

# *First Presbyterian Church of Cazenovia*

## **FEBRUARY 2010 Newsletter**

### **WAY TO GO!**

In many respects, 2009 has been a challenging year for us. I think we are all ready to let it go and like Anne of Green Gables, start a new year “fresh, with no mistakes in it.” My prayer is that 2010 will be a new beginning for all of us.

We have not done badly as a faith community this past year. In fact, you have bucked the trends of most churches. Your membership rose above 300 this year. Through your faithful giving of time, talent and money, along with sound management by your various boards and staff, you have kept us within our budgets. We enter into 2010 with some strength.

This is not to say that we are out of the financial woods. We still face a couple years of reduced income from the Wendell-Hubbard Fund due to value reduction and a new three-year averaging formula implemented last year by the fund to compute income. You, however, are the bright and shining stars in this scenario! Through the giving of your time, talents, skills and money, we have seen pledge income remain stable in difficult times and we are projecting a modest increase for 2010. Thank you for your faithfulness!

They, you are still our greatest assets. I give thanks to God for you.

Steve

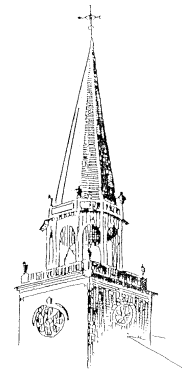
### **STEWARDSHIP SEASON**

Thank you to all who have submitted their pledge for 2010. **97 pledges totaling \$143,596.00 have been received.**

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### **Did You Know?**

In 1817, the Cazenovia Church followed the suggestion of the General Assembly in holding “prayer meetings” at regular intervals as “a special effort to spread the Gospel among the heathen all over the earth.” The next year they decided to distribute a paper box “into which the church members would drop their mites at the monthly concert of prayer (the accepted term known as prayer meetings), and on other occasions as the Lord might prosper them.”



A publication of the  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
of Cazenovia, New York  
**The Reverend Dr. Steven R. Thomas, Jr., Pastor**  
**Worship Services** 10:00 a.m.  
**Nursery care** provided 3 yrs. & under  
**Sunday School** at 10:15 a.m. in the Wendell House  
for children Pre-Kindergarten thru 12th grade.  
**Office Hours:** Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
**Phone:** 315-655-3191 **FAX:** 315-655-4285  
**Website:** [www.cazpres.org](http://www.cazpres.org)  
**email:** [caz1stpresby@windstream.net](mailto:caz1stpresby@windstream.net)  
27 Albany Street P.O. Box 306 Cazenovia, NY 13035  
*Established in 1799*

# Upcoming Events

<u>Alice Edwards Circle:</u>	Meeting: February 17th at noon ~ Meeting House
<u>Board of Deacons:</u>	Meeting: February 21st at 11:15 a.m. ~ Library
<u>Board of Trustees:</u>	Meeting: February sometime at 7:00 p.m. ~ Meeting House <i>watch your email and bulletins for the new date</i>
<u>Christian Education:</u>	Meeting: February 14th at 11:00 a.m. ~ Wendell House
<u>Evangelism &amp; Fellowship:</u>	Meeting: February 14th at 11:15 a.m. ~ Library
<u>Flower Committee:</u>	Meeting: February 7th at 11:15 a.m. ~ Library
<u>Men's Breakfast:</u>	Meeting: February 10th at 7:30 a.m. ~ Meeting House
<u>Outreach Committee:</u>	Meeting: February 14th at 11:15 a.m. ~ Board Room
<u>Session:</u>	Meeting: February 10th at 7:00 p.m. ~ Meeting House
<u>Worship &amp; Music Committee:</u>	Meeting: February 2nd at 5:15 p.m. ~ Board Room
<u>Youth Group:</u>	TBA: Watch your email inboxes and Sunday worship bulletins
<u>Newsletter Deadline:</u>	<b>February 20th for the March Newsletter</b>

## Staff to Host "Thank You" Coffee Hour

It takes a village to raise a child and it takes a congregation to make a church! With this in mind, the staff at First Presbyterian Church would like to thank each and every person in this congregation at a special "Thank You!" coffee hour after church on February 21<sup>st</sup>. All of you contribute so much to make our jobs easier and we would like to say an official thank you. We look forward to seeing all of you at coffee hour, and . . . THANK YOU!!

