

WINDOWS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

Telephone: 215-843-8811

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www.fpcgermantown.org

FEBRUARY 2012

Special Dates of Interest:

- Wednesday, February 1
Session
7:00PM
- Thursday, February 2
Film "Traces of the Trade"
Dinner
6:00PM
Film
6:30PM
- Sunday, February 12
Young Adult Potluck
5:00PM
Bread & Cup
7:00PM
- Wednesday, February 22
ASH WEDNESDAY
Worship
Communion
7:00PM
- Sunday, February 26
First Sunday in Lent
Communion
Worship
10:00AM
Organ Concert
3:00PM
- Sunday, February 26
Philadelphia Presbytery
Black History Celebration
at
Oxford Presbyterian
Church
3:00PM

From The Pastor



Dear Friends,

So often when members and friends are asked about The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown the word "diversity" is mentioned. We are told that we are unique among mainline Christian congregations because we are a diverse congregation when it comes to race. We are diverse in so many more ways than racially and as a congregation we like to celebrate that fact. We even had a documentary film made about us called "Destined for Diversity" (found on our church website www.fpcgermantown.org).

I read the following definition of diversity: "The concept of diversity encompasses acceptance and respect. It means understanding that each individual is unique, as we recognizing our individual differences. These can be along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender,

sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies. It is the exploration of these differences in a safe, positive, and nurturing environment. It is about understanding each other and moving beyond simple tolerance to embracing and celebrating the rich dimensions of diversity contained within each individual."

Kevin and I were recently asked to be part of a program at the Germantown Jewish Center to speak about the diversity at First Church and what challenges it brings and what we do with our diversity. We told a bit about our congregation's history and about some activities we have to celebrate our diversity, and we also shared that there are challenges that come with being a diverse congregation, but there are great joys and rewards as well.

We have wonderful opportunities at First Church to grow as we build relationships with one another in our church family. We grow both as individuals and as Christians as we learn from those who are different than we are. We can begin to see that there are more similarities

among us than there are differences as we are all children of God who are united by our faith in Jesus Christ. Our faith is a strong bond that galvanizes us to look beyond ourselves to the interests and needs of others, even those beyond our congregation. I believe it strengthens us in our efforts to minister with and to those of our urban community.

As we continue to celebrate our diversity and grow in our understanding and appreciation of one another, I encourage you to attend an event at our church on February 2, when we will have a light supper together and then view and discuss a film called "Traces of the Trade" (more about this event in this newsletter). We hope to be joined by some new friends from the Germantown Jewish Center.

God's children come in all shapes and sizes, all colors and ages, all socioeconomic and educational backgrounds. Let us continue to get to know one another and celebrate our similarities and learn from our differences.

See you in Church!

Nancy

Administration & Finance Committee - 2011 Financial Report

In 2011, our church faced many of the same budget challenges that confronted churches and other charitable organizations, families, governments and private enterprise as the economy continued to struggle. I am pleased to report that our congregation and staff met this challenge and performed very well. Although there were some sacrifices, primarily in staff compensation, we were able to control the expenses to less than the actual income received; this resulted in a very small positive surplus.

	2011 Budget	2011 Actual	Difference
Income	\$914,884	\$908,423	(\$6,458)
Expenses	\$930,234	\$908,358	(\$21,876)
Net	(\$15,350)	\$65	

The results for 2011 were achieved through both the judicious managing of our resources by all the committees as well as many members making contributions to various fund raising efforts. To have such a successful program year, while still keeping within our means, is indeed something that brings a good sense of accomplishment. Note also that there has been no activity that communicated that any program or activity had to be curtailed to meet these needs.

Several highlights include

- Outreach & Mission giving was 10.06% of the actual income.
- The Income from all sources, except for the Glenmede endowments, was just slightly less than 2011 (\$1,236). The pledge income received in 2011 was 0.94% higher than 2010 but slightly below the amount budgeted (.43% - ~\$1,863). Unpledged offerings (Loose Plate, Easter, and Christmas) were \$3,200 higher than 2010; this is very promising.
- In 2011 the total resources used from the endowment was \$34,000 less than 2010. This is a 7.2% reduction

Some areas for concern:

- Several areas were significantly under spent for unique reasons that probably will not be true in 2012.
- We had some help in offsetting some of the added expenses by a grant and a gift. These may or may not exist in the future.

We have a larger challenge in 2012 as Session has approved a budget with a greater shortfall (\$23,377) than either 2010 or 2011. As we continue to work on our strategic plan to determine how we can better match our needs to our resources, everyone should continue to be prudent and aware of our delicate financial status.

