move. Many in our congregation have heard the call to invest themselves by loving others – in our church, in Allentown, and in the world. There is a great

variety of ways people are getting involved from helping out at Day Break, Roosevelt School and the Sixth Street Shelter here in Allentown to partnering with churches in the Middle East and villages in Africa. From cleaning up at Jordon Creek to sponsoring a missionary in Burma. The Spirit continues to move us in many ways, and it is always through love.

Mission is a two way street. The relationships that are formed impact all who are involved. It is not simply about volunteering for an afternoon or even a week and having a good feeling for having done something good. It is not simply about writing a check and then moving on. It is doing these things and being transformed by them. Mission is not something we do. Mission is who we are. All of us. It is the manifestation of God's love for us expressed in our love for each other. *For the Sake of the Gospel and for the Sake of the World.*



MISSION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W. PITTSTON, PA

The First Presbyterian Church of W. Pittston was heavily damaged during the recent flooding in September. Several of our members have traveled to W. Pittston to assist in the clean-up and repairs as part of the Helping Hands Care Team. Many members of our congregation have roots in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton area and are especially interested in helping this congregation. Our Mission Committee voted on October 6 to provide financial assistance by donating the loose plate offering from our communion services last September and also the upcoming November communion offering. A total of \$550.00 was received in September and we hope for an even larger amount in November. Please continue to pray for Pastor Jim Thyren, his wife Janet and their entire congregation as they struggle to repair their church. Please be generous with your communion service donations in November!

HOW MANY PEOPLE CAN FIT IN YOUR CAR?

Have you ever seen a comic routine where one person after another and another and many more just keep getting out of a teeny tiny car? It can be silly and fun. It could also be a lot of fun when you drive to church and fill the extra seats in your car with refugees who want to come to church. It's easy, too! You'll receive a weekly email of the people who need a ride and then you'll send an email if you can provide a ride.

Can you imagine what it's like to want to come to our church and not be able to attend because you don't have a way to get to Cedar Crest and Tilghman? There is a Burmese couple with a baby *who are members of our church* who want to attend, but need a ride from North 14th Street, Allentown.

There is also a single mom who was told about our church by other Burmese members and she would like to attend and bring her 10 year-old son. They live at 13th and Walnut Streets, Allentown. What a difference you can make in their lives! Fitting extra people in the comic car routine can be entertaining, but filling the seats in your car by taking refugees to church can bring genuine cheers!

Provide-A-Ride



FALL FAMILY FUN DAY

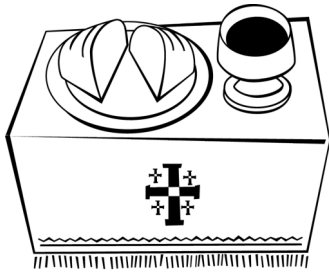
The Family, Younger Children and Tween Ministries of First Presbyterian Church would like to invite you to a Fall Family Fun Day at Seiple Farms in Bath, PA on Sunday, October 30 from 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. This is an event for the entire family! We will meet in Room 115 at our church at 1:30 p.m., make our way into separate vehicles and head up to Seiple's by 2:00 p.m. for an afternoon of fun! Admission and parking for the farm are free. There are several activities that are also free, but others that require a fee of \$3 to \$7 per person. Food vendors are on hand if you would like to purchase snacks or dinner. We will leave by 4:30 p.m. to make it back to the church by 5:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Noha Khoury, Director of Tween and Middle School Ministry, Ext. 43.



Hayrides Corn Mazes

ATTENTION PRE-KINDERGARTEN AND 3RD GRADE STUDENTS!

On October 30th we will be presenting our Pre-Kindergarten and 3rd grade students with Bibles in the 8:45 a.m. and 10:10 a.m. worship services. Parents, you will be getting a letter in the mail with more details about this. Please return the response form, that is included in that letter and also available in your child's Church School classroom, to your child's Church School teacher, or email Caley Oels at Caley.Oels@fpcallentown.org by October 16. If you have any questions, please call Lindsay Harren-Lewis in the church office at 610-396-3781, Ext. 15.

**WELCOMING CHILDREN TO THE LORD'S TABLE CLASS ON NOVEMBER 20TH**

Welcoming Children to the Lord's Table is our annual class to help first through fifth graders and parents better understand the meaning and significance of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. It will take place Sunday, November 20, from 2:00 - 4:30 p.m. A brochure with more details will be mailed to families of first through fifth graders who have not already participated in this class, and will also be available in the information kiosks around church and online. The registration deadline is Sunday November 6. Please contact Lindsay Harren-Lewis at the church office if you have any questions, 610-395-3781 ext. 15. We look forward to seeing you there!

