

POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

January 2014

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~ www.pomptonreformed.org ~

Dear Pompton Family,

"Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise from the end of the earth!" (Isaiah 42:10)

Whether this newsletter reaches your eyes on January 5 or shortly after, may this year ahead be one of upward growth and challenge, and discovering new ways to serve our Lord. A brief look back at the end of 2013: Advent began with a wonderful Vespers service that helped to launch a truly meaningful season. Choir and bells added much to our worship, and Pastor Debbie and I both enjoyed preparing the "Faces of Advent" message series. Insights from Mary, Joseph, Angel Gabriel and the Shepherds will carry into 2014.

Capture the thought of viewing the year ahead as a fresh snowfall. 2014 lies before us...yet untouched, unspoiled. We can venture into January as we would venture into a wintry world--cautiously, yet with a silent taste of freshness and loveliness. If ours are the first footprints, there is a sense of establishing the direction which others will follow. That can be a straight and true path, or a directionless wandering.

Consider making it a year of venturing into an untouched area of faith--be that a daily devotional time, or reading the Bible from beginning to end. Starting a prayer journal. It may be joining Chancel Choir or Bells, or one of PRC's committees or teams, which accomplish so much. New faces, bringing new ideas and fresh energy are welcome! Plans are afoot to offer more Bible study and small group opportunities this year.

Soon enough will come the slush and stale piles of dirty snow. Soon enough will come the struggles and tensions that are no strangers to us. Yet knowing Christ's presence, help and guidance can make a profound difference in our attitude and actions. May the Pompton Reformed continue living into our vision statement of being *a community where all experience the love and grace of Jesus Christ*, reflecting our Lord's devotion, compassion and selfless service. A worthy path to follow!

Serving Christ with you,

Pastor Tom Bartha





Fellowship Happenings for 2014



It's a New Year and a new start to all our exciting programs for the year! This is just the tip of the iceberg...much more to come!!

January 11 – Circle Michel Luncheon. All PRC women invited. Contact Jo-Ann Sisco for more info.

January 19 – Chili Luncheon immediately following worship.

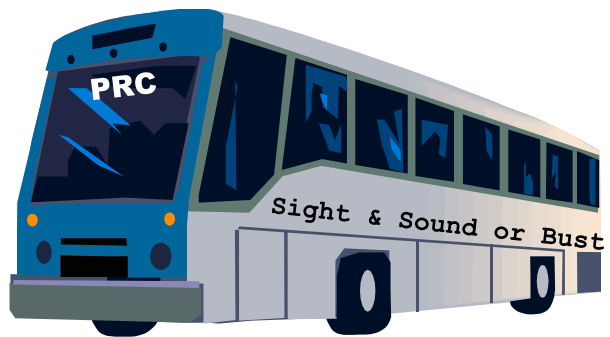
January 19 & 26 – Orders taken for Deacons' Annual Hoagie Sale. Delivery on Feb. 2.

April 6 – Fish & Chips Dinner.

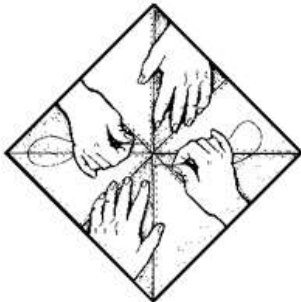
May 20 – Annual Church Dinner.

October 4 – Bus Trip to Sight & Sound.

October 18 – Autumnfest.



Next Senior Meeting is on Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 12:30 pm. Please bring your lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. Hope to see you there!



Quilt Distribution Review: If you have a need for a prayer yourself or someone else please contact Nancy Begin. If you are looking for someone else it is important that you ask if they are receiving one. If you have other questions please, Nancy Begin.



Welcome our New Deacons and Elders!

Deacons: Michael Earle, Diane Goodell, Cindi Petrides

Elders: Jim Laux, Gerry Mamalis, Ken Waibel

Roundtable of Thanks

(From December's Consistory)



--Cindi Petrides, Valerie Petrides, Donna DeBlock, Patti Kitchell and others who decorated our sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas season.
An extra word of thanks to all who gathered to put up the outdoor nativity scene.