Our stewardship campaign for 2012 is promising as of this report, but there are still some faithful members who have not yet pledged. Please give this your prayerful consideration to help ensure that we can carry out our mission both this year and for many years to come.

Jim Thompson, Chair Administration & Finance Committee of Session

Financial Reports

FPCG Budget through December

	<u>December</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Inc	\$91,312.00	\$908,423.00
Exp	\$95,311.00	\$908,358.00
Net	-\$3,999.00	\$65.00

December

Challenge Offering
Joy Offering
raised \$678.00

February Challenge Offering

The Challenge Offering for February is Heeding God's Call, which is a faith-based organization to prevent gun violence. The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown has been an active participant in this organization as we unite people of faith in the sacred responsibility to protect our brothers, sisters and children from being victims of violent crimes by guns. In 2011, Philadelphia's homicide rate rose once again. On a per-capita measurement, the city has the highest murder rate among big U.S. cities. By supporting Heeding God's Call we are striving to bring God's vision of a peaceable kingdom by working to reduce the violent loss of lives by gunfire each year.

*Bread and
Cup*



Sunday
February 12, 2012
7:00PM

Third Century Fund Update New Gifts Help Fund to Continue Growth

Now is a good time to join those members who have already made a commitment to ensure the future of our church. As you know we rely significantly on the gifts of earlier committed members, through our endowment, to provide resources for our current mission.

Have you thought about how you can help to continue our church's mission in the future? How can *you* help to ensure that these resources continue?

The Third Century Fund, now starting its third year, has received more than \$70,000 to support this mission.

The Third Century Fund was established as part of the 200th anniversary celebration of The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown. The Third Century Fund is intended to ensure that the church will continue to have an endowment for future generations.

This objective of this fund is to grow over time through both additional contributions and reinvested proceeds. To achieve this goal, principal and income from the Third Century Fund shall not be used by the church until certain longer term goals are met.

The fund has a great start – but we need you to participate. Now is the time for everyone to prayerfully consider and then commit their support of the Third Century Fund.

Donations to the Third Century Fund can be made through gifts of cash, securities, other investment instruments or planned gifts. Your gifts and commitments can be made to the church office, attention Kathy Charlesworth.

Disciples' Basketball



The Disciples are in the middle of yet another season. On behalf of the team, coaches and myself, I want to personally thank everyone who has attended games, and I want to encourage others to come and see us in action before the season is over.

Next month, we will hear from two members of our congregation about their experiences at a Disciples game. If you wish to watch us, there is still time.

We play on Monday nights at Germantown Friends School in the Field House Gym. Check your Sunday bulletins for dates and times. I hope to see you at the game!

-Coach Chris Scott

Christmas Festival Thank You!

The Christian Education Committee thanks the many FPCG members and friends who made the December 18 event such a rousing success! During the course of the afternoon, nearly 100 participants of all ages from the church and the community had viewed the live nativity in the FPCG parking lot on their way to the Primary Room and Longstreth Auditorium where they made gingerbread houses and other holiday arts and crafts. Soups, chili, and hot apple cider were provided to warm the body while a program featuring our children in a wonderful Christmas play, *The Unfriendly Beasts*, special music, a carol sing and a visit from Santa and his helpers warmed the spirits of the "standing-room only" crowd.

