



FISHERMEN'S NEWS

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

OCTOBER 2008

CONSECRATION SUNDAY IS COMING!



Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our Stewardship Committee has once again selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday November 9, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world. Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who may feel opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During worship our guest leader, the Rev. Glenn Ramsey, will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and Session members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

M. Barry Baxter
President, Board of Trustees

Henry Ruppenthal III
Clerk of Session

ABOUT THAT WHITE PIANO IN FELLOWSHIP HALL:

You may have noticed the appearance of a white baby grand piano on the stage in Fellowship Hall. As many of you know, this fine instrument, purchased by the congregation in 1989-1990, used to be in the Choir Room.

A little over four years ago, Hugh and Beth Lackey generously donated *another* baby grand prior to their relocation to Florida; the two pianos have been enjoyed by the choir ever since. However, it has made for a crowded choir room, and with the expansion of our chancel choir, bell choir and the addition of a 13-member children's choir, it just wasn't practical to have these two magnificent instruments in the same space. Measurements had earlier determined neither piano would fit in the sanctuary without alterations of the chancel, removing pews, or partially blocking fire exits, so the white piano was moved downstairs by professionals a few weeks ago.

Session is in the process of determining what will be done, and would welcome your informed input and suggestions: options include keeping the piano in its present location, selling it and perhaps place the proceeds in the Choir Robe fund, or enacting architectural alterations to the sanctuary.

It might interest you to know that a cursory appraisal was made on both instruments, determining the brown piano donated by the Lackeys is a superior instrument and has more than double the resale value of the white. Asking prices for similar makes, models and year average \$3,000-\$3,500 for the white, and \$8,000-\$8,500 for the brown.



This Month in Christian Education

christianed@gccp.org

Stephen Nazareth, Brian Flannery, Lisa David, Matt Barber, Wendy Petrucci

NEWS FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

We've gotten off to a smooth start after an exciting Rally Day. The Toddler through Grade 4 classes will be holding a bake sale for World Relief on October 12; Grade 5 – Senior High on October 26. October 19 will be Christian Education Sunday. On World Communion Sunday, October 5, Pastor Clark will meet with the Third and Fourth grade Sunday School class for special instruction on the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.



WHAT'S GOING ON IN ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are looking forward to another exciting year in Adult Education. Pastor Clark and Dave Williams will be sharing duties throughout the year. Pastor Clark has begun the year with an overview of his doctoral thesis. As you will read in the Mission Committee article, on October 12 and 26 we will have special mission guests leading the adult class. Do you have an idea for a future topic? Please share it with us. We also encourage you to bring a friend. What a great way to demonstrate and share your faith in Jesus Christ.

WEB SITE

Check out the new web site at www.gccp.org. Register as a new user and you're off! Our calendar is now online and up to date. If you have an event you would like listed or if you would like your existing listing jazzed up, let us know or ask Sue Desmond for help. Sermons can now be found under the Pastor's page and the *Fishermen's News* will soon follow on the website. More information will come on our new website; feel free to make suggestions on how the website would be more useful to you.

PYF NEWS

Check out the new Youth Group (PYF) page on www.gccp.org. It's still a work in process so feel free to make suggestions. We kicked off the year on the first Sunday in September. We have a full schedule of events coming up including a retreat at Camp Aldersgate in November.

18+ Young Adult Education

Matt Barber is teaching a class for people 18 and older; the class is held in the PYF room. We meet 15 minutes after the second service ends. This class time may be adjusted later to better fit people's schedules. We will be studying the Bible based upon the input from the class, dealing with what the students are struggling with, where they are in their lives, or analyzing questions they have from readings. It will be a fun time in God's word, prayer, and ministry. Matt looks forward to seeing you on Sunday afternoons. God Bless.



The Stewardship Committee



While many of the members and friends of Greenwood maintained their financial support of the church during the summer, our overall giving is down dramatically since last May. At the end of May our giving was fulfilling our commitments. During the months of June, July and August our overall giving was down 20 % from the first five months of the year. It is important that we all do our best in supporting the work of Christ through his church family here at Greenwood.

Through August our actual expenses are \$220,457.38 which is slightly below budget. In order to meet our commitments during the summer we have had to use \$12,000.00 of the income from our investments.

Some fall-off in giving during the summer months is an historical pattern in our and other churches. The challenge before us is to recover as best we can by the end of the year.

We should all be very proud of the way we are doing God's work in and through his church at 805 Main Avenue in Warwick, Rhode Island.

"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord." (Romans 12:11)

MISSION COMMITTEE

October Mission Visits

Mark your calendars for a mission packed October. Your Mission Committee has three events scheduled during October, two at the church and one where the committee and other congregation members will be involved supporting Rhode Island Young Life.



