

SCARBOROUGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

www.scarboroughchurch.org

Articles Invited from Members & Friends

January 2009

Rev. Timothy Ives, Pastor
Mr. Kenneth Potter, Choir Director & Organist
Mrs. Barbara Devir, Commissioned Lay Pastor
Ms. Florence Fletcher, Office Administrator
Mrs. Katya Montelbano, Director Children's Center

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SPChildren's Center (914)941-0025
SPCC e-mail: spchildrenscenter@yahoo.com

WORSHIP CALENDAR

10:30am Worship

Communion 1st Sunday of the Month.
Childcare provided for 1st grade + younger

- Dec 31 11:30 New Year Vesper Service
Jan 1st 12:00 *New Year's Celebration*
- Jan. 4 **Epiphany**
 Communion
 Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12
- Jan 11 **Baptism**
 Genesis 1:1-5; Mark 1: 4-11
 4:00 *Choral Arts Society Concert & Reception*
- Jan. 18 **Guest Speaker**
 Rev. Ray Bagnuolo
- Jan. 19th 7:30 *Martin Luther King, Jr. Service*
 First Presbyterian Church in Ossining
- Jan 25 **Repentance**
 Jonah 3:1-5; Mark 1:14-20
 Membership Inquires Lunch
- Feb. 1 *Communion*
 New Members Reception
 Souper Bowl Sunday

Reminder...The Annual Congregational Meeting is coming up in February. Committee reports need to be e-mailed to the office in order to be included in the 2008 Annual Report.

Looking Ahead

Feb. 8th 5-10 **New Orleans Mission Trip
Fundraiser**

From the Pastor's Pen....

Happy New Day

"Behold the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them." -Isaiah 42:9

"Imagination is more important than information."

-Albert Einstein

We arrive again at the day of reckoning. Another year marked off the calendar and another year coming. There is a year of experience that has come our way. A very precious amount of time never to return and gone too quickly. I am actually astounded at the pace of time these days. I was listening to the radio the other day on my way home from somewhere and a song from way back in the seventies came on. I got to thinking about that decade. It contained my time in high school and college. I went through all kinds of changes in those years and so when I think of that slot of time it seems like a very long time (really a lifetime) but it was only ten years. That is how long Abbie has been on this earth but it seems to me that she was born the day before yesterday. Time plays tricks on us and then it slips out under the back door as if it never arrived. So when the year changes it is worth trying to get some perspective on where it is all going.

We find ourselves at a precarious point in history. I don't remember a time when there was more bad news. That is a trick also because there have been more precarious moments in my lifetime but this one is exacerbated by the fact that we have a 24 hour news cycle and everything is reported completely. And that might be part of the problem. Bad news creates a certain amount of anxiety but when that bad news is examined and repeated and analyzed it does not dissipate anxiety. It can actually intensify it. This is especially true if bad news does sell newspapers (as the old adage goes). Ed Friedman (whom I quote often) thought of the news media as reflectors of the anxiety that the society felt and so intensifiers of that anxiety. This is so much so that anxiety becomes chronic and then just gloms onto whatever issue comes along. So we trundle

along always anxious waiting for the next wave of bad news. It has certainly seemed that way for us for the last year or so. What is worse is that there does not seem to be a solution. The bailout did not solve the fiscal crisis. The wars did not solve the terrorism problem. All the scary stuff that was there is still there.

So as the New Year dawns what do we do? How can any of us live in such a precarious time? I think it is time to contemplate the sunrise. Look at the sky. Breathe in deeply and appreciate the beating of one's own heart. Life is full of shining examples of God's handiwork. There is not anything we do to make the sun come up but it does so time and again. There is nothing we do to keep our hearts beating but they do. Nothing we do creates this lovely world around us and yet it is here all the time. It is time for a little faith in the eternal processes and our eternal God. These times like others are not the end but the beginning. That is why I like to not think so much about the New Year. That is arbitrary. It is a day in the year and really signifies nothing. I like to remember each new day. Days come around again and again. You can believe in days because they are so constant. God is here daily no matter the news. God stays with us continually no matter how scared we might be. There is good news every day if we would just take time to see it.