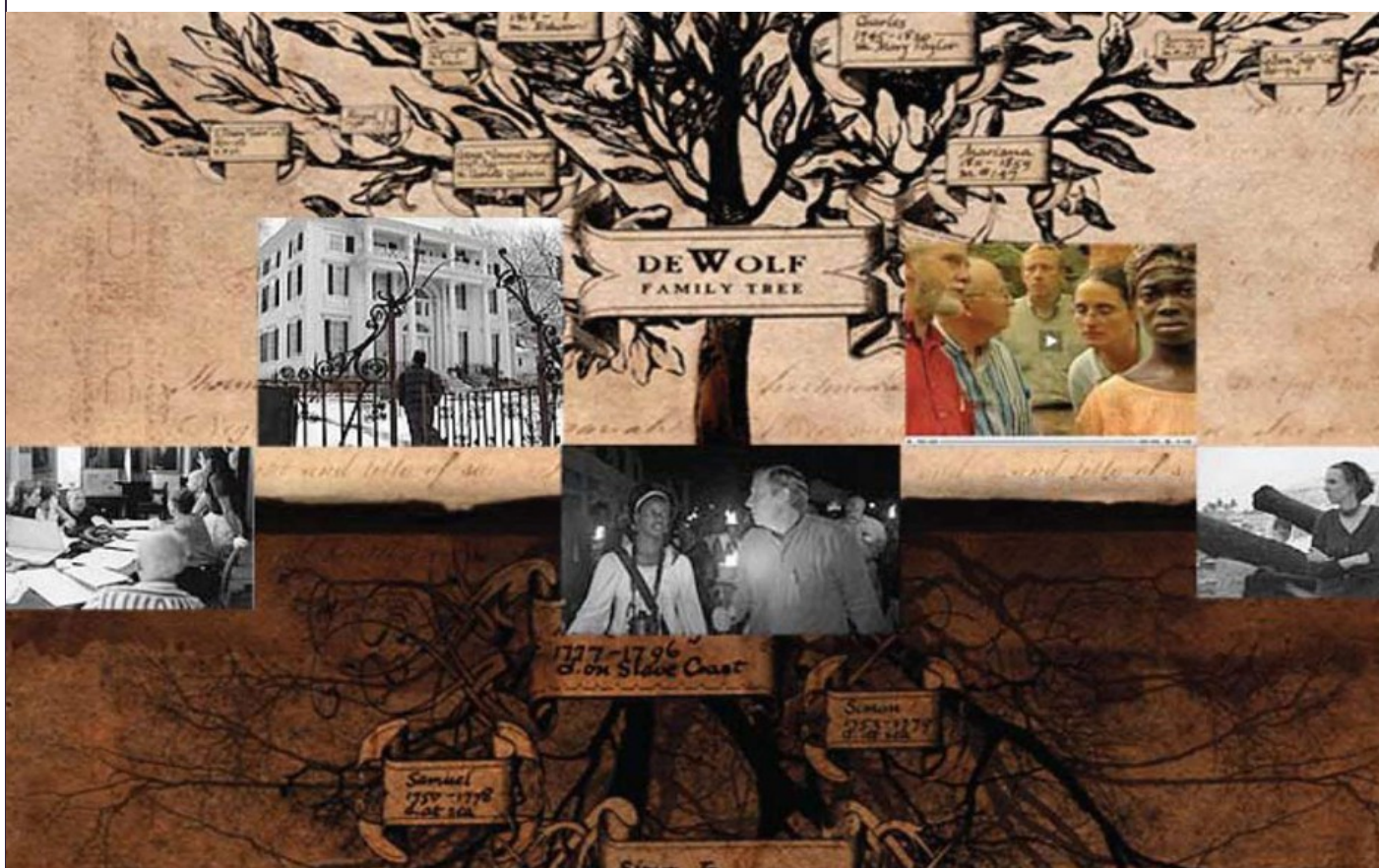
Our gratitude goes out to the Congregational Development and Worship committees who collaborated with Christian Education, as well as the many individuals who constructed sets, rehearsed children, led crafts, donated desserts, spread the word through publicity, took pictures (which can be seen at www.fpcgermantown.org and by searching "First Pres Germantown" on Facebook), not to mention those from the congregation and community who supported the event by their attendance and inviting others. We also thank the Roxborough 4H club for providing the animals for our live nativity and those who made sure Santa stopped by.

If you would like to be a part of creating the same level of success for the upcoming Easter festival which will be held on Saturday, April 7, please contact Christian Education moderator Arlene Grace or see next month's edition of *Windows* for more information.

TRACES OF THE TRADE

A Story from the Deep North

In this award-winning documentary, filmmaker Katrina Browne discovers that her New England ancestors were the largest slave-trading family in U.S. history. She and nine relatives (including Dain Perry) retrace the Triangle Trade, uncovering the vast extent of Northern complicity in slavery, and gaining fresh perspectives on the racial divide. Most white Americans have foresworn overt racism, but what remains? The film premiered at Sundance 2011 and aired on PBS/POV.



On Thursday, February 2, from 6:30 – 9 pm, FPCG will host a screening and discussion of the award-winning documentary *Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North*. The film documents the journey of ten members of a white New England family as they retrace their ancestors' roles in the Triangle Trade (i.e., tobacco, rum, slaves), gaining fresh perspectives on modern-day race relations along the way. Please mark your calendar so that you can participate in what promises to be a meaningful experience that engages our congregation in conversations around our own diversity.