PICK UP YOUR YOUTH SPIRIT CARDS

Stop by the Library from 9:45 - 10:30 a.m. Sunday mornings to get your Youth Spirit Cards. Find many gift card choices to purchase, from Giant and Weis/King grocery stores, Barnes & Noble, Kohl's and Macy's.

MUSIC MINISTRY**BRASS, ORGAN, AND TYMPANI MUSIC FOR OCTOBER 23**

On Sunday, October 23, there will be special music at both traditional services. For the prelude (8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.), there will be a Pennsylvania premier of an arrangement for organ, brass, and tympani of the Westminster de Carillon by Vierne. This popular organ work has been augmented by Ray Cornils of Portland, Maine, adding the brass and tympani parts. Also, at the 10:30 a.m. service, the anthem will be the Psalm 150 by Franck, for which brass and tympani parts have been added to the choral and organ arrangement.

INTERESTED IN SINGING IN THE CHRISTMAS JOY CONCERT?

If you would be interested in singing with any of our adult choirs as part of our "Christmas Joy Concert" on December 11 at 4:00 p.m., please contact Laura Rabenold about rehearsal times and starting dates as soon as possible. Rehearsal for this concert will be a part of regularly scheduled rehearsals for the Chancel Choir,


Christmas Joy

 CONCERT

Cantate Domino and Gospel Choir in October and November. Laura's email address is Laura.Rabenold@fpcallentown.org. The phone number at the church office is 610-395-3781, Ext. 17. This would be a great way to sing about the joy of Jesus' birth AND be a part of the music ministry at FPCA!



IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY (Parish #)

(as of 12:00 p.m. Tuesday)

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS are with those who have been hospitalized recently. So that we might keep each other in prayer, it is the custom of this congregation to publish hospitalizations unless requested not to do so. *At Lehigh Valley Hospital (1-78):* Peggy Bear (#19), Herb Gottschall, Jr.; *At Green Meadows Rehab:* Betty Dervarics (#13).

If you'd like to send cards or letters to those in the hospital, please contact Kathy Mammele, Director of Pastoral Care 610-395-3781, Ext. 39, Kathy.Mammele@fpcallentown.org.

HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL: Bee Schroeder (#17); Daniel Brown (#6).

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Ronya and Castor Ayala (#24) on the birth of their daughter, Kathryn Marisonia on October 9.

MILESTONES: Don and Janet Seagreaves (#24) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 14; Hannah Harwick (#40) is celebrating her 95th birthday on October 18.

SYMPATHY OF THE PASTORS AND CONGREGATION TO: Ron, Sheila, Adam, Sarabeth, and Caleb Clever (#18), Matt, Amber, and Trey Clever (#18), on the death of Gwynne Clever, father of Ron and grandfather of Matt, Adam, Sarabeth, and Caleb on October 17.

STAFF PRAYER LIST

On October 25, 2011 the staff will pray for the following members of our church family who comprise a PORTION of Parish #25. Coordinator is Bev Dries.

John Fry; Francis and Vicki Gehman; Jenifer, Marc, Samuel and Nathaniel Gilio; Doug, Sherry, Kallie and Danielle Hartman; Greg and Mary Jane Hayes; Ernie Hertzog; Bob, Joan, Jessica and Beth Kern; Mike and Doris Krasulak; Holly Krueger; Lori, Henry, Austin and Sierra Long.

On November 1, 2011 the staff will pray for the following members of our church family who comprise a PORTION of Parish #25. Coordinator is Bev Dries.

Barbara Mack; Steve, Sherry, Laura, Emily and Michael May; Jim, Michelle, Shannon and Erin McGowan; Jan and Matthew Prusack; Rob Schilling; Sharon, Larry, Stephen, Gary and Jimmy Schrantz; John and Mary Ellen Speer; Dave, Marijo, Rebecca, Anna and Chris Taylor; Marti White and Matt Scott; Alex, Kelly, Ryan and John Woltornist.



THE THESBYTERIANS PRESENT: "THE FOREIGNER"

Tickets are now available for this year's show! You can choose to attend the Dinner & Show or just come and enjoy the show with friends & family in Fellowship Hall. This year's production runs from Thursday, November 17th to Saturday November 19th. Stop by to meet us in the Atrium on October 30th and November 6th to purchase your tickets directly from a thespian. **Ticket Order Forms are also available** in the church office and at www.fpcallentown.org.

