

# The Light



A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2012



**ASH** WEDNESDAY

*February 22, 2012*





[communitypresbyterianeerpark.com](http://communitypresbyterianeerpark.com)



# February 2012

## Community Presbyterian Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">           January            S M T W T F S            1 2 3 4 5 6 7            8 9 10 11 12 13 14            15 16 17 18 19 20 21            22 23 24 25 26 27 28            29 30 31         </div>		<b>1</b> 7:30 PM Naranon	<b>2</b> 7:30 PM N.A. Women 7:30 PM Choir	<b>3</b> N.A. (Hall) 8:00 PM	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>  <b>10:15 AM Communion</b> Girl Scouts (Blue Rm) 3:30	<b>6</b> 10:00 AM Homemakers 6:00 PM Shep's Table 7:00 PM Deacons 7:30 PM Men in Faith 8:00 PM Alanon/teen	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM GS Leaders Mtg (Hall) 7:30 PM Bible Pilgrims	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM Naranon 7:30 PM Cottage Mtg @ the Jean-Louis' home	<b>9</b> 7:30 PM N.A. Women 7:30 PM Choir	<b>10</b> 7:30 PM Eagle Scout Board Mtg (Hall) 8:00 PM N.A.	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>  <b>10:15 AM Worship</b> Girl Scouts (Blue Rm) 3:30 Babylon Pres Concert (Sanctuary & Hall) 2-5PM	<b>13</b> 6:00 PM Shep's Table 7:30 PM Session 8:00 PM Alanon/teen <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">Light Deadline</div>	<b>14</b> 7:30 PM PFA Children's Group (Blue Rm) 7:30 PM PFA Adult Mtg (Hall) 7:30 PM Bible Pilgrims	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM Naranon	<b>16</b> 7:30 PM N.A. Women 7:30 PM Choir	<b>17</b> 8:00 PM TBSJ Women (Hall) 8:00 PM N.A.	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>  <b>10:15 AM Worship</b>	<b>20</b> 6:00 PM Shep's Table 7:30 PM Administration 8:00 PM Alanon/teen	<b>21</b> 7:30 PM Bible Pilgrims	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">   <b>LENT</b>  <b>7:30 PM Lent Worship (Babylon)</b>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">Ash Wednesday</div> </div>	<b>23</b> 7:30 PM N.A. Women 7:30 PM Choir	<b>24</b> 8:00 PM N.A.	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>  <b>10:15 AM Worship</b> Youth Grp-Hall 7-9 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">1st Sunday in Lent</div>	<b>27</b> 6:00 PM Shep's Table 7:30 PM Committee Mtgs 8:00 PM Alanon/teen	<b>28</b> 7:30 PM PFA Adult Mtg (Hall) 7:30 PM Bible Pilgrims	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM Naranon <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">   <b>LENT</b>  <b>7:30 PM Lent Worship (Deer Park)</b> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">           March            S M T W T F S                      1 2 3            4 5 6 7 8 9 10            11 12 13 14 15 16 17            18 19 20 21 22 23 24            25 26 27 28 29 30 31         </div>		

Dear Friends,

Ah, winter nights. Perhaps the snow is falling. Perhaps the wind is probing at windows and chimneys and doors, looking for places to admit its cold. It is a time for heavy blankets and toasty comforters or quilts. It is a time for deep hours of sleep in the long hours of darkness—a time for winter sleep and winter dreams.

What would life be without dreams?

Children, they say, dream of sugarplums. Grown men and women have crossed continents on foot and traveled around the world pursuing dreams of gold. Many of us dream of freedom from want and of a time of peace. Martin Luther King, Jr. proclaimed his dream aloud from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial—"I have a dream!" What would the world be without dreams.

People of faith have dreams also. They dream of *true* gold, of an age of harmony among people and fellowship among nations, when the kingdom of God will be established on earth and the living of the Golden Rule will bring the world to the one golden age—an age which will be incorruptible and will never pass away.

Did you know that the Golden Rule, so central to our Christian faith, is part of the faith of most of the world's religion. The form may vary, but the core principle remains the same.