### Many thanks to . . .

- . . . Roseanne Courtade for helping with mailings and stapling the directories.
- . . . Ned Gruppe for collating bulletins.
- . . . Kristin Schierer for all her dedication to the updating of the website.



## Among Our Young People

Congratulations to Chris and Kristin Schierer who are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Rachel Evelyn, on January 17, 2010. Rachel joins big brother Nathan.

## Alice Edwards Circle...

**Wednesday, February 17, 2010  
at noon at the Meeting House**

Hostesses: Diane Phillips,  
Anne Hartt-Barbey

Program: The Ruthwell Cross,  
Diane Campbell

Bring your smile and a sandwich.  
Dessert and beverage are provided.

## Men's Breakfast

Meeting House  
**February 10th, 7:30 a.m.**  
Chef: Whomever



**All men are welcome to gather for breakfast!**

# Sunday School News



## February Sunday School Schedule

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| February 7th  | Youth in grades 7 thru 12 stay for entire worship<br>7th & 8th grade Class greets, please arrive by 9:30 a.m. |
| February 14th | Group Session beginning at 10:00 a.m. ~ Wendell House   |
| February 21st | Regular Session in the Wendell House at 10:15 a.m.  |
| February 28th | Regular Session in the Wendell House at 10:15 a.m.  |

For a regular session children and youth attend the worship service first and are excused from service to attend Sunday School for the remainder of the service. The first Sunday of each month the other youth, grades 7-12, will stay for the entire worship.

Children are invited to use the children's Bibles, books and children's bulletins during worship. The children's bulletins are located on the bench in the narthex and are designed for children ages 3-6 and 7-12.

If you have questions or would like to assist in the Sunday School program please contact Emily Weldon at 315-530-5683 or [egweldon@gmail.com](mailto:egweldon@gmail.com).

## Coins for Haiti



The youth in Sunday School have decided to collect their loose change for one month and donate the total collection to Haitian relief efforts. The goal is to reach \$100.00 in a month. A total of \$69.10 has been collected so far with three Sundays to go!

## Friendship Dinners

Guest lists for the January - March Friendship dinners were mailed to hosts early in January. A list of hosts and their guests is also posted in the Meeting Hall. Hosts will be contacting their guests to set up a date and time for the dinner. If you would like to be included in the next round of Friendship Dinners, or have suggestions related to Friendship Dinners, please contact Kevin or Kristin Curtis (315.655.5836). Friendship dinners are gatherings of six to nine people that take place four times per year. Everyone takes turns hosting and guests change with each gathering. It's a great way to fellowship with old friends and meet new ones.

**Lent** is a forty-day period before Easter when we prepare to observe Christ's death on Good Friday and his resurrection on Easter. The forty days begin on Ash Wednesday, February 17, and end on Holy or Maundy Thursday, April 1. We do not count the Sundays when we count the forty days, because they are considered "little Easters" as they commemorate the resurrection. The number 40 is significant because Jesus spent 40 days at the start of his ministry fasting, praying and resisting temptation, which is what we are called to do during Lent.

On Ash Wednesday, many receive ashes as a sign of grief and repentance. The ashes come from last year's palms that have been burned. Even though we do not receive and wear ashes in the Presbyterian Church, we still feel truly sorry that we do not live a life that is closer to God and that we truly intend to do better.

Ask yourself, "What can I do during Lent to truly make me more open to God and make me more ready to celebrate Easter?"



The news of the **massive earthquake** suffered Tuesday by the Western Hemisphere's poorest country, Haiti, has stunned us all. The resources of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is kicking into gear. PDA is seeking to raise \$1,000,000 for this response. If you would like to donate to a special offering for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to assist with relief in Haiti, please

**make all checks payable to the First Presbyterian Church of Cazenovia, mark it clearly for Haitian Disaster Relief** and we will see that it is forwarded to them. For more information, go to [www.pcusa.org/pda](http://www.pcusa.org/pda).