So Happy New Day! It is the gift that God has given us now and nothing can change that. See you in church I hope.

Tim

In the wings

In the wings
 Seeing the pageant in profile
 Stilling the energetic whispering
 Shuffling props
 Leaning on the wall
 Listening to the children's choir
 Checking the script for what's next
 Wading through the kids
 Exiting stage left
 To attach a microphone
 To the Angel of the Lord
 In the wings
 On the wings of voices singing
 Familiar carols in a renewing way
 Touching the place where
 Christmas abides
 Looking at the world through
 The smile of a child
 Repeating memorized lines
 As scenes rush by
 In the wings

*poem by Joel Cambron
 reflection on 2008
 Christmas Pageant*

Reminder:

All submissions for the Newsletter must be received in the office no later than the 20th of each month to insure timely mailings. *Thank You.*

WORSHIP SUPPORT TEAMS

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Coffee Hour Host</u>
1/4/09	Peter Chapman Lisa Pavlik		Karen D'Atto
1/11	Joel Cambron Lucy Milne	Will Ingraham	Catherine Savell Christine Suess
1/18	Tom Davis Karin Chaudhari	Patty Chapman	Susan Burlazzi Patricia Wolff
1/25	Gene Croft Arthur McKinkley	Tom Davis	Signe Seelinger Doris Anglin
2/1	Don Copans Debbie Wenninger	Joel Cambron	Danielle Reilly Sandy Beach
2/8	John Codman Terri Zuckerberg	Arthur McKinley	Debbie Wenninger Barbara Cody
2/15	Ed Payne Beth Henriques	Lucy Milne	Linnea Carnes Jocelyn Fontana
2/22	Connie Curran Jay Sutterlin	Bob Pierce	Meegan H-Ramos Rachael Longo
3/1	John Codman Andy McMains	Jim Simmons	Terri Zuckerberg Jan Waldo

We need volunteers. If you are unable to serve on the assigned dates, please arrange for a substitute and/or call the office; you will receive a reminder call the week prior to your date of service. Guidesheets are posted at the Pastor's Study and Kitchenette. Thank you, in advance, for your willingness to serve in this way.

NEWS FROM THE SCARBOROUGH PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN'S CENTER

On Wednesday, December 17th, we had a special reading of the holiday classic "The Polar Express". Our guest reader was Pastor Tim Ives. The entire school gathered in the Big Room for the story event. There was much discussion amongst the children about parts of the book and from those familiar with the story or movie. Thank you to Tim for sharing this wonderful story with us.



The children have been preparing for our Holiday Sing-a-Long scheduled for December 19th. Everyone was sad when the weather made us postpone it. It will be held on January 9th at 10:30am instead. The school will be closed for our Holiday Break from Monday, December 22nd through Friday, January 2nd, 2009. School will re-open on Monday, January 5th, 2009.

Our Winter/Spring Enrichment Classes begin on Tuesday, January 13th. We will have Recycled Art on Tuesdays, Cooking on Wednesdays, Science & Sensory on Thursdays, and Sports & Games on Fridays. Spaces are still available.

Registration for the 2009 - 2010 School Year is still going on. Spaces are still available in our Tuesday/Thursday morning 2's class, our morning 3's class, and both afternoon (Tuesday - Friday) classes for 3's & 4's.

We would like to thank everyone who made purchases at our Scholastic Book Fair. Due to your generosity this event raised approximately \$500 for our program.

The parents and staff at SPCC held a Giving Drive for the Open Door Organization in December. We collected many much needed items. Thank you to everyone that participated. The children were very proud to be giving to others in need.

As a reminder, SPCC is a totally nut-free environment. Please do not bring any nut products onto school premises. This includes Fellowship Hall, the kitchen and the playground. We have children that attend our program that have severe nut allergies that are life threatening. Your help in keeping our children safe is greatly appreciated.

