



FISHERMEN'S NEWS

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

NOVEMBER 2008

Dear Members and Friends,

The following is the Minute for Mission delivered by Worship Committee members Betty Stacey and Sandra Murray during the worship services October 26. I've added the pictures, and did some minor editing to harmonize the two slightly different presentations.

After much consideration over the summer, the Session came to a decision that a change in our worship services needed to be considered. In September we began a new worship schedule and you were told there would be an evaluation by the Annual Meeting in January. To that end, there is now a suggestion box in Fellowship Hall where you can indicate your suggestions and comments – both pro and con. You do not need to sign your name if you would prefer to remain anonymous. OR, you may send your comments to the church office in care of the Worship Committee. We seek your constructive input and feedback as we try to best accommodate the worship needs of our entire congregation.

We are pleased that the **Chancel Choir** has grown in numbers with the return of a former member and the addition of six members of our younger generation!



(photos from 11:00 service October 19)



Also, Director of Music Kathy Hart has begun a new youth choir! **Joyful Song** presently has fourteen enthusiastic members and debuted with a beautiful introit at the 11 a.m. worship service Christian Education Sunday October 19.

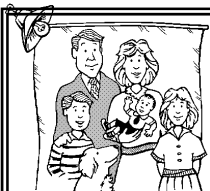
We are now in the midst of our annual Stewardship campaign. Contributing to the life of Greenwood Church is not only financial, but it is giving of your time and talent as well. We would like to ask all members of the church to help, if able, with ushering, greeting or lecturing. We also are in need each month of Elders and Deacons to help serve communion. There is a sign-up board on the right back wall in Fellowship Hall, or you may see any of the members of the Worship Committee before or after worship. Let us all joyfully contribute as we worship in this glorious House of God. Thank you!

As we prepare for **Consecration Sunday November 9** I'm grateful to all the committee chairs and/or members who did such outstanding jobs in presenting the various Minutes for Mission these past months, providing an engaging and informative overview of the many vital ministries of Greenwood.



Also, please note that appearing in the pews beginning October 26 are the **Holiday Food Drive Envelopes** of the **Board of Deacons**. Financial contributions to the Holiday Food Drive will go towards the purchase of Thanksgiving and Christmas food/gift baskets for the needy in our area. The Deacons have voted to increase the number of baskets from fifty to **eighty** this year, partially due to the increased need and partially due to the success of last year's drive. Also, if you are free Thanksgiving morning, you are welcome to come join the chefs, drivers and other helpers who will gather in our kitchen to prepare and deliver hot meals to additional needy recipients in the Warwick area.

Stephen L. Clark, Pastor



Member Care Committee presents

HOLIDAY FAMILY or INDIVIDUAL PORTRAITS

November 23, 10:00 – 1:00 P.M.

Just in time for your Christmas card list, holiday portraits are once again being offered by church member and professional photographer Rachel Czepyha. Rachel offered this Easter 2006, and many of you took advantage of her excellent (and convenient!) services. The Member Care Committee will be setting up a photographer's studio in the **church parlor** November 23; portrait sittings will be on a first come, first served basis after the 9:00 service and until 1:00 P.M. Proceeds will benefit the PYF Summer Mission program and/or the Parish Associate Fund.

THIS MONTH IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

christianed@gccp.org

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

News From the Sunday School

On Christian Education Sunday, October 19, twenty-six Christian Education volunteers were commissioned for service, and Bibles were given to third graders Julia D'Antico, Brandon Phillips and Abigail Williams.

The 1st and 2nd grade class will have their "Mitten Tree" in Fellowship Hall during November. Please hang your donated mittens on the tree to help those less fortunate during the winter. Beginning **Sunday, November 30**, all children in grades Toddler through six will meet in Fellowship Hall (time to be determined) for a time of **Advent** singing and lighting of the Advent Wreath. Children will then go to their classrooms. This will continue for all four Sundays of the Advent season.

