



FISHERMEN'S NEWS

The Greenwood Community Church, Presbyterian
805 Main Avenue; Warwick, Rhode Island
www.gccp.org

FEBRUARY 2012

Dear Members and Friends,

I recently returned from a unique, engaging, inspiring and informative conference of the Fellowship of Presbyterians held in Orlando (followed by a brief visit to Key West where I "ran" ... trugged, actually ... a half-marathon; needless to say, I set no age group records). There is much to report, but for now I'll just refer you to the web site (www.fellowship-pres.org) and will reserve additional comments/reporting for a future time ... except for the following. As I now write just hours after the reports of the 68th Annual Meeting of Greenwood Community Church, Presbyterian (and THANK YOU to all who so faithfully took part!), I am reminded of comments from one of the conference speakers, Jim Singleton. He recalled for the 2100+ in attendance some aspects of our rich denominational heritage. "For a long time in our Presbyterian heritage, we used a form of questions called the 'Narrative on the State of Religion.' Every congregation in the denomination had to answer the narrative's questions and submit them for review by the presbytery. If you look in the minutes of 1925 and before you will see these wonderful reports!" He went on to say in the 1920s, when the denomination "... stopped looking at the stories and started looking at the numbers ... the narrative report was dropped." Jim reviewed the 1908 "Narrative" and commented how refreshing it might be to recover some of this delightful and inspiring conversation in our home presbyteries. From the 1908 General Assembly Minutes, the Narrative included questions concerning:

- Attendance "upon the service of the sanctuary" by members and others
- Proportions of your families that observe family worship at home
- Observance of the Lord's day by your members
- Home-training of the congregation's children in the Scripture and in the catechism of the church
- Training of pupils in the Sabbath school in the Scripture and the catechism of the church (in that time, Sabbath school was primarily for non-churched children. The congregation's children were trained at home.)
- Fidelity of the membership in honoring the Lord with their substance;
- Has the congregation paid its minister fully and promptly the amount promised him? (Not a problem here; thank you!)
- Have there been any special manifestations of the Holy Spirit's power in the church either by conversions or by increased activity in church work?
- To what extent does worldly conformity exist in the church?
- What evangelistic work is done by the church outside of its bounds?
- What efforts are made by your session to secure recruits for the Gospel ministry?

I realized that almost the exact time Jim was speaking to us, some elders and deacons were back here in Fellowship Hall collating and stapling our own "Narrative", the **2011 Annual Report!** Thank you to all who labored so lovingly and thoroughly to produce this engaging, informative, inspiring, detailed and thorough compilation of a very full, fruitful and productive year in the life of Greenwood Church. (If you did not get a copy, there are several still available; it will also soon be posted on gccp.org.) --- **Stephen L. Clark, Pastor**



Pics from the PW Christmas Dinner, Angel Tree and the Christmas pageant!

THIS MONTH IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

christianed@gccp.org

Stephen Nazareth, Seth Paradise, Lisa David, Wendy Petrucci, Timoli Richardson
Rachael Czeypyha and Chris Nazareth

WHAT'S GOING ON IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

Happy New Year from the Sunday School Staff!

February will begin the Food Drive that is sponsored by the 3rd and 4th grade Sunday school classroom. There will be a basket on the stage in Fellowship Hall to leave all your non-perishable goods. There will be a contest again this year for the class that brings in the most cans. We will also have a contest for the student that brings in the most cans. He or she will receive a gift certificate to Morning Star.

Get ready for Lent! Beginning on February 26 we will begin collecting coins for our Heifer project. Thank you in advance to all who contribute to our Coin Drive!

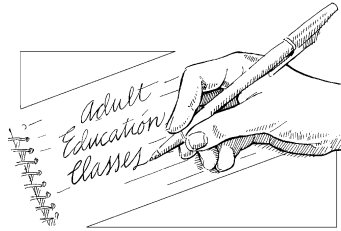
The following is the breakdown:

- Pennies - February 26
- Nickels - March 4
- Dimes - March 11
- Quarters - March 18
- Dollars - March 25



Heifer Coin Drive

WHAT'S GOING ON IN ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



The Adult Education class will be looking in depth at the Sermon on the Mount. All are invited to come to the parlor at 9:00 and join in the discussion.

Please see Harry Curran for class material.

