

# THE MESSENGER

*The Newsletter of*

## MEYERSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

223 Hickory Tavern Road at the Circle in Meyersville

Gillette, NJ 07933-1038

**The Rev. Barbara F. Aspinall, Pastor**

908-647-0390 - [www.meyersvillechurch.com](http://www.meyersvillechurch.com) - [secretaryMPC@aol.com](mailto:secretaryMPC@aol.com)

Epiphany Sunday,  
January 4, 2015



## In Praise of God's Creation January 11, 4 pm

*Praise ye the Lord.  
Praise ye the Lord from the heavens:  
Praise Him in the heights.  
Praise ye Him, all His angels,  
praise ye Him, all ye stars of light.  
Praise ye Him, sun and moon  
.... Praise Him ye heavens of heavens,  
and ye waters that be above the heavens....  
Let them praise the Name of the Lord:  
for His name alone is excellent:  
His glory is above the earth and heaven.*

**PRAISE THE LORD**

Psalm 148

On Sunday, January 11th, Roberta Keller, our choir, and guest musicians will be presenting the requested reprise of *In Praise of God's Creation*, a musical program of songs, hymns, instrumental music and sound effects celebrating God's gift to us of creation. Join us on January 11th!



email: [baspinall223@aol.com](mailto:baspinall223@aol.com)  
January 2015

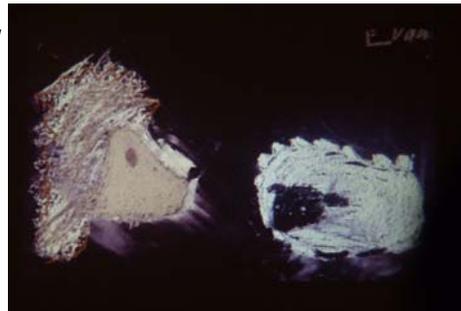
Dear Church Family,



*I loved our Candlelight Christmas Eve service this year! It was all about the story - the story of the birth of our Savior. We told it with the words of Scripture, with the beautiful carols that everybody knows, the drawings by our own children, with light and dark and candles and stars. Shanon and Evan read; the choir sang and I felt joyful. Many thanks to all, especially John Arnold, and Roberta Keller and the choir, who put in extra labor to make it happen so beautifully, but mostly I thank the lovely and warm Meyersville congregation for being there and delighting in it all along with me.*

Yours in Christ,

*Barbara*





## *Special Guest Preacher January 25th, The Rev. Dr. George Gray Toole*

Our friend, George Toole will be joining us on Sunday, January 25 to lead worship and greet old friends. George was pastor of our church from 1964-1969. He has recently retired from most of his pastoral and teaching responsibilities in Maryland which frees him to be with us on January 25th. George was recently honored with an endowment gift in his name to the seminary where he has taught for 30 years, The Ecumenical Institute in Baltimore, by a member of his congregation in Towson, MD. If you know of old Meyersville friends who might like to be here on that day to greet George, please let them know!



## *Sunday Morning Worship on January 18th at First Presbyterian Church, Stirling 10 am.*

On January 18, because Barbara will be recovering from foot surgery, we will be joining our friends at First Presbyterian in Stirling for worship. The service is at 10 am and we are welcome to join in the Fellowship and coffee time afterwards. Come be part of the fellowship of the Presbyterians of Long Hill Township.

## *ADVENT ACTIVITY SUNDAY, December 21st*

We exchanged cookies, delivered cards and cookies to our homebound members and friends, mailed Christmas cards, created beautiful centerpieces, made an edible decoration, rang handbells and ate a delicious soup lunch. A fun day for all. Thanks to everyone who helped bring it together!







## Annual Reports

It's that time of year again!

We are hereby reminding all committee heads to get your reports ready. All reports are due in the office by Monday, January 12th, so that the Annual Report book can be produced. Please get all your information into the office as soon as you can. We thank you in advance for being prompt. You can email your report to [secretaryMPC@aol.com](mailto:secretaryMPC@aol.com).

If you serve in one of the positions listed below, the office is looking for a report from you!

Pastor	Board of Deacons
Clerk of Session	Property Committee
Nominating Committee	Community Relations Committee
Stewardship Committee	Christian Education Committee
Personnel Committee	Missions
Music Department	Memorial Committee
Audit Committee	Christian Youth Fund
Worship Committee	Treasurer
Congregational Life	Financial Secretary
Bazaar Committee	

## Nominating Committee

Our Congregational Nominating Committee will soon begin working on the slate of new church officers to be presented for approval at our Annual Congregational Meeting on February 1st. The committee members will be Doris Mertz and Barbara Grillo from the Session; there will be a representative from the Board of Deacons; with Lisa Kielblock, Gayle Skrobacz, Laura Mertz and Margaret Arnold as Members at Large elected last February at the Congregational Meeting. This Committee will be considering candidates to serve on Session, the Board of Deacons, for Financial Secretary, Audit Committee. If you would like to suggest yourself or another person as a candidate for these offices in our church, please speak with a committee member.

