

# THE NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2014

## FROM THE PASTOR

What is most important to you in life? And how have we at church helped you live it out in your daily life?

Someone once said, "If all the gospel of Jesus Christ is going to do is change my Sunday schedule, then I'm not interested. I want something that is going to change my finances, the way I work, the way I keep my house, and the way I fix my yard."\*

Christians believe that everything we have, our bodies, minds, skills and talents, our time, our money and possessions, are all gifts from God. And we are to take good care of them, and use them to help spread God's love in the world. A steward is a person who manages another person's property, household, finances or affairs. And we are stewards of our own lives and everything we have,

which are gifts to us from God.

We gather every Sunday morning to worship and glorify God. But we also pray our lives will make a difference in the world. In this season we focus on financial stewardship as our members and friends make estimates and commitments to give in the coming year. Does how we use our money reflect what is most important to us?

Paul wrote in his letter to the Ephesians (3:20), "Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen!"

People often worry about not having enough in life. But if we dedicate what we have to God, no matter how insignificant it may seem,



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**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MON., WED. & FRI.**  
9 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. & 1-2:30 P.M.

then God can do things beyond our imaginations. May we trust in God's abundance, and use our time, talents and treasures to glorify God in our lives and our church.

Peace and Blessings,  
Debra Given

\**Shopping for Faith*, by Richard Cimino and Don Lattin, 2002.

## HEADLINERS

**STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9,** Information on page 3

**HOLIDAY FAIR,** See pages 3, 4, & 5

**A NIGHT OF TANGO, NOVEMBER 8, 7:30 P.M.** Information on page 4

**THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF HIS HEART,** See pack of calendar or page 9

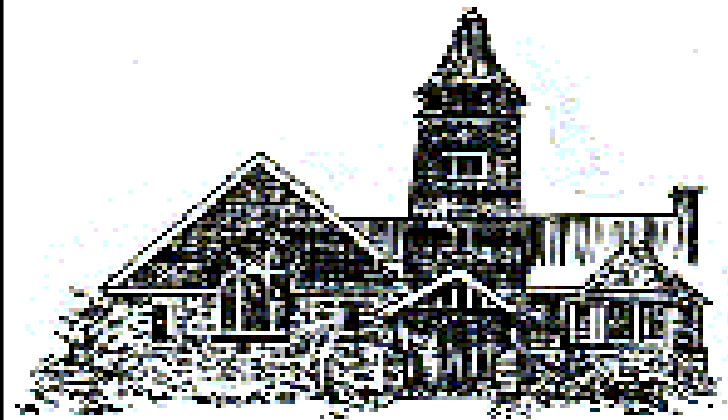
**NEW MEMBERS**

Feeling at home here? Want to get more involved? We invite you to attend a membership exploration class **on Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:15 a.m.** Membership is simply an affirmation of your desire to declare that this is your church home at this time in your life. Please join us! Child care will be provided (please RSVP to Debra).

*Happy  
Birthday*



- November 8 Hannah Chen
- November 18 Irene Ziganto
- November 19 Laura McGarry
- November 21 Phyllis Sharpe
- November 25 Hollie Dindial
- November 27 Stephanie Laboy



**COME, LET US WORSHIP GOD. . .**

**Sunday, November 2 10:30 a.m. All Saints Day**  
Service for the Lord's Day, will include  
Lighting Candles of Remembrance  
After Worship: Memorial Service for  
Andri Rakotoselson

**Sunday, November 9, 10:30 a.m. Stewardship  
Sunday**, Service for the Lord's Day will  
include a celebration of the Lord's Supper  
  
3-5 p.m. Japanese Language Worship

**Sunday, November 16, 10:30 a.m.**  
Service for the Lord's Day, Rev. Greg  
Keosaian will preach

**Sunday, November 23, Christ the King Sunday  
10:30 a.m.** Service for the Lord's Day

**Tuesday, November 25,  
8:00 p.m.** Interfaith Thanksgiving Service  
at All Saints Episcopal church

**Sunday, November 30, 1st Sunday in Lent  
10:30 a.m.** Service for the Lord's Day

Rev. Given will be on vacation November 12 to  
November 19.