29 Eleven NEWS

Jeremiah 29:11: For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Chris, Matt, Eric, Timoli, Emmy, Arielle, Steve and Chris want to invite all youth in grades 7 through 12 to check out the new 29 Eleven Student Ministries on Sunday nights from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Don't come alone. Bring a friend! Come for food, music, games and great messages each and every week . . . and for fun-filled retreats during the year and rewarding mission trips each summer!

We have a retreat planned for February 3-5 at Camp Aldersgate. Join us for a great weekend!

Help support our adopted child, Jean, from Haiti, by purchasing a candy bar from the box in the youth room or a soda from the fridge.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

We are looking for a few more people to fill in when needed for Children's Church and Sunday School. If you are able to help, please let us know. If you are not yet trained, we would be happy to train you for this important service.

Thank you to all who have sent in a pledge card for 2012. It takes many people to support this church family, and your Session appreciates the faithfulness of so many.

Did you know that it takes \$910 per day
and \$6,393 per week to run the
ministry and mission of our church?

THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

“But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing to the LORD, for he has been good to me.” (Psalm 13:5-6)



Stewardship Report

Stewardship Campaign 2011

The number of pledge cards received to date is down twenty from last year. This is the result of some people pledging for the first time, others returning to pledging and others who pledged last year not submitting a pledge card for 2012. It is never too late to submit a pledge card. A special 'Thank You' to those who have moved away from Rhode Island but continue to support the programs here at Greenwood.

We have received 117 pledges totaling \$238,906.32. Of the 117 pledging units, there are 11 new pledges, 38 increased pledges, 63 unchanged pledges and 5 decreased pledges.

The median pledge for 2012 is \$24.00 per week, half of the pledges are greater than that amount and half are less. This is an increase of \$0.92 over the median pledge from last year. Those who increased their pledges had an overall increase of 11.7%. The overall increase in giving for those who pledged was 8.2%. The chart below illustrates our pledged giving for 2012 and is the typical giving pattern in most congregations, 30 giving units (26%) represent 61% of our pledged income.

Weekly Pledge	# of	Total \$	% of Pledges	% of Total \$
\$1.00 to \$9.99	12	\$3,360.00	10.26%	1.41%
\$10.00 to \$24.99	47	\$39,825.00	40.17%	16.67%
\$25.00 to \$49.99	28	\$48,804.00	23.93%	20.43%
\$50.00 to \$99.99	19	\$65,836.00	16.24%	27.56%
Over \$100.00	11	\$81,081.32	9.40%	33.94%
	117	\$238,906.32	100.00%	100.00%

Memorial and Endowment Fund

The Memorial and Endowment Fund was created "to provide a place to conserve all money from memorial gifts, bequests and other monies specifically designated to this fund to benefit the continuing programs of Greenwood Church." Income from these funds is used as directed by the Trustees to support the programs of the church in many ways. The principal of the fund cannot be used without the approval of a 3/4 vote of the congregation at a congregational meeting of the corporation. Since the fund's creation in 1982, contributions and other receipts transferred to the fund have totaled \$495,454.78.

The Board of Trustees requires the Treasurer to provide a monthly analysis of the Fund's market value to enable the Church to monitor and capture the appreciation from the Fund. As of December 31, 2011, the market value of the fund was \$553,063.27 (over \$57,000 more than the principal). This is \$33,649.86 (5.7%) less than a year ago due to market conditions.

Memorial contributions totaling \$1645 were made during the year. Gifts were given by George R. Robinson in memory of Norman and Elizabeth Robinson, Marjorie Mair, Dr. Jack Robinson, Faye Burlingaine, Norman Robinson Sr., Robert Robinson, and Lawrence Robinson. Other gifts were made in memory of Ronald Snyder, Gladys Bracker, David Riccitelli, Ruth Devolve, Ruth Allard and May Degnan. Presbyterian Women also contributed to the Fund.

Capital Campaign

The Capital Campaign continues to receive funds from the congregation from both the fulfillment of pledges made and one time gifts. The Treasurer maintains an accounting of the income and expenditures relative to the Capital Campaign and the line of credit the church has established in order to make the timely payments necessary for the steeple and sanctuary roof projects which were completed the last year. This campaign is ongoing, and the Stewardship Committee appreciates your continuing support and encourages you to continue to support it as you are able so that we can pay off the line of credit in a timely manner.