- In the Jewish Talmud it is written:

*What is hateful to you, do not do to others. That is the entire law; all the rest is commentary.*

- The Brahmins of Hinduism preach:

*This is the sum of duty: do nothing to others that would cause pain if done to you.*

- In the writings of Buddhism we read:

*Do not hurt not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful.*

- Confucius wrote:

*Surely it is the maxim of loving-kindness: Do not do to others things that you would not have them do to you.*

- In the precepts of Zoroastrianism is this statement:

*That nature alone is good which refrains from doing to others what is not good for itself.*

- The holy writings of Taoism include this teaching:

*Regard your neighbor's gain as your own gain and your neighbor's loss as your own loss.*

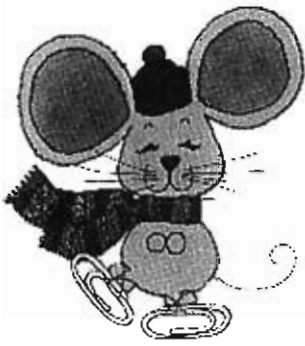
- In the Koran of the Muslim faith we find this affirmation:

*No one of you is a believer until he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself.*

For myself, I regard these as mere silver beside the Golden Rule of Jesus Christ—*In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets* (Matthew 7:12). All the other teachings, except the last two, call for no more than to avoid doing what we would consider evil. The last two speak only of feelings or desires. The Golden Rule of the Christian faith stands alone in calling us to action—demanding that we *do* good, not merely avoid doing evil. Yet it is action that converts dreams to reality. It is *doing* that, when born of faith, can bring in the fellowship of the church of Christ and hasten the coming of the kingdom of God.

If *you* do to others as you would have them do to you, you will find your own most holy dreams fulfilled, you will find yourself possessed of such gold as is treasure indeed, pure and imperishable, and you will sleep with a peace that is deeper and warmer than the coldest winter night.

Pastor John



## Charlie Church Mouse Says:

Our mouseettes are getting very frustrated! For weeks and weeks this winter there hasn't been any snow for sledding, snow ball fights, or snow mouse angels and on and on. They'd even be willing to have to shovel sidewalks and driveways if it meant there was snow to play in. Of course they don't have to shovel the car out of a snow bank or scrape ice off a windshield in order to get to work. They don't have to do any of the things that frustrate my Suzette and me, and the other Churchmouse parents. I guess at their age I would have been a bit frustrated as well. But at least no matter what happens now—even if there's a foot of snow before you get to read this—the winter will be a lot shorter.

My Suzette has surprised me. I'm always the one laying down the law but when she decided to take action she did, and I noticed there was no discussion or arguments. We have twelve young ones heading to college this fall. (How is that possible?! Where did all that time go?! What happened to all those years?!) She has picked three excellent colleges for them and given each of them the choice of which one they want to attend. Then she is buying a townhouse in each town for them. What they don't know yet is that a family member or two will go along to live there with them. What she said was, "I'm not leaving my babies all on their own!" She is on the internet too much making all the arrangements, but it is a good idea and I know we will save money in the long run. It seems impossible to think that in the fall the house will be quiet and Suzette and I can watch our TV shows, play our music and have peace with no slamming doors. I hope it's not too quiet!

We sure hope Miss Gluna and Miss Valerie are well on the way to recovery. It gave us all the shivers to hear about Miss Sally burning her hand—burns can be so terribly painful. It's amazing how quickly everything can change—for either better or worse. It's good to see Miss Beverly back in church and we trust Miss Louise is safely back in Florida—its good her son, Mr. Paul, could go with her so she didn't have to travel alone.

The Men-in-Faith had a great dinner out. I snuck along in Mr. Tim's pocket. I don't think he ever noticed I was there. That's one of my favorite groups in the church. They do so much good work. Look at the big project they are doing downstairs to fix up the youth room at the church. It's awesome! (Of course the Youth Group is another of my favorite groups. But so's the choir! And I can't forget PW; that's awesome too! And I love going to Bible Pilgrims! I guess picking my favorite group is like Uncle Herbie picking is favorite dessert. Whichever one he's near at the moment is his very, very favorite!)

Did you enjoy the big football game, and are you ready for the *really* big one? I am!

Night night.  
Sleep tight.  
Don't let the kitty kats bite!

God bless.



(C.C.M.)



## MINUTE FOR MISSION



*Our Minute for Mission for January from the Mission Yearbook for Prayer and Study is from Grace Presbytery in Texas.*

For the last six years, members of First Presbyterian Church in Gainesville, Texas, skip church one Sunday in September. They come dressed not for church, but to be the church.