Sponsored by NIM, in October 2011 a showing and discussion of this film drew over 100 participants to FPCG. Though few church members were present at that time, we are pleased to again show the film and have its discussion led by Dain and Constance Perry. Dain is a member of the family documented in the film.

Doors open at 6pm. A light supper (suggested donation, \$5) will be provided. The film will begin promptly at 6:30pm. Childcare will be provided if requested by Tuesday, January 31. To do so, speak to Christian Heyer-Rivera or call the church office at 215-843-8811 and speak to Sally Vaughn.

Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry (GACM)



Don't go through this winter without heat

There are various programs and services available to help including LI-HEAP and Crisis, Citizens Energy Assistance (Joe 4 Oil), PCA and Crisis Ministry assistance. These programs may offer you several hundred dollars toward heating costs and generally require completion of a simple application with income documentation. However, income may not be the only determining factor for eligibility, so if you need help, speak to Eileen Jones or Sherry Archer or call GACM at 215-843-2340, to learn what might benefit you. All inquiries are confidential.

February Food Cupboard

Suggested Donation: Hearty Soups & Crackers! In the midst of winter staying warm is a priority. Help GACM warm the bodies and bellies of those we serve by offering a generous donation of hearty soups and crackers during the Celebration Sunday Worship Service, February 26 food collection.



Free Filing Federal and State Tax Returns

The 2011 tax season is here. Beginning February 1, Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry can file your federal and state tax return for free if your household income is less than \$60,000. GACM uses The Benefit Bank (TBB), a counselor-assisted, web-based program that connects low-to-moderate income wage earners with access to tax credits and public benefits. You can also file up to three years of back taxes. E File and get your refund in as little as 7 days. To schedule an appointment, call 215-843-2340. All services are confidential.

What You Need to File:

- government issued ID
- social security number(s)
- w2's
- 1099's, 1098's
- last year's tax return (if available)
- info about other income
- deduction and credit information

The Benefit Bank

closes the gap between people in need and public funding. Everyday, more than twenty-million people struggle to make ends meet. All the while, an estimated thirty-five billion dollars of Federal work and income support goes unclaimed each year.

Lenten Series



At FPCG, Lent has traditionally been marked by provocative series intended to stretch participants' understanding of the Christian faith in our lives and culture so that we might experience the resurrection power of Christ more fully in our individual and communal lives.

This year, FPCG's own Don Carlin will be using the prayers Jesus prayed during Holy Week as the foundation of his five-part series examining the guidance and inspiration we can give and receive through prayer in times of crisis. The series begins Friday, March 2 at 7:00 pm and continues four consecutive Friday evenings through March 30. Please contact Reverend Porter by February 28 if you need transportation or childcare. See the literature table or next month's *Windows* for more information.

Presbyterian Jack Asher Honored by Lutherans

The sentence reads “He has served his congregation, The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown as Deacon, Trustee, Elder, Head Usher, and President of the Couples Club,” and by now you probably have guessed that the “he” is Jack Asher, formally known as John L., Jr. Jack and his brother, Robert, were honored recently by The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia by being presented with the Soli Deo Gloria Award.

The award is given for outstanding leadership and service to the church and to the mission of the Seminary. Jack has served on the Seminary’s President’s Council and provided strong leadership for the organization’s capital campaigns and strategic planning. In accepting the honor, Jack noted that the Seminary was “one of the signature places that I always remember.”

During the awards’ ceremony, 60 singers of the 150-member Keystone State Boychoir serenaded Asher and his wife, Carolyn, with a special performance dedicated to him. Asher was one of the founding members of the board of the Boychoir which calls First Church its home. The directors of the choir are Joe “Fitz” Fitzmartin and Steven M. Fisher.

As a lifetime chocolatier and co-chair of Asher’s Chocolates, formerly of Germantown but now of Lewistown, Jack Asher was elected to the Candy Hall of Fame in 2006. In addition to his Presbyterian and Lutheran connections, he has served as President of the Germantown Business Association, President of the Whosoever Gospel Mission, President of the Germantown Historical Society, and the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf. Further, he has served as a volunteer firefighter for 35 years and is the leading supporter of the Battle of Germantown held each October on the ground of Cliveden. The Ashers are the parents of three children.

Jack’s brother, Robert, who was unable to attend the ceremony, is the co-chair of Asher’s Chocolates and the President of Robert Asher Associates. He is an elder in the Oreland Evangelical Presbyterian Church and is as civic-minded as his brother, a member of numerous community and political organizations and boards.