The form indicates the entrée for each night. *Please note that Saturday's dinner is at a different time. SEE PAGE 2 for more information about the play and help needed.*

Sunday, October 23**Stewardship Sunday**

- 8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:00 a.m. Church School (All Ages)
- 10:00 a.m. Arabic Language Worship
- 10:10 a.m. Alternative Worship
- Second Hour Adult Classes
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Small Group Leader Training
- 12:00 p.m. Day of Dialogue
- 1:00 p.m. Thesbyterian Rehearsal
- 4:00 p.m. Cantate Domino
- Small Group Leader Training
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Middle School & High School Fellowships
- 6:30 p.m. Marriage Seminar

Monday, October 24

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
- 11:30 a.m. Weekday Preschool Lunch Bunch
- 5:30 p.m. Yoga Class
- 6:30 p.m. Jr. Girl Scout Troop #611
- 7:00 p.m. Monday Night Serenity (Al-Anon)
- Small Group Leader Training
- 7:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous
- Worship Committee

Tuesday, October 25

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
- 9:15 a.m. Pastoral Care Staff
- 10:15 a.m. Ministry Staff Gathering
- 2:00 p.m. Medicare 2012 Workshop
- 4:15 p.m. Youth Club
- 5:30 p.m. ESL Class
- Tuesday Night Together
- 7:00 p.m. Ancient Future Faith
- Thesbyterian Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. The Book Lovers Group
- Tuesday Night Together

Wednesday, October 26

- 6:45 a.m. Men's Discipleship Group
- 9:00 a.m. Sewing & Quilting
- Weekday Preschool
- 9:15 a.m. Parents Morning Co-Op
- 9:30 a.m. Belles
- 10:00 a.m. Craft Group
- Simply Christian Seminar
- Spiritual Formation Staff
- 11:30 a.m. Autumn Gospel Group
- 5:00 p.m. Small Group Leader Training
- 6:30 p.m. Brownie G.S. Troop #6232
- 6:45 p.m. Session
- 7:00 p.m. DBSA
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Men's Bible Study

Thursday, October 27

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
- 10:00 a.m. Medicare 2012 Workshop
- 4:30 p.m. Jr. Bells

Thursday, October 27 (cont.)

- 5:00 p.m. 10:10 Band Setup & Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. ESL
- 6:30 p.m. Brownie G.S. Troop #6214
- Handbells
- 7:00 p.m. Thesbyterian Rehearsal
- Al-Anon
- Caron Parent Support
- Boy Scout Troop #107
- Family to Family
- Stephen Ministry
- 7:30 p.m. Adult Handbells
- 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

Friday, October 28

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
- 9:15 a.m. Women's Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Middle School Corn Maze & Lock-In

Saturday, October 29

- 7:30 a.m. Saturday Men's Group
- 8:30 a.m. College of Elders

Sunday, October 30**All Saints Day**

- Presentation of Bibles to Pre-K and Third Graders
- 8:15 a.m. New Members Meet with Session
- 8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:00 a.m. Church School (All Ages)
- 10:00 a.m. Arabic Language Worship
- 10:10 a.m. Alternative Worship
- Second Hour Adult Classes
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Thesbyterian Rehearsal
- 1:30 p.m. Fall Family Fun Day
- 4:00 p.m. Gospel Choir
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. High School Fellowship
- 6:30 p.m. Marriage Seminar

Monday, October 31

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
- 11:30 a.m. Weekday Preschool Lunch Bunch
- 5:30 p.m. Yoga Class
- 6:30 p.m. Jr. Girl Scout Troop #611
- 7:00 p.m. Monday Night Serenity (Al-Anon)
- 7:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

Tuesday, November 1

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
- 9:15 a.m. Pastoral Care Staff
- 10:15 a.m. Ministry Staff Gathering
- 12:00 p.m. Shawl Knitting Ministry
- 4:15 p.m. Youth Club
- 5:30 p.m. Tuesday Night Together
- ESL Class
- 6:00 p.m. ADFL - Judge Training
- 6:30 p.m. DBSA Board Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Ancient Future Faith
- Thesbyterian Rehearsal
- Safe Sanctuaries Committee
- 7:30 p.m. Tuesday Night Together

Wednesday, November 2

- 6:45 a.m. Men's Discipleship Group
- 9:00 a.m. Sewing & Quilting
- Weekday Preschool
- 9:15 a.m. Parents' Morning Co-op
- 9:30 a.m. Belles
- 10:00 a.m. Craft Group
- Simply Christian Seminar
- 10:30 a.m. Literacy Council
- 11:30 a.m. Autumn Gospel Group
- 4:00 p.m. Worship Planning Team
- 6:00 p.m. Supper & Song - Chancel Choir
- 6:30 p.m. Daisy G.S. Troop #6027
- Brownie G.S. Troop #6232
- 7:00 p.m. Preschool Parent's Night
- DBSA
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Men's Bible Study

Thursday, November 3

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
- 4:30 p.m. Jr. Bells
- 5:00 p.m. 10:10 Band Set-up & Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. ESL Class
- 6:00 p.m. Daisy #6051
- 6:30 p.m. Handbells
- Brownie G.S. Troop #6214
- 7:00 p.m. Caron Parent Support
- Al-Anon
- Boy Scout Troop #107
- Family to Family
- 7:30 p.m. Mission Committee
- Adult Handbells
- 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