New this year!!! We will host a **Living Nativity** (instead of a Children's Pageant) on the church front lawn on Sunday, December 14, from 5-6:30 p.m. We will begin recruiting our living nativity cast (we already have 2 goats and a few chickens signed up!). PYF will provide cocoa and doughnuts. This may also prove to be an effective neighborhood outreach. Mark the date on your calendar. We'll give you more details as the month progresses. You won't want to miss this event!



Adult Sunday School

Pastor Clark and "Travelin" Dave Williams will be sharing duties throughout the year. We've also had some informative guest mission speakers from World Relief and TEAM-Japan. Pastor Clark has been presenting an overview of his doctoral thesis. 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.

PYF News

PYF youth, along with the Sr. High Sunday School class, have adopted a young boy from Haiti. Jean Wilkens Clerveau is 7 years old and he helps out at home by carrying water and cleaning. He enjoys playing soccer and group games with his friends. In Fellowship Hall you can see a photo of Jean and read more about him and the area in Haiti in which he lives. We have a full schedule of events coming up including a retreat at Camp Aldersgate on November 14-16. Be sure to check out the new Youth Group (PYF) page on www.gccp.org. It's still a work in progress, so feel free to make suggestions.

18+ Young Adult Education

Matt Barber has begun a class for those 18+ in the PYF room. The class meets 15 minutes after the second service ends. They will study the Bible based upon input from class members: what the class members are struggling with and where they are in their lives. They will also analyze questions that they have from the readings. Class members should also plan to go out into the world on some outreach projects. It will be a fun time in God's word, prayer, and ministry. Matt looks forward to seeing you on Sunday mornings. God Bless.

HART BEAT

Thank you to Rachael Czepyha for designing this wonderful logo for Joyful Song, our new children's choir, which has thirteen enthusiastic members. In addition to singing, we're learning to read music in order to play the handbells. Being in a choir is a new experience for some of the children, but they're doing really well. We plan to attend a children's choir festival on March 21, 2009, so we'll learn the repertoire all year long and sing the anthems in worship.



The children are having fun and also understand their role as leaders. We view our musical offering as part of worship, even when the song is lively and fun. This is quite different

from singing in a school program, so we ask that you refrain from clapping. Any time you're moved by music in worship, just say a hearty "Amen!" All the musicians are inspired by your expressions of appreciation.

MISSION COMMITTEE

Angel Tree

Angel Tree is a unique ministry that gives the Greenwood congregation an opportunity to share Christ's love by helping to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the families of prisoners. Participating in Angel Tree is a powerful way for the Greenwood Church community to lovingly answer the biblical call to minister to the least of these.

On three **Sundays in November: the 16th, 23rd, and 30th**, you will be able to select the names of children from the Angel Tree in Fellowship Hall and then provide gifts for those children whose parent is a prisoner.

Each child is to receive a minimum of two gifts -- one fun gift and one article of clothing. The prisoner has selected two gift types from an Angel Tree Christmas Gift Guide. These general gift type selections were then made available to the children's caretaker to be confirmed or changed. The gifts must be purchased new and have a value between \$15 and \$20. The deadline for bringing the gifts to the church is **Sunday, December 7**.

You may place the gifts you purchase under the Christmas tree in Fellowship Hall either wrapped or unwrapped. After the eleven o'clock service on December 7 PYF will wrap the gifts.

Angel Tree gifts are given on behalf of the prisoner-parent in celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. You are the hands and feet of prisoner-parents to help them reach out to their children.



October Mission Visits

Your mission committee was pleased to offer the Greenwood congregation two mission programs during October. On Sunday, October 12, Rev. Jeremy M. Montgomery, Northeast Director of Church Relations for World Relief, was with us for a day with World Relief. On Sunday, October 26, Walter and LouAnne Copeland, missionaries with Team Japan, shared their experiences in the planting of a church and the building of Grace Chapel at Kobe, Japan.