As the Year 2008 comes to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every family a happy, healthy holiday season! May 2009 be a year filled with peace, good health and much happiness for all! We look forward to a great rest of the school year together! Thank you!

With warmest wishes,

Katya Montelbano & the SPCC Staff

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

On December 28th we celebrated the **baptism** of **Matthew Samuel Dilcer**, son of new members Michele and Samuel Dilcer, born on June 3, 2008. Deborah and Eric Anttila serve as godparents.

Anxiety, Fear and Guilt --- a Luxury or a Calling? (a response to a friend)

Anxiety, fear and guilt, I believe, are God's calling to us to return back home to where we belong.

In and of their own, anxiety, fear, and guilt are meaningless; but as a call they remind us of our sins, where we have strayed away, and how we have separated from God.

Yet we do not heed the call, we rather walk around with these, sometimes all consuming, negative feelings; distracting ourselves, finding ever so creative and sophisticated ways of explaining them away, rationalizing and coping with life; we put our faith in our own abilities, and we are often proud of it, not embracing with Gratitude the Fullness of the Life God wants for us.

God came to the world to reconcile the world to Him --- the heart of Christianity.

To my friend my answer is: to respond to anxiety, fear, and guilt is not a luxury. To not respond, I believe, is a rejection of God's gift of Call to us. A gift of Hope for Reconciliation and Healing.

Blessings and Peace,
Karin Chaudhari

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1- Julia Catherine Meudt
5- Michele Croft
6-Madeline McKinley
7-Jim Knox
10-Samuel Dilcer
11-Lisa Cerny
14-Alex D Attore
15-Ashley Quintero (SPCC)
17-Jim Cerny
22-Robert Harbison
26-Diane Snyder (SPCC)
28-Maryse Copans
Coleman Thomas
31-Caroline Cho



Please let us know if we missed listing your birthday. Is there a special event or success (graduation, birth, engagement, new job, etc.) coming up or just past? We'd love to celebrate with you!

JANUARY ADULT EDUCATION NEWS

NEW COURSE OFFERING STARTING JAN 11:

We are fortunate to have Ashok Chaudhari, graduate of Union Theological Seminary (MDiv.) and Stanford University (MA Religious Studies) and a Candidate for Minister of Word and Sacrament under care of the Hudson River Presbytery, leading a discussion group on The Book of Confessions. Ashok will begin weekly meetings on Sunday, January 11th at 9:30 a.m. just before the 10:30 a.m. SPC Church Service. Please feel free to come to our introductory session on January 11th and/or feel free to join us any Sunday. The course will run for 12 weeks.

Course description: A discussion group on The Book of Confessions which is one of the two parts of the constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA). (The other part is The Book of Order.) The Book of Confessions has in it various confessions (which are statements of belief or conviction) made throughout history which were chosen by the church to be included in the book and form the back bone of our church theology. In these times of turmoil and reorganization which we are living in, turning to tradition can be both comforting and strengthening, and can help to keep an even course while navigating through any confusion. Ashok will serve as tour guide as we make our way through fascinating church history and, hopefully, illuminating theology. Please contact Amy Kitahata-Sporn at amyks@optonline.net if interested in participating in this exciting new offering! Those who have copies of The Book of Confessions, please bring them with you. Extra copies are available in the church office.

LECTURE SERIES: Rev. Dr. Tim Ives continues his monthly series of lectures on "The Second Death of Christ." Rev. Ives looks at the diversity and tolerance that was part of the church in the first three centuries of existence. Then a change came with the first Christian Emperor Constantine. Did the resulting orthodoxy help or hurt the ministry of Christ? All are welcome to join the lively discussion to follow. The next Friday evening meeting will be Feb. 6th at 7 p.m. in the carriage house conference room. Tim will conclude the series with his final two lectures on Feb. 27th and March 27th. Please feel free to join us at any time. Refreshments will be provided. Please contact the office at #941-1142 with any questions.