Friday, November 4

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
- 9:15 a.m. Women's Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. High School Retreat Begins
- 7:00 p.m. First Friday for Tweens
- Arabic Women's Bible Study

Sunday, November 6**Communion Sunday**

- Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:00 a.m. Church School (All Ages)
- 10:00 a.m. Arabic Language Worship
- 10:10 a.m. Alternative Worship
- Second Hour Adult Classes
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Refugee Tutoring Seminar
- 1:00 p.m. Thesbyterian Rehearsal
- 2:00 p.m. High School Retreat Returns
- 4:00 p.m. Gospel Choir
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Middle School Fellowship
- 6:30 p.m. Marriage Seminar

THIS SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

October 23, 2011

Stewardship Sunday

8:45 a.m., 10:10 a.m., 10:30 a.m. services

Rev. Dr. Tony Sundermeier

Sermon: "Worship and the Thankful Life"

Scripture: Psalm 30

8:45 Music: Covenant Brass

10:10 Music: 10:10 Worship Band

10:30 Music: Chancel Choir, Choristers

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

October 30 2011

8:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services

Dr. John Franke

10:10 a.m. service

Rev. Dr. Tony Sundermeier

Sermon: "Worship and the Sainly Life"

Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

8:45 Music: Cantate Domino

10:10 Music: 10:10 Worship Band

10:30 Music: Youth Choir

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS

Ushers – October 23:

8:45 a.m. - *Chris Laevey, Captain*; Linda Boyle; Sara Cooper; Bill & Rosemary Gulliver; Bob Keller; Rich Laliberte; Ann Lalik; Al & Marty Maffeo; Mark Monahan; Gail Parry; Dave & Peg Reese; Paul & Sally Vikner.

10:30 a.m. - *Chuck Hess, Captain*; Bob & Carol Chisdak; Peggy, Kelly & Kyle Gonnoude; Kelly, Chad, Lauren & Ashley Hess; Jill Krum; Margaret Leinweber; Marge Parker; Sonya & Todd Siegfried; Bill White.

Ushers – October 30:

8:45 a.m. - *Judy Walck, Captain*; Harold Batdorf; Robert Bungerz; Donna Pidcock; Matt Scott; Mary Jane Smith; Gayle Toselli; Ken Weiss; Marti White; Gail Wotring; Debbie and David Caccese.

10:30 a.m. - *Linda Clemens, Captain*; Bruce Ahlum; Sharon Alexander; Kevin, Chris & Noelle Boucher; Larry Clemens; Loretta Johnson; Jill & Laurel Kearney; Bob Klein; Mike Lentz; Josh & Nathan Luey; Salma Moussa; Nancy Smith; Jeanne Stone.

Office Volunteers

October 23: Mary Fruend (8:00); Carol Miller (10:00)

October 30: Emily Schneider (8:00); Diane Montouri (10:00)

Dial-A-Ride Volunteers

October 23: George and Sharon Baker

October 30: Ruth Marcon

Audio Room Volunteers

October 23: Joe Cavote (8:45); Mark Simmons (10:30)

October 30: Jim Henry (8:45); Dan Shoemaker (10:30)

Advent and Christmas are Coming...

How will you celebrate them
this year in ways that honor
God's gift of Jesus Christ?

Join A Fall Small Group Study

Small groups will meet once a week for four weeks beginning the week of October 30. Each small group will decide whether to have their final session the week of Thanksgiving or wait until the following week.

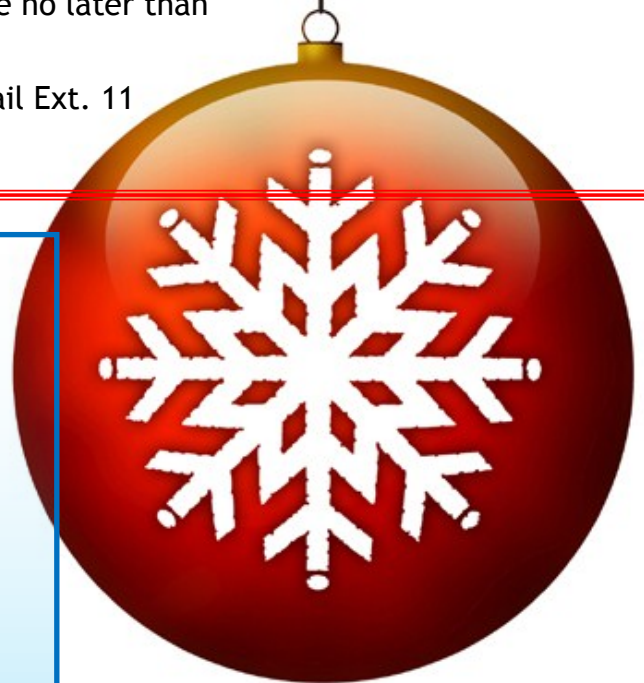
A list of small group leaders, meeting locations, date and times is listed on the back of this flyer. Select the one that works best for you and reserve your place by contacting Caley Oels at the church office no later than Sunday, October 23.

caley.oels@fpcallentown.org 610-395-3781, Voice Mail Ext. 11

Before falling into our usual patterns of preparation for Christmas this year, you are invited to join a Fall Small Group Study to consider ways of making Advent and Christmas 2011 more meaningful and faithful in your life and spiritual formation.