The Mission Committee appreciates your participation in these two mission programs. Should you desire to contribute directly to either of these missions or other missions, please use the Mission Offering envelope from your envelope packet and write the name of the mission on the envelope where you desire the contribution to be directed.

WISH (West Indies Self Help)

WISH is a relief and development mission located on LaGonave Island, off the coast of Haiti, one of the poorest countries in the world. Since 1969, WISH has built a dental clinic, an ice plant, several churches, a school, an addition to the island hospital, a sewing school, several miles of roads, water lines, an airstrip, a soccer field and basketball court, as well as a co-operative "Mall" with businesses that are now owned by villagers. The WISH Mission is to "translate the truth of Jesus Christ into deeds that alleviate the needs of the poor, giving them the opportunity to break their entrapping cycle of poverty."

Haiti was hit rather hard by the recent hurricanes, all of which touched LaGonave Island. The heavy rains caused rockslides that broke the Island's water line in a number of places. Food prices in Haiti are also rising so fast that people cannot keep up. WISH is doing everything within its power to provide food for children at the Island school and others who are so desperate. The price of fuel has increased steeply, which results in higher operating costs for the ice plant and generator. These are very perilous times for Haitians; please keep Pastor Joe and Pat Larakers and the residents of LaGonave Island in your prayers.

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA

InterVarsity is an evangelical campus mission program serving more than 35,000 students and faculty on more than 560 college and university campuses nationwide. Incorporated in 1941, InterVarsity has a rich tradition of campus witness, thoughtful discipleship, and a concern for world missions.

For many years, we have supported the work of Geoff and Val Gordon, who initially worked for InterVarsity at Roger Williams University. Geoff recently obtained his MBA from Bryant University, and completed his 5 year commitment as Area Director for Rhode Island InterVarsity (his wife, Val, is now the Associate Regional Director of InterVarsity/New England).

On October 3, 2008, Geoff met with the Mission Committee, and introduced us to Sarah Cowan Johnson, who is the new Area Director for InterVarsity in Rhode Island. Sarah spoke with the Mission Committee about her vision for taking InterVarsity in Rhode Island to the "next level." God is doing wonderful things on the college campuses in Rhode Island, and Sarah spoke with us about a number of students who have been transformed by the power of the gospel! Sarah's husband also works for InterVarsity at Brown University.

This is a very exciting time for InterVarsity in Rhode Island; please keep the staff in your prayers.

The Mission Committee

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

THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Guest Leader for this year's Consecration Sunday Stewardship Campaign is the Rev. Dr. Glenn R. Ramsey, Jr. You may remember Glenn as he led us in worship at the beginning of the year.



Nancy and Glenn Ramsey have lived in Pawtucket for seven years, moving to Rhode Island to be near two of their eight grandchildren. They are the parents of three children who live in Houston, Texas; East Greenwich, RI; and Half Moon Bay, California.

Glenn retired from full time ministry with the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 2001. Since then he has done four part time interim pastorates – three with RI American Baptist Churches.

He and Nancy were born and raised in southwestern Indiana near Evansville. He is a graduate of the University of Evansville, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary (Master of Divinity), and McCormick Seminary (Doctor of Ministry). Most of his ministry was in Indiana and Illinois, along with sojourns in North Dakota, Colorado, and upstate New York. During his ministry he served as a solo pastor, a pastor of a two church parish, an assistant pastor, an associate pastor, an interim pastor, and a designated pastor.

Glenn's understanding of STEWARDSHIP is:

Stewardship is what we do with our lives, after we say what we believe.

God entrusts to our care and oversight everything we have and are.

Everything we have and are is an expression of God's graciousness and steadfast, faithful, covenant love.

Everything we have and are really belongs to God. God 'loans' it to us.

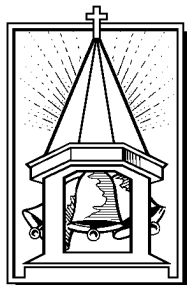
We are accountable to God and to the community of faith for how we make use of all that is entrusted to our care – not just what we put in the offering plate.