## JAM SESSION

Player or audience, everyone is welcome! Bring your instruments and play with pros. Don't worry, any level of player is welcome! If you don't know Jazz, or you don't have any plans on **Friday, November 14, 8-10 p.m.**—you are welcome to play or just listen. A small donation will be accepted to cover utility costs. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m.

Led by:

- Michael Hinton (Piano)
- Yoshi Koyama (Sax)
- Yoshi Hosuke (Bass)
- Shai Rodriguez (Drums)
- April Johnson (Keyboard)
- Mike Ito (Guitar)

## IT'S COMING...

Don't forget to put **Stewardship Sunday, November 9th** on your worship schedule! Please bring your annual pledge to church that day and join us for light refreshments after worship as we await the total amount pledged. If you can't be there on the 9th or if you live at a distance, you may mail your pledge information to the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Shanno at 201-944-4603.

**Congratulations** to Debra Given and Tom Phillips on the birth of their grandson, Thomas Burke, October 15, 12:30 a.m., 8 lbs. 6 oz. Proud parents are Cassia and Timothy Burke.



## HOLIDAY FAIR SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 9:30 to 3:00

**COME JOIN THE FESTIVITIES.** Do you need baked goods for Thanksgiving? The Fair is the perfect spot to pick up pies, breads and all kinds of delicious treats. Are you trying to figure out what gifts you need for Christmas? Check out the Christmas craft table for wonderful decorations or that perfect gift you need for someone special. Do you think it's going to be a long, cold winter? Stock up on some books from the book table. Hungry? Come and enjoy our homemade soup, chili and sandwich luncheon. Feeling lucky? Take a chance on our large assortment of themed baskets at the Tricky Tray raffle. Be sure to bring the little ones; there will be things to keep them busy for a time while you shop, shop, shop! This year you don't want to miss some extra special raffle prizes, including the highlight of a chance to win 4 free music lessons (voice or piano) with our very own music director, Renee Guerrero.

Remember lunch will be served from 11:30 to 1:00. You will also be able to buy homemade soups or chili to bring home and enjoy.

If you would like to volunteer your time, please fill out a sign up sheet in the bulletin and hand it to Karen Peters or leave in the offering plate. The Holiday Fair is the church's biggest fundraiser that contributes to the church's budget. Please support your church home and bring your friends and family!

## HOLIDAY FAIR LUNCHEON

One of the highlights of the Holiday Fair on **November 22** will be the luncheon, where we can sit and chat with people we'd like to get to know better. Please come to the fair for lunch and join us between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. The menu is: soups and chili, hot dogs, tuna or egg salad sandwiches, California rolls, and some great desserts—all homemade by our fabulous cooks, and at a really reasonable price.

Please let us know if you are willing to make a pot of soup or chili, a dessert, or work in the kitchen cooking and filling orders. As always, we will ask our young people to be servers, so those volunteers are needed too and they should contact Jennifer Carriel (201-927-0282) if interested. If you are able to help defray the cost of the luncheon, we would appreciate any donation you can make. There will be a sign up sheet in the fireplace room at church, inserts in the bulletin that can be filled out and returned.



### A NIGHT OF TANGO!

Sergio R. Reyes & Emilio Teubal will return to Leonia Presbyterian Church for a night of TANGO! Save the date, tell your friends! Saturday, November 8th at 7:30pm. \$15 at the door.

SERGIO R. REYES is one of New York City's most sought-after tango violinists. A native of Guatemala City, he studied violin and music composition at Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan, at the Manhattan School of Music, and at the Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music. He has been part of Forever Tango on Broadway, and has played at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, and other cultural landmarks next to New York-based most prominent Argentine and Uruguayan musicians, such as bandoneonists Héctor Del Curto, Tito Castro, and Raúl Jaurena; pianists Octavio Brunetti, Pablo Ziegler, Gustavo Casenave, Fernando Otero, and Emilio Teubal; bass players Pedro Giraudo and Pablo Aslán. Mr. Reyes has been featured in productions at Pregones Theater, Thalia Spanish Theater, and Tango House, and worked for many years as a performer and consultant for Horizon Concerts, a non-for-profit organization which sponsored free classical music concerts for schools, hospitals, and shelters for the homeless. As a music composer, he has recently written original music for La Mamma Theater's production of 'Luz', a play by renowned playwright Catherine Filloux. He has also collaborated with dancer/choreographer Javier Dzul, of Dzuldance. He is also a dedicated photographer, who enjoys photo-documenting --amongst many aspects of New York City's rich cultural life-- outdoor and indoor tango venues throughout the city.

