

The Chimes

First Presbyterian Church of Lansdowne

**APRIL
2008**

Worship Opportunities

Pastor Nancy will be preaching from the Epistle of Peter all month

6 COMMUNION SUNDAY

3rd Sunday of Easter

10:00 Worship

Text: I Peter 1:1-16

“Yes, Lord, I Have Sinned, But I Have Several Excellent Excuses”

13 4th Sunday of Easter

10:00 Worship

Text: I Peter 1:17-23

“Ransomed FROM Our Ancestors”

20 5th Sunday of Easter

10:00 Worship

Text: I Peter 2:2-10

“Stumbling Blocks or Building Blocks?”

27 6th Sunday of Easter

10:00 Worship

Text: I Peter 4:1-8

“Making Up For Mistakes”

PASTOR’S PONDERINGS

Dearest, dearest family,

April, 2008

The poet Wendell Berry writes, “Practice Resurrection!” Sometimes that’s easy—like now!! I love spring! I love seeing the flowers come back to life; I love the warm weather, I love being able to shed my coat! And although I know that technically spring began last month, April is when I think of the beginning of spring.

It was very easy for me to practice resurrection last week when my beautiful new granddaughter was born—Maya arrived on March 24 weighing 7 pounds and 2 ounces—beautiful and perfect in every way!!

It was easy for me to practice resurrection last week as I gathered around the dinner table with Joe’s wonderful two daughters, their husbands, and his four grandchildren and with my all my children to celebrate birthdays and being together and new life for our families—becoming family!

But sometimes practicing resurrection is not so easy, is it? Many of us have been through some incredibly hard times in the last years and months....illness, unemployment, financial difficulties, relationship problems.....those are the times that it’s hard to remember that the resurrection is coming....but that the crucifixion must occur first in order to get there!

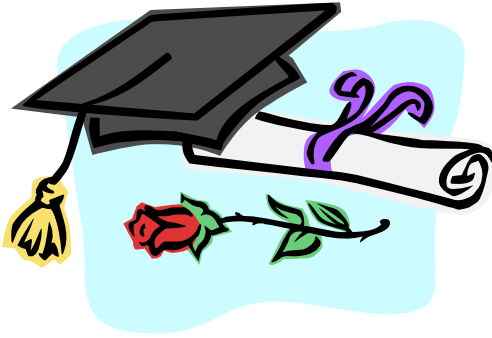
Perhaps those are also the times we need to remember the old saying, “April showers bring May flowers.” It’s true, isn’t it? Sometimes we have to have some difficulties to get to the appreciation of the beauty. Could we have truly appreciated and been thankful for Easter without Good Friday? Could the beautiful flowers have sprouted without the rain?

Yes indeed—let’s practice resurrection....but let’s remember to do it in the hard and painful times as well as the good times—knowing that in God’s mercy and love and grace—the resurrection will surely come!

Keep praying!

In Christ,

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Attention to families of students graduating this year: Do you have a student (or are you a student) graduating from high school, college or graduate school this spring? We want to make sure we honor you during our May 11, 2008 church service. Please contact Rona Shirdan at faitharts@comcast.net and Judie Schultz at judie.schultz@verizon.net with the name of the school from which you are graduating, the degree you are receiving and your future plans.

Thank you and congratulations on your efforts!

MUSIC AND WORSHIP

We are very pleased to announce that Jason Noll is our new Director of Music and organist. Jason holds music education degrees from West Chester University and Temple University. He teaches middle and elementary classroom/choral music in the Ridley School District. He has served as a Director of Music and organist in several area churches, one of which was Marple Presbyterian where he became good friends with our own Pastor Nancy! He has been responsible for both traditional and contemporary music programs at churches as well as singing and acting in productions for OperaDelaware in Wilmington. He and his wife Jennifer live in Broomall. They have a one-year-old daughter, Lianna, who was baptized here last May. Please be sure to introduce yourself and welcome Jason when you see him.