--Outgoing Deacons: Lucas Spann, Sue Uhlendorf, Leslee Ferray; and
Outgoing Elders: Nancy Begin, Drew Altorfer, Terry Terhune.
Your over-and-above commitment to serving our Lord is deeply appreciated!

**Are you looking for a creative a
way to serve PRC?**



Then the Newsletter needs YOU!!

Contact Beth Burke at prcletter@gmail.com.

CLASSIS ASSESSMENT

In your offering box, you will find a Classis Assessment envelope. As was mentioned in the recent funds appeal letter, PRC is assessed **\$80 per active member**. This fee covers new church starts, mission support, assistance to struggling churches, denominational staff and programs and much more. If you are able to cover all or a portion of this assessment, it will go a long way to aiding OUR budget.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the congregation of the church for my healing prayers. You have prayed for me several times before and I know your prayers work. However this time was very special. When my cousin Elaine Peacock gave me the quilt, I was so touched I felt a connection to the whole congregation. The quilt is something that I will think of all of you for many years to come.

May God bless each and every one of you.

*With heartfelt thanks,
Bernice D'Ippolito*



Youth Matter, and So Do Adults!

by: Anna Gordon



I recently took a course called “*Youth Mental Health First Aid*” that was provided free of charge to librarians who work with children and young adults. The training, provided by Mental Health First Aid USA, is a public education program which introduces how adults can recognize risk factors and warning signs of youth who may be experiencing a mental health challenge. As a librarian, this was helpful to me because they provided local resources and ideas for talking to youth and their parents about how to get help.

As a youth group leader and church member, what I learned was more important. During the course, our instructor mentioned that the number one way to prevent suicide among youths is for them to have a relationship with a trusted adult. While we might assume that these need to be deep, meaningful relationships, they don’t have to be. Having an adult who smiles when they see a teen and asks how their day is or jokes around with the youth can be more than enough. It could be the guy pouring your coffee every day at the deli or the church member who greets you with a hug.

Youth Mental Health First Aid recommends the following steps when dealing with a crisis:

- Assess for risk of suicide or harm
- Listen without judgment
- Give reassurance and information
- Encourage appropriate professional help
- Encourage self-help and other support strategies

However, these steps don’t need to be used just in crisis. We should be able to listen without judgment and give reassurance and information at all times.

It is important to remember that your actions matter to the youth around you. Take a moment to talk to the youth at church, find out what their favorite sports team is, what grade they are in, or even their favorite drink. You never know how these small interactions will influence their life (and yours!).

STARTING FRESH

By Elaine Peacock

By now the Christmas decorations are being tucked away and the coldest time of the year is upon us. OK God you have given us a brand new year we have 365 days; we haven’t messed up anything too bad yet we actually have a chance to make a difference. Actually it is the little things we do without thinking about it a smile, a hug, a telephone call or a card. These are the things that make the New Year start off on a good note and carry us right on through the rest of the year. Sure everything looks kind of blah after all the decorations are down, but nature gives us some of her best decorations in January. Who among us doesn’t enjoy a cold, sunny winter morning, with a brilliant blue sky as the sun glistens off the snow? So take a deep breath of that cold, crisp air and give thanks for the chance to make a difference in 2014.

HAPPY NEW YEAR PRC!





Our oldest member, Harry Bruderly, turned 100 on Friday, January 4! Harry remains very sharp and alert, and cards mean a great deal to him:

c/o Llanfaire House
1140 Black Oak Ridge Road, Wayne, NJ 07470



IMPORTANT EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGE :

Jo Ann Sisco's email address has changed!

Please change your contacts to

Joanngiant@optimum.net.

If you previously received emails and are no longer receiving them, please contact her to be added to her contact list.

Faith & Grief Luncheon

Join us at our next luncheon Wed., January 15, 2014, Noon to 1:00 at Christian Health Care Center Auditorium, 700 Mountain Avenue, Wyckoff, NJ. These luncheons are offered the third Wednesday each month and are open to people of all faiths who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Gather with others to be strengthened through sharing, scripture, prayer and reflection. Lunch is complimentary. Donations are accepted. Register at www.faithandgrief.org.

For more information call (201) 848-4264.