BIBLE STUDY: Rev. Ives leads weekly Bible study of the Sunday Lectionary Readings every Wednesday at 11 a.m. This is an opportunity to look at the Bible/Christianity with historical and theological perspectives. Come for discussion only or bring a bag lunch. Please contact the SPC office at 941-1142 with any questions. Everyone is welcome to join at any time and can find the lectionary readings online at www.PCUSA.org by selecting: Devotions & Readings.

DINNER & A MOVIE GROUP: A DVD has been chosen for the Friday, January 9th meeting at 7 p.m. about music festivals held in Estornia during the long Soviet occupation years, showing the incredible, positive effect music can have on a nation's soul. Signe Seelinger, who has participated in Latvian music festivals like these held in refugee camps after WW II in Germany will comment on her experiences. Please join us for potluck dinner, movie viewing and discussion. Meetings are also planned for Feb. 13th and March 13th. Please contact Kathy Davis at housekyd21@aol.com or #941-5537 if you would like to attend.

SPIRITUAL LIFE DINNERS: continue to meet every first and third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Dinner is provided by regular participants and all are welcome to come and share in the meal and conversation about our spiritual journeys. For more information please contact Karin Chaudhari at #941-5736. Since January 1st is a Thursday the January schedule has been changed to Jan. 8th & 22nd.

LENTEN MEDITATION: Rev. Ives will lead a special Lenten reflection on Thursday, April 2nd joining the Spiritual Life Dinner meeting. We invite all to come to this special Lenten gathering. Dinner is provided and begins at 6:30 p.m. Please contact the SPC office if you would like to attend.

THE SPC LENDING LIBRARY: is open and located between the Sanctuary and Chapel in The Pastor's Study. Please feel free to sign out & in any books on the shelves stamped "Scarborough Presbyterian Church."

Savor the Flavor
A Fundraiser for
New Orleans Mission Trip

will be held in the

SPC Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 8
5:00 pm until 8:00 pm.

Come and enjoy authentic cajun-style cuisine with some funk, blues, gospel, even a tinge of zydeco music provided by The Moonshiners, a band featuring our very own Ed Croft! Restaurant deals! Goodie Baskets! Games! Prizes! and more! Fun for the whole family, the young and the young-at-heart! (Sitters provided for the youngest of them all!) All proceeds go to benefit the SPC/BCC/1st Pres. youth who will be helping to rebuild New Orleans in February. Visit their display at coffee hour to buy tickets and catch other great FUN-raising deals - like our SuperBowl Party meals made-to-order!

Just When You Think You've Figured It Out

Lately I've been swimming two mornings a week. It's great exercise, a break from the winter weather, and the perfect way to relieve stress. usually.

The other morning I went for a swim, had a wonderful time and a hot shower. I was back in the locker room putting on my clothes and mentally preparing a list of what I needed to do next. I had it all planned down to the last minute. My usual, efficient, multitasking, proud of myself Barbara.

As I was just finishing up, putting my stuff in my bag, and my coat on my back, a lady appeared, and she seemed rather flustered. There she was in her bathing suit and bare feet, and it seemed that she couldn't find the locker where she had placed her coat, her clothing, and her car keys. To tell you the truth it seemed half annoying and half comical to me. Mostly I was eager to be on my way. On the other hand, if there was ever a case of helping to clothe the naked, this had to be it.

I started to talk with her and she told me that she had put her stuff in a top row locker, facing a certain way and no she didn't put a lock on it. She had been frantically searching the lockers, opening and closing one after the other. I, of course, thought that she was just confused. I offered to lend some systematic assistance to her search. So, despite her objections, we opened each and every locker door, leaving the doors open so we could be sure we had looked in each one. I was certain that her belongings were going to turn up. But they didn't.

Now this was a problem. Obviously, she had not walked to the pool in nothing more than a bathing suit. Remember, she even had bare feet. This evidence led me to believe that there truly was a coat, a towel, clothing, and car keys. On the other hand, it was pretty hard to imagine a thief sneaking into the ladies' locker room at the community center and taking only these items. No one else seemed to be missing anything.