### **Hygiene Kits for Haiti**

The Christian Education and Outreach Committees are organizing supplies to prepare hygiene kits for Haiti. Listed below are the supplies needed. **We will also need \$2 per kit to cover mailing charges.**

Hygiene Kit (previously Health Kit)

- 1 — hand towel (approximately 16" x 28", no fingertip or bath towels)
- 1 — washcloth
- 1 — wide-tooth comb
- 1 — nail clipper (no metal files or emery boards)
- 1 — bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)
- 1 — toothbrush (in original packaging)
- 6 — Band-Aids® or other adhesive bandage strips

**Please do not add toothpaste to the Hygiene Kit.** Toothpaste, which will have an extended expiration date, will be added to Hygiene Kit shipments just prior to shipment. Seal all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure.

**For information regarding the collapse of the Holy Cross Hospital in Leogane, a long time PC(USA) related hospital in Haiti, the status of various PC(USA) church mission teams and their whereabouts, go to <http://www.pcusa.org/pcnews/2010/10044.htm> . You will also find updated information regarding PC(USA)'s response to the Disaster relief efforts.**

## From your Director of Music . . .



“Music is an agreeable harmony for the honor of God and the permissible delights of the soul.” J.S. Bach

I’ve barely gotten used to January and now I’m being asked to write an article for the February newsletter? The good news is that the sun is shining and the music programs at First Presbyterian Church have a good solid start on 2010!

Roses for the month of January go to Mary Coburn for substituting for me on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January and enabling me to spend more time with my children who were here visiting us; Rae Tobey, Kate Ball and Matt Henderson for the Bell Peal that they rang on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January to call us to worship, the Sounds of Chimes Choir for their very special Introit on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January and the Jubilate Choir for their wonderful rendition of “Kyrie” on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January. As always there is a constant stream of roses to the Senior Choir for their work every Sunday in worship.



We are beginning to look at music for the Tenebrae Service. This very special service which uses readings and music to depict that last days of the life of Christ will take place on Thursday, the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, this year. Easter is early this year and will be celebrated on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April!

All of our choirs sing and ring, but the congregation has their chance to sing and praise God with their voices during the singing of the hymns. This is your chance to participate actively in worship. Remember that God is tone deaf! I have always felt that God cares more for your participation and your smile than he cares about musical perfection so....sing and sing out loud! This is really an introduction to my next topic which is “Why Was this Hymn Written?” On the 24<sup>th</sup> of January, we sang “Blest Be The Tie That Binds.” John Fawcett wrote the words to this hymn and he lived an amazing life in the mid 1700’s and early 1800’s. He worked 12 hours a day in a sweatshop as a youth and still managed to learn to read. At 16 he was inspired by George Whitefield and eventually was ordained a Baptist Minister. He served a small struggling congregation in Northern England where often he was paid in produce rather than money. After several years at this church he received a call to serve a

prestigious congregation in London and was packed and ready to leave for the new parish. However, he found that he “could not break the ties of affection that bound him to his dear friends.” John and his wife, Mary, never left the church in Northern England and never earned more than \$200 a year. The words to the hymn “Bless Be the Tie That Binds” were as a poem, “Brotherly Love” which was read at the close of his sermon on his first Sunday back at the small church.

### Staff to Host “Thank You” Coffee Hour

Have you heard about the “Thank You” Coffee Hour? The staff recognizes that it takes every single person in this congregation to make the church work. We know that we could not do anything without all of your help so we are going to say thank you to ALL of you on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February at coffee hour after church. We hope see you all there.



**Childcare** is available during worship on Sunday for children three and under. The nursery is located just through the door located to the left of the main doors to the sanctuary.



### Help is Available!!!

If you, or someone you know, is in occasional need of help to take care of small items around the house or yard that used to be handled personally, the Deacons would like to offer assistance. If the task is a larger one, we may be able to coordinate efforts of local youth volunteer groups that are looking for community service projects. Please contact one of the Deacons personally or call the church office at 655-3191.