BUILDING AND GROUNDS

There will be a work day for Building and Grounds beginning at 9 AM on Saturday, April 5th. A Lite Lunch will be provided and the Building and Grounds Meeting will take place right after that (approximately 1 pm).

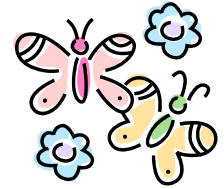
The primary purpose for the "work day" will be to pull up the old carpet in Irwin Hall. Please note that Irwin Hall will be "off limits" from Saturday, April 5th through Wednesday, April 9th for the installation of the new floor!



The Lansdowne Preschool Academy is working diligently on painting some of their classrooms and getting new floors in the bathrooms. Stop in and see how great they look! Maura's brother is doing the work for us.



On Thursday, April 10th, Tyler Arboretum will present a program for Earth Day about insects and butterflies. I can just see the children's faces now!



Th74e04 101S0fbvpring Concert will be held in Irwin Hall on Thursday, April 17th at 7:30 p.m. The children are working very hard at learning songs and there is a new dance troupe that one of our teachers recently formed. There will be both girls and boys dancing. Please join us if you are able.

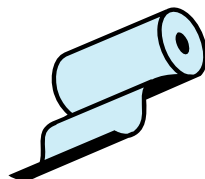


On April 26th, there will be a Fun Fair on the church lawn (weather permitting). This is being done for us by Moon Bounce Adventures. Please bring your children and grandchildren for a fun day! Tables are available for \$20.00, if you have some treasures you want to get rid of.

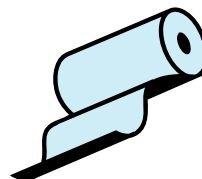
As always, thank you for your support of the LPPA.

Linda MacAlister

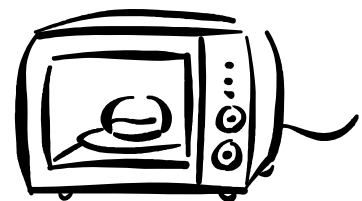
**ON BEHALF OF THE LANSDOWNE PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL ACADEMY,
THE BOARD MEMBERS ARE REQUESTING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR APRIL TO BE.....**



PAPER TOWELS



**THE ACADEMY ALSO NEEDS A SMALL
MICROWAVE OVEN. IF ANYONE IS ABLE TO
DONATE THIS ITEM IT WOULD BE GREATLY
APPRECIATED!**



SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE FORUM
SUNDAY SCHOOL for Youth and Adults
9:00 A.M. in the Garrett Room



Sunday, April 6 – “Religion in Art” The church has evolved and its images have paralleled its changes. Come discuss symbols, themes, and controversies.

(Led by Michael Shirdan)

Sunday, April 13 – “A Presbyterian in Catholic School” What is it like to be a student and see a religion from slightly inside the circle...but outside the community?

(Led by Helen Schultz)

Sunday, April 20 – “Mega Churches: Deep Faith or Deep Pockets?”

(Led by Arthur Tehson)

Sunday, April 27 – “How Vain Am I? The 3rd Commandment”

(Led by Aaron Shirdan)

Please consider signing up to lead a class. There will be a sign up sheet in Westminster Hall during coffee hour. Feel free to add your own topic. Classes are held for adult and youth on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the Garrett Room.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
10:00 A.M. in the Garrett Room

The EXODUS has been called “The Seminal experience for Jews and Christians” – come explore the forty years of wandering in the desert by the Hebrew people. They complained, they fussed at one another and at God; they longed for the “good old days” – they sound a lot like the modern church, don’t they??? When manna and water from the rock got boring, they found new ways to cause problems!! We will be reading the second book of the Bible and finding relevance for our own lives...come explore the wanderings with us! Newcomers are always welcome!! (Led by Pastor Nancy)



WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY GROUP
6:30 P.M. at the Manse



EVERYONE WELCOME—come to the Manse on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. Bring a snack/food to share...and plan to have LOTS of fun! In April, we are starting to view and discuss “THE LIFE OF BRIAN.” Banned by some religions (OBVIOUSLY NEVER THE PRESBYTERIANS), we will look for the sacred... the sacrosanct and the humor of God in it as we watch and discuss it together. If you have seen it, plan to come view and discuss it; if you haven’t seen it, DEFINITELY plan to come and join us!!!! NEWCOMERS are especially urged to be with us!!