Using the book, "Advent Conspiracy: Can Christmas Still Change the World?" we will consider substituting consumption with compassion by practicing four simple, but powerful, countercultural concepts:

- WORSHIP FULLY** *because Christmas begins and ends with Jesus!*
- SPEND LESS** *and free your resources for things that truly matter.*
- GIVE MORE** *of your presence: your hands, your words, your time, your heart*
- LOVE ALL** *the poor, the forgotten, the marginalized, the sick, in ways that make a difference.*



First Presbyterian Church
3231 W. Tilghman Street
Allentown, PA 18104
610-395-3781
www.fpcallentown.org

<u>DAY/TIME</u>	<u>HOST/LOCATION</u>	<u>FACILITATOR</u>	<u>SPECIFIC GROUP</u>
<u>MONDAYS</u>			
10:00-11:30am	Hilda & Steve Lauber Allentown, 18103	Gabriel Tuttle	
7:00-8:30pm	Afaf & Moufid Khoury Whitehall, 18052	Afaf & Moufid Khoury	<i>English-Arabic</i>
7:00-8:30pm	Jane & Sam Long Slatington, 18080 (20 min. north of FPCA)	Bryan Groff	
7:15-8:45pm	Gwen & Mike Loomis Allentown, 18104	Gwen & Mike Loomis	<i>For High Schoolers</i>
7:30-9:00pm	Erica & Mark Simmons Allentown, 18104	Jenney & Phil Henderson	
<u>TUESDAYS</u>			
9:30-11:00am	Christine McConnell Allentown, 18106	Christine McConnell	
7:00-8:30pm	At church Allentown, 18104	Allyssa Miller	<i>For College Aged 18-22 years old</i>
7:00-8:30pm	At church Allentown, 18104	Shannan Ott	<i>For Young Adults 23-35 years old</i>
7:00-8:30pm	Bert & Penny Harries Emmaus, 18049	Bert & Penny Harries	
7:00-8:30pm	Doug & Sherry Hartman Emmaus, 18049	Katie & Tony Sundermeier	
7:00-8:30pm	Marlene Merz Allentown, 18104	Stephen Emick	
<u>WEDNESDAYS</u>			
7:00-8:30pm	At church Allentown, 18104	Jeremy Campbell	
7:00-8:30pm	Jen Boyer Allentown, 18104	Bob & Millie Miller	
<u>THURSDAYS</u>			
7:00-8:30pm	Kathleen & Pete Dent Allentown, 18102	Kathleen & Pete Dent	
7:00-8:30pm	Judy Walck Allentown, 18104	Lindsay Harren-Lewis	
<u>FRIDAYS</u>			
7:00-8:30pm	Marsha & Martin Heimann Allentown, 18104	Jill Kearney	
7:00-8:30pm	Joe & Suzanne Toto Macungie, 18062	Kevin & Rhonda Heier	
<u>SATURDAYS</u>			
10:30am-12noon	Rob & Suzanne Wertz, Emmaus Emmaus, 18049	Noha Khoury	<i>For Middle Schoolers</i>

NOMINEES FOR CHURCH OFFICERS

The 2011 Nominating Committee will place the following members in nomination to be elected as church officers at the Congregational Meeting taking place Sunday, October 30, at the conclusion of the 10:30 a.m. traditional worship service in the sanctuary.

NOMINEES FOR ELDER

Ethel Drayton-Craig - joined our church in November, 2010 and has served on the Alternative Worship Discovery Team. Ethel bakes bread for our communion services and serves on the Long Range Planning Committee. She was a member of Siloam Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, NY where she was ordained as an Elder in 1988. After years in both corporate and educational settings, Ethel now is an inspirational mentor, speaker, author, blogger, and newsletter publisher. She has and continues to serve on numerous non-profit boards in the Lehigh Valley. Her son, Asa, is a recent college graduate, and now resides in New York where he is employed.