The Lutheran Theological Seminary, founded in 1864, is one of eight seminaries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Its 14-acre campus in Mt. Airy to which the seminary moved in 1888, is part of a larger property on which one of the founding members of The First Presbyterian Church lived. Joseph Miller, the first organist from approximately 1812 to 1832, was also the first treasurer of the Vestry (today’s Session).

Heartiest congratulations, Jack Asher!

--Adapted by Sam Whyte from an unsigned article in the December 16, 2011, issues of the *Mt. Airy Times Express*.

Confirmation Class 2012



Every Sunday for the last two months after worship, from 11:45am-1:45pm our confirmation class has been meeting in our youth lounge in the basement of the church (next to the gymnasium). Ted Walkenhorst and Christian Heyer-Rivera lead the class. We have four faithful young people of our church participating actively in this class each week. DeShaye Carter, Matthew Reisse, Kia Burton, and Jason (LJ) Greene are devoting their hearts and minds to the study of the Bible, Christian theology, and church ministry.

We are using the curriculum *Re:form* for this year’s classes. The lessons start with a theological question that is important to the church and explores the ways that Christians have answered the question while remaining faithful to Jesus Christ and the scriptural witness.

We recently finished our lesson exploring the Bible itself and are now entering into a unit that explores theological questions centered on the particulars of the Apostle’s creed.

Pray for each of our young persons involved in this time of preparation for life, ministry, and membership in our congregation. Keep a look out in upcoming newsletters for profiles of each of the class’s participants, DeShaye Carter, Matthew Reisse, Kia Burton, and Jason (LJ) Greene. The more you get to know them, the more you can’t help but love them and can encourage them in their life and faith.

Elementary School - Sunday School

If you have been to our worship services in the last few months, you've surely seen the beautiful group of young children who have been coming to our Elementary Sunday School.

Our Sunday School lessons have been filled with games, crafts, Bible stories and memory verses.

Let me share with you a little of what goes on in our class:

First thing we do when we arrive to our classroom is sit around in a circle and review our names. This is usually followed by some different high energy game to make sure we take some of the energy out (remember, our children have been sitting down in worship for the first 10 minutes...that's a lot!) Then we either sit down to do a written exercise or jump straight to our Bible story. We follow our lesson with another game - usually designed to help us reviewing our monthly memory verse and then its off to do a craft related to our lesson. Every now and then we have time for Mr. Christian to come in and lead us in a song or two!



In December, we learned that 700 years before the birth of Jesus, the prophet Micah wrote that a wonderful leader was going to be born in Bethlehem! And the people were waiting, just like we were waiting for December 25, when we as a community of faith remember and celebrate the birth of Christ! Our memory verse for that month was, "He will be born in Bethlehem, just as the prophet wrote." Matthew 2:5. The children worked hard and had fun committing this verse to memory as they anticipated the celebration of our Lord's coming.

If you're still interested in knowing more about what goes on in our class, or if you're considering volunteering as an assistant or as a lead teacher, come join us one of these Sundays...I promise you won't regret it!

-Sheila Heyer-Rivera

Middle School Youth Go To Broad Street

On December 9 & 10 three young adults and three middle school students were sent out from FPCG to spend time at Broad Street Ministry (BSM) in service and reflection.

On that Friday we enjoyed a neighborhood scavenger hunt that took us from 19th Street and Vine Street, through the Christmas Village at the Visitor's Center and finally back to BSM which is located across the street from the Kimmel Center on the East side of Broad Street. On the hunt we had a chance to explore and see the beauty of the downtown, and understand the importance of the city in respect to art, education, health, and culture in general. We ended the night with a worship service that focused upon the theme of "home." We explored and reflected upon theological and scriptural stories that inform us in our approach as Christians to issues related to that theme.

Saturday began early with a trip to North Philadelphia as we participated in the non-profit cooperative food program S.H.A.R.E. We helped bag fruit for the organization which services over 10,000 families in five different states. The program takes grocery orders from members once a month and then in turn buys the product in bulk to complete the orders directly from farms at drastically discounted prices. The members therefore pay reduced rates and in exchange for their participation in the bulk buy, they volunteer two hours of service in their communities.

We ended the day by returning to BSM and helping sort clothes for their ministry to persons who are presently homeless. We were educated on the importance of this ministry, for the individuals they serve don't have access to washing machines and therefore they wear a set of clothes until they quite literally wear out. This ministry allows a person to choose a fresh outfit so that their clothing doesn't reek or become so dirty and worn that it is unhealthy for them to continue to wear them.