**INTERFAITH FOOD CUPBOARD
OF THE WILLIAM PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT**

March 2008 deliveries

**66 adults served
101 children served
167 TOTAL individuals served**

1,503 MEALS PROVIDED FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

We DESPERATELY need volunteers AND food! We are trying to staff the cupboard on Monday and Wednesday evenings between 4:30 and 6:00 p.m. If you could come one evening a month to do that, we would be grateful. Call your pastor if you can help!

**The Rev. Dr. Nancy Holt
Ministerium representative to the Food Cupboard**



As part of our Sacred Places project, I have taken on the task of outlining the history of our church and doing a "time line" of our growth and activities from the beginning until the present time. This is a HUGE undertaking and I am looking for help in two ways:

(1) Although Jean Shenberger is assisting me with research, this project is too big for the two of us and we need people who would be willing to join our committee and help with this incredibly interesting and important project.

(2) We are looking for any documents, mementos, pictures, memories, etc., you might have to assist with this undertaking. If you would like to help in either way, please contact Carol Congdon at 610-544-7945 or cecongdon@msn.com.

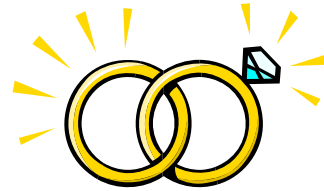


April 23 is "Administrative Professional's Day". Why not give Mary a call or drop her a card and thank her for the wonderful job she does at our church! She is not just an excellent administrator, she is a delightfully wonderful person – let her know how much you appreciate her!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/4 George Beothy
 4/5 William Bruegel
 4/5 Claudia Skrodenis
 4/7 Marie Brobeil
 4/8 Edna English
 4/13 Ruth Speers
 4/13 Garrett Timbie
 4/17 Anna Marie Anderson
 4/17 Joan March
 4/21 Andrew Farquhar
 4/21 Robert Kannapel
 4/22 Jean Ann Maguire
 4/23 Thomas Aughe
 4/25 Geraldine Laws
 4/26 Mildred Blackburn
 4/26 Linda MacAlister
 4/27 Robert Brumbaugh
 4/28 Virginia Jakob
 4/28 Madison Steinmetz



NOTE: Please check the Membership Directory to see if all of your family's dates are noted. If they are NOT, and you wish to be included in the birthday/anniversary lists, please call Carol Congdon at 610-544-7945 and give her your date(s).



On April 13, 2008, long-time member Ruth Speers will celebrate her 85th birthday. If anyone wants to send her a special card to mark the occasion, her address is: 84 North Lansdowne Avenue, Apt. 404, Lansdowne, PA 19050.

SESSION MEETING: The Session will meet on Monday, April 21, at 7:15 p.m. in the Garrett Room.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committees will be meeting on different days and times. Please check the calendar in the Sunday bulletin.

The following committees would sincerely welcome new members:

Committee Chairs and (Members):

Building and Grounds – Don Lewis (E.J. Burke, David Choate, Norm Goudy, Kate Lewis, George March, Matthew Rucier, Erica Tillberry)

Christian Education – Andy Farquhar (Judie Schultz, Art Tehson, Sharon Witmer)

Finance – Barbara Conway (Penny Klingler, Don Lewis, Evelyn Quirk)

Human Resources – Gene Bennett (Penny Klingler, Linda MacAlister, Rona Shirdan, Claudia Skrodenis)

New Members – Angela Nelson (Liz Cupaiuolo, Bill Grander, Eleanor Irons, Lois Sabeau)

Fellowship – Helen Egner (Liz Cupaiuolo, Carmella Kane, Penny Klingler, Joan March)