Argentine pianist and composer EMILIO TEUBAL has lived in New York since 1999. He has studied jazz performance, composition, and arranging at the City College of New York. His credits as a Jazz and Tango Pianist include performances and recordings with artists like the Grammy Award winners Raul Jaurena and Fernando Otero, Erik Friedlander, Lisandro Adrover, Miguel Bertero, and Astor Piazzolla's legendary violinist Fernando Suarez Paz.

Emilio Teubal has released three albums as a band leader of his own Argentine Jazz Ensemble. His latest album, Musica Para Un Dragon Dormido, released on Brooklyn Jazz Underground Records has been chosen as 2013 best album by several specialized media, and has been placed in the top 100 albums on the digital online store E-Music.

In 2007, Emilio was awarded Meet The Composer's prestigious Van Lier Fellowship, which provides support for talented, culturally diverse young people who are seriously dedicated to a career in the arts.

# HOLIDAY FAIR

*SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2014*

*9:30 A.M. - 3 P.M.*

*SOUP, CHILI, SANDWICH LUNCH - SERVED 11:30 - 1 P.M.*

Your generosity, support and time is needed to help us make this annual major fundraiser a success!

## **Please sign up to assist in one of the following ways:**

I am willing to:

- 1. Help set up Friday night (11/21) at 7 p.m.
- 2. Help clean up Saturday beginning at 3 p.m.
- 3. Help in the kitchen with the Lunch on Saturday (contact Jennifer Carriel or Karen Peters)
- 4. Help serve lunch
- 5. Help clean up after lunch on Saturday
- 6. Help sell at any table on Saturday - Hours I can work
- 7. Bake for Baked Goods table - can be dropped off Friday from 7-9 p.m. or Saturday morning
- 8. Make soup, chili or California Rolls for lunch (please circle which you will make)
- 9. Post fliers around town (in stores, etc.)
- 10. Loan a card table for lunch seating

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Please consider donating some of these needed items:**

BAKED GOODS: Popular items are breads, muffins, pies, jellies, jams, cookies and brownies

BOOKS/CDS/DVDS: Please **NO** text or professional books

BOTTLE TABLE: New **unopened** bottles containing anything - *from shampoo to champagne!*

KIDS CORNER: New or **very** gently used toys, books and games. Any toys not sold at the Fair will be given to a charity or daycare facility

TRICKY TRAY RAFFLE BASKETS: New or unopened, gently used gifts/items to be used in theme baskets (i.e. Thanksgiving, baking, photo) which will be raffled off ~ **please provide these items by Nov. 16**

We already have a few wonderful raffle prizes, but if you have a business or work for one that will generously donate something to raffle, please let us know!

Please contact Karen Peters (201-592-8413 or [jkmk142@aol.com](mailto:jkmk142@aol.com)) with any questions.

# FEARLESS GENEROSITY

## ESTIMATE OF GIVING/COMMITMENT 2015

We thank you for your generous acceptance of stewardship and pray you may find the level of giving that is right for you as you progress in your journey of faith and commitment. Your pledges and contributions are a critical part of how we can make a difference in our church, our community, and our world.

Please complete this estimate of giving, and return it in the offering plate or to the church office. You may change your commitment at any time by notifying Rev. Given.