Before we left we reflected upon the opportunities we had been given and upon the relationships that we had strengthened during our time together. Thank you, FPCG for your support and prayers for this weekend of learning, fun, and service in the name of Jesus Christ!

—Christian Heyer-Rivera

Drop-in-Center News and Hours

The Up-rise and Curbing of Teen Violence: A critical situation that demonstrates a clear need met! (Part 1 of 3)

For the last year and a half The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown has been blessed to host, in partnership with Creative Germantown Initiative [a FPCG birthed 501(c)(3) non profit organization], a senior high youth drop-in center named "The Basement." The center derives its name from its location, in the lower level of our church building where our gymnasium, our youth lounge, and our weight room (we have a weight room here?) can be found. Every Friday during the school year, from 2:30pm-6:15pm we open our doors to senior high youth from our community and provide them with a safe place to hang out and build relationships with adults and peers.

The day and time we have chosen for opening the center are strategic. This time in the week, for those of us who work regularly with youth, is understood to be one of the most dangerous times for young people in our city. Friday after school in our community is no exception as it has the potential to be a very volatile time for our senior high students.

Incidents of violence in our community don't just happen in a vacuum or out of midair. The pent up energy of spending five days bumping shoulders with peers who share the experience of "teenage angst," coupled with the unbridled release of that energy as the weekend finally arrives can often lead to emotional and physical outbursts on the streets of our community.

Fragile teenage egos make easy fodder for small wars of words. If left unchecked or unresolved, or if egged on by peers, small sharp-tongued verbal exchanges among peers can escalate quickly into full-blown physical altercations. They start small and may be quite petty at first, but once the ball gets rolling, a fight can erupt and kids flock to see what's up. Fights among our youth have become a spectator sport and mobs can quickly form around a fight, with others eventually "jumping" in as a group.

So what can we do to stop it? Maybe a more realistic question is, "How can we help curb this youthful energy gone awry?" As Christians, we are called to the ministry of peacemaking as a community centered in and around the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ. We are also called to a ministry of hope. We are called to look into bleak situations that seem at times unstoppable, and view them through the eyes of faith, faith in a God that makes all things new. It is in the spirit of peacemaking and hope that I share the difference "The Basement" is making within our community.

"The Basement" provides young people with something else to turn their attention toward, an opportunity to look forward to as the weekend begins, a place they know they can have fun and remain safe. (Keep your eye out for the next portion of this article in your March newsletter)

Drop-in-Center Hours

The Drop-in Center will be open every Friday from 2:30-6:30pm throughout the month of February. If you are in high school, come and join us in this safe place to hang out, eat, and have fun!

Towson University Students Call FPCG Home



A group of college students from Towson University in Baltimore, Md. called our church building home January 8 through 14. The students were participating in an Alternative Break Trip centered on service within our city. This particular group of students volunteered with our local P.A.L. center (Police Athletic League), an independent non-profit corporation with 26 citywide centers that are committed to "Cops Helping Kids," and with Philabundance, the region's largest food bank and hunger relief organization.

For the last five years we have partnered with numerous colleges and universities as a host site for students who have chosen to spend their academic breaks in service to our community. Invariably the students also get to spend time with a few members of our staff who aid in the students' discussions and their learning about urban life and ministry here in Germantown.



Notes Of Thanks From The Porter Family

Dear Reverend Dr. Muth and The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown,

There is a hymn that begins, "In times like these, you need a Savior..." May I add, in times like these you also need a friend, human warmth and compassion. I thank you for your caring and sharing during the soul-wrenching experience of my wife Iciephene Porter's memorial service on Saturday, December 31, 2011.

Please accept my gratitude and that of my sons for your prayers and condolences which have meant more than words can express.
—In heartfelt appreciation, Alfonso F. Porter Jr.

Dear FPCG members and friends,

In the weeks surrounding my mother's death, I have experienced the beauty of what it means to be a part of a Christian community at a depth beyond any other in my life. You have indeed embodied Christ for me through the many prayers, cards, conversations, and gestures of support that have enabled me to know what it means to be joyful and grateful even in the midst of sorrow.