World Relief Visit - October 12

Rev. Jeremy M. Montgomery, Northeast Director of Church Relations for World Relief, will be with us on Sunday, October 12, for a day with World Relief. Rev. Montgomery will be presenting during worship services and our adult Sunday School that day. Following the 11 o'clock worship service, PYF youth will provide a luncheon in Fellowship Hall where you may visit with Rev. Montgomery on an individual basis.

Rev. Montgomery will have first hand information from his May 27 - June 9 to visit World Relief programs in Rwanda and Burundi.

Walter and LouAnne Copeland (TEAM/Japan) Visit - October 26

The Copelands will be reporting on their successful church-planting mission at Kobe, Japan. In Kobe, the Copelands coordinated the building of Grace Chapel that was dedicated this past spring (see pictures on the mission bulletin board in Fellowship Hall).

The Copelands will be presenting during worship services and our adult Sunday School that day. The Copelands will also be available to meet our congregation on an individual basis after the 11 o'clock service.

Young Life Annual Fund Raising Luncheon - October 19

The Mission Committee and others from the Greenwood congregation will be sharing the celebration of Young Life in Rhode Island by attending their annual luncheon. Young Life is a non-profit organization committed to impacting kids' lives and preparing them for tomorrow. The luncheon begins at 1:00 PM at the Kirkbrae Country Club in Lincoln. Interested in attending? See a member of the Mission Committee.

The Young Life Board's correspondence with us reports, "It was a great summer with our teens at Camp Saranac and the Karmel Wilderness trip. Lives were changed with a new commitment to Jesus Christ. As the school year is just beginning, pray that they will have a positive influence on their friends and classmates."

Angel Tree is Coming

The Angel Tree schedule for 2008:

- November 1-15: Verify families participating and gifts requested to be purchased
- Sunday, November 16, 23, 30: Christmas Tree with Child Requests in Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, December 7: Deadline for purchase of gifts and placing them under the tree by 10:30AM
- Sunday, December 7: PYF Wrapping Day (after 10:30 Worship Service)
- Saturday, December 13: Gift Distribution Event (1:00 to 3:00 PM in Fellowship Hall)
- Sunday, December 14: Delivery of remaining gifts to homes of the families.

Jews for Jesus - News from Obed and Bimini Cohen

Obed Cohen last visited Greenwood on January 6, 2008. Obed writes, "May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus abound in your lives. We still have a sense of awe and elation about what the Lord has done through the very first *Israel Behold Your God Campaign* in May 2008. Each day on the streets of Tel Aviv, we encountered tender and open hearts willing to consider whether Jesus might be the Jewish Messiah. We found adults of all ages, Jewish and Gentile, who are desirous of truth, longing for hope, and weary of war. From strife and sorrow God is stirring a spiritual hunger in the Land."

Camp Wilmot

Support was provided this year to Camp Wilmot located in Wilmot, New Hampshire. Camps are a very special way to nurture the children, families, and the persons with disabilities that Camp Wilmot serves. The camp provides a quality camping experience for all of them.

Some gifts received by Camp Wilmot are used for running the camp or maintaining its facilities, and other gifts are used for camperships to help children attend who otherwise would not be able.

The Mission Committee

Henry Ruppenthal, Chair; Myrle Dean, Emmy Kmet, Chris Nazareth, Debra Stacey

HART BEAT



Wow! The energy flowing from the choir room is almost palpable. Children's Choir is off to an amazing start with 13 boys and girls, and the Chancel Choir has five new or returning members. The infusion of fresh enthusiasm gives us renewed vigor to lead worship and convey God's word through song. Please express your appreciation to the choir, thank God from whom all blessings flow, encourage potential choristers, and join us if the Spirit moves you. There's still room for more!

Fall Work Day !!!!!

- Saturday, October 25th, 8:30 AM to 4 PM
- Share your time and talents, make new acquaintances, and help us with our fall projects.
- Come for all or part of the day.
- Enjoy food and fellowship.
- We're looking forward to seeing you there!



The Building and Grounds Committee, Elaine Magyar, Chair

NEWS FROM PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Our first Gathering for this year will be our annual Pot Luck Supper on October 7. After we share a meal, Vivian Sousa will take us on a journey through Rwanda's National Parks using some of her slides and artifacts. If you are not currently a member of PW, we'll be happy to welcome you to this Gathering. It will be a great time to get to know many of Greenwood Church's women – just bring a main dish, salad, or a dessert. We also ask that everyone who attends bring a paper product and/or a non-perishable food item to be distributed locally to folks in need. Please be as generous as you are able.