Finally, eager to get on with my day yet unable to abandon the nearly naked lady, I probably uttered an unconscious prayer "Dear God, there's got to be an answer to this. Let's find it NOW." All of a sudden I remembered something. I remembered that this lady had come into the pool much later than the rest of us. Could it be? Could it possibly be? She was so sure she knew exactly which locker she had placed her belongings in. So I asked her. "Do you think you might have come into the pool through the men's locker room by mistake?" Of course, she thought it was impossible, but all that was needed for that explanation to make sense was that the men's locker room had been empty when she came in. I was pretty sure it had been since she was the only person to come in late.

Despite the fact that she didn't think much of

this possibility, yet desperate for a solution to her problem, she agreed that we could ask the male life-guard to go into the men's locker room and check things out. Of course, there were her belongings, in exactly the location she had described. Just in the other locker room.

That lady knew; she really knew. Except she didn't.

Proud of my detective skills and flexible thinking, I went on my way. And then it dawned on me. There is a God message in this story. There really is. Don't I always think I have it figured out about God? And then, in short order, I realize that I don't. My God ideas are always like the lady's notion of which locker held her things. It's exactly right. It's exactly wrong. That's how it is with God. But that's okay.

It was St. Augustine who once said:

We are talking about God. What wonder is it that you do not understand? If you do understand, then it is not God.

Barbara Devir, CLP

THOMAS FAMILY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2008

School's out for winter! Students were escorted to the airport directly on a 12-hour bus ride rather than the usual bus-train-bus sequence, due to the extra security concerns this season. Still, we are thankful that our state is peaceful, and the weather is remarkably clear. We will keep Christmas at our home on the Woodstock School campus; afterwards completing college applications with son Chris and updating our resumes. We will be looking for new jobs hopefully closer to Chris next year. Thank you for your prayers for discernment as we considered our future at the end our our four-year commitment to service in India. Recently we took the long and perilous drive to the village of Bel Gaon again, to view the children's Christmas program - a decorated tree, several songs, and a solo recitation in memorized but clear English about "the meaning of Christmas." The village elders showed us a few sites that they will donate to the church for a school building. After some negotiation, we all agreed on one site near the dirt road to the village. It has a beautiful south-facing view of Mussoorie and the Everest House - yes, the house of George Everest, who provided the name for the tallest mountain. The mountain villagers speak a heavily-accented Hindi dialect called Garhwali. Interestingly, in this little remote village where few of the adults are literate in Hindi, they are debating whether the new school should teach in English or in Hindi! If you are a subsistence farmer in the mountains, what language do you want your children to learn? It is a hard life, and the area is socially quite homogeneous except for a few itinerant Muslim blacksmiths, and those curious Christian social workers. Pray for this schooling effort, and the help it will bring to at least one mountain village.

We urge you to plan a visit to northern India in the next few months while we are still here. Woodstock School has a good facility at Hanifl Outdoor Education center which can house mission groups of all sizes and engage you in meaningful work here in the local area. We would love to be your hosts!

--Namaste,

Jeff, Barb, Chris and Coleman Thomas
Woodstock School, Mussoorie UA248179 India
barbarathomas@woodstock.ac.in



Dealing with Pain

Over the years I have had much experience with chronic pain and find it brings very specific challenges into one's life. Fortunately I have been able to find ways to heal and have been relatively pain free for the last couple of years.

Recently I had the experience of dealing with acute pain while recovering from minor surgery. Fortunately I have not had many times in my life when I have had to deal with acute pain. I was struck by how little I have experienced acute pain because of the medical care that is available to me. I was also struck by how often I think of pain as emotional or psychological or physical pain that is tolerable rather than acute. I can only imagine what it must be like for so many throughout the world who do not have the kind of medical care available to me. Their suffering is incomprehensible to me and at the same time my compassion for them has somehow deepened. As a friend points out compassion is a starting place for action. Where will it lead me?