Organ Fund

The Organ Fund continues to receive gifts from the congregation from both the fulfillment of pledges made and one time gifts. The Treasurer maintains an accounting of the income and expenditures relative to the Organ Fund and the borrowing from and repayment to the church's line of credit. Funds were borrowed from the line of credit in order to make payment in full at the time the order was placed and receive a discount on the price of the organ. This fund is ongoing and the Stewardship Committee appreciates and encourages your continuing support as you are able so that we can repay the line of credit in a timely manner.

2012 Budget

The Session approved a total budget of \$339,200 which is 2.0% more than last year. Staffing costs were increased by 2.7% to recognize the accomplishments and dedication of our staff. Operations, Utilities, Insurance and Church Programs are being funded at a level below 2011 as a result of a significant reduction in our insurance costs. Directed Mission Giving is being increased by 10% and is 10.2% of the operating budget. The Session decided to increase this area of our budget to share the income we received from our investments. We also recognize that most of the Church's activities, funded by all portions of the budget, fall into the broader definition of mission — how we can bring the Word of God to those around us.

“And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6: 8)

Barry Baxter, Stewardship Committee Chair

MISSION COMMITTEE



During 2012 the Mission Committee will be highlighting the many missions supported by the prayers and pledges of Greenwood Church. Information about the numerous organizations and missionaries will also be displayed on the Mission bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Your contributions are greatly appreciated to help spread the gospel and address the needs of our neighbors both near and far. Thank you for your generous support! Mission Envelopes can be given as undesignated or to specific missions you have an interest in.

Children's Hunger Fund chfus.org

Children's Hunger Fund distributes food, clothing, hygiene items and other aid across America and around the world. Over 97% of its revenue is used for programs serving the needs of children. The International Program services countries such as Uganda, Thailand, Rwanda, Philippines, Peru, Pakistan, Ukraine, Nepal, Myanmar, Mexico and India.

Emmanuel Hospital Association (USA) www.eha-health.org

EHA currently runs 34 medical projects in 22 different locations in 12 states in India. Sixteen of these locations are where EHA hospitals are found and six are stand alone projects. There are 182 full time project staff employed through these projects and over 600 volunteers and part-time local workers. Twelve partner organizations support these projects through financial grants. These projects currently cover over 3 million people.

At Broadwell Christian Hospital in Fatehpur, India, a city of over 300,000 people, the hospital is both a physical and spiritual center of healing. Every morning the staff prays with patients, weekly the team gathers for prayer and monthly a variety of Christian organizations, churches, missionaries and evangelists come together to lift up the needs of the community. The gospel is shared openly and tracts are distributed to every patient.

Wycliffe Bible Translators Wycliffe.org

Wycliffe works all around the world. Currently their efforts serve languages spoken in more than 90 countries. Today about 340 million people do not have any Scripture in their language. Wycliffe's vision is to see the Bible accessible to all people in the language they understand best. To make this vision a reality, Wycliffe also focuses on community development, literacy development and church partnerships. The majority of the remaining translation needs represent minority languages—relatively small people groups. Often these groups have no written language of their own, and many struggle to gain the literacy skills they need to prosper in the majority culture.

The benefits of translation and literacy for these minority language groups are many. They include better health as a result of access to medical information, economic growth due to the acquisition of marketable skills, and the preservation of culture thanks to a written history. Most importantly, Bible translation brings people closer to God Himself—the One who transforms hearts.

The Mission Committee

Myrle Dean, Jean Greco, Emmy Kmet, Henry Ruppenthal, Deb Stacey,
Wilma Swanson and chair Harry Curran



HART BEAT

If you and I have visited since November 29, you know that I'm absolutely delighted with our new organ! By the way, I've named her Gloria (last name: in excelsis Deo). A month of total immersion allowed me to really get acquainted with her features. In addition to the gorgeous, clear fundamental organ sounds, the *midi* elements make "Gloria" extremely versatile. In worship December 18, you heard the lovely harpsichord; on December 24-25, the harp, flute, oboe, bells and tinkling zimbelstern on the Christmas carols. We're still awaiting antiphonal speakers for the balcony. In the meantime, try sitting in a different part of the sanctuary to hear the organ from a different perspective. The sound varies depending on where you sit!

Now that we have the new organ, let's concentrate on adding more participants to the music ministry. We need singers of all ages as well as bell players. *Please* think about joining us. It takes lots of members to make a volunteer music program successful!

Kathy Hart



Join the Choir!

BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

As we get closer to the days of snow and ice here in New England, the Building and Grounds Committee would like all our GCCP church family to be safe and careful when entering and exiting the church building. OK, ok. Yes, we all know that it's a very different winter so far....but who knows what the weather is going to be like when this does get published and you get around to reading these words? So, if we all remember to take our time and not try to rush when (not if) the snow and ice finally arrive, I wouldn't have wasted this space and ink. The next All Church Work Day will be scheduled sometime in April. More on that and (if I can actually be at a Work Day without it raining!) other important information on upcoming projects will be here in the FN!



Enjoy the New Year from the B & G Committee!

In His Name,
Glenn I. Fairbairn, Chairman



NEWS FROM PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Thank you to everyone who helped to make our Mini Bazaar so successful. Our profit of \$1,875 will help to support our PW budget. Thank you also to Stu Mason, Jim Channell, Dick Collins and the rest of the "kitchen crew" who prepared our delicious Christmas Dinner. We always appreciate having the men of the church serve as our waiters and clean up crew. Thank you to the ladies of Circle IV for providing our appetizers, punch, and dessert cookies. We enjoyed them all. The Program Committee and their helpers presented a wonderful program "Don't Let The Grouches Steal Your Christmas." We all enjoyed their wonderful performance.

During the months of February and March PW will be having their annual collection for the "Gift of Heart" Kits. Thanks to everyone, we have enough items for the school kits from when we collected them in the fall. Below is a listing of suggested contributions for the health kits according to the first letter of your last name.

<u>Last Initials</u>	<u>Items</u>
ABCD	Hand Towels
EFGHIJKL	Combs
MNOPQR	Nail Clippers
STUVWYZ	Toothbrushes

There will be envelopes in the pews if you wish to make a cash donation to help with the shipping costs. Thank you to the congregation for your continued support of this project.

The Picasso Quilters are still busy making sleeping bags for the homeless. They have made 212 bags since they started and have over a dozen more ready to be given to Crossroads RI for distribution to the homeless. This is an ongoing project. Their meeting dates are listed in the Sunday bulletin and helpers are always welcome.

Our next PW Gathering will be on April 3 at 11:00 a.m. Please mark your calendar and we will have more details for you next month.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

♥♥♥ Betty Mason for Presbyterian Women ♥♥♥

'ROUND IN CIRCLES FOR FEBRUARY

Circle I (our Bible Study Circle) will meet on Tuesday, February 28, at 1:00 p.m. in the church parlor to continue the *Horizon* Bible study *Confessing the Beatitudes*, Lesson 5.

Circle II will meet on Tuesday, February 14, in the church parlor. Program: Discussion of the novel, *The Help*, by Kathryn Stockett. Bag lunch at noon; meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Circle III will meet on Tuesday, February 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the 29 Eleven Room. Kitty Channell will give a program on Tanner House.

Circle IV will meet on Tuesday, February 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the church parlor.

Circle V will meet on Thursday, February 2, at 10:30 a.m. in the old 5/6 classroom for a brief meeting and host the MS Key Club.

Circle VII will meet on Tuesday, February 14, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Lynda Baker to work on items for our December bazaar.

Circle VIII (Picasso Quilters) will meet in Fellowship Hall as follows:
Tuesday, February 7, at 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 21, at 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 28, at 2:45 p.m.
(following Circle I)

Circle IX – No meeting scheduled for February.

