



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Bethlehem Pennsylvania

2344 Center St., Bethlehem, PA 18017

**WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH**

**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP**

in the Kirk Center

**Oasis 6 p.m. Saturday**  
**9 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday**

**TRADITIONAL WORSHIP**

in the Sanctuary

**8:45 & 10:15 a.m. Sunday**  
Preaching: Rev. Alf Halvorson

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND  
PAGERS DURING WORSHIP.

Childcare is available in the Children's  
Center for all worship services  
for infants to age two.

Adults with special needs  
9:45 a.m. in room 216

Large print bulletins and Children's bulletins and worship bags are available. *Please ask an usher.*

Tapes and CDs of this morning's Traditional service are available in Fellowship Hall.

Please notify ushers if you are a trained First Responder for medical emergencies.

**PREACHING NEXT WEEK**

**January 30 & 31**

Preaching: Rev. Alf Halvorson  
Psalm 23:5

**OFFICE HOURS:**

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. M-F  
PHONE: 610-867-5865  
FAX: 610-867-9782  
fpc-bethlehem.org  
fpcocasis.com

**Our Vision Statement**

First Presbyterian Church is a community following Jesus Christ and serving in creative worship, intentional discipleship, compassionate care and active outreach to the world.

# THE Heartbeat

The Heartbeat is also available online at [fpc-bethlehem.org/publications](http://fpc-bethlehem.org/publications).

———— Sunday, January 24 ————

**ADULT INQUIRERS CLASS BEGINS TODAY**

10:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m. through Feb. 14.

During the four-week Inquirers program, pastoral staff and small group leaders will share the mission, vision and goals of our church, familiarize you with our many ministry opportunities and guide you in your profession of faith. We look forward to helping you make deeper connections with our congregation. Childcare will be provided by reservation only. If you would like to join the Inquirers (new member) class, contact Yovita at ext. 206 or [ywooden@fpc-bethlehem.org](mailto:ywooden@fpc-bethlehem.org).

———— Sunday, January 31 ————

**THE ANNUAL MEETING  
of the CONGREGATION and CORPORATION  
of FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM**

with a luncheon given by Youth Ministry  
at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

The meeting follows at 12:30 in the Sanctuary.

**Luncheon tickets will be available on Jan. 24** in the North and South Links, Ministry Mall, and Rotunda (outside the Kirk Center) or in the church office during the week. Seating will be available the day of the luncheon on an "as available" basis. We do not take phone reservations. The cost is \$10 per adult and \$7 per child (up to age 10). Proceeds from the dinner will go towards building a school in Quacha Birra, Ethiopia.

———— Sunday, February 7 ————

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

This offering is taken in churches nationwide on Super Bowl Sunday to go directly to local food banks and shelters. On a day when so much money is spent to watch a football game, we are challenged to give \$1 on the way out of worship and place it in the soup kettles held by our youth. 100% of this offering will go to our local mission partners serving the hungry in our community.

———— Wednesday, February 17 ————

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

A worship service begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a season when we ask God for new and honest hearts and the healing power of forgiveness. In Lent we take time to pray for a closer relationship with Jesus and to reflect on how we are living. At our Ash Wednesday service people are invited to receive burnt ashes on their hand or their forehead as a reminder for us to confess our need for Jesus, to ask for a new beginning and to grow deeper and stronger in our faith.

## Ministry Contacts

<b>Phone: 610-317-6162</b> .....	<b>Ext.</b>
<i>Alf Halvorson, Pastor/Head of Staff</i> .....	213
<i>Greg Funfgeld, Director of Music</i> .....	218
<i>Brently Groshong, Director of Music</i> .....	255
<i>Tom Goeman, Assoc. Director of Music</i> .....	322
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<i>Kathie Welker, Admin. Assistant</i> .....	228
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<i>Richard Martin, Interim Technology Mgr.</i> .....	206
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<b>Mission &amp; Outreach</b>	
<i>Jack Brace, Pastor</i> .....	250

**Weekday Preschool & Extended Care**  
610-867-2956

**ELDERS:** Robert Andress, James Birdsall, Lynnette Burns, Ray Davis, Glenna Dunham, John Edwards, Debbie Field, Joan Glover, Bob Hunsicker, Joanne Kelhart, Jim Koontz, Jan Marsh, Jeff Mohler, Betsy Mowrer, Jim Parker, Dave Post, Karen Reichard, Don Robertson, Larry Rood, Jill Smedley, Ken Wycherley