Rick Ensley – is married to Karen and has 3 daughters: Rebecca; Jennifer married to Stephen Kareha; and Kristin; and has 2 granddaughters, Savannah (3) and Jocelyn (2). A member of our church since around 1986, Rick currently is a Confirmation Class and High School Fellowship adviser. He is completing his first term on the Session and serves on the Staff Committee. When not at church, Rick enjoys traveling with his wife and many aspects of outdoor activities. He is employed by the City of Allentown as a firefighter.

John Ford - joined our church in 2000 shortly after coming to the Lehigh Valley. He is completing his first term on the Session and teaches 8th grade Church School, volunteers in Youth Club and Vacation Bible School, and is Co-Chair of the Mission Committee. He has two children: Alden, age 10, and Jaylyn, age 8. He works as an Orientation and Mobility Specialist for Berks County Intermediate Unit.

Dan Leiby - was baptized at our church as an infant and has been a member here his whole life. Dan is active in our church's youth ministries – especially in the Youth Choir and High School Fellowship. He works at Willow Tree Grove and enjoys playing baseball or hanging out with friends. Dan is a junior at Parkland High school and is active in many school clubs including Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Sam Moussa – is married to Salma and has two children, Youssef and Sarah. A 20 year member of our church, he has served as a Deacon, member of the Mission Study Task Force, and the most recent Pastor Nominating Committee. He is completing his first term on the Session and he chairs the Multicultural Committee. Sam is a member of the Long Range Planning Committee, an Elder Commissioner to Lehigh Presbytery, and one of our High School Church School teachers. He serves on the General Assembly's National Middle Eastern Presbyterian Caucus and is vice-chair of its Nominating Committee. From 1982-2010 he worked in the civil and mechanical engineering field.

Bruce Rodenberger – is married to Sally and they are the parents of five children and have 15 grandchildren. He was first elected an Elder in 1960 at Tabernacle Presbyterian/United Church of Christ Church on the University of PA campus. He is completing his first term of service on our Session. A retired obstetrician gynecologist, Bruce worked at Penn and the Navaho Indian Reservation at Shiprock, New Mexico before coming to the Lehigh Valley.

Sonya Siegfried - a native West Virginia, she and her husband, Todd, recently celebrated their 22 wedding anniversary. A 12 year member of our church, she has served on the Mission Committee, Westminster Village Campaign Committee, and Board of Trustees. She is an usher, assistant communion coordinator, member of the Worship Committee and newly formed Gospel Choir. A licensed funeral director for 25 years, she is the General Manager of the J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home. Sonya is on the Board of the Lehigh County Conference of Churches, is 2nd Vice President of the Board of the Lehigh County Historical Society and co-chair of the Volunteer Committee for the 250th Celebration of the City of Allentown.

Kristi Parcel-Smith - a life-long member of our church, she recently served on the Spiritual Formation Vision Team and now serves as the Vision Work Group leader on the new Spiritual Formation Team. Kristi also serves on the Wee Worship Committee and has taught 7th grade Church School. She has been married to Adam for six years and they are parents of 3 year-old twin boys. Kristi and her mom, Kathy, work together as a mother-daughter team at RE/MAX real estate.

NOMINEES FOR CHURCH OFFICERS (CONT.)

Alice Stinebaugh - and her husband Doug are the parents of two college students, Katie and Dan. She and her family have been members of First Presbyterian Church since moving here from Macon, Georgia in 1995. Alice served one term on the Session shortly after joining the church. She is an economics teacher at Parkland High School and at Penn State Lehigh Valley. Alice enjoys running and is active in the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Van Nei Thang - is a refugee from Burma (Myanmar) and arrived in the United States in July 2007. He became a member of our church shortly after that date. His wife Sui Thang still resides in Rangoon, unable to leave because of dangerous conditions, however Van Nei is hopeful she can soon be cleared for immigration. Van Nei works for the Nazareth Pallet Company. He has been a leader of the Burmese refugee community, both in the Lehigh Valley and in our church. He resides in a home he recently purchased in East Allentown and is completing an unexpired term on the Session.

NOMINEES FOR DEACON

Nora Bell – was born in White Plains, NY, and was christened at Greenburgh Dutch Reformed Church in Scarsdale, NY. Nora graduated from high school in Scotch Plains, NJ, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from New Jersey College for Women (Rutgers University) and a master of education degree from Rutgers. A widow since 2009, Nora has four children. She joined our church around 1957 and currently serves as a Stephen Minister.

Larry Clemens - is married to Linda and they have two grown children, Laurel and Lee, and 11 month old twin grandsons. A member of our church for 35 years, he has served on several usher teams, taught 8th grade Church School for 17 years, served several terms on the Youth Ministry Committee and currently is a member on the 8th Grade Curriculum Committee and the Long Range Planning Team. For fun, Larry enjoys several outdoor activities such as fishing, mountain biking and hiking.