On Saturday, October 18, from 9 AM to 1 PM, we will host the Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Southern New England. All women of the church are invited to attend. Greenwood PW will pay half the registration cost (\$5.00) for any of Greenwood's women who wish to attend. The guest speaker will be Kevin Carson from the RI Council of Churches. His timely topic will be "Consciously Faithful...Consciously Green". Following workshops and worship, the meeting will end with one of Stu and Betty Mason's delicious lunches. Please let me know by October 7 if you would like to join us.



Several women have indicated that they would be interested in a daytime Circle that has varied programming, similar to what is offered in our night Circles III and IV. It is always our hope that we can offer a convenient place for as many women as possible in our Circles. Please call me at 737-0717 or Sandy Olson at 647-7034, if you would like to discuss the possibility of becoming a member of this new Circle. At the present time we suggest the meeting begin with a bag lunch at 11:30 a.m., drink and dessert provided, ending at 1:30 p.m. Because we want to tailor this new Circle to the needs of prospective members, we plan to hold only 4 meetings in 2009, on the second Tuesdays of March through June. Waiting until March will give us ample time to find new members and to make any adjustments in time or day to convenience prospective members.

From Church Signs for October 1st

***Let the power of love
replace the love of power.***

Betty Stacey
for Presbyterian Women



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you for continuing to save the Campbell UPC symbols and the "Box Tops for Education" from General Mills products and Kleenex boxes. In May I mailed 689 Campbell's bar codes and 531 "Box Tops for Education" labels to the Plateau Home School in Lancing, Tennessee. The following is a copy of the thank you note that I received:

Dear Friends,

Thank you for blessing us with the fruits of your labor. Box tops and soup UPC's are vital to our program. Our budget is very tight and these allow us to "buy" the extra educational materials which are essential to our children's learning. Your contribution has helped make our children and communities stronger!

Sincerely,
Rebecca Webb
Plateau Home School

CIRCLE NEWS FOR OCTOBER



Circles met the evening of September 16 for coffee, fellowship and catching-up time. After an informative program on immigration presented by William Shuey, Executive Director of the International Institute of Rhode Island, Circles met to plan for what's to come. The following is the schedule for October Circle meetings:

Circle I will meet at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, October 14, in the Church Parlor to continue this year's PW *Horizons* Bible study titled, "Jubilee! Luke's Gospel for the Poor". This Circle is increasing in size and we hope you'll join us for one, two, or all of our sessions.

Circle III will meet at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, October 14, at the church to work on bazaar projects.

Circle IV will meet at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, October 14, in the Church Parlor to work on bazaar projects.

Circle V will meet at 10:30 AM on Wednesday, October 1, at the church to host the Multiple Sclerosis Key Club. They will also be involved with bazaar plans.

Circle VII will meet at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, October 14, at the home of Lynda Baker to work on their "famous" candy trees for the bazaar.

Circle ??? may become a new daytime Circle with varied programs in the Spring. Check Moderator Betty Stacey's article this month for details if you or someone you know is interested in becoming part of this group.

If you are not a Circle member, we invite you to visit different ones to see what you are missing. Then join one!

Enjoy the Fall!
Karen Baxter
Circle Coordinator

PW OCTOBER BAZAAR UPDATE

As you clean out your attic, garage, and storage areas this fall, you will come across items that may be suitable for our Attic Treasures room. Please use the following criteria as you set aside treasures that **you will bring to the church during the first week of December.**

All items must be clean and in good working order. Examples of items we'll gladly accept include:

- Small to medium sized household items
- Children's books
- Cooking and Craft books
- Paperback novels
- Games and puzzles for all ages (no missing parts!)
- Jewelry
- Sporting equipment
- Pocketbooks or tote bags

Items that we cannot accept:

- Shoes
- Clothing
- Food of any kind
- Text books
- Large items (those that take more than one person to carry)

If you have any questions or would like to help in the Attic Treasures room before or during the bazaar day, please call Betty Stacey at 737-0717.

39ers
 October Gathering
 Wednesday, October 15, at 11:30 AM
 Timmy's One Bay Avenue in Oakland Beach
 Cost is \$12.00 per person

Menu
 Sirloin Tips or Ham with Salad, Coffee or Tea, and Dessert

Program in Fellowship Hall
 Kathy Hart, our Music Director, will lead us in singing the old popular songs.
 Bill Cheney and Bill Stock will assist her.

If you need a ride or a reservation, please call Linda Gungle at 828-7687.

