

FREEDOM PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Post Office Box Four Hundred
LaGrangeville, New York 12540

“RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED”

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage
P A I D
Newburgh, NY
Permit No. 4003

THE HERALD

Freedom Plains Presbyterian Church
Founded 1827



Summer, 2008



“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” Matthew 6:34

Dear Friends,

Summer has arrived, thank God. In truth, I have been looking forward to a little change of pace. I have been looking forward to vacation, one service at 10 AM Sunday morning, long days, and fewer meetings at church. Such are the normal routines of summer around Freedom Plains. However, having arrived, I find anxiety that was not part of the plan. We have a capital campaign in full swing, we are hosting the First Presbyterian Church of Poughkeepsie on July 20th (read article in newsletter), we are planning programs for the fall, the ASP trip is getting ready to go again this year with 58 people, and all and all I feel the opportunity to get pretty stressed out this summer.

I am reminded of our scripture reading yesterday from Joshua. The Israelites finally arrive in the Promised Land, and the truth is they still have not really arrived. They never really arrive; there is more to be done, hurdles to maneuver, and life to be lived. Their work is never really done. But that does not mean they cannot rejoice, and even celebrate milestones reached, and long days with fewer meetings, if only for a time. In fact, if the Israelites have anything to teach us from their 40 years of wandering it may be that life is best lived, not as go, go, go, but rather stop and go, stop and go. Life is not meant to be a constant pace, but an unfolding of cycles of rest and work, celebration and struggle being present in all of the journey.

So take the opportunity to live at a different pace, if only for a little while this summer. Enjoy the time, knowing that a new season of growth and challenge is around the corner. Oh yea, and come to church when you can this summer, we will be enjoying one summer service at 10 AM until September 7th, celebrating our time together.

Blessings,

Freedom Plains Presbyterian Church

Staff:

Rev. Paul Lent, Pastor
Rev. Heather Finck, Parish Associate
Denise Bassen, Music Director
Cheryl Haight, Administrative Assistant
Christine Lent, Church School Director
Bonnie Biskup, Parish Nurse
Kevin Coyne, Sexton
Donna Logan, Bell Choir Director
Rich Roeser, Ruth Sheets, Website Directors
Jennifer Barry, Clerk of Session
Office Hours: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Office Telephone: (845) 452-0684
Office Fax # (845) 452-7816
E-Mail Address: office@fppchurch.org
Website: fppchurch.org

FPPC ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLEA MARKET/RUMMAGE SALE – Freedom Plains Flea Market/Rummage Sale to benefit the Appalachia Service Project will be held on September 13th from 9:00am to 3:00pm. We are looking for vendors who would like a 12x12ft. space on the front lawn for \$25.00. If you are interested, please contact Jennifer Barry at 473-5421 or email her at JenBarry3@aol.com. Space will be on a first come/first serve basis and it will be held rain or shine. We also need donations for our rummage sale. Please bring items to the church anytime AFTER August 31st and put on the stage in Fellowship Hall. We will sell lunch and hold a bake sale.

TEDDY BEAR MINISTRY – The Deacons are in need of new and gently used bears to continue the Teddy Bear Ministry started by Jan Malone. Please drop them off in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

CALENDAR GIRLS – The Calendar Girls event will be held on October 18th this year. Please put this date on your calendar in advance. We are looking for women to sign up for a month of the year and then do the decorations and a dessert to compliment your theme for the month. There will be more information to follow. If you are interested or have questions, please call Ann Burrow (473-0537) or Cheryl Christensen (724-5023).

SAVE THE DATE – The Freedom Plains Annual All Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 7th at the Presbyterian Camp at Holmes beginning immediately after the 9:00 Service. Mark you calendars!

FREEDOM PLAINS CHURCH AT WORK AND WORSHIP - Visit our website at www.fppchurch.org. Click on “recent photos” to view the photo gallery to see recent pictures, as well as pictures from past events.

HOMELESS SHELTER SIGN-UP – We are in need of volunteers for both cooks and hosts for the homeless shelter. Please sign up on the bulletin board. If you have any questions, please contact Laney Newton at 473-2209.

SEPTEMBER HERALD – Please submit articles for the September Herald in writing or by email to the church office by Friday, August 22nd. The email address is office@fppchurch.org. Thank you in advance.

FREEDOM PLAINS CHURCH ONLINE CALENDAR! – Please visit our website: www.fppchurch.org and click on “calendar” to view our current events. If you would like an event posted to the calendar, forms are located at the church office, or submit the event in writing by email with any pertinent details regarding the event to office@fppchurch.org.