Betty Stacey, Circle Coordinator

~~~ CAUGHT IN THE NET ~~~

**HOSPITALIZED since the last issue:**

Tom D'Albora      Betty McLeod  
Lynda Baker

**SYMPATHY is extended to:**

Henry Ruppenthal on the loss of his mother  
in West Virginia on January 23.

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM:**

- Best wishes to Margaret and Benjamin Duff who presented their daughter, Grace Frances, for Holy Baptism on December 18.
- Best wishes to Robert and Luciana Meunier who presented their son, Robert Wayne, Jr., for Holy Baptism on January 8.

**BEST WISHES to:**

- Chris Nazareth and Jamie Dolan who announced their engagement during the holidays. They are planning an October 5 wedding.
- Ben Desmond and Jennifer George who announced their engagement on New Year's Eve. A wedding date has not yet been set.



Dick Arling  
Don Baker  
Martha Beard  
Andrew Bergeron  
Debbie Bryda  
Pat Charpentier  
Hannah Clark  
Lydia Clark  
Rachael Curry  
Katie Dailey  
Connor D'Albora  
Melissa D'Albora  
Nicole D'Albora  
Amanda David  
Nancy Dickerman  
Sarah Fraser  
Cheryl Gillard

Carol Goodwin-Swanson  
Helen Hausman  
Mike Koczan  
Elaine Magyar  
Jean Martin  
Jay Martins  
Julie McCaffrey  
Steve Nazareth  
Scott Paradise  
Mandy-Lynn Phillips  
Sherry Phillips  
Sarah Prentiss  
Cathy Schobel  
Andrea Souza  
Fred Summers, Jr.  
Al Williams

**39er's FEBRUARY GATHERING**

Wednesday, February 15, at 11:30 a.m.  
Top of the Bay in Oakland Beach



**Menu**

Choice of Yankee Pot Roast or Ham  
with Soup, Coffee or Tea, & Dessert

**Cost: \$13.00**

**Program in Fellowship Hall at 2:00 P.M.**

Special video presented on the Lewis & Clark Expedition!

If you need a ride or a reservation, please call Linda Gungle.

DEADLINE for March *FISHERMEN'S NEWS* is **February 12**.  
Please leave articles in the church office or e-mail to [FishNews@gccp.org](mailto:FishNews@gccp.org)  
(Please include Fishermen's News in the Subject line.)

**To all:** Please make an extra effort to abide by the deadline so that we can prepare the newsletter in a timely manner. Thank you for your consideration.

*This is a long overdue note from the Combs Family to give our deep appreciation to so many at Greenwood Church plus other friends for responses in memory of and in honor of Jackie: to Pastor Clark for his visits with and prayers for Jackie in the ICU at Kent Hospital., for the wonderful Memorial Service for her, and for the lovely music by Kathy Hart and our Choir. There were many donations to our Deacons' Fund and to the American Cancer Society in memory of Jackie, and we are grateful.*

*Many thanks to so many here at Greenwood and to others. May God richly bless each one.*

*John Combs and Family*

*Dear Friends,*

*Thank you to all for your prayers, flowers, support and caring.*

*Betty McLeod*

*Dear Friends,*

*Many thanks for the warm greetings at Christmas and my birthday. I keep you at Greenwood in my prayers that God will give you a blessed 2012.*

*Love to all, Nancy Merritt*

*Dear Rev. Clark,*

*Thank you for the lovely flower arrangement to celebrate the birth of our daughter, Katy. Please extend our thanks to the congregation. The flowers look wonderful sitting on our counter brightening up the room. We look forward to having Katy baptized in the church this spring. Thanks again.*

*Sandy Hebert*

*Dear Friends,*

*Thank you for the many cards, the lovely flowers and the visits from Angie and Joann. Also, thanks to Logan Carson for the Thanksgiving card.*

*In Christian love, Esther Jackson*

*To Ginny Jacobs (Greenwood Church),*

*Thank you for the beautiful flower bouquet. It made me think that spring is not far away.*

*Virginia Brodeur*

*We want to thank our brothers and sisters at the Greenwood Community Church for your generosity in hosting our Bible Study Fellowship class on Monday evenings. We are truly blessed by you. May God richly bless you in this coming new year.*

*Love, Penny Kowolenko on behalf of the class*

*Dear Mission Supporting Friends,*

*Warm greetings from the Latin American & Caribbean, World Mission area office of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We want to thank you for your recent contribution. Your support is very meaningful, a sign of Christ's love to our sisters and brothers in Latin America and the Caribbean. May God continue to bless you for your generosity and willingness to help.*

*Sincerely, Maria Arroyo, Area Coordinator*

*Dear Steve,*

*Thank you so much for the gifts of holy hospitality offered by Greenwood during our November Presbytery meeting. We were blessed by the music from the bell choir, the chancel choir and Kathy Hart. The meal was abundant and delicious; the members of Greenwood, gracious and welcoming. I am especially grateful for your leadership in worship and thank you for sharing the Thanksgiving prayer with all of us.*

*On behalf of the Presbytery Council, I offer your gratitude to you, the Session, the church staff, and members of the congregation for hosting the Presbytery. And I send my prayers for a holy and blessed season of Advent and Christmas to you!*

*In Christ's Peace, Martha Highsmith*

*Dear Church Friends,*

*Thank you for the notes, cards and visits while I was in rehab at the West Shore Health Center. Also, a special thank you to Peggy Phillips for bringing the chancel flowers and to Betty Stacey for the great Christmas cookies! You all helped me to feel better. Best wishes to all*

*Marshall Martin*