It was startling and scary to have acute pain and I called on Jesus for his help. I found that I felt his compassionate presence with me, holding my hand. He did not take away the pain, but I felt incredibly comforted by him. I imagined that I might have gotten a glimpse of what he experienced in his torture and crucifixion. I was struck by the unbelievable suffering he took upon himself to know what it is to be truly human and the incredible sacrifice he made for all of us. It is amazing how ones' understanding of and relationship with Jesus continues to grow every day. My eyes are open. Thank you Jesus!

In peace & love,

Amy Kitahata Sporn

There have been several requests to print the New Year's Eve Worship Service for those who were unable to be there.

Dec. 31, 2008 NEW YEARS EVE 11:30pm

"All changes, even the most longed for, have their melancholy; for what we leave behind is a part of ourselves; we must die to one life before we can enter another."

-Anatole France

Prelude "So Now As We Journey" Marcel Dupre

Call to Worship (In Unison)

**Come we now out of the darkness of our unknowing
and the dusk of our dreaming;**

Come we now from far places.

**Come we now into the twilight of our awakening
and the reflection of our gathering.**

Come we now all together.

We bring, unilluminated, our dark caves of doubting;

We seek, unbedazzled, the clear light of understanding.

**May the sparks of our joining kindle our resolve,
brighten our spirits, reflect our love,
and unshadow our days.**

Come we now; enter the dawning.

Hymn # 546 "The Day Thou Givest Lord is Ended"

First Reading (Past) Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

1For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: 2a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; 3a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; 4a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; 5a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; 6a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; 7a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; 8a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. 9What gain have the workers from their toil? 10I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with.

Silent Remembrance of that Which is Now Past

Second Reading (Present) Isaiah 58:6-9

6 Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? 7Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

8Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. 9Then you shall call, and the LORD

will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say,
Here I am.

Hymn #542 "All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night"

Third Reading (Future) Revelation 21:1-6a

1Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 4he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." 5And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Silent Meditation

Prayer for the New Year

Ringling of the Bells

Auld Lang Syne
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and days of auld lang syne?
For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
we'll take a cup of kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and days of auld lang syne?
And here's a hand, my trusty friend
And gie's a hand o' thine
We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet
For auld lang syne

Postlude "Prelude on a Welsh Hymn" Gordon Young

May each and every one receive God's blessings
throughout the year, sensing God's presence
in all that we do.

**Going Green:
Converting your Church for Energy Conservation**



January 10, 2009

I am writing you as a Presbyterian pastor who has served in two churches where Andy Rudin has saved our two churches thousands of dollars though energy conservation.

Here are my **Top Ten Reasons** to encourage you to sign up for this workshop and to urge others in your church and neighboring churches to attend:

1. **Save money for your church that needs it now** Heating and cooling churches continues to be very expensive and a major burden on churches' budgets at a time when contributions are declining due to the poor economy. There are many practical, inexpensive ways of saving on energy costs that free up needed funds for missions, outreach, education, church staff salaries and more. These practical ideas can also be applied to energy savings in your own home.

2. **Take better care of God's creation.** More than 100 million Americans breathe sooty air, EPA says in a December 22nd news report; check the EPA web site for your area to see if this dangerous pollution coming from power plants and other sources is a problem where you live. Beyond current health problems caused by wasteful energy practices, Climate Change is no longer debated among the vast majority of the scientific community (see online reports of the National Geographic, the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize-winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), National Academies of Sciences (Sciences, Engineering, Medicine), American Chemical Society and others). Newsweek reported that Global Warming Is a Cause of This Year's Extreme Weather. Energy conservation helps God's creation now and in the future for the benefit of ourselves, our children, our grandchildren and future generations.

3. **Learn from The national expert.** Andy Rudin of the non-profit Interfaith Coalition on Energy is recommended as THE national expert resource on energy

conservation for churches by the ecumenical Alban Institute and the U.S. Department of Energy . He has consulted with literally hundreds of congregations on how to tackle energy conservation in their churches. You and others in your church get to spend hours with this gifted teacher for a bargain registration cost.