If you have questions regarding this card, call Susan Shanno at 201-944-4603 or Rev. Given at 201-944-1358.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes! I/We will support the Presbyterian Church in Leonia in the year 2015.**

### **Choose One:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ weekly for 52 weeks

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ semi-monthly for 24 periods

\$- \_\_\_\_\_ monthly for 12 months

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ as follows \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Per Capita Contribution (\$36.30 per member) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We would like information on how to provide for the Presbyterian Church in Leonia in my/our will.

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We would like to give through electronic funds transfer from my/our bank.

**Monthly Schedule for Ushers**

November 2	Christine Banas, Rae Giannuzzi & Kristen Richter
November 9	Jeannie Choe, Hwan Hee Kang & Ammal Varky
November 16	Suzanne Broffman, Susan Dindial & Karen Peters
November 23	Vicky Li, Fara Razafy & Lisa VanDeWeert
November 30	Barbara & Michael Sofia and Roberta Toolen

**Monthly Schedule for Offering Counters**

November 2	Ginny Brown & Fumio Ito
November 9	Olivia Taylor & David Voreacos
November 16	Jonathan Phillips & Pete Shanno
November 23	Hyung Shim & Fumio Ito
November 30	Ginny Brown & Olivia Taylor

**Nursery Volunteers**

November 2	Joe VanDeWeert
November 9	Kristen Richter
November 16	Linda McGarry
November 23	Sarah Han
November 30	Vicky Li