**DEACONS:** David Africa, Marie Boltz, Jackie Byrnes, Phil Clauser, Jane Derbenwick, Dennis Dodds, Terrence Dolan, Norma Ferguson, Richard Gorton, Nancy Hawkins, Sarah McIntyre, Dick McKenna, Janet Pope, Sally Roe, Jack Terres

**TRUSTEES:** Ronald Bauer, Sue Cady, Douglas Cappellini, Jim DiSario, Dave Evans, Gerry Gillispie, Barry Kessler, Jim Largay, Geoff Marsac, Don Mengel, Don Mongeon, Evelyn Stravino

**FPC LEHIGH PRESBYTERY COMMISSIONERS:**  
Russ Grander, Bill Marsh, Ann Terres, Loey Post, Jeff Mohler, Jill Smedley

## ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

**What's Next? "The Prodigal God"** by Timothy Keller provides a fresh look at the well-known parable of the prodigal son and the elder brother. Whether you know this parable like the back of your hand or have no idea what a parable is, this study offers a chance to grow your heart, your mind and your faith. The book and discussion guide, along with optional DVD, create a great opportunity for both small groups and individuals alike.

**Are You a Leader?** Sundays, Jan. 10–Mar. 14, 10:15–11:30 a.m. in room 416. If you have leadership experience in church activities, business, social life or you feel called to serve a group, please join us for this 4-week series on the fundamentals of leading a small group. Email [mike\\_hughes@live.com](mailto:mike_hughes@live.com) for more info.

**"Your Whole Life, The 3D Plan for Eating Right, Living Well and Loving God"** by Carol Showalter and Maggie Davis, Jan 17–Apr. 4, 10:15 a.m. in the Chapel. Join us for a 12-week book study, weekly goals, a do-able exercise plan, tips for living well, daily spiritual readings and more. Sunday class 10:15 a.m. in the Chapel, sponsored by the parish nurses. Book, journal and pedometer will be available for purchase. To sign up, email [janmarsh@verizon.net](mailto:janmarsh@verizon.net) or just join us!

**Financial Freedom:** Sundays, Jan. 10–Feb. 14, 10:15–11:30 a.m. in room 408 exploring God's practical financial principles with the Crown Financial Money Map so you can achieve life-changing freedom! Suggested donation: \$1 for the Crown Money Map (online price \$3). View the money map online at [www.crown.org](http://www.crown.org). To sign up, or for further info, call Dean or Linda, 610-395-8756.

**Going Deeper with the Sermon:** Sundays, 10:15–11:30 a.m. in room 412. Ongoing Bible study and discussion following the sermon topics. Come join us anytime, contact Bill Freeman, ext. 207, for more info.

**For MOMs only:** Tuesdays, through May 18, 9:30–11:30 a.m. in room F3/F4. Contact Molly Anderson, [minye@msn.com](mailto:minye@msn.com). **W**

*Unless otherwise noted, contact Susan Smith at ext. 202 or [ssmith@fpc-bethlehem.org](mailto:ssmith@fpc-bethlehem.org) for all registration information.*

### NEW!

Women's Ministries study of **"The Prodigal God"** by Timothy Keller on Sunday mornings, 10:15–11:30 a.m. Begins Feb. 7. Register on Sunday mornings, Jan. 24 and 31, in the Kirk Center. Cost for the book and guide is \$21.50, payable at registration. For questions call Rachel Taylor, 610-419-2147.

**"Lord I Want to Know You:"** by Kay Arthur. Tuesdays, Jan. 5–May 4, 2010, 12:30–2:30 p.m. Workbook discussion and video presentation. Register with Susan Smith, ext. 202, or [ssmith@fpc-bethlehem.org](mailto:ssmith@fpc-bethlehem.org). **W**

**Women's Bible Study of Genesis:** Wednesdays, 9:15–11:30 a.m. Contact Liz, [lizkidney@gmail.com](mailto:lizkidney@gmail.com). **W**

**The Parable of the Prodigal Son and the Elder Brother:** Wednesdays at noon and 6 p.m. Feb. 24–March 31. Jack Brace, Bill Freeman and Cody Sandahl lead a series during Lent that takes a deeper look at the Parable of the Prodigal Son and the Elder Brother. The material is supplemental to *The Prodigal God*, so you'll find plenty to talk about whether you are reading the book or not.