CAUGHT IN THE NET



HOSPITALIZED since the last issue:
Ethelmae Boyle

NOTES RECEIVED

*To Steve and Friends from Greenwood Church,
 I would like to thank Steve for the beautiful
 service he gave at my brother's funeral. I also
 would like to thank all who sent cards and to
 Joann for bringing me the chancel flowers.
 Thanks again, Lolly Morse and Family*

*Dear Greenwood Community Church Family,
 Thank you so much for the lovely basket
 of flowers that arrived at my home while I was
 recuperating from my recent surgery. Rev. Clark,
 thank you for your card, thoughts and prayers.
 My family and I are truly blessed to belong to such
 a caring and considerate church.
 In Christ, Cathy Insana*

BIRTHDAYS:

*Melissa Algozino
 Ann Marie Bataitis
 Barry Baxter
 David Brett
 Gina Carson
 Kathy Cheney
 Betty Cloxton
 John Combs
 Rachael Czepyha
 Janice Dailey
 Brandon Danzer
 Myrle Dean
 Joe DelCioppio
 Rita Deming
 Andrew Donilon
 Doris Fahlman
 Alex Grande
 Jean Greco*

*Cheslyn Harrop
 Michelle Jodoin
 Emmy Kmet
 Richard LaBanca
 Naomi Martinor
 Peggy McKeever
 Lori Pickup
 Scott Quigleyi
 Joyce Riccitelli
 Karen Ruhren
 Doris Saffordt
 Grace Seufert
 Nancy Soave
 Jessie Tanner
 Katy Tanner
 Ashley Taylor
 Abigail Williams
 Hannah Williams*

MIKE-EE'S MUSINGS:

Beyond Belief: On August 23 twenty volunteers showed up at 99 Glen Drive in an effort to clear out an overstuffed house. The "overstuffing" was not just the result of Mike-ee's many and varied business ventures. Over the years this home of Mike-ee's, Donna's, and daughter Kristin's was a neighborhood gathering place. A few child-bearing widows and divorcees and their kids grew up in Mike-ee's back yard along with all the other visiting youth and adults. There they learned to fish, swim, row a boat, ice skate and skate-sail. Those "kids" are now in the 58 to 60 year-old age bracket. The back yard was where they heeded the local beach rule: "You do not venture more than waist-deep in the lake unless Mike-ee is there to observe the activities. It was not an unusual scene to see Mike-ee at midnight or 2 AM, watering down the ice for a well-groomed skating area for the next day.

These relationships evolved and resulted in many gratuitous gestures. When someone died or moved away, you can bet that Mike-ee became the recipient of "whatever...." "Mike, we're sure you can use this," or "We ran out of space in the moving van," or "I'm sure you can fix this and maybe sell it," and on and on. So all this stuff accumulated in the cellar, garage, and attic. Today I wish to sincerely thank these 20 hardworking, energetic guys who filled two dumpsters without complaint or criticism: Pastor Steve Clark, Dave Tanner, Al Tanner, John Pickup, Alan Jones, Rob Soave, Bob Gungle, John Gungle (Bob's son), Steve Nazareth, Brian Flannery, Jason and Eric McNeely, Fred and Fernando (Rob's employees), Russ Rudolph, Carl and Earl Pearson, Steve Bonn, Matt Barber, and Chris Nazareth. I believe that some assumed that Pastor Steve had arrived just to chat and observe the scene—no way! He put in a full day of hard work as did everyone...and this included removing a "deceased" cast iron boiler and an antique upright piano up a flight of stairs.

GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU...and a special thanks to Jay David who took on the job of coordinator and is still at it and to Rob Soave who has offered his employees and has taken on the chore of hauling the remunerative metals to the recycling center.



A newspaper clipping of the 1938 Rhode Island Hurricane as submitted to the Presby-Profiles bulletin board: Mike-ee was asked if he would also post his copy of the Journal-Bulletin publication which features more than 100 photos of the event. A few of these were sent to me from Ohio by my brother-in-law, Frank B. Lanning, who had been sports cartoonist for the paper since 1935. Frank was not just a cartoonist; he was instrumental in establishing the R.I. Hall of Fame, Words Unlimited (newspaper writers' guild), created the brochures of Brown University and the University of Rhode Island, and created the logos of most of the high school athletic departments. One of his most notable achievements was his artistic and literary tribute when JFK passed away...62,000 additional copies were printed for worldwide distribution.

A Volunteer's Prayer

I thank thee, Lord, as a volunteer:
For the chance to serve again this year;
To give of myself in some small way
To those not blessed as I each day.

My thanks for health of mind and soul
To aid me ever toward my goal;
For eyes to see the good in all,
A hand to extend before a fall.

For legs to go where the need is great
Learning to love – forgetting to hate;
For ears to hear and heart to care
When someone's cross is hard to bear.

A smile to show my affection true,
With energy plenty the task to do;
And all I ask, dear Lord, if I may,
Is to serve you better, day by day.