Offering Envelopes



Have you picked up your new offering envelopes yet?

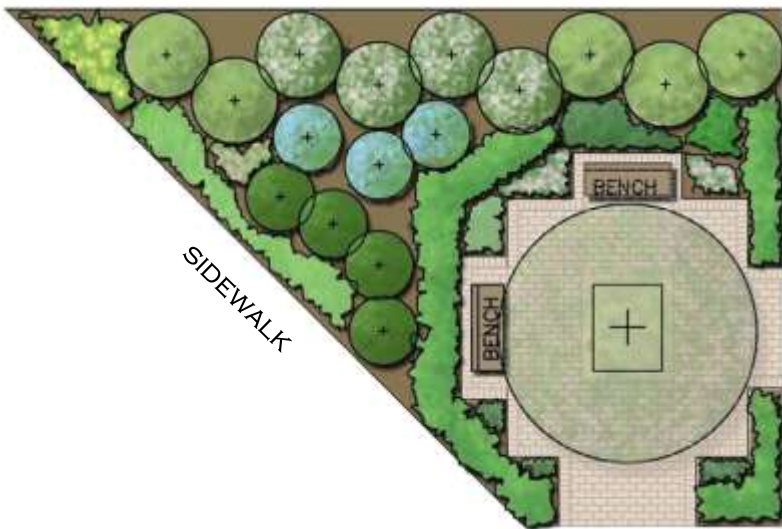
The 2014 Offering Envelopes are now available on tables by our Friendship Area.

Pompton Reformed Church

Legacy Garden

The Endowment Committee is proposing a long-term program directed to the beautification of the grounds surrounding the Church and the Gerrit Heemstra Memorial Building (Friendship Hall). The first phase in this program is the creation of the Legacy Garden prominently located in the roughly triangular area next to the playground and to the right of the west side entrance of the Heemstra Building. Within the Garden will be an area consisting of engraved commemorative bricks that will be surrounded by bushes, shrubs, two benches and a central tree planting. The inscriptions on these bricks may, for example, commemorate a deceased loved one, or celebrate a family or a special event such as an anniversary, wedding, birth of a child, or honor a living person. Your purchase of a commemorative brick will not only make a special remembrance for you but also will make you a participant in the creation of the Legacy Garden and in the long term improvement program of the Pompton Reformed Church grounds. Please use the order form below for your inscription.

PLAYGROUND



SAMPLE OF BRICKS



Each 4" by 8" brick costs \$100.00 and may contain two lines of up to 14 characters per line. Print your inscription in the boxes below. Punctuation, such as commas, periods, and hyphens, as well as spaces is counted as one character. Copy this form to order additional bricks.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Please make your check payable to: PRC Endowment Fund - Legacy Garden and mail to Pompton Reformed Church, 59 Hamburg Turnpike, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442

january 

Apple Juice
donations are needed for after
worship service. Please drop them
off in the kitchen.
Thanks.



1st Wed., Jan. 1:
2nd Sat., Jan. 11:
2nd Sun., Jan. 12:
2nd Mon., Jan. 13:
2nd Wed., Jan. 8:
3rd Mon., Jan. 20:
3rd Wed., Jan. 15:
4th Wed., Jan. 22:
Every Tuesday:

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Quilting Ministry
11:30 am Youth Team
7 pm Finance Committee
7:30 pm Missions Team
7:15 pm Christian Education Committee
7:00 pm Consistory
7:30 pm Fellowship
1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters



~Bell Choir Meets on Tues. nights at 6:30. Be a part of our music ministry.~



Pasta sauce, canned fruit, mac & cheese, peanut butter, jelly, Parmalat milk, canned veggies (corn, carrots, peas and beans), shampoo, deodorant, toilet paper, toothpaste, detergent, Jell-o, pudding and baked beans. Low-fat, low-sodium products are always accepted.

Thank you for supporting this important mission needed by so many.

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

The Deadline for *Newsletter Articles* is the last Sunday of each month. Please send submissions to prcletter@gmail.com or feel free to drop it in the mail slot in the church office.

The deadline for February 2014's
newsletter is
Sunday, January 26, 2014.