Continue the Legacy – Move Forward in Faith

Capital Commitment Campaign Report

The Campaign is well underway and has had outstanding results so far. Forty-eight families have pledged \$417,200 to be given over three years. Our goal is \$650,000 so you can see how far we have come. We have already had contributions to the campaign though it doesn't officially start until January 2009 after the congregation approves the detailed plans and financing. A big thank you to all who have volunteered to call on the congregation and explain the campaign. A big thank you to those who have made their pledge already. Your commitment to the plan will enable all of us to **Move Forward in Faith**.



FREEDOM PLAINS NURSERY SCHOOL

The children had a very busy spring with watching the butterflies hatch and releasing them, field trips to Hannaford, and mud day. A “Luau” picnic was held at Beekman Recreation, it was a fun ending to the school year!

Summer camp registration is still ongoing. Applications are on the Nursery School bulletin board.

Fall registration is also continuing, although we have limited space available for the 2008/2009 school year. So register today to secure your child's placement.

We currently have a teacher position available. We are looking for a nurturing, loving, dependable and crafty individual to join our Nursery School staff.

- Must have experience working with children
- Early education a plus.
- For more information contact Gigi Lundewall @845-485-1145
- kidzrmybznz@yahoo.com
- Fax resume to 845-452-7816



- ❖ **A Morning for Mom!** – Will resume in September. Meets Wednesday's at 10:00 AM in the Church Common Room. Fellowship Group for mothers of young children. Childcare provided. Contact: Rev. Heather Finck or call the church office at 452-0684.
- ❖ **Women's Evening Study Group** – Will resume in September. Meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM in the Common Room. Contact: Mary Moody – 223-3370.
- ❖ **Dorcas Bible Study** – Will resume in September. Meets Wednesday's at 1:00 PM in the Church Common Room. Co-ed bible study studying “Through Mark's Eyes”. Contact: Bonnie Biskup - 724-5631.
- ❖ **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** – Will resume in September. Meets every Thursday at 7:30 AM in the Church Common Room, breakfast following. Contacts: Ben Sung – 635-1463 and Rev. Paul Lent – 452-0684.



My sincere thanks to my friends at Freedom Plains Church for the cards, flowers and visits while at St. Francis and Eden Park Rehab. in February and again in May. I am home now, getting used to my new knee replacements. Surely – through faith in God – all things really ARE possible. See you in July,

Doris Washburn



VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Our Volunteer of the month is our own humble artist in residence Liz Miglis. Liz and her husband John came to the area back in 1963. They joined the church shortly thereafter and have been involved in the community and the congregation ever since. Before having children Liz taught art in various public schools for 7 years. Once children came John was busy working for IBM while Liz stayed home to be with their young ones. Later, after returning to work outside the home, she had a 17-year teaching tenure at St. Columba. She has also taught at the Summer Group Gallery and at Barrett House, sponsored by the Dutchess County's Art Association. Most of her own artwork has been done in oils but she enjoys doing smaller pieces in watercolors and pastels.

Liz has served the church as a Sunday school teacher and as an Elder on Session. She was recently recognized in worship for her 30 years of service heading up the church library and keeping the shelves stocked with interesting and current books. Liz was awarded a lifetime membership pin to Presbyterian Women (PW) and she has been involved in PW events and served hosting receptions for families after memorial services.

Liz and her husband John also spent years decorating the sanctuary with elaborate Christmas and Easter floral displays to be enjoyed in worship.

Her first "art project" for the church was the "Journey to Bethlehem" that Freedom Plains created and coordinated in the Christmas season. She helped to transform the basement of the church into an ancient marketplace of shops including, a woodwork shop, a coppersmith, and a produce stand, to name a few. The Journey to Bethlehem tradition was given a rest a few years back.

What has emerged in its absence is a Vacation Bible School experience that children and parents marvel at each year. Liz has been instrumental in creating a train (2005) a boat (2006), the Great Barrier Reef (2007) and finally this year a lush rain forest. While there are many minds at work in creating these inspiring sets it is clear that Liz' artistic eye brings the sets to life. She defers compliments and refers to her work as simply, "fringe work," which makes us all chuckle. Anyone who has seen the countless hours she spends creating these remarkable wonderlands for our children knows how deserving Liz is of our Volunteer of the Month parking spot.

HEALTH MINISTRY

Dear Church Family,

Summer is here and we can spend more time outdoors – yeah! Keeping our families safe while they play becomes a priority. The American Cancer Society recommends the following:

SLIP! On a shirt.

SLOP! On sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher (that means it takes 15 minutes to sunburn so go higher).

Apply a shot-glass-full amount of sunscreen 30 minutes before going outside. Reapply frequently.

SLAP! On a hat.

Reducing the mosquito population in your yard can help prevent West Nile Virus – Get rid of standing water, change birdbaths and children's wading pools frequently. Get rid of anything where water can collect and breed mosquitoes. Using insect and tick repellants with DEET can help prevent mosquito and tick bites. Be sure to follow label directions.

Tick borne illnesses such as Lyme Disease and Ehrlichiosis can be prevented by wearing long sleeved light colored shirts and pants – easier to see ticks, applying DEET especially to clothes and checking skin for ticks. Possibly infected deer ticks are very small right now – the size of a pinhead. Ticks can be on the lawn and tree branches as well as deep grass. More and more cases of Lyme Disease in Dutchess County are occurring without a bulls-eye rash. Symptoms besides a tick bite are flu-like.

Enjoy the great outdoors, be vigil, check the kids and the dog. Have a wonderful summer!

Congratulations to Mary & Ken Moody for 50 years of marriage!

New Bulletin Board: Recipe for a Healthy Heart has American Heart Association recipes. I have cooked many of them and they are tasty. Take home copies available in display with bulletin board.

Prayers for Comfort and Healing: Muriel Kopp, Julie Carmichael, June Yergey and daughter Mary, Bill Hanka, Kay Kraft, John & Harriet Clark, Walter Soha, Susan Conrad's sister, Sally Kemink's sister Jeannie, Jerry Duquette, Howard Barry, Gail Rinehart, Barry Coldren, Tom and Marie Hasenpflug, Allison Gudmunson, Ellen Jacobs, Connie Raleigh, Doug Wolfe, Daniel Mercado, Rory & Jude Teter, Betty Budd, Greg Stabile, Nathan Christensen, Bridget and Robert Burrow, Richard Harney, Edward Van Etten, and Betty Wade.

In early June United Way honored me for my outstanding volunteer work at St. Francis Hospital. Volunteers from other organizations were also honored. The recognition breakfast was held at Villa Borghese. Rev. Paul, Lou & my mom, our Dorcas group and the Mammo. And Radiology staff were there for me. Thanks to all for your love and support.

***Yours in Christ,
Bonnie Biskup, Parish Nurse
(Office hours – Sun. 11:00–11:45am Sundays)***



SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL UPDATES:

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL CALENDAR AND UPDATES:

8/28 – Teacher’s meeting

9/7 - First day of church school

All church picnic at Holmes Presbyterian Camp

THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS, ASSISTANTS AND VOLUNTEERS for their commitment to the Church School and children. They have done a great job teaching the curriculum and sharing of their knowledge and time. A thank you also goes to all of the children and families for your support and participation.



THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES that participated, helped out, supported us in the Rain Forest Adventure. It was a great week full of learning about God through bible stories, arts & crafts, music, science and games. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

2008/2009 CHURCH SCHOOL YEAR



CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED – There are openings for Church School Teachers and teenage assistants beginning in September for next year’s Sunday Church School program. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Christine Lent at 471-4146.

2008 – 2009 REGISTRATION – Please register any children that have not previously registered. If your child(ren) is/are already registered, you do not need to register them again, unless there is any change of information. Registration forms can be found outside the Church Office and Church School Office.

Christine Lent, Sunday School Director

The First Presbyterian Church of Poughkeepsie Visits Freedom Plains July 20th

On Sunday July 20, we will be welcoming some visitors at our 10 AM worship service. The First Presbyterian Church of Poughkeepsie has been on a journey over the past few years trying to discern what God is calling them to be and do. An important and profound milestone was crossed on that Journey when, at a congregational meeting on May 18th, Congregation voted to sell their church buildings and property to the Poughkeepsie Church of God of Prophecy. Their journey is continuing this summer as they visit four congregations in an effort to decide where God is leading them to reside starting in January 2009.

Freedom Plains is one of the four congregations where they are considering “nesting”. So, on July 20th we will be welcoming the congregation of First Presbyterian Church to our regular worship service. Should First Presbyterian decide that Freedom Plains is the congregation they are being led to, we will start a dialog that will explore all the details, and the opportunities. At the end of these discussions we would have a working understanding about how our congregations would come together to live and share a vision. Both congregations would have to vote to affirm that vision to move forward.

So please continue to pray for our churches, that we might be led. Whether Freedom Plains is only part of First Presbyterians journey for one Sunday, or we become part of each other’s future. Let us open ourselves up to the joy of worshiping together on July 20th. After the service we are preparing a light brunch to facilitate a time of sharing and fellowship, all are welcome.



FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE

Proverbs 31:8 “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.”

The Mission Committee would like to thank all those who contributed letters to the Bread for the World 2008 Offering of Letters. Nineteen letters were sent off to various legislators in Congress regarding increasing funding for development assistance programs to support the Millennium Development Goals. Additionally, several of you offered to write letters or postcards and mail them yourselves. Everyone’s concern for the 854 million people who suffer from hunger each day is greatly appreciated: let’s continue to speak up for those who suffer such grave injustice.