



JANUARY 2012

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF LAMBERTVILLE
First Presbyterian Church
31 N. Union St., Lambertville, NJ

Rev. Dr. Peter W. Gregory, Pastor

From the Heart

2012 of course is a leap year and we all get an extra day, 29 February to be exact. So what are you going to do with your extra day? Clean house, walk the dog, wash the floors, change the oil on the cars? Maybe even go to bed early.

The average life expectancy for an adult in 2011 was 81.5 years. In days that is 29,715 days. In hours that is 713,160, give or take. I will let you do the math for seconds. That's it. Yes, we are not on this planet forever. So what are you going to do with your extra 24 hours, 1440 minutes, or 86,400 seconds in 2012?

The older I get the more sensitive I become to time wasted, time lost, time that I just threw away as a younger man in senseless and silly things. But in faith, God in Jesus Christ not only redeems our lives, He redeems our time, He redeems our seconds, hours, days, and years. A life lived for Christ is a life where all your seconds, minutes, hours, and days count. A life where all our time counts and what we do with it, and whom we spend it with. Christ redeems our past, our present, our futures. Christ redeems our memories and heals us.

So on 1 January 2012, or 29 February 2012, or the rest of your life what will you be doing? Will those days be blessed, a blessing to you and others. Or are they just another day on a calendar. Another day passed, all along the 29,715 days of our lives, give or take. At in the Autumn of one's life, will we look back in sadness or with a sense of time lost, opportunities lost. I cannot answer that question for any or all of you. But I do know with certainty that with Christ, all the days, hours, and minutes of our lives will be lived with purpose and meaning. And will be a blessing to you and others.

So what are you going to do with your extra 24 hours this year?



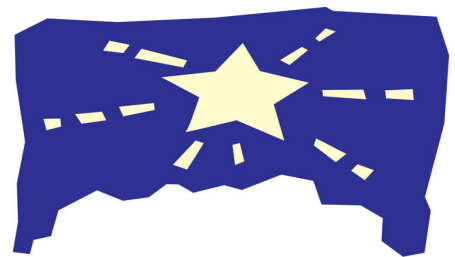
Scripture and Sermons for January

DATE	SCRIPTURE	SERMON
Jan 1	Psalm 148 Gal. 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40	Things to do in 2012
Jan 8	Gen. 1:1-5 Acts 19: 1-7 Mark 1:9-11	Is God Well Pleased?
Jan 15	1 Sam. 3:1-10 1 Corinth. 6:12-20 John 1:43-51	The Devil Made Me Do It?
Jan 22	Jonah 3:1-5 1 Corinth. 7:32-35 Mark 1:14-20	Running on Empty
Jan 29	Deut. 18:15-20 Psalm 111 Mark 1:21-28	Getting an Ed-U-Ca-Tion

In Revelation 22:16 Jesus says "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descent of _____, the bright morning star."

Choose the correct name:

- A. Isaac
- B. Jacob
- C. David
- D. Solomon



Ask the Pastor: Can prayer help me with my ADD/hyperactivity?

The clinical diagnosis, ADD/hyperactive did not exist 50 years ago. When we thought about kids in school, we applied the term “spirited” or “easily distracted” to kids whom we now label “ADD”. And I for one feel we as a society seriously overmedicate our kids, many times just to satisfy frazzled parents and school administrators. But that is a discussion for another day. And I further think ADD gets lumped into the whole Spectrum Autism epidemic discussion, which again I feel is linked to vaccines, pump a kids brain with mercury and tell me how that works out. But again that is another discussion for another day.

On the matter of prayer, as applied to ADD/hyperactivity, my response would be the same as if the question was Can prayer help me with my cancer, or HIV, or heart disease. The answer is by all means yes.

Prayer, both a mental and physical activity does three things to the human mind and body. It slows down brain activity in the Cortex, the complex thought center of the brain, and increases activity in the med-brain, or the center of pain/pleasure, and slows down the automatic activities of breathing and heart rate. This has been proven for years in controlled scientific studies. In essence prayer is like hitting the stop-button in our brains, and allows both the body and mind to calm down, slow down, and for folks with ADD/hyperactivity that is a good thing.