On Faith in Action Sunday, the 127-member church disperses throughout the town to work on four ministry projects.

"Our Faith in Action" projects are always varied, with opportunities for all ages and skill levels," said Rev. John Hare. "We've built a wheelchair ramp for a small, flood-damaged church, served brunch at the community college dorms, offered a

drive-through brunch in front of the church, and landscaped the animal shelter. We've even served coffee to folks passing through Gainesville on the Amtrak train!"

And what about folks who don't get the word and show up to church dressed for worship? There's always one project at the church just right for them to join.

"The idea started with the notion of having a Mission Month in which we would focus on the idea of mission for an entire month while encouraging our membership to take on some kind of mission project," Hare said. "After the first year, we decided to streamline the idea to one Sunday and offer varied projects."



## The Prayer Corner

*We usually think of the French as a Catholic people, but that is not entirely true. Henri Capiou (1909-1993) was a product of the French Reformed tradition. He served as a pastor in Algiers and in Paris. He was also a poet, the author of various books of poetry, and a liturgical leader, who contributed greatly to the Reformed liturgy in France. This prayer was designed as a Sunday prayer. As we approach Valentine's Day, this is a prayer full of love for God.*

Lord, we sing to you and give you thanks. [ . . . ]

For the world, so beautiful but so fragile; for life, so lovely but so threatened; for this immense universe in which your kingdom will spread, we praise you.

For this day which speaks to us again of the resurrection, for your church which gathers us together, we praise you.

For your gospel, for our baptism, for our desire to serve you, for the promise of your eternity, we praise you.

And because we can love you and love each other on the earth, in the name of the love of Christ, in peace and with joy, Lord we praise you.

## "SALT OF THE EARTH" PEOPLE

*"You are the salt of the earth"* — Matthew 5:13



Many things in the church just seem to quietly happen. They are likely to go unnoticed. Sometimes no one ever knows about them at all. They are often done anonymously. This column is a place where this work can be recognized. If you know something which has been done which people should know about, let the church office know—give a call or drop a note—and we will give recognition in our "Salt of the Earth" column.

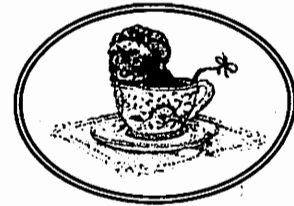
Thank you:

. . . to the countless unnamed people whose work, contributions, and accomplishments underlie all the reports presented for our annual meeting;

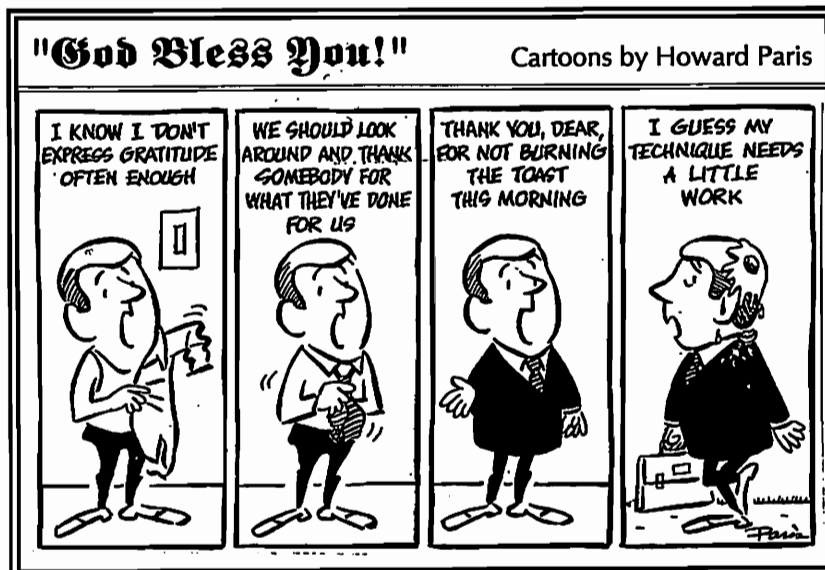
. . . to the anonymous leprechauns who took down all our Christmas trees and displays, and cleaned up the church when the holidays were over;

"You are the salt of the earth!"