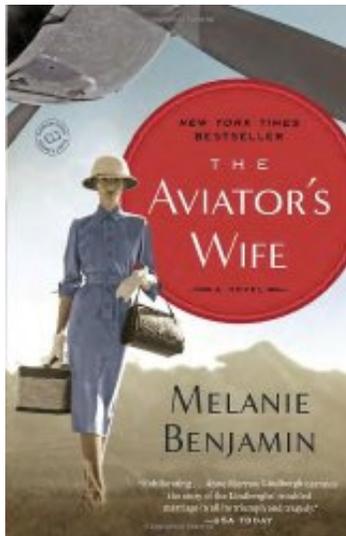


**Meyersville Church Book Club**  
**Friday, February 6, 2015, 7:30 p.m.**



The Meyersville Church Book Club will meet on Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup> to talk about a historical fiction novel about Anne Morrow Lindbergh called *The Aviator's Wife* by Melanie Benjamin. From the *Booklist* review of the novel:

*Benjamin delivers another stellar historical novel based on the experiences of an extraordinary woman. In this outing, she spotlights Anne Morrow Lindbergh, wife of wildly famous Charles*



*Lindbergh and pioneering aviatrix and accomplished author in her own right. Though their courtship is the stuff of every girl's romantic fantasy, time and reality combine to reveal a much different story. Plagued by tragedy and often stifled by her domineering husband, she eventually manages to carve out a quasi-independent life and career for herself. Fictional biography at its finest; serious readers may want to pair this with the recently published *Against Wind and Tide*, the sixth and final volume of Anne Morrow Lindbergh's copious letters and journal entries.*

**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**Sunday, February 1st**

The Annual Congregational Meeting and Souper Bowl Sunday Lunch will be on Sunday, February 1, 2015. It's important for all active members to attend as you will hear reports from all the committees and boards, and it is the time to elect new church officers for 2015. You will have an opportunity to vote on recommendations of Session for terms of the Pastor's call. This is also your chance to make suggestions regarding the life and ministry of our church.

After the meeting, we will enjoy a **Souper Bowl Sundae Lunch**.





## Almost Spring Rummage Sale Planned

Although it feels like our Annual Bazaar was just last week, we are planning already for Almost Spring Rummage Sale and Pancake Breakfast Buffet on Saturday, **March 21st**. “Granny’s Attic” has always been so successful at not only raising money for the church’s ministries, but forwarding unwanted household items to new homes. You may bring your gifts to the church at the beginning of February.

**Start checking your attic, garage, basement and closets for treasures!**

## Weber Grill Raffle

As part of our Almost Spring Rummage Sale, we will be raffling a beautiful new Weber grill, the Weber Genesis S-330, that has a retail value of \$950.00. We will begin selling tickets shortly. Tell your friends! Sell some tickets! Below are the “specs.”

total cooking area: 637 sq. inches.  
three stainless steel burners.  
38,000 BTU per hour input main burners.  
12,000 BTU per hour input flush mounted side burner.  
10,000 BTU per hour input sear station  
7 mm diameter stainless steel rod cooking grates  
available in propane or natural gas  
stainless steel flavorizer bars  
stainless steel shroud  
center-mounted thermometer  
stainless steel work surface  
fuel gauge





## January Mission: Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown

January's mission is to help the **Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown, Inc**, an ecumenical effort supported and run by 33 congregations from the greater Morristown area. All the proceeds from our annual Souper Bowl Sunday on February 2nd, will go toward this important cause that includes providing healthy meals in a clean, warm, safe and friendly environment and to treat their guests with dignity while giving them hope. It also gives the community a chance to truly offer help where it is desperately needed, doing something as a step toward alleviating hunger and homelessness, a golden opportunity for our church to share with those in need.

The **Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown** has been serving nourishment since it provided soup and sandwiches to 4 people in 1984. It has grown to include 30 congregations and over 2,000 volunteers who serve from 80 to 180 guests every day, 365 days a year. About a third of these are homeless and some have mental illnesses or suffer from substance abuse. But most comprise the ever growing group of working poor, elderly and disabled who cannot afford the food to stay healthy. They also make arrangements for a myriad of other services such as Visiting Nurse services, Mental Health facilities and guidance in finding homes, employment and education. Please be generous now as you reflect on the blessings in your life. For more information about the **Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown**, please call (973) 267-0709 or check their website [www.cskmorristown.org](http://www.cskmorristown.org). Our Souper Bowl Sunday lunch on February 1st will support this ministry.

## COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED!!



We sure could use a few new coffee hour hosts! There are many helpers and information available if you haven't done it before. Please sign up on bulletin board.



## What is per capita apportionment?

The *per capita* apportionment is a per member charge that we pay annually to the Newton Presbytery. It represents our share of the administrative costs of Newton Presbytery, the Synod of the Northeast and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA. The charge for 2015 is raised to \$33.00 per member. It does not include young children who have not been confirmed. That means that if there are two church members in your family, the *per capita* for you will be \$66.00.