But prayer should not, and never be confused with “meditation”, which is essence a one-way human type of conversation we have with ourselves. Prayer is communication, but not in the way we think. When people pray, most times we are so wordy and do all the talking that God cannot get a word in edge- wise.

The most important aspect of prayer is not so much what we say to God. God is God, He knows what we are going to say and what we need without us asking. Prayer is not for God’s sake. He has no ego that needs to be reminded that he is God. But the most important aspect of prayer is at times to shut-up, be quiet, and allow God to speak to you. God has much to say to you, about life, about family, about your diseases and pains, your ADD and alike. But you have to first be quiet, and allow God to speak to you. And yes, in prayer we slow down our minds, and bodies. We tone-down the static and noise that characterizes so much of what ADD is for many. And many times what God has to say and do for us is far better than taking mood effecting types of medications over time. Your liver will thank you, your brain will thank you. And most importantly your Soul will thank you as well.

Pastor Gregory

This month we celebrate:

2—Sam Marriott

2—Matthew Moraski

7—Bernie Allshouse

7—Andrew Zambella

8—Grace Hendricks

11—Sarah McIntyre

12—Joanne Serlenga

20—Alison Dudick

25—Alan Durborow, Jr.

26—LaNelle Gallagher

29—Dot Kitchin

30—Erin Durborow

30—Ed Warne



Birthday Blessings



Please have your Committee Reports
in to the church office
by Tuesday, January 17th.

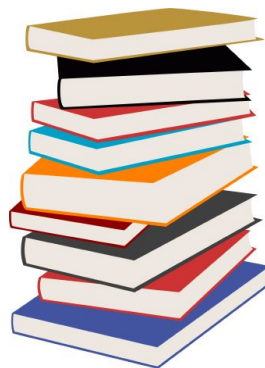
If you have any questions, please let
Aurie Good know.



Russ Topping's new book
Castles Made of Sand
is now available!

To purchase, go to:

www.Publishamerica.net/product39171.html





ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Lambertville will be held Sunday, January 29th directly after our Sunday morning worship.



Pastor's Veterans Page

The most important piece of paper for a veteran is their Certificate of Discharge, DD-215. It is the only document the VA and the government will ever recognize for proof of Federal service and any future claim in connection with that service. To replace a lost or stolen DD-215 can take upwards of 6 months and is not easy.

I am asked quite often about reserve or National Guard/Air duty. The National Guard/Air Guard are not Federal agencies. They are state related agencies, local to whatever state one serves in, and they work for the Governor of the State, not the President. The only Federal time credited for service is that done when mobilized or under an Army or Air Force pay status. One can serve 20, 30 years with the New Jersey Air National Guard, as example, and not have one day of Federal service time for credit. Again, do not confuse the Guard with the Army or Air Force Reserve.

January 1, 2012 does bring some changes for the Department of Defense, Veterans Administration.

- Active duty military pay will rise by 1.6%
- Military retired, VA disability pay will rise by 3.6%
- GI Bill payment will rise by 2.5% for all post-secondary education
- The Veterans Administration will open new outpatient vets centers in Newark, Camden, as well as a new counseling center in Horsham, Pa.

Pastor's Book of the Month. Every month in 2012, I will take a book from my personal library and talk about it.

Letters from the Birmingham Jail.

M.L. King Jr. 1963

King Center, Atlanta.

A brief read at 35 pages, it states well the philosophy of Dr. King and the whole civil rights struggle of that decade. Written more or less as an open letter to the clergy association of Birmingham who questioned why he was in their town the letter still has much to say to us today.

From page 30.

There was a time when the church was very powerful, in that time the early Christians rejoiced at deemed being worthy to suffer for what they believed. ---The Christians at one time believed they were a colony of heaven, called to obey God and not man.....

Things are different now. So often the contemporary church is a weak ineffectual voice with an uncertain sound. Far from being disturbed by the presence of the church, the power structure of the average community is consoled by the church's silent and often vocal sanction of things as they are.



LET THE WEAK SAY,
**I AM
 STRONG.**
 Joel 3:10, KJV



Volunteers needed!!