### *A Few Wise Words from Grandma Churchmouse:*



- ❖ I would know nothing about love if others had not loved me.
- ❖ The world would know nothing about love if God had not loved the world.
- ❖ I would find no joy in love if I did not love others.
- ❖ The world can find no joy in love unless it is given without thought of reward.





## I. WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES

**THEME: THE BEATITUDES.** This year we will hear again the simple affirmations of the beatitudes which begin Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:3-12) and consider what it means to hear the beatitudes during Lent. That is to say we will reflect on six of the beatitudes in a devotional way, asking ourselves how they speak to us as we focus our spiritual lives on what it means to follow Jesus Christ and as we prepare ourselves for the way of the cross.

DATE	"BLESSED ARE...	HOST CHURCH	PASTOR
February 22	...The Poor in Spirit"	Babylon	Rev. John Underwood
February 29	...Those Who Mourn"	Deer Park	Rev. Donald Knight
March 7	...Those Who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness"	West Islip	Rev. Karen Hybertsen
March 14	...The Merciful"	Brentwood	Rev. Tom Sutter
March 21	...The Pure in Heart"	Islip	Ida Rosario
March 28	...The Peacemakers"	Deer Park	Rev. Mark Tammen

## II. SUNDAY LENTEN WORSHIP

**THEME: KEEPING GOD IN FOCUS & KEEPING FOCUSED ON GOD.** This year's Lenten sermons will ask us to keep God real and personal in our lives by keeping God in the forefront of our minds throughout the season of Lent and beyond.

DATE	SERMON TITLE
February 26	Giving Something Up for Lent
March 4	The Gift of God
March 11	Behold the Face of God!
March 18	"No Hands But Yours"
March 25	Finding Bethel
April 1 (Palm Sunday)	The Foolishness of God
April 8 (Easter Sunday)	Incredible Victory!

# PROPERTY COMMITTEE UPDATE

In 2011 we faced several serious and expensive issues including repairing the STEEPLE, securing the integrity of one STAINED GLASS WINDOW, replacing the severely deteriorated exterior YOUTH ROOM DOOR. . . and the list goes on. We have drained our funds for such projects. . . and yet we know there will be more in 2012. *We will need your help.*

Currently, with Session's approval, the Men in Faith are donating their time, talents and labor to replace a large part of the CHAPEL basement floor (YOUTH ROOM), which has serious water damage. The materials are expected to cost around \$1,300.00. They will also investigate the location(s) of the leaks – the repair of which could cost significantly more in the near future. In addition to your regular envelope giving, we are asking for special donations to these Men in Faith projects to ensure that an important part of our past – *the Chapel* – and the needs of our future – *i.e., the Youth Room* – will endure. Please mark your donation “**Chapel Basement.**” See Elsa Granz or Donna Marsh if you have any questions.

## CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY

February 1	Mario Egidi
February 2	Cara Bernal Donna Marsh Kathy Wolf
February 3	Billy Broger Madelyn Kleiber
February 6	Daniel Roessler Robert Weidenburner
February 7	Kristine Broger
February 8	Jimmy Klis Dorothy Luchtenberg
February 9	Tyler Treadwell
February 10	Matthew Elsener Meagan Thompson
February 11	Gladys Bischoff Nalini Durgana Ziva Calabris
February 12	Ronald Au-Yeung Dylan Dowdell Kelly Marsh Valerie Pisani
February 14	Grace Watt
February 15	Emily Bernal Kim Spelman
February 16	Trent Esposito Kaitlin Mirabito
February 17	Alyssa Pisani
February 18	Sandra Hillman
February 20	William Duguid
February 21	Laurie Black
February 22	Kevin Mirabito
February 23	Betsy Jacobs
February 24	Lois Bowen
February 25	Tristan Bailey Bill Morgan
February 27	Jessica Gardin
February 28	Alyson Gray Anthonio Zzuto



## PLEASE SAY A PRAYER FOR:

*Doris Bischoff*  
*Gladys Bischoff*  
*David Blachly*  
*Ethel Bonnaker*  
*Pat Carr*  
*Louise Daniels*  
*Gene Gilpin*  
*Anita Klapproth*  
*Valerie Pisani*  
*John & Ginny Seib*  
*Sally Weidenburner*  
*Margaret Wilcox*

### IT'S A BOY!

Congratulations and best wishes to Robert and Jennifer Weidenburner on the birth of their son Zachary Bryce. Zachary was born on January 3rd and weighed 7 lbs. Proud grandparents are Bruce and Sally Weidenburner.