In the past, our Meyersville Church has paid the total amount for our members to the presbytery out of our annual budget. Beginning a few years ago however, the Session is asking the congregation to consider paying the per capita for your family. In this way, you enable our church to use all of your pledge money for our church's operating expenses, church programs, and mission commitments. It helps our presbytery if we pay this *per capita* by the end of January because the presbytery gets a discount for early payment.

You will find in the new year's box of pledge envelopes, a special envelope designated "*per capita*". If you do not use envelopes, you can designate it on the memo line of your check.



## Multiple Choice!

Taught by skilled members of our own congregation, our church offers three continuing and very different learning experiences. **Gentle Yoga** is taught by a certified yoga instructor, Rosanne McGraw; **Rug Braiding** is taught by Peg Arnold who has been making braided wool rugs for many years; and the **computer classes** are taught by the very knowledgeable Ruud Zijdel. Members and friends are most welcome to participate in any (or all!) of these free classes.



Gentle Yoga: Tuesday mornings at 8:30  
Rug Braiding: Tuesday mornings at 9:30  
Computer Basics: Saturdays at 10:00 a. m.



## Bible Study of the Old Testament Continues

Sundays at 11:15 a.m.

On Sundays, starting January 4th, after the worship service, we are continuing with our study of the Old Testament. The group meets in the Parlor for approximately an hour.

In the coming weeks, we will be considering the Israelite monarchy - its successes and failures, its principles and personalities. Who was David? What happened with Solomon? And then with the end of the period of the great kings, how did God speak to God's people through the prophets?



*King Solomon's Temple*

January 4 *King David* I Samuel 16-31, II Samuel, I Kings 1-2

January 11 *From King Solomon to PreClassical Prophecy*

I Kings 3 - II Kings 17

February 8 *The Prophets and the Fall of the North*

I Kings 16- II Kings 17, Amos, Hosea



### News from the Deacons

The Deacons are scheduled to host Family Promise at Trinity House, (no longer at the Shrine of St. Joseph) from Friday, January 30th 5 p.m. to Saturday January 31st until 12 noon. Chili is on the menu for Friday evening. The Deacons could use help with overnight coverage for Friday night and since weekend coverage includes the following morning, coverage is needed until 12 noon on Saturday. In addition, the deacons could use a volunteer or two to help serve a hot breakfast. Ruud Zijdel is planning to contribute his poffertjes. Any and all help from the congregation would be appreciated.

There will be a Deacons Meeting Sunday, January 25th to finalize plans.

## MESSENGER MAILING LIST

We are updating our Messenger mailing list for 2015. If you would like to have your name removed from the list, please email secretaryMPC@aol.com or call the church office (908) 647-0390. If you would like to have the Messenger emailed rather than mailed, please email SecretaryMPC@aol.com or call the church office (908) 647-0390.



## COMPUTER CLASSES CONTINUING

Computer classes taught by Ruud Zijdel continue on Saturdays at 10:00 am. This is a great opportunity to catch up to the world around you by learning basic word processing, how to use the Internet, and how to store and display photographs. Come join the group!

## NEWS FROM OUR CONGREGATION

### Happy Birthday

Jan 3 Diana Kantor

Kim Sadowski

Jan 6 Wanda Kielblock

Jan 9 Laura Minaian

Jan 13 Douglas Smith

Jan 23 Carol Skidmore

Jan 25 Russell Boyle

Jan 30 Gladys Dilkes

Karen Leski,

Michelle Urbanski



## WE PRAY FOR:

**Mike Ambrosio**, friend of Doug Smith  
**Jessica Arico and daughter**, friends of Carol Boyle  
**Sal Badalamenti**, friend of Barbara Aspinall  
**George Barker**, Marion Barker's brother  
**Marilyn Barker**, Marion Barker's sister-in-law  
**Margaret Bauknight**, friend of Lynne Hilf  
**Bird Family**, community friends  
**Clark Carson**, husband of Claudia  
**Claudia Carson**, former member  
**Ellen Dreyer**, sister-in-law of Barbara Grillo  
**Pat Edmonds and family**, cousin of Gail Duffe  
**Betty Garrett**, friend of Lynne Hilf  
**Betty Lembrich**, church member  
**Eleanor Matthews**, friend of Peg Arnold  
**Stella Mauro**, church member  
**George McDaniel**, relative of the Skidmore family  
**Quaid Mobus**, friend of Roberta Keller  
**Ian Rahimi**, friend of Minaian family  
**Adrienne Schmitt**, Deborah Schmitt's mother  
**Beth Shaw**, Kielblock cousin  
**Garland Smith**, Joanne Smith's brother  
**Theresa Soeth**, Marcie Skrobacz's aunt  
**Mary Stapperfenne**, Jean's daughter-in-law  
**Robert and Elva Wenz**, Jean Stapperfenne's sister & brother-in-law  
**Charlene Wilverding**, friend of Kelly Roshto



We extend our **CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** to the families of the following church members and friends who passed into the Church Triumphant in recent weeks.

**John Goberis**, Carol Skidmore's father  
**Robert Marino**, community friend  
**Robert Brinley**, Peggy Cappeto's brother  
**Jack Zijdel**, Ruud Zijdel's brother