Stewardship is not fund raising (bazaars, rummage sales, candy sales, dinners, raffles). Fund raising is not stewardship.

Stewardship is a matter of the heart and soul. It is a spiritual matter. It is not a matter of finances; not a business deal.

God calls us to give out of our abundance; out of gratitude; regularly and a growing percentage, as an expression of worship.

AN UPDATE FROM THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE



Perhaps you remember hearing some time ago that T-Mobile was interested in locating a cell phone antenna in our steeple. After a long period of inactivity, last spring the representatives of T-Mobile reopened the discussion of this possibility, and over the summer several representatives from Greenwood and T-Mobile worked at developing a plan for this project to move forward. We are tremendously grateful to Karen Grande who gave many hours of her time serving as our legal expert in the preparation of the license agreement. The Session approved the license agreement in September.

Why a cell phone tower in our steeple? A May 2006 article in *Christianity Today* addressed the impact on churches of the need for additional towers to provide better coverage for the increasing numbers of cell phone users. Its author, David Crosby, wrote, "During hard-pressed times, churches need to use all their assets to full economic advantage. An unwired steeple, a church school roof, a billboard, or unused raw land falls into that category. With the monthly rent for a single cell phone tower now averaging \$1,500, a church can bring in substantial monies by entering the cell phone tower rental marketplace. Just consider it manna from heaven." (<http://www.christianitytoday.com/yc/2006/005/1.16.html>). The Session voted to approve this project believing that it provides an opportunity for our building to serve as a financial resource, as T-Mobile pays us monthly rent for the use of the space. These payments will help us carry out the mission of Greenwood Church and will provide additional financial support to projects such as needed repairs to the steeple itself. T-Mobile will pay any extra utility fees or taxes related to the project and will provide liability insurance.

What does the project involve? The plan is for T-Mobile to place a cell phone antenna in the steeple and the other necessary electrical and communications equipment in a storage room in the west wing. There will be no change in the outward appearance of the steeple. The wires connecting the antenna to the equipment in the supply room will run above the ceiling in the sanctuary.

Safety concerns? With such projects there are always questions about safety. We have been assured that the radio frequency (rf) emission levels are all substantially below those permitted by the FCC (<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/rfexposure.html>). Moreover, the only place that there will be any significant rf level is directly opposite the antenna – right outside the steeple where it may only affect passing seagulls that hover in one place for too long. There will be no significant radiation in any part of the church building or grounds.

Next step – The next step in the process is for T-Mobile's representatives to draw up more detailed plans to be presented for approval by the Warwick zoning board. We have been told that the process generally takes 3-6 months. Once the zoning board approval is granted, final plans will be presented to the Session for approval before construction begins.

Elaine Magyar and the Building and Grounds Committee

Dick Collins, Jay David, Jena Fairbairn, Bob Gungle, Peter McKnight, Russ Rudolph, Rob Soave, Dave Tanner

NEWS FROM PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



My leaves haven't begun to turn yet, but it sure feels like fall is here – especially in the evening. In looking around my neighborhood I am finding more and more homes decorated for Halloween the way we used to do only for Christmas!

Fifty PW women and their friends enjoyed a delicious pot luck supper in Fellowship Hall on October 7. The slides and talk by Vivian Sousa about the national parks of Rwanda, including the gorillas, was just great. Thanks to Sandy Olson for suggesting the program, the Program Committee for the festive room and table decorations, and the women of Greenwood who always outdo

themselves in the food department. We have some wonderful cooks in PW! Those who attended were generous with their contributions of paper goods and non-perishable food items. Deb Stacey divided the paper goods between the RI Family Shelter and Tanner House, and the food items were taken to the Warwick Community Action food cupboard.

Our next Gathering will be our Christmas Dinner and program on December 9. Check the box below for details. If you are not a member of PW, please remember that you are always welcome at Circle meetings or our Gatherings. The Christmas Gathering is an especially good one to attend for fun, food, and fellowship.