Alan Cooper – lives in Macungie with his wife, Jami, and daughter, Grace (age 20 months). The Coopers have been members of our church for 12 years. Alan and Jami have enjoyed teaching Kindergarten Church School for six years. Alan is a Lead Research Chemist at Air Products and Chemicals and enjoys music and the great outdoors (hiking, mountain biking, etc.).

Allison Emick - has been a member of our church her whole life. She is a junior at Whitehall High School where she is a member of the swim team, Chorale, Gospel and Concert Choirs, and theatre and musical productions. At church she participates in Church School, youth fellowship, workcamps, Mission Mornings, Youth Choir Tours, sings in the Youth and Gospel Choirs, rings in the Handbell Choir, and serves as an usher. Her parents are Barbara and Stephen and she has a sister, Emily.

Becky Ensley - has been an active member of our church for almost thirty years. Her parents, sister, grandparents, aunt and uncle are also members of our church. She participates in the Chancel Choir, Gospel Choir, and Handbell Choir. She is involved in the Refugee Ministry as a tutor, ESL Church School class teacher, and a member of the Refugee Program's Steering Committee. Becky recently graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Youth Ministry.

Jim Guill - and his wife Pam have been members of our church for 15 years. He is the father of 3 grown children (2 boys and a girl) and the grandfather of an active 2 1/2 yr. old girl. Jim has served the church as a Confirmation Class Adviser, Sponsor and usher team captain. He works in business development at Deloitte and in his off time enjoys golf and college basketball. Jim is completing his first term of service on the Board of Deacons.

Kevin Heier - has been a member of our church for ten years. He lives in Lower Macungie with his wife, Rhonda, and children, Lena (10) and Brett (5). He has worked for Air Products for thirteen years since completing his Ph.D. in Chemistry from Northwestern University. Kevin and Rhonda are native Nebraskans and met at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. They are enjoying all the new ‘friendly’ rivalries that have surfaced since Nebraska joined the Big 10 conference. Kevin has been a deacon for three years, and has served on several church committees over the years.

Tina Luey – has been married to Josh for almost 12 years and they have 2 boys, Nathan (7th grade) and Nick (4th grade). While only a member of our church this past year, she has been attending since 2004. Tina has been involved in the life of our church in Church School, Wee Worship, Youth Club, Vacation Bible School, and Women's Bible Study.

(Continued)

NOMINEES FOR CHURCH OFFICERS (CONT.)

During the day, she is a guidance counselor at Bangor Area High School as well as Head Coach for a local summer swim team. By night, she enjoys helping with her boys' activities, including Scouts and sports programs.

Mary Newbegin - has been an active member of our church since 1995. She has volunteered in a variety of capacities: as a Sunday school teacher, Vacation Bible School leader and as a member of the Refugee Steering Committee. She is married to Richard, and their children, Alex and Will, sing in our Youth Choir. When not working at home or at church, Mary teaches at Lehigh University. She enjoys painting, reading and gardening in her spare time.

Dom Pascarella – has been married for 40 years and has 2 daughters and 5 grandchildren. He has been a member of our church for a little over 3 years. Dom had been a member of Marble Collegiate Church in New York City and worked closely with Dr. Norman Vincent Peale for over 20 years. Dom sees his mission as extending the walls of the church using technology including live service broadcast via television and radio, and distribution of video and audio recordings. He is retired and spends a lot of time with his grandchildren. He is also a lover of grand opera and attempts to listen at home as time permits.

Emily Schneider - has been a member of our church for 6 years and is completing her first term as a Deacon, serving this year as Secretary. She serves as a Sunday Morning Office Volunteer, usher, flower deliverer, and member of a 10:10 Hospitality Team. She also enjoys the fellowship of the Shawl Knitting Ministry and the Book Lovers Group. Emily is the Executive Assistant to the Provost and Dean of the Faculty at Lafayette College where she has worked for 21 years. She and Randy have been married for 26 years. Emily keeps busy by gardening, quilting, reading, knitting, and volunteering at Allentown's Civic Theatre.

Dale Smith - raised in the Lutheran tradition, Dale has been a member of our congregation since February 2005. He participated in the March 2005 Katrina Mission Trip, has been active in the Men's Discipleship Group, and recently joined the Gospel Choir. While Dale ponders his encore career, he is currently working as a services solution specialist at Telerx in Horsham, PA. Dale and his wife Elaine, who is a Stephen Minister at our church, live in New Jersey near Dale's two sons and their four grandchildren.

NOMINEES FOR TRUSTEE

Michael Cox - and his wife, Susan, have been members of our church for 20 some years. They have two daughters: Alyson who is married to David Lindsay and are parents of Evelyn, and Lindsay who now resides in Richmond VA. Michael has served previously as a Trustee for two terms about ten years ago. When his daughters were younger, he and Susan were active in Youth Club. Michael works in Bethlehem as the director of two private foundations. In his free time he likes to read, sail, fish, and, best of all, play with his granddaughter.