4. The Bible tells you so. One of the best known verses in the Bible is John 3:16, For God so loved the world The word world here is the Greek word cosmos and means all of creation, so God's love in Jesus is for the whole creation (including people, animals, plants and more). In the first chapter of the first book of the Bible we are told that humanity is created to take care of God's creation (see Genesis 1:26). The prayer book for God's people for three thousand years, the book of Psalms, proclaims that the earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it (Psalm 24:1). The Evangelical Environmental Network has an excellent online Bible study looking at caring for creation in the scriptures.

5. The Presbyterian Church Constitution and General Assembly teach us to. Two of our recent confessions of faith lift up the concern for God's creation (9.53 and 10.34-38). Our Book of Order's Directory for Worship reminds us of our calling to use the earth's resources responsibly without plundering, polluting, or destroying develop technological methods and processes that work together with the earth's environment to preserve and enhance life (W-7.5003). Our 2008 General Assembly approved a new major study titled The Power to Change: U.S. Energy Policy and Global Warming that lays out a clear and well documented path toward sustainability and equity to protect future generations.

6. Rick Ufford-Chase will lead the Bible study at this workshop. Rick Ufford-Chase is the new Co-Director of Stony Point Center and served as the Moderator of the 216th General Assembly of the PC(USA). This gifted teacher is much in demand throughout the USA. He is now working to have Stony Point Center better serve local congregations needs while also lifting up global concerns.

7. Free publication. Workshop participants will get a free copy of Energy in God's World: Our Future, Our Choice (a special, 90+ page issue of the PCUSA Church & Society journal).

8. Enjoy the company of other church leaders and learn from each other.

9. A Great Launch for Your New Year's Resolution. Stony Point Center has always been known for its outstanding, healthy meals and is continuing its tradition of teaching other chefs how to do it. January is a great time for New Year's resolutions for better living that includes healthier eating. Lunch

at Stony Point is included in the workshop registration.

10. Walk the Talk

Who Should You Invite to Come?

Property/Building & Grounds Committee members of local churches, church custodians, pastors, church school teachers, youth workers, environmentally concerned people, Mission & Stewardship Committee members are all invited to attend. Please encourage neighboring pastors and church leaders to carpool with you (saves gas, better for the environment and great fellowship). Encourage non-Presbyterians to come; we all benefit from energy conservation and less pollution. Forward this email note to them with the Stony Point workshop web page. Join us!

Topics to be discussed beyond the Bible study include prices of natural gas and fuel oil, lighting, ventilation, temperature controls, future of oil and natural gas, purchasing new appliances and involving congregational members participation in energy conservation. The presentation will encourage your questions and interaction.

Cost: \$50 per participant, or \$100 per church (up to three participants)

Registration Deadline is January 8, 2009: (Note: this is a change from Jan. 5.) Please send a check for the full amount, written to Stony Point Center with a note in the memo line that says "Jan. 10 Energy Workshop," by January 5th. Checks can be mailed to: Karen Kaufman, Stony Point Center, 17 Crickettown Rd., Stony Point, NY 10980

I hope you have a joyful Christmas and to see you at Stony Point on January 10th.

Blessings on you and your congregation!

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Bruce Baker

(See below for a link to our website - where you can find a poster for the event...and remember the registration deadline has changed to Jan. 8.)

**Going Green - Hands-on Workshop
January 10,2009 - Stony Point Center**

Visit www.hudrivpres.org

Youth Groups' 2008 SUPERBOWL MENU!
Pick up on Sunday, FEBRUARY 1st about 12 pm

Fellowship Hall (Big Room)
 (A one-foot sandwich feeds 2-3 persons. Condiments & dressings will be served on the side.)