Please call Danielle Griffiths
at 215-862-5213

Come out and
Join in the fun
on Friday night
starting at 7pm!

Jan. 6

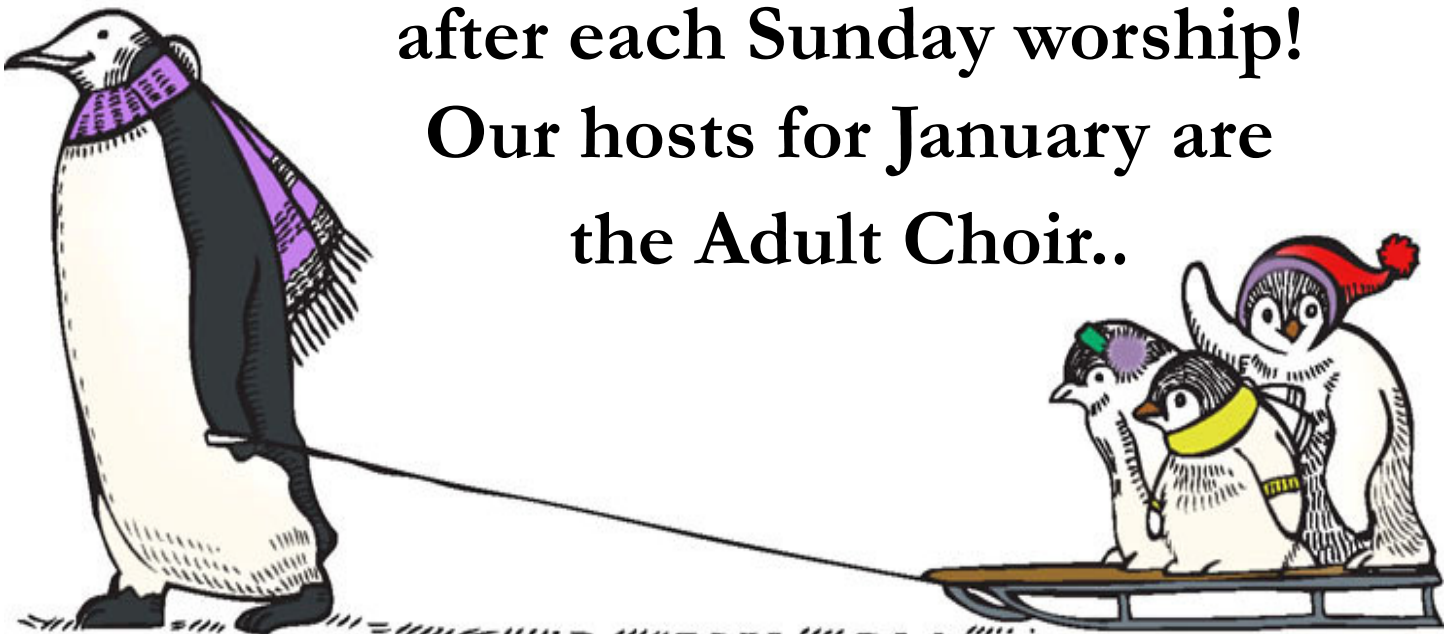
Jan. 13

Jan. 20

Jan. 27



Join us for Care & Share
after each Sunday worship!
Our hosts for January are
the Adult Choir..



January 2012 Elder Schedule

January 1: Joanne DiBlasi
 January 8: Communion
 January 15: Rich Hopkins
 January 22: Bob Holland
 January 29: Pat Buchanan

January 2012 Deacon Schedule

January 1: Kara Serlenga
 January 8: Mark Dudick {Grace H; Pat D. Communion}
 January 15: Mark Dudick
 January 22: Grace Reading
 January 29: Grace Reading

January 2012 Greeting Schedule

January 1: Grace Reading
 January 8: Don & Desre Pidcock
 January 15: Konni Sanford
 January 22: Pat Buchanan
 January 29: Joe Feraco



If you need assistance outside of office hours, please
 contact the Elders on call for **January:**

George Warner 215-794-0160

Pat Buchanan 609-397-3065