**Men's Small Group:** Thursdays, 6:30–8 a.m. in the Parlor. **No assigned homework.** Contact Bill Freeman, ext. 207. **M**

**"Worship 365:"** Thursdays, through Jan. 14, 7–9 p.m. in room 416. Contact Jim Parker, [adventurex2@verizon.net](mailto:adventurex2@verizon.net). **M**

**"The Faith:"** by Charles Colson. Fridays, 6:30–8 a.m. in room 416. Contact John Bell at [john@hot-shot-inc.com](mailto:john@hot-shot-inc.com) or Ray Bush at [RayBush3@verizon.net](mailto:RayBush3@verizon.net) for more info. **M**

**"Book of Galatians:"** Fridays, 6:30–8 a.m., in the Youth Lounge. Contact Tom Willans at [twillans@att.net](mailto:twillans@att.net) for more info. **M**

**"Just Walk Across the Room:"** Fridays, 6:30–8 a.m. in the Parlor. Contact Steve Fessler, [sfessler@rcn.com](mailto:sfessler@rcn.com), for more info. Books cost \$27. **M**

**MM = Marriage Ministry · M = Men's Ministry · W = Women's Ministry**  
**CC = Childcare available · R = Registration required**

## CHILDREN'S DISCIPLESHIP

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**Sunday School** 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. for ages 2 through those in 5th grade.

**Preschool Faith Friends** 8:45 to 10 a.m. for ages 2 through 4-years-old only

## YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

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### SAVE THE DATES!

**High School Mission Trip:** July 3–10, 2010, for students who have completed grades 9–12.

**Middle School Mission Trip:** July 11–17, 2010, for students who have completed grades 6–8.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Primetime:** Sundays, 10:15–11:30 a.m. in the Youth Lounge and Step Room.

**Middler Boys and Girls Choir Rehearsal:** Tuesdays, 4:15–5:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.

**Youth Club eXtreme:** Wednesdays, 5:30–8:30 p.m. This week's theme: Hawaiian Night. **R**

### HIGH SCHOOL

**H.S. Sunday AM:** 10:15–11:30 a.m. in the H.S. Lounge and Step Room.

**Sunday Night Live and Youth Inquirers:** 6:30–9:30 p.m. in the H.S. Hospitality Room.

**High School Chorale Rehearsal:** Tuesdays, 7:00–8:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & CARE

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**Hi Neighbors:** Monday, Jan. 25, 10 a.m.: "Natural Museum of Industrial History," Steve Donches; 11:15 a.m.: "Burnside Plantation," Charlene Donchez Mowrer, Executive Director—Historic Bethlehem Partnership.

**FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK:** This Sunday morning, Jan. 24, in the North Link.

### SUPPORT GROUPS:

**Job Seekers Arise!** Mondays, 7–8 p.m. in room 408.

**Christian 12-Step Support Group:** Wednesdays, 7–8 p.m. in room 206.

**Singles Support Group:** Second and fourth Sundays of the month at 11:45 a.m. in the Parlor.

**Meals Ministry:** Provides ready-to-eat meals to our FPC families in need. To make a meal request, contact Carol VanArtsdalen, 610-867-1185, or [cvanartsdalen@yahoo.com](mailto:cvanartsdalen@yahoo.com). If you would like to provide meals to families in need, contact Lyn Russo, 484-851-3116, or [lynramsey@hotmail.com](mailto:lynramsey@hotmail.com). Meals can be home-cooked or purchased from carryout services.

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION AS OF 12/31/09

	CURRENT ACTUAL	2008 ACTUAL
YTD Income	\$2,568,939	\$2,505,485
YTD Expenses	<u>\$2,397,519</u>	<u>\$2,471,468</u>
General Fund Balance	\$ 171,420	\$ 34,017

### PLEASE PRAY FOR FAMILIES WHO HAVE LOST A LOVED ONE:

Michael and Lori Kotze for the loss of Lori's mother, Alma Bracken; Andy and Carol Scott for the loss of Carol's mother, Evelyn Jeff; the Tyson family for the loss of Matthew; the family of Lewis (Pete) Lukehart for his loss; Joe and Katie Kricks and family for the loss of their daughter, Louisa Blankenship; Karen Hammer and family for the loss of her mother, Marian Baker.

*If you feel called to a ministry of prayer, please pick up a Prayer Concerns sheet in the literature racks outside the office, the Kirk Center and in the North Link.*



### WEATHER CANCELLATION INFORMATION

For Sunday morning worship cancellations as well as cancellations during the week, check these sources:

- Church office: 610-867-5865
- Website: [www.fpc-bethlehem.org](http://www.fpc-bethlehem.org)
- FM radio stations B104 (104.1) and WZZO (95.1)
- AM radio stations WAEB (790) and FOX1470 (1470)
- WFMZ channel 69 News (TV)

Your specific ministry extension may also have cancellation information.