Mission – Carmella Kane (Andy Farquhar, Jim Klingler, Megan Steinmetz)

Music & Worship – Patti Varrella (Bob Beach, Geri Laws, Joan March, Angela Nelson, Richard Smalley, Gary Smith)

Preschool Academy – Linda MacAlister (Paula Curran, Maura Gallagher)

Youth (Ichthus) – Rona Shirdan (Sheryl Taylor-Bailey, Andy Farquhar, Jim Klingler, John Lyons, Judie Schultz, Andre Shirdan)

Stewardship – Geri Laws (Barbara Conway, Don Lewis)

Communication – Jim Klinger (Sun Best, Bill Grander, Kate Lewis)

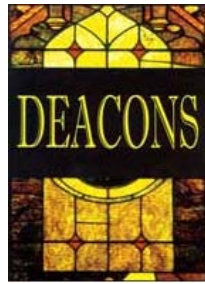
Nominating – Rona Shirdan (Pastor Nancy, Ryda Awana, Sean Bailey, Marie Brobeil, Norm Goudy, Penny Klingler)

Partners for Sacred Places – Jim Klingler

Please get involved and join one of these groups. For more information, contact a Committee Chair or the church office.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE MAY ISSUE OF THE CHIMES IS APRIL 12, 2008.





The next DEACONS' MEETING is April 13th, 2008 at 11:15AM in the Garrett Room if available, otherwise the Carson Library.

As We Pass By... The Deacons are asking **YOU**, the Members of our church, to make contact with the people in our church and community who need monetary help or the support of your friendship. In the month of March, your contributions were donated to help in the following ways.....

Hardship donation to help a mother and father visit their triplets in the hospital

Your contributions to the Deacons, in the green Deacon envelopes, help us to help others with special needs. We want to thank you for giving when you can.

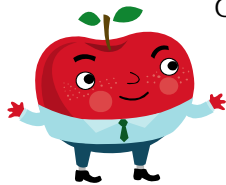
Assistance with special needs/transportation is always available. Please contact Julia Haas or Linda Brugel (see below).



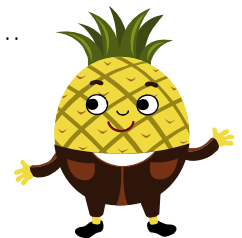
THANK YOU!

The deacons and the American Red Cross would like to thank you for helping your community and possibly saving a life by donating your blood!

On behalf of the Interfaith Food Cupboard, the Deacons request.....



**‘Food on the First’ contributions to be
FRUIT
for the month of April**



Your generosity is keeping someone from being hungry. Please bring any non perishable food item you can spare. Please remember to bring something each and every Sunday!

As always, the drop off points are the wicker baskets at each church door. Thanks!

The Deacons are ready to help. You may contact any Deacon below:

Guy Allen	Sanctuary	Julia Haas	Special Needs/Transportation – 610-626-9135
Linda Brugel	Caring Calls; School District Assistance	Linda Brugel	Special Needs/Transportation – 610-626-8951
Liz Cupaiuolo	Shut Ins	Sheryl Taylor-Bailey	Blood Drive
Aaron Shirdan	College Students/Military Personnel; Vice Moderator	Ryda Awana	Spot Check Ministry to members living alone with possible special needs
Claudia Skrodenis	Treasurer	Betsy Burke	Holiday Gifts for Shut Ins, College Students, Military Personnel; Co-Moderator
Dave Nelson	Communion	Julia Haas & Claudia Skrodenis	Special Funeral Lunches
Carol Congdon	Telephone Tree; Recording Secretary	Matt Rucier	Communications
E.J. Burke	Food Cupboard; Co-Moderator	All Deacons	Caring Calls to members who are not currently attending services

2008 Chancel Flowers Reserve Your Date Now!

The flowers in the chancel each Sunday add much beauty to our worship and their ministry is extended beyond our doors when they are delivered to folks who are in a hospital, nursing center, or confined to home. **If you wish the special flowers to be delivered to a specific person, please let Jean Shenberger know in advance of that date.**

Flowers may be given in memorial, to celebrate a special occasion (such as an anniversary), in honor of someone or as a thank you offering. The cost is **\$20** per bouquet and the Women's Association would appreciate payment when making your request. All checks should be made payable to:

Women's Association, Lansdowne Presbyterian Church.