Thank you for "putting flesh" on the many scriptures that speak of God's presence with us in the midst of all situations. I have felt God's loving touch through you. May God bless you with the joy of knowing how much God has blessed me and my family through your kindness.
—In Christ, Kevin

Thank you from The Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry

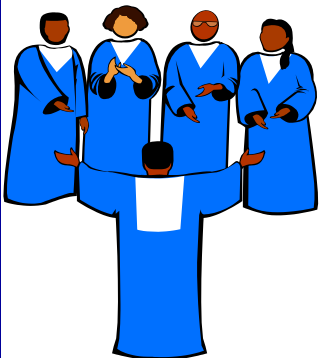
Dear Friends:

Thanksgiving & Christmas 2011 proved to be an amazing season touched by angels. From those who gave expected donations and gifts to those unexpected angels who provided unexpected resources, Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry says thanks. Your generosity enabled GACM to provide:

224 complete Thanksgiving baskets, 85 complete Christmas baskets, holiday basket home delivery to shut-ins, 100 winter coats to children & adults, designated gifts for 94 children, gift card/sponsorship for 40 households, (\$2696 value), miscellaneous gifts to 10 households.

In addition to the donations of food, gift cards, coats, presents and financial donations, approximately 20 adults and numerous students from area schools helped pick up and deliver food, stock shelves, pack grocery bags, make telephone calls, and distribute toys and gifts. GACM could not have touched the lives of so many if it had not been for you. Thank you for your wonderful support.
—Eileen A. Jones, Executive Director

FPCG Gospel Choir to participate in the Annual Black History Celebration of the Presbytery of Philadelphia



The Gospel Choir of The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown will be participating in the Annual Black History Celebration of the Presbytery of Philadelphia. The celebration will be held on Sunday afternoon, February 26, from 3:00 to 5:00pm at Oxford Presbyterian Church at 8501 Stenton Avenue in Mt. Airy. The theme of the day is "Walk With Us." The new National Black Presbyterian Caucus President, Rev. Dr. Arlene Gordon, will be the featured speaker. Dr. Gordon recently retired as the Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of Tropical Florida. In addition to her remarks the program will highlight music of the Black Church experience as presented by local church choirs and congregational singing. Everyone is invited to take part in this celebration of the heritage of Black Presbyterians within the PC(USA). Light refreshments will be served in a time of fellowship following the program.

Volunteers Needed

We need help to assist and teach the Nursery and Elementary Sunday School classes.

For more information see Christian Heyer-Rivera or Rosemary Williams about helping with the Nursery class, and Sheila Heyer-Rivera to help with the Elementary School class.

Parish Visitor

Heidi Mercado-Littles will be in Chile through March 2, 2012. For pastoral concerns, please, contact your Deacon or The Reverend Kevin Porter (215) 518-1675.

In Memoriam

Peter Hill
January 4, 2012

The Children's Book Spot

Black History Month began as Negro History Week in February 1926. Founded by the eminent black historian, Carter G. Woodson, Negro History Week was a celebration of famous blacks who had made major contributions to the growth and development of the United States. During the 1970s, Negro History Week became Black History Month. Below are a few well-known and not so well-known African Americans who have made contributions to the history of this country. The titles below are for readers, grades 4-9 except for the two titles with an asterisk. Those titles are at about a third grade reading level.

Bausum, Ann. *Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the Civil Rights Movement*. National Geographic, 2006.

Fradin, Dennis B. *Ida B. Wells: Mother of the Civil Rights Movement*. Clarion, 2000.

Freedman, Russell. *The Voice That Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights*. Clarion, 2004.

*Haskins, Jim. *Delivering Justice: W.W. Law and the Fight for Civil Rights*. Illustrated by Benny Andrews. Candlewick, 2005.

*Haskins, Jim & Kathleen Benson. *John Lewis in the Lead: A Story of the Civil Rights Movement*. Illustrations by Benny Andrews. Lee & Low, 2006.

McKissack, Patricia C. and Frederick L. *A Long Hard Journey: The Story of the Pullman Porter*. Walker, 1989.

Mettger, Zak. *Till Victory Is Won: Black Soldiers in the Civil War*. Lodestar, 1994.

Partridge, Elizabeth. *Marching For Freedom: Walk Together Children and Don't You Grow Weary*. Viking, 2009.

Stanley, Jerry. *Hurry Freedom! African -Americans in Gold Rush California*. Crown, 2000.

Walker, Paul Robert. *Remember Little Rock*. National Geographic, 2009.