All youth activities will be canceled when Bethlehem School District closes or dismisses early due to weather conditions.

*Please stay safe this winter and call the church before you venture out.*

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## Thank You from Don

Thank you for your warm and gracious recognition. While it is physically impossible to thank each and every one of you, I hope you will take this expression of gratitude personally. I have been blessed to know so many of you and, hopefully, to have been your "faithful servant." As I move into the next phase of what God has in store for me, I will look back and cherish the times and memories of having been a part of the First Presbyterian Church's life. Again, thank you, from me to you for being a part of my "life."



Spiritually,  
Don Masters "Crusty—Dry, dry, dry"

## 2010 Men's Conference and Couple's Evening

Friday, Jan. 29 & Saturday, Jan. 30. Our speaker, Pastor Bart Campolo, will talk about ways for men to pursue loving relationships with the people in their lives. This is an opportunity to renew friendships and our commitment to Christ. Register in Fellowship Hall and the Kirk Center Rotunda or contact Larry Rood, [l.rood@verizon.net](mailto:l.rood@verizon.net), or 610-261-3810. Registration deadline: Jan. 25. Conference only: \$70 per person. Conference and couple's dinner: \$110 per couple.

## Free Tax Help

Free assistance preparing federal, state and local income tax returns is available to low- and middle-income people beginning Feb. 1, 2010. Membership in AARP is NOT required. This tax counseling service, sponsored by AARP and IRS, provides trained volunteers who help in preparing tax returns and applications required for PA property tax or rent rebate, as well as PACE and PACENET. Anyone interested in using this service should bring last year's tax returns and all pertinent info detailing income and expenses for 2009 to a designated location. For a list of locations and hours, pick up a FREE TAX HELP flyer found in the main office reception area and in the literature racks.

## JOY Movie Night & Pizza

Join us Friday, Feb. 5, in Fellowship Hall, and have a night out at the movies with your JOY friends. Enjoy pizza, beverages, popcorn and a Dove bar followed by "Mr. Holland's Opus" starring Richard Dreyfuss. The story is about a musician and composer who takes a teaching job to pay the rent. Does he meet his life-goals? What is success? Don't miss this enjoyable movie and meal for only \$5. Sign up at the JOY booth in Fellowship Hall between Sunday services by Jan. 31

## Military Care Packages

The children's choirs are preparing care packages to send to members of the military stationed abroad. Choir members will collect items and monetary donations following the Sunday services throughout the month of January. We would also like to receive the names and addresses of family members and friends currently serving in the military (we cannot send packages without actual military addresses). Last year we received many grateful letters for the packages and letters sent on behalf of our congregation, and we look forward to another opportunity to spread God's love to those serving far from home. A list of needed items for the packages is available in the Narthex and Rotunda. Contact Marie Miller, [mandkmiller@rcn.com](mailto:mandkmiller@rcn.com), for more info.

## Prayers and Aid for Haiti

The catastrophic earthquake that struck Haiti on Jan. 12 has devastated much of the country, and the earth continues to shudder in the wake of strong aftershocks. It has been estimated that 200,000 are dead, 250,000 injured, and 2 million left homeless. Conditions are dire as people cling to life with inadequate or no shelter, water or food. **These people desperately need your prayers!**

In addition to prayers, you can also help by making a monetary donation to relief efforts. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is collecting aid in order to respond to this earthquake and has set a one-million-dollar goal for their response, PDA account number DR000064. You can donate online, or write a check to First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem with Haiti Earthquake in the memo. Monies collected through FPC Bethlehem will go to PDA.

## The Three Priorities and Six Goals of Our Vision

DEEP CONNECTION WITH THE LIVING GOD:

- Worship attendance grows to 1500
- ✓ 1200 people read the New Testament
- ✓ Five new studies to resource, support, train and empower disciples

DEEP INVESTMENT WITH ONE ANOTHER:

- 1200 people meaningfully connected in groups

DEEP ENGAGEMENT WITH THE WORLD FOR WHOM CHRIST DIED:

- 1000 people engaged in a local, national, or international mission or service ministry
- 
- ✓ \$100,000 in unrestricted funds to fuel the initiatives above.

## WHOLE LIFE STEWARDSHIP

*"But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth."  
(Deuteronomy 8:18)*

Heart of the Matter  
*Luke 12:34*