# Among Our People...



## ***In Our Prayers . . .***

*We would ask that you include in your prayers those among us who are ill or injured or have lost loved ones . . .*

***The people of Haiti and all the rescuers helping them***

***Bonnie & Kenneth Arnold***

(Nancy Sagar's sister & brother-in-law)

***Kevin & Dawn Banks***

***Helen Bell***

***Jenny Berliner*** (Jennifer Bailey's niece)

***Lana Buyea***

***Doug Capraro***

***Nancy (Monroe) Chase***

***Cindy Crowley*** (Carol Schoch's sister)

***Robert Daggett*** (Bill & Jean Daggett's son)

***Joan DeFrees***

***Janie Duncan*** (Reverend Russ Duncan's wife)

***Doris Farmer***

***Family & friends of David Farwell***

(Darlene McEntee's father)

***Debbie Gregg and family***

***Charlotte Jochem***

***Mark Ragonese*** (Sandy Diefendorf's son-in-law)

***Joel Redmond*** (friend of Reverend Thomas family)

***Rahel Reger*** (Beth and Ken Reger's daughter-in-law)

***Gertrude Reimann*** (Claire Royce's mother)

***Bill Robbins***

***Sally Scribner***

***Nick Shane*** (son of Janet Furco and Stanley Shane)

***Jane Shawcross*** (Joan Brooks' sister)

***Janet Sinn***

***Si Ulcickas***



## ***Pray for Peace ...***

***. . . and for the men and women stationed throughout the world in service to their country. Pray for their safety.***

**LCpl. Patrick Baker**

(returned from Southwest Asia)

**PFC. Bowe Bergdahl and his family**

(captured in Afghanistan)

**Lt. Col. Paul Timothy Brooks,**

**USArmy 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry**

(redeployed to Southwest Asia)

**Col. Michael Hughes, US Army; and his wife**

(Col. Hughes ~ deployed to Southwest Asia; friends of the Sagar)

**SSgt. Matt Shane**

(son of Janet Furco and Stanley Shane ~ returned from Southwest Asia)

**CPT(P) Stephanie Tuttle Susskind**

(niece of Sharye Skinner & Dick Tuttle)

**The brave men and women who are recovering from their tours in war-torn Southwest Asia, the nurses, doctors and therapists who care for them, and their families; family & friends of all the men & women in uniform who have made the ultimate sacrifice**

If you have a name to share, please contact the church office (655-3191).

## ***Gathered unto God . . .***

David Farwell

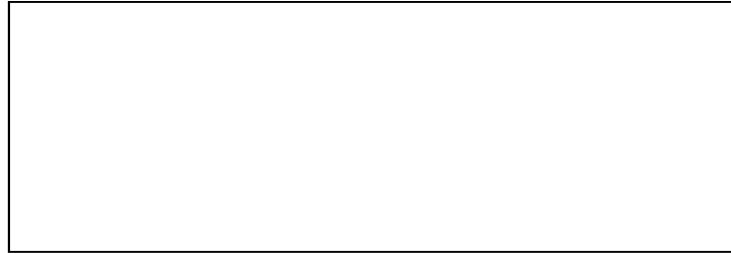


***Pray for peace!***

First Presbyterian Church  
27 Albany St.  
P.O. Box 306  
Cazenovia, NY 13035

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Please deliver  
this terrific  
publication to:



## *First Presbyterian Church of Cazenovia*

### **New Member Classes**

will be held

March 7th, 14th and 21st.

New-member breakfast will be held on

Palm Sunday

following the worship service.

Additional details will follow

in the March Newsletter.



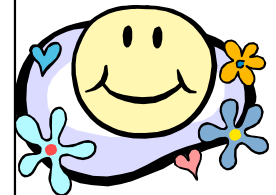
### **Men's Breakfast**

February 10 at 7:30 a.m.  
in the Meeting House

**Alice Edwards Circle**

### **Alice Edwards Circle...**

February 17 at noon  
in the Meeting House



**March  
Newsletter  
Deadline**

**is  
February 20th!**

## *Newsletter*