Two bouquets are needed for each date. Chancel flowers are needed for the following dates:

<u>2008</u>		
<u>April</u> 13 th (1)	<u>May</u> 25 th (1)	<u>June</u> 8 th (1) 15 th 29 th
<u>July</u> 13 th (1) 20 th 27 th	<u>August</u> 10 th 17 th 24 th (1) 31 st (1)	<u>September</u> 21 st (1) 28 th

2008 CHANCEL FLOWERS FOR LANSDOWNE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NAME _____ PHONE _____

Yes, I/we would like to place flowers in the chancel on the following dates:

First choice date _____ In memory (_____) of _____

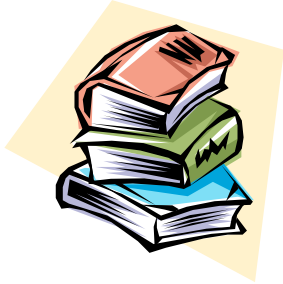
Second choice date _____ In memory (_____) of _____

As a thank you offering for _____

Enclosed is my payment of \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Women's Association, show **CHANCEL FLOWERS** on the memo line, and return to the church office, P. O. Box 277, Lansdowne, PA 19050.

For further information regarding memorial flowers, please contact Jean Shenberger (610-623-1997).

BOOK GROUP

Here is a list of upcoming selections for our book group. I have attached links to "Barnes and Noble" so that you can read a little bit about each book. I hope that at least one of them will be of interest to you and that the discussion date fits well on your calendar. I hope to see you at one (or all) of the chats! Happy Reading! *Rona*

Eat, Pray, Love: One Woman's Search for Everything across Italy, India and Indonesia by Elizabeth Gilbert – Meeting Date: Sunday, April 6 during

Mission Lunch in Westminster Hall

<http://search.barnesandnoble.com/booksearch/isbnInquiry.asp?z=y&EAN=9780143038412&itm=1>

The Memory Keeper's Daughter by Kim Edwards – Meeting Date: TBA

<http://search.barnesandnoble.com/booksearch/isbnInquiry.asp?z=y&EAN=9780143037149&itm=1>

Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson – Meeting Date: TBA

(Intergenerational Selection!)

<http://search.barnesandnoble.com/booksearch/isbnInquiry.asp?z=y&EAN=9780142407325&itm=1>

WOMENS ASSOCIATION

Women of the Lansdowne Church are giving a BIRTHDAY PARTY for the residents of the Broomall Presbyterian Village on Friday, April 11 at 12:30 p.m. They are looking for help with making birthday cakes AND in transporting them to Broomall and helping to serve the residents. If you can lend a hand, please call Ruth Speers (610-626-3004) or Carol Congdon (610-544-7945).

NEW MEMBERS CLASS IS FORMING

Come to the manse to learn "Everything You EVER Wanted to Know About Being Presbyterian But Were Afraid to Ask!" Truly, do you know what makes us different as Presbyterians? (Hint - it's not our theology - and it's certainly not predestination!!). Date and time to be announced.

BLOOD DRIVE A HUGE SUCCESS

On March 30, members and friends of the First Presbyterian Church helped the Red Cross save many lives. We had many people sign up to give blood...it was a record turn out. THANKS to Sheryl Taylor-Bailey for all her hard work in organizing it for the Deacons!