### FAREWELL WISHES

We extend our best wishes to Keith and Sue Black on their move to Colorado in mid January. Keith and Sue were both serving elders at the time of their departure and we thank them for their service and dedication to our church. You will be missed! Their new address is: *621 Wind River Court, Windsor, CO 80550-3180.*



### CONGRATULATIONS!

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to Alicea Mattler on receiving her Girl Scout Gold Award on January 13, 2012.



### FROM PW

There will be a PW Team meeting on Tuesday, February 28th at 7:30 p.m. in the chapel.



### REMINDER

2012 Per Capita Apportionment is \$30.39 per active member.



### FROM THE OFFICE

Articles for the March *Light* are due in the office by Monday, February 13th.



The office will be closed February 20th through February 24th for vacation. You may leave messages on the answering machine, which will be checked periodically.

## CELEBRATING AN ANNIVERSARY

February 1	Bernie and Sandy Hahnke
February 6	Paul and Shirley Mohan
February 7	John and Kathy Nealand
February 15	Kelston and Sunita Saul
February 17	Barry and Penny Barone
February 25	Alex and Jodi Christophides

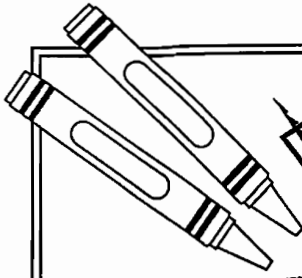




# COTTAGE MEETINGS 2012

- All meetings are held on Wednesdays at 7:30pm unless otherwise noted.
- Pastor/Host lead us in prayer.
- Sing a hymn or 2.
- Read a passage selected by either the Host or Pastor and lead a discussion on the passage.
- Refreshments to be provided by the host
- A fun and learning experience for the ENTIRE FAMILY!!!

<b>Month/Date</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>
January 18	<b>Pastor John &amp; Judie Underwood</b>	56 Summerfield Court Deer Park	243-3971
February 8	<b>Ruben &amp; Natasha Jean-Louis</b>	70 Franklin Avenue Deer Park	242-0722
March 20 <i>(Tuesday meeting)</i>	<b>Gary &amp; Kathy Wolf</b>	85 Western Avenue Deer Park	667-0248
April 18	<b>Cliff &amp; Pat Shaver</b>	8 Bender Court Dix Hills	586-1842
May 16	<b>Tim &amp; Linda Ferguson</b>	30 Fairlawn Drive Deer Park	242-2582
June 20	<b>John &amp; Lynn Hile</b>	34 Elliot Street Islip	581-3413
July/August T.B.A.	<b>Beach Meeting 6:00pm Robert Moses field #3</b>		
September 7 <i>(Friday meeting)</i>	<b>David &amp; Chano Itwaru</b>	336 W. 14th Street Deer Park	667-7539
October 17	<b>Ernie &amp; Elsa Granz</b>	198 Old Country Rd	667-9134
<b>ADVENT MEETINGS</b>			
November 26 <i>(Monday meeting)</i>	<b>Charlie &amp; Cathy Murray</b>	2 Westwood Avenue Deer Park	242-5467
December 5 <i>(Tuesday meeting)</i>	<b>Pastor John &amp; Judie Underwood</b>	56 Summerfield Court Deer Park	243-3971
December 14 <i>(Friday meeting)</i>	<b>Paul &amp; Shirley Mohan</b>	276 W. 15th Street Deer Park	243-6086
December 19	<b>Derrick &amp; Nalini Durgana</b>	135 N. Millet Street Dix Hills	462-1340



# PUZZLE

## FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE

In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

### • • • • DIRECTIONS • • • •

To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.



gain as or ear van an for give  
gave her on it one other he an a

B \_\_\_\_\_ w \_\_\_\_\_ h each

ot \_\_\_\_\_ d \_\_\_\_\_ give

\_\_\_\_\_ e an \_\_\_\_\_ if \_\_\_\_\_ y

of you h \_\_\_\_\_ grie \_\_\_\_\_ ce

a \_\_\_\_\_ st some \_\_\_\_\_ .

For \_\_\_\_\_ as t \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ d

for \_\_\_\_\_ you.”

COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

Answers: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."  
Colossians 3:13, NIV