Bruce Davis - joined our church some 7 years ago. His wife, Barbara, has been a long standing member and a former Trustee. Bruce first joined the Presbyterian Church in 1953 in his hometown of Fairmont, West Virginia and has since been a member of Presbyterian churches in several states. He was an officer of Bethlehem Steel for 22 years, resigning in 1985 to form a private law firm in Bethlehem. Bruce has served one term as Trustee and currently serves as Chair of our church's Planned Giving Committee.

David Haight - grew up in a Presbyterian church in Northern New Jersey and joined our church in 2003. He has over 20 years experience working with faith-based non-profits from the YMCA, to higher education, to most recently the Presbyterian Foundation. David currently works for Merrill Lynch as a Financial Advisor. He holds an undergraduate degree and secondary education teaching certificate from Muhlenberg College and an M.P.A. (Master in Non-profit/ Public Administration) from New York University. He resides in Lower Macungie with his wife Susan and their son John where he volunteers with the local fire department as the rescue captain.

Linda Henry - and her husband Jim have been members of our church for 37 years. They have three children and one grandchild. Linda has been a Deacon and an Elder and is currently serving as a Trustee. She spent many years as Treasurer of the Women's Association. She presently spends time volunteering at Westminster Village.

Ann Lalik - and her husband John have been members of our church for 23 years. They have two sons Alexander and Nicholas. As an artist, educator and arts advocate Ann serves on a number of Lehigh Valley community boards and committees that support art and education. She teaches metalsmithing and is the Gallery Director and Arts Coordinator at Penn State Lehigh Valley. Ann has served as a Trustee at our church from 2009 through 2011.

NOMINEES FOR CHURCH OFFICERS (CONT.)

Marlene Merz – our church has been her church family for 44 years where she has served on the Session, Board of Trustees, as a youth advisor, Confirmation Class Advisor, leader on work camps, mission trips, participated in church plays and currently sings in three of our choirs. She is blessed with four happy and healthy married sons and ten grandchildren! Marlene works at Crisis Intervention and with the Lehigh Community Mental Health Center. Movies and art projects are her hobbies.

Jane Townsend - is married to Bill, and they have three grown children, sons who reside in Maryland, Oregon and a daughter in the Lehigh Valley. Jane enjoys spending time with their two grandsons. She has been a member of our church for 35 years and has enjoyed serving as a Trustee, Deacon, and on several committees and is a member of Horizons. A registered dietitian, currently retired, she now finds time for reading, travelling, hiking, and gardening.

NOMINEES FOR AT LARGE MEMBERS OF THE 2012 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Georgia Baldrige - is married to Dr. Ed Baldrige and has been a member of our church for over 50 years. She has served as a Church School teacher, Deacon, Elder, and Trustee. She currently volunteers as a receptionist in the church office. Georgia and Ed currently reside at Luther Crest and have three sons who live out of the area, 6 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Nick Ferrera – is currently in college pursuing a degree in Engineering Technology part time at Lehigh County Community College and Temple University. He works part time at Radio Shack in the Lehigh Valley Mall. Nick has been a member of our church his entire life and was actively involved in our youth ministry as a youth. This past summer he worked as one of the Middle School Summer Interns and currently serves as a Confirmation Class Adviser and High School Fellowship Adviser.

Chuck Hess – has been married to Kelly for 21 years and they have three children, Chad, Lauren and Ashley. Chuck has been a member of our church since 2000 and has served as a Deacon, Usher Team Captain, Church School teacher, and as a member of the Alternative Worship Discovery Team. Self-employed in the roofing contracting business, Chuck coaches JV soccer and a U11 travel team and enjoys golfing with his son.

Mike Loomis - and his wife Gwen have 2 children and 4 grandchildren. They have been members of this church for more than 8 years. Mike has served as a Trustee, on the Mission Study Task Force and on the most recent Pastor Nominating Committee. He is currently a member of the Leadership Work Group of the Spiritual Formation Team. Mike spends his spare time preparing to lead a Church School class and four weekly Bible study groups.

Kline Pepper - has been a member of our church since 1997. He has been active in our church choirs since joining and currently sings with Cantate Domino. Kline was a member of the 7th grade Church School teaching team for several years and was a member of the Board of Trustees for 6 years. Kline is married to Julie Pepper and has four children and 4 grandchildren. Kline has been employed by Air Products & Chemicals for over 35 years where he is a Global Operations Support Manager.

2011 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Tom Myers, *Chairperson*

George Baker, *Vice Chairperson*

Dave Dunbar

Kevin Heier

Wafaa Khoury

Chuck Meetsma

Erica Simmons

Jessica Toto

Bill White