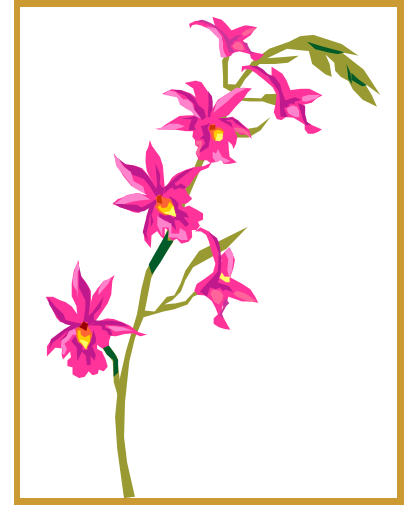
FAREWELL TO OUR DEAR and BELOVED NANCY RUNK

On March 30, we bade farewell to one of our favorite and most loved people....the reception was filled with laughter (Doesn't Geri come up with the best "Top Ten" lists?!); great food (Thanks to Helen and Betsy and all the crew who helped them make this so beautiful and delicious); and a lot of love (When Nancy is around, love is ALWAYS present!).

Words cannot express the loss our congregation will feel—and the personal holes many of us will have in our hearts and lives as Nancy leaves. Nancy has touched more people in our church and our community than most of us know; she has meant SO much to so many people. But this is yet another opportunity to "Practice Resurrection" as we go through the pain to the opportunities....opportunities for her new life and possibilities for us to find ways to serve and love and "fill in the gaps and holes" that she leaves! She welcomes us to stay in touch: Her new address:

Nancy Runk
5837 Vermont Route 111
Morgan, VT 05853

Phone number: 1-802-895-4345



THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA COALITION AGAINST HUNGER



The Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger invites you to join in the

12th annual WALK AGAINST HUNGER
Saturday April 12, 2008 at the Philadelphia Museum of Art
9:30 A.M. Kick-Off

If you would like to participate in the six mile walk along Martin Luther King Drive, the Care Closets of the Presbytery of Philadelphia would be happy to have you on their team! Let Mathilda or John Lyons know (phone 610-626-2426 or e-mail

aldanlyons@comcast.net) and they'll give you all the information.

If you would like to donate, you can give your money to a walker, or send a check payable to "Walk Against Hunger" to:

Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger
2901 W. Hunting Park Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19129

Please put team #21 in the check memo so that the Care Closet team will get credit for the donation. If you send a donation of \$25 or more before April 4, you will be entered in a raffle for fabulous prizes. Walkers who collect \$100 or more are also eligible for the raffle.

First Presbyterian Church

Lansdowne & Greenwood Avenues

P. O. Box 277

Lansdowne, PA 19050

We're on the Web
lansdownepresbyterian.org

Contributors:
 Pastor Nancy Holt
 Carol Congdon
 Geri Laws
 Don Lewis
 Tillie Lyons
 Linda MacAlister
 Jason Noll
 Matt Rucier
 Judie Schultz
 Rona Shirdan

THE SESSION

Rev. Dr. Nancy W. Holt, Moderator
 Rona Shirdan, Clerk

Gene Bennett
 Barbara Conway
 Helen Egner
 Andrew Farquhar
 Carmella Kane
 Jim Klingler
 Geri Laws
 Don Lewis
 Linda MacAlister
 Angela Nelson
 Patti Varrella

Rev. Dr. Nancy W. Holt
 Pastor

Judie Schultz
 Director of Christian Education

Maura Gallagher
 Director of Preschool Academy

Mary Coladonato
 Administrator

Jason Noll
 Director of Music/Organist

THE DEACONS

Betsy Burke, Co-Moderator
 E.J. Burke, Co-Moderator

Guy Allen
 Ryda Awana
 Sheryl Taylor-Bailey
 Linda Bruegel
 Carol Congdon
 Elizabeth Cupaiuolo
 Julia Haas
 David Nelson
 Matthew Rucier
 Aaron Shirdan – Youth Deacon
 Claudia Skrodenis

The First Presbyterian Church of Lansdowne
 Lansdowne & Greenwood Avenues
 P. O. Box 277
 Lansdowne, PA 19050

Office – 610-622-0800
 Fax – 610-622-0881

Office Hours:
 Tuesday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.