By the time you read this issue of the *News*, the PWPSNE meeting scheduled here on October 18 here will have come and gone. As of this date (10/10), nineteen women from PW are planning to attend. I am grateful for the support you showed our Presbytery Coordinating Team. It is always great to meet with the women from other churches in the Presbytery. I want to thank everyone who volunteered to help set-up, bake, serve and clean-up, and a special thank you to Stu and Betty Mason who prepared our delicious lunch.

It is not too late to contribute to Blanket Sunday – envelopes are still in the pews or see Angie D'Albora. If you didn't get your Thank Offering envelope at Circle, ask your Circle leader. You can bring your contributions to your Circle meeting this month. We will dedicate this offering during worship on November 23.

From Church Signs for November 1st –

***Anyone can count the seeds in an apple –
only God can count the apples in a seed.***

Betty Stacey
for Presbyterian Women

Christmas Gathering Tuesday, December 9 Fellowship Hall

5:30 P.M. Bazaar Shopping

6:30 P.M. Dinner: roast pork with stuffing and gravy or baked stuffed chicken breast, roasted potatoes, fresh vegetable medley, jellied salad, corn bread and apple bread

Dessert: ice cream and cookies

Coffee and tea

7:30 P.M. Program: One Voice—a talented singing group of six women from Woodbury Union Church will perform for us.

Dinner reservations are \$8.00. Tickets will be available at the November Circle meetings or you can call Sue Desmond in the church office (737-1230) to make your reservation(s).



Final call for donations to the PW Bazaar's Silent Auction

It's not too late to donate an item, gift certificates for goods or services, or antiques to the PW Bazaar Silent Auction. Just call Nancy Hurd (738-7334) and Timoli Richardson (615-9353) during the day or Cathy Maguire (737-4953) and Denise Mair (738-7183) at night, and we will gladly come and look at the item(s) and arrange for their removal and storage.

CIRCLE NEWS FOR NOVEMBER
“Sharing Our Blessings Through Action”

All women are invited to join a Circle. Please call me (826-1311) for more information. You are most welcome at any of our Circles. If you are interested in Circle VII, I will be glad to give you directions to Lynda's home.



Circle I will meet at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, November 28, in the church parlor for the Horizons's Bible Study, *Jubilee! Luke's Gospel for the Poor*, Lesson 2.

Circle III will meet at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 11, at church in the Kindergarten Room to work on Bazaar projects.

Circle IV will meet at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 11, in the Church Parlor to work on Bazaar crafts.


Circle V will meet at 10:30 AM on Wednesday, November 5, at church to host the MS Group. They will also be involved with Bazaar crafts.

Circle VII will meet at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, November 11, at church to work on Bazaar projects.

Proceeds from the Bazaar will be shared with others in our community and our world. Thus, the theme of our Presbyterian Women at Greenwood will be carried out by sharing our blessings.

Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving!

Karen Baxter
Circle Coordinator



39-ERS

November Gathering

Wednesday, November 19
11:30 A.M.

Timmy's One Bay Avenue in Oakland Beach
Cost is \$12.00

Menu
Baked Scrod or Chicken Marsala with Soup, Coffee or Tea, and Dessert

Program in Fellowship Hall at 1:30 p.m.
We will view a video on the beautiful state of Alaska.

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

Your Help is Needed!



When our church schedule changed in September, you were told that there would be an evaluation of these changes by the time of our Annual Meeting in January. There will be a **Suggestion Box** in Fellowship Hall where you may indicate your suggestions and/or comments (both pro and con). You do not need to sign your name if you prefer to remain anonymous. You may also mail any comments or suggestions to the office in care of the Worship Committee or drop in the offering plate.

DEADLINE for **December/January FISHERMEN'S NEWS** is **November 9**.
Please leave articles in the church office or e-mail to: FishNews@gccp.org (please include Fishermen's News in the Subject line.)