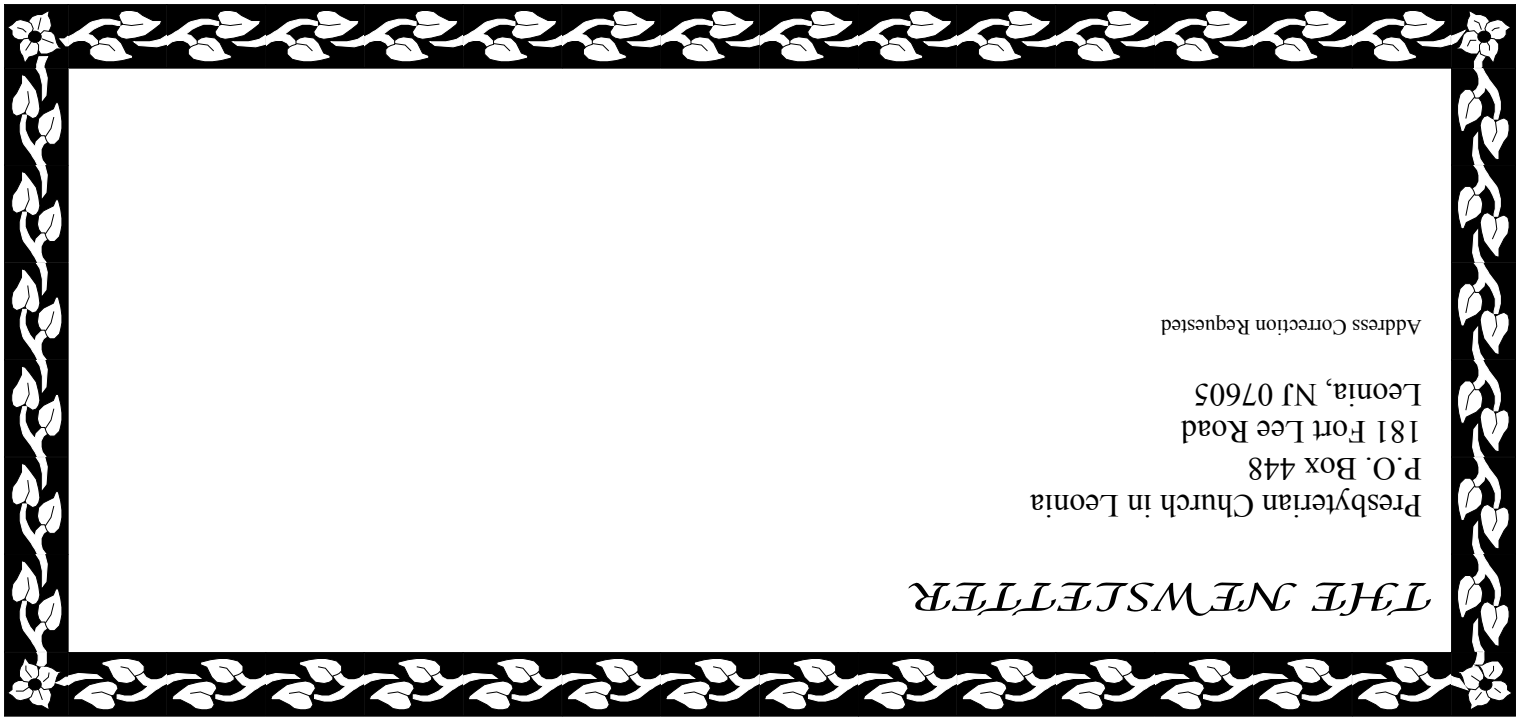
**PARKING**

We only have one handicapped parking space in our front parking lot, but several of our members and friends would appreciate a parking space close to the entrance on Sunday mornings. If you have no trouble walking, please park in the back parking lot on Sundays, or in the spaces closer to the street. Please leave the parking spaces closest to the building for the elderly and those who have mobility concerns.

During the week, the back parking lot is reserved for the nursery school (Take My Hand), and parents dropping off and picking up their children. On weekdays, please park in the front parking lot or on the street when you come to church.

**DO YOU NEED HELP?**

The leaves are falling and holidays are coming. Maybe the company you work for needs a person to do cleaning? Delio Castellanos, (862-888-8687) our church custodian can help. Please give him a call and see what he can do for you.



**THE NEWSLETTER**

Presbyterian Church in Leonia  
P.O. Box 448  
181 Fort Lee Road  
Leonia, NJ 07605

Address Correction Requested

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**CENTER FOR FOOD ACTION**

**NEEDS YOUR HELP TO GET THANKSGIVING DINNER ON THE TABLE**

Your support is urgently needed now so that thousands of local families will be able to put food on their tables this Thanksgiving.

**Giving Locally = Helping Locally**

“A Thanksgiving dinner would not have happened at our house without the wonderful food package you provided. I can’t begin to tell you what it meant to me to put that turkey and all the fixings on the table for my family to enjoy. The left-overs lasted us three days-that too was a blessing. Thank you from the depths of my heart.” - past recipient of a CFA Thanksgiving Food Package.

Here’s what they need:

Supermarket Certificates—\$20, frozen turkeys, hearty soups, canned vegetables & canned yams, gravy, instant potatoes, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, pasta & pasta sauce, 100% juice and canned fruit.

CFA is planning to distribute over 3000 thanksgiving meal packages this year!



To the Congregation,

Augustine of Hippo once said, "The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only one page." Until recently, unless you count northern Mississippi as another country, I had only read one page. In August, thanks to Suzanne Broffman, Debra Given, and the rest of the congregation, I was able to read another page. The trip to Guatemala was like no other experience that I have had.

As I looked out the window of our descending plane, the first thing I noticed was the country's breathtaking beauty. Quaint buildings dotted verdant mountainsides, and as we touched down in Guatemala City, I was filled with hope at the prospect of the upcoming trip. In no way was I disappointed.

Coming into the trip my goal was to experience another culture. Over the course of the week that we spent in Guatemala, we did that and so much more. I don't think that I could pick one part of the trip and call it my favorite. I just enjoyed everything so much. From exploring the markets in Antgua to wandering Mayan Ruins, the trip was packed full of new experiences. We built a school, with stuffed bottles and concrete, but we also built friendships, with pickup soccer games and late night dance parties.

The most amazing aspect of the trip, besides the delicious food, was the perspective that I feel I gained from visiting Guatemala. I have never really had the chance to see another country. Learning about how other people lived was profoundly interesting. I enjoyed listening to the community member who had fought as a guerrilla in the Guatemalan civil war, and I think that hearing the man speak on his time as an undocumented work in America gave almost everyone on the trip new insight on an incredible important issue.

I wouldn't have been able to do any of this if it weren't for the Church's generosity, and I would like to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for this life-changing experience.

Sincerely,  
Nick Topousis