Italian Combo ham, salami, pepperoni, provolone, lettuce, tomato, onion(on side)

Number of Italian feet _____ x \$12 = \$ _____

American Combo ham, salami, roast beef, turkey, American cheese, lettuce, tomato

Number of Amer. feet _____ x \$12 = \$ _____

Chili w/beef & beans 32oz. # _____ x \$8 = _____

Chopped Onion _____ x \$2 = \$ _____

Grated Cheddar _____ x \$4 = \$ _____

Cornbread Squares 6 piece tray _____ x \$3 = \$ _____

Cruditee w/Dip(carrots, cucs, green beans, red peppers, broccoli, serves 10) _____ x \$25=\$ _____

7 Layer Taco Dip (meatless, w/Tostitos, sour cream, refried beans, salsa, lettuce, tomatoes, cheddar, black olives, scallions, w/taco seasoning)serves 10)

_____ x \$15 = \$ _____

Authentic Japanese Teriyaki Wings

(8 for \$6) _____ x \$6 = \$ _____

Hot Wings (8 for \$6) _____ x \$6 = \$ _____

Mardi Gras Cupcakes each _____ x \$1 = \$ _____

Home Delivery (\$3 per address) \$ _____

Check # _____ Cash _____ Grand total: \$ _____

Menu subject to change

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ cell/e-mail _____

** Deadline for orders: Sunday, January 25th**

PAYMENT AT THE TIME OF YOUR ORDER IS APPRECIATED

CHECK PAYABLE to SPC; note Youth Group in memo.)

Orders will be taken during coffee hour or can be dropped in the collection basket or the Christian Education box in the office. If ordering from SPCC, please forward your order form and payment through Denise or Katya, or drop it off in the church office. Questions? 941-1142 (office), Call Tim Ives or email tives4932@aol.com. All proceeds benefit the youth group Mission Trip to help restore the devastation from Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. The damage was great; help and healing continue.

Thank You All

The following list are those persons elected by the congregation who are willing to serve in a leadership capacity. Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail if you have a prayer request, an idea, a joy, a concern, a resource or a talent to share.

SPC Leadership 2008

Rev. Timothy Ives	645-1482	Pastor Tlves4932@aol.com
Elder Barbara Devir	923-3517	CLP Prison Ministry barbdevir@yahoo.com
Elders		
Linnea Carnes	941-0996	Personnel; SPCC linnea529@aol.com
Patty Chapman	760-2453	Christian Education pchapman@stonesoupmarketing.com
Steven Cho	762-9129	Buildings & Grounds shcho@optonline.net
Connie Curran	941-3622	SPChildren's Center ccscarborough@yahoo.com
Tom Davis	941-5537	Clerk of Session davis@clm.com
Lindsay Farrell	762-6586	Worship & Music lfarrell@ood.org
Will Ingraham	923-3736	Finance, B&G wingraham@mac.com
Amy Kitahata-Sporn	944-0471	Adult Christ. Educ. amyks@optonline.net
John Pavlik	762-4827	Communications john@thepavliks.com
Ed Payne	941-5407	edwin.payne@verizon.com
Catherine Savell	827-3212	Cong'l Life, Personnel cesavell@optonline.net
Jay Sutterlin	271-4397	Mission & Vision

Deacons

Susan Burlazzi	631-6611	sburlazzi@yahoo.com
Peter Chapman	490-1882	chapman@steinersports.com
Karin Chaudhari	941-5736	(Cong Life/Flowers) karin.chaud@hotmail.com
Kathy Davis	941-5537	housekyd21@aol.com
Beth Henriques	762-7847	landairnyc@msn.com
Lucy Milne	373-4133	(President) lucymilne@optonline.net
Angela Rogers	(845)665-9838	(Secretary) arogers35@hotmail.com
Signe Seelinger	941-6862	signek@aol.com
Kathy Shaffren	923-9619	
Inge Vought	271-5223	ivought@optonline.net
Debbie Wenninger	769-5476	(Treasurer) wenn27@aol.com
Terri Zuckerberg	762-8222	Theresa907@verizon.net

Church Treasurer

Jim Simmons 762-0979 simmons1aw@hotmail.com

Congregational Nominating Committee

Joel Cambron	Gene Croft
Connie Curran	Kathy Davis
Lindsay Farrell	Caroline Wade
Signe Seelinger	