To all: Please help the editor and office staff get our newsletter prepared by making an extra effort to abide by the deadline. Thank you for your consideration!

CAUGHT IN THE NET

Hospitalized since the last issue:

Betty McLeod
Fran Bonn
Ruth Gorton

Tyler Johnson
Flossie Harrison

Wedding Anniversary:

Best wishes to Joan-Sandra and Peter McKnight who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on November 15!

Birth Announcement:

Best wishes to Mike and Sue Desmond who became grandparents on October 2. Jeff and Dolores welcomed Michael Juan out in Corpus Christi, Texas.

NOTES RECEIVED

Dear Friends at Greenwood,

Thank you so very much for the beautiful arrangement of dark red carnations and the lovely surprise visit from Peggy Phillips. It was all so lovely. Thanks again for your love and concern. It means so much to me to be missed.

In Christian love,
Evelyn A. Ljungquist

Dear Greenwood Family,

Thank you for all the interest, concern, prayers and best wishes bestowed on the

Desmond Family surrounding the arrival of Baby Michael to Jeff and Dolores out in Corpus Christi. We have all been overwhelmed with attention, gifts, cards and many good wishes, and Michael, Jeff and Dolores have been deeply touched by your love all the way out in Texas. Our prayer is that Michael can grow up in a congregation just like this one. Thank you for showing God's love and for being His people.

In His love, Sue and Mike Desmond

Did you know? that Henry Ruppenthal's son, Ron Frye, is a hero? Sgt. Ronald E. Frye, Jr. has served his country in the United States Army in the Gulf War, Iraq War, and in the Special Forces. In 2004 Ron was injured while serving in Iraq. During the time of his recuperation and rehabilitation at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Bethesda, MD, Sgt. Frye became a spokesperson for all the injured soldiers and gained positive notoriety through interviews in the media in his home state of West Virginia. During Ron's first hand cycle race last June, Ron placed 19th out of 500 entrants in the NYC 5-mile race. He has now been invited to compete in the world-famous Annual NYC Marathon on November 2 and has also been invited to march in his wheel chair at the head of the Veterans' Day Parade in NYC on November 11 representing all the wounded-in-action soldiers of the Global War On Terror. While in New York, Ron and his wife, Ket, will be the guests of the Union League Club (founded by Abraham Lincoln), the Firemen of Engine 10 (near Ground Zero) and the Mayor of New York City. They will be participating in a variety of activities including seeing a Broadway production, attending a taping of Saturday Night Live and David Letterman, attending a formal dinner with the Mayor as his personal guests in the Rotunda of the Empire State Building, and Ron will christen a new wax sculpture of an American Soldier of GWOT at Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum.



Congratulations to Ron and his entire family as he is recognized for his accomplishments and those of his comrades. May God continue to bless Ron, his family, and all those serving our country in the Armed Forces.

Ron's family resides in Buckhannon, West Virginia.
He and his wife, Ket, have four children,
Sean, Kari, Shane, and Corey.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!!!

Lynda Baker
Christian Black
Gladys Bracker
Trey Budlong-
Springer
Margaret Cady
Jean Campbell
Corey Carpenter
Gavin Carson
Logan Carson
Lynn Chenel
Dick Collins
Ed Dailey

Dave Damm
Elizabeth Damm
Margie Davis
John Daylor
Jim Degnan
Caitlin Donnelly
Ina Eichenfeldt
Bruce Gillard
Cameron Gillard
Doreen Harrop
Barbara Kendall
Betty Mason
Gail Merrill

Amy Monahan
Kathy Morin
Lolly Morse
William Morse
Chris Nazareth
Stephanie Nelson
Harold Nichols
Madison Nolan
Linda Overton
Matt Parkinson
Harry Prince
Sean Quigley
Henry Ruppenthal

Ashley Schwegler
Taylor Spinard
Bill Stock
Chris Sullivan
Karen Williams