—Deborah Thompson



01	Liz Drum
03	Andrea Overton
04	F. Louise David
05	Delva Edwards John Neville
08	Herb Henze Arlene Ricketts
10	Evadney Miller
11	Frederick Morrison Debbie Ricketts
13	Carol Asher Pamela Murray
14	Susie Morris Jean Swenson Deborah Thompson Marlene Young
15	Mary Benjamin Faith Wolford
16	Delores McKissick
18	Cherie Hardy
19	Joanne Elliott
23	Regina Carter
24	Carolyn Ballard
25	Shanise Gladden
26	Earl Ball David Corbin
28	Cathy Coho Dorothy Grady

Directory Changes

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Vancouver, WA 98662



FEBRUARY 2012



<p>1 Wednesday 4:00pm Keystone State Boychoir 7:00pm Session</p> <p>2 Thursday 6:00pm Gospel Choir 7:30pm Voices-in-Bronze</p> <p>3 Friday 2:30pm Drop-in-Center 6:30pm Drill Team</p> <p>4 Saturday 8:15am Keystone State Boychoir 9:00am Open Gym 9:30am Congregational Development</p> <p>5 Sunday 8:45am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship Service 11:10am Children's Choir 11:30am Sunday School 11:30am Gospel Choir 11:30pm Chancel Choir 11:30am Confirmation Class 12:45pm Basketball</p> <p>6 Monday 6:30pm Drill Team</p> <p>7 Tuesday 9:30am Classic Towns 3:30pm Anti-Gun Demonstration 7:30pm Oratorio Choir</p> <p>8 Wednesday 4:00pm Keystone State Boychoir 6:30pm Christian Education Committee</p> <p>9 Thursday 6:00pm Gospel Choir 7:00pm Germantown Community Connection 7:30pm Voices-in-Bronze</p> <p>10 Friday 2:30pm Drop-in-Center 6:30pm Drill Team</p>	<p>11 Saturday 8:15am Keystone State Boychoir 9:00am Open Gym 9:00am Creative Germantown Initiative</p> <p>12 Sunday 8:45am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship Service 11:10am Children's Choir 11:30am Sunday School 11:30am Gospel Choir 11:30pm Chancel Choir 11:30am Confirmation Class 12:45pm Basketball 5:00pm Young Adult Potluck 7:00pm Bread and Cup</p> <p>13 Monday 6:30pm Drill Team</p> <p>14 Tuesday Valentine's Day 7:30pm Oratorio Choir</p> <p>15 Wednesday 4:00pm Keystone State Boychoir 6:00pm Property Committee 6:30pm Worship/Music/Arts Committee</p> <p>16 Thursday 6:00pm Gospel Choir 6:00pm Administration & Finance Committee 7:30pm Voices-in-Bronze</p> <p>17 Friday 2:30pm Drop-in-Center 6:30pm Drill Team</p> <p>18 Saturday 8:15am Keystone State Boychoir 9:00am Open Gym 10:00am Communications Committee</p> <p>19 Sunday 8:45am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship Service 11:10am Children's Choir 11:30am Sunday School 11:30am Gospel Choir 11:30pm Chancel Choir 11:30am Confirmation Class 12:45pm Basketball</p>	<p>20 Monday Presidents' Day Church Offices Are Closed</p> <p>21 Tuesday 7:30pm Oratorio Choir</p> <p>22 Wednesday Ash Wednesday 3:30pm Anti-Gun Demonstration 4:00pm Keystone State Boychoir 7:00pm Communion Service</p> <p>23 Thursday 6:00pm Gospel Choir 7:30pm Voices-in-Bronze</p> <p>24 Friday 2:30pm Drop-in-Center 6:30pm Drill Team</p> <p>25 Saturday 8:15am Keystone State Boychoir 9:00am Open Gym</p> <p>26 Sunday Lent I - Communion 8:45am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship Service 11:10am Children's Choir 11:30am Sunday School 11:30am Gospel Choir 11:30pm Chancel Choir 11:30am Confirmation Class 12:45pm Basketball 3:00pm Organ Concert FPCG 3:00pm Black History Celebration Oxford Presbyterian Church</p> <p>27 Monday 6:30pm Drill Team</p> <p>28 Tuesday 7:30pm Oratorio Choir</p> <p>29 Wednesday 4:00pm Keystone State Boychoir 6:00pm Outreach & Mission Committee</p>
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Thank You—From the Staff

A heartfelt thank you from the staff of FPCG to everyone who contributed to the staff Christmas gift.

Eileen *Kathy* *Sally* *Christian*
Terry *Harry* *Whaley* *Heidi* *David* *Kevin*

In Concert at FPCG
Sunday, February 26, 2012
Famous Organ Works
David C. Daugherty, Organist
3:00PM

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

35 West Cheltenham Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED