



# Carmel Courier

February 2012  
Carmel Presbyterian Church of Glenside, PA 19038-3099

<b>Where to Look</b>	
According to Abigail .....	3
Ash Wednesday .....	14
Auditor Bio .....	15
Birthdays .....	27
Births.....	11
Boards .....	4
Change of Address.....	11
Christmas Brunch .....	15
Courier Deadline.....	16
Deacons Bios .....	9
Death.....	11
DR Mission Trip .....	13
Hospitalized .....	11
Kids Korner.....	28
Lectionary Readings .....	20
Library .....	18
Mission Year Book .....	21
Nursery School .....	17
Office Email Address.....	6
Pastoral Message.....	2
Samaritan Counseling .....	23
Scout News .....	14
Session Bios.....	16
Sexual Misconduct Policy.....	6
Shepherd Bios.....	12
Stewardship.....	8

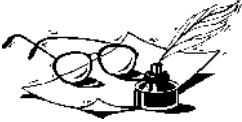
## Let's Set A New Record!

Building on a 10 year tradition, Carmel's Refuge group will be collecting for the Souper Bowl of Caring on February 5, 2012. During this nationwide annual event, young people are encouraged to fight hunger and poverty in their own communities by collecting funds for the local hunger-relief charity of their choice.



In 2011, over \$9 million in cash and food items was collected across all 50 states and over 10,000 charities benefited. So far this year, over 13,000 groups are registered to participate with most either church or youth oriented. In fact, Glenside UCC, Queen of Peace, Grace Lutheran, St. Paul's and St. Peters will also be hosting collections. The Hunger Program of PC(USA)s General Assembly Mission Council has partnered with Souper Bowl of Caring. More information can be found at [gmc.pcusa.org/give](http://gmc.pcusa.org/give) or [souperbowl.org](http://souperbowl.org).

Since joining the national effort, Carmel has raised over \$2,000. Let's help them break a record and fill the soup pot!



# A Pastoral Message

## February 22 – Ash Wednesday – the beginning of Lent

Following a dinner on February 22, we will make our way to the sanctuary for our Ash Wednesday service of worship.

Ash Wednesday is a day of solemn assembly that is built right into the church year. It is a day of fasting, a time for mourning our sin and the sin of all humanity before God, a time when we recognize our mortality--save for the grace of God, and a time when we request that the Lord remember our birth and breathe new life into our burned-out, dusty lives once more.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a time in the church calendar where we are called to undergo a discipline that helps us become better disciples. Lent was traditionally a time set aside for new Christians to learn about the faith before their Easter baptism. Although you'll hear people talk about giving something up for Lent, giving something up for Lent is like pruning dead branches off a plant so that energy can be directed toward new growth. Lent isn't about dying; it's about discipline, so that new life

**Editor's Update:  
The Ash  
Wednesday Dinner mentioned in  
this article has  
been cancelled.  
The service will  
continue as  
planned.**

can emerge--which sometimes means dying to what is dead (and death-dealing) in and among us so that there is room for the vigor of new life.

Like many denominations, our Ash Wednesday worship also includes an imposition of ashes, which is the marking of an ashen cross on our foreheads with the pastor's thumb dipped in a little olive oil mixed with the ashes of Palm Sunday branches. The elements used for the imposition of ashes are important to note. In the ancient world people used ashes to symbolize their mourning upon a death and to signify sorrow for their sins. Olive oil was used to anoint people at death, to help with childbirth, to light lamps and to wash. Perfumed olive oil was used to anoint prophets, priests and kings for service to God.

The mark of the cross upon the forehead is God's mark of grace upon us. Indeed, the sign of the cross, spiritually branded upon us at our baptism, marks us as God's own beloved, sealing us against the deadly power of the forces of evil.



See **THORNTON** page 23

# According to



# Abigail

## Mission: Missouri

It's a blessing to be able to enter the new year with 33

people signed up for our Joplin Missouri Mission Trip this coming July (1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>). We have been busy meeting and planning for the trip during these last few months, and it's been a blessing to build new relationships among team members. We are eager to let the congregation know that our fundraising for this trip will happen in a different way this year. The members of our Carmel congregation will not be receiving individual letters requesting financial support for team members. Our fundraising letters will be sent instead to family and friends of trip members who are not part of our Carmel membership. So, we are hoping that the congregation will support us through our larger fundraisers.

We want to thank those congregation members who supported our hoagie sale in January and early February- and we hope you've enjoyed the fruits of our labor! Our next two fundraisers will be in the month of April - both our Easter bread baking sale, and our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Spaghetti Supper/Talent Show & Silent



Auction (April 21<sup>st</sup>). Look for more information concerning dates and times for these events in our March Courier and on our website calendar ([www.presbycarmel.org](http://www.presbycarmel.org)).

Certainly many of our trip preparations revolve around these fundraisers and their organization. However, we've been setting aside every other meeting to do team-building exercises and learn more about the people with whom we'll be serving in Joplin. We are partnering with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to do our project this summer. One gift of working with PDA is that they are intentional about connecting with the many and various organizations that are reaching out to Joplin already. They link teams with the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity and other relief efforts in order to address home repair and rebuilding with more efficiency and cooperation.



See **Mission Trip** page 13

# Board Updates

## Session Notes

By Cindy Gerhard

The following are some items of business conducted during the Session's December 13 meeting:

Session voted to hire Jim Campbell as our new Building Manager/Custodian, as Patrick Cleary's time as an Interim comes to an end. He is scheduled to begin work on January 23. Please introduce yourself and extend a

warm welcome to Jim when you have an opportunity and remember to offer a big thank-you to Pat Cleary the next time you see him for stepping up and so capably and conscientiously assuming those responsibilities for us over the past eight months.

A number of fund raisers were approved for our church-wide mission trip to Joplin, Missouri, this summer. Watch for upcoming publicity to see how you can help!

Session determined that our Refreshment Time will not be offered on those rare occasions when 8:30 AM church school does not precede morning worship. This may occur, for example, on Christmas and Easter Sundays.

Session approved the installation of a perimeter drain system on the ground floor of the education wing, addressing chronic problems with water infiltration, and also approved the installation of replacement windows and a door for the apartment.



During the Session meeting on January 10, we welcomed the following new and returning Elders: Patrick Cleary, Melissa Deacon, Bruce Miller, Anne Newman, Nancy O'Brien, and Debbie Spade.

2012 Session Committees will be chaired as follows: Christian Education, Gary Moll; Church Officer Nominating Committee, Beth Cherry; Congregational Life, Melissa Deacon; Evangelism, Joan Cramp; Finance, Investments and Insurance, Ken Schuyler; Personnel, Ed Wurster; Property, Lynne Schutt; Worship and Sacraments, Gene Morris; and



## Committee Structure

Memorials, Pat Newman. Cindy Gerhard will continue her duties as Clerk of Session in 2012.

See **SESSION** page 16

## *Deacons Notes*

By Heidi Lindsay

First, I need to do some housekeeping from the end of last year and update everyone on mission giving and some of our projects.



December mission disbursements from the Deacons Fund were as follows: Aid for Friends (\$75.00), ALS Association (\$75.00), Interfaith Food Cupboard (\$75.00), Norristown Hospitality Center (\$75.00), Laurel House/Nehemiah's Way (\$475.00), Depaul House (\$825.00), One House at a Time (\$825.00) and PhilAbundance (\$825.00). The varying amounts is attributable to balancing year-end giving with second disbursements to groups that we had, unfortunately, reduced our giving to earlier in the year.

Interest from Trust Fund B enabled the board to give an additional \$250.00 to each of our four missionaries. Disbursements to groups or projects supported by the Presbytery of Philadelphia, thus providing local assistance, include undesignated funds (\$450.00), Chester Eastside Ministries (\$500.00), Presbyterian Children's Village

(\$500.00), Head Start Learning Tree (\$1000.00), Hunger Fund (\$1000.00), John Gloucester House (\$1500.00), Presby Inspired Life Low Income Housing (\$1000.00), West Kensington Ministry at Norris Square (\$1000.00), Welcome Home Kits (\$1000.00), Trinity Presbyterian Church Bread for Life Recovery House (\$1000.00) and Broad Street Ministry (\$1000.00).



**Presbytery of  
Philadelphia  
Missions**

Lastly, interest from Trust Fund B was also used to support General Assembly's Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (\$1000.00) and the Theological Education Fund/1% Fund (\$1000.00).

Despite these tough economic times, the Board of Deacons distributed a grand total of \$43,550.00 in 2011. We cannot thank you enough for your unwavering support through envelope giving and special collections.

Speaking of collections, the Carmel elves pitched in on short notice (thank you, again) and delivered many boxes of toys to Presbyterian Children's Village to be given to the children at Christmas.



See **DEACONS** page 20

## Carmel Policy On Sexual Misconduct

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By Cindy Gerhard

Last June Session adopted a comprehensive Policy on Sexual Misconduct that applies to all Carmel professionals, officers, members, non-member employees, and volunteers. Among other things, it clearly defines categories of sexual misconduct and includes both pastoral and judicial procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation. Should the need arise to report an allegation that a Carmel member, officer, employee, or volunteer has engaged in sexual misconduct, a person is encouraged to seek guidance from a minister or an elder regarding the filing of a report.

During the January meeting, elders addressed and adopted the necessary implementation requirements. Our pastors have been meeting with board members, employees, and youth ministry and youth education leaders and teachers to summarize the policy and procedures. Each person serving in such a capacity shall receive a copy of the Policy. Additional copies are available in the church office for interested members as well.



### Office Email Address Is Changing

The new email address for Carmel's office will be: **[office@presbycarmel.org](mailto:office@presbycarmel.org)**.

The old address, [pat@presbycarmel.org](mailto:pat@presbycarmel.org), will not work once the change is made on February 2, 2012. If you don't use the updated address, your email will not be received.

Please update your contact information on computers, phones, etc. so that clear communication with Kristen can continue.

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## **Meet The Class—Session**

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### **Patrick Cleary**

Pat has been attending Carmel for several years and officially joined in 2011. Pat has volunteered and participated in many activities at Carmel including his work as a Sunday school teacher. Pat is employed at Federal Express. Pat has been there for Carmel this past year providing maintenance and janitorial work around the church buildings. Pat and his wife Tina have 3 girls. All are active members at Carmel.

### **Melissa Deacon**

Melissa is returning for her second term as an Elder where she has served on the Worship and Sacraments Committee and chaired the Congregational Life Committee. Melissa has also served as a Deacon. Melissa and her husband Patrick have one son. For many years you have seen them all helping with activities at Carmel.

### **Bruce Miller**

Bruce is a new member at Carmel but has attended and been around Carmel for many years through his involvement with Carmel's Boy Scout Troop 33. Bruce works as a consulting engineer doing industrial process and air pollution control engineering. Bruce and his wife, Heide, live in Wyncote and have 4 sons. Bruce

speaks French and enjoys playing the guitar and skiing.

### **Anne Newman**

Anne has been an active member of Carmel serving many terms as an Elder. She is returning in 2012 after taking a year off. You can see Anne at almost every church service singing with the Sanctuary Choir. Anne's specialty is serving as Carmel's Treasurer. Anne and her husband Walt have been long time members at Carmel.

### **Nancy O'Brien**

Nancy has been a member of Carmel for over 50 years. She has served as a Deacon and a Shepherd. Nancy has also been on the Pastor Nominating Committee, and is currently serving on the Kitchen Task Force and volunteering in the church library. Nancy and her husband Joe live in Roslyn and have two sons and six grandchildren.

### **Debbie Spade**

Debbie is a new member at Carmel however she has been attending services at Carmel for the past 14 years. Debbie is employed by the U.S. Government where her work is focused on Contracts and Negotiations. Debbie and her husband Kent live in Fort Washington. Debbie has two daughters and two granddaughters. Debbie is an avid skier and golfer. She enjoys gardening and her grand-dog Iggy.

## Learning More About Stewardship

By Anne Newman

Carmel has a dedicated Stewardship Committee working throughout the year. Two Elders and one Deacon are assigned each year. You, as members, are invited to be a part of the committee. We will welcome you with open minds and arms because we need your ideas. Please contact Anne Newman or the church office for more information.

But what is stewardship?

“Stewardship is discipleship. It is about making choices, as individuals and in community. Stewardship is about being faithful disciples, caring for and managing all that God has given us. Stewardship is not just one part of Christian discipleship; it involves every aspect of life in all the stages of life. Stewardship is the grateful response to God’s grace and goodness. It requires a consideration of how our choices affect us and others, of how we can be good caretakers of the created world, and of how we can best serve God as Disciples of Christ.” - Stewardship. *Presbytery of Philadelphia*. Retrieved January 12, 2012 from [presbyphl.org/ministries/stewardship](http://presbyphl.org/ministries/stewardship).

Gifts to God as of January 22, 2012:  
\$9,070.00



Many thanks go to Pat Cleary for his hard work as Carmel’s Interim Custodian.

His infectious cheeriness, kind words and willingness to pitch in on any task has been a pleasure.

Pat has done an outstanding job and the building has never looked better.

## **Meet The Class—Deacons**

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### **Karen Bogle**

Karen has been a faithful member at Carmel for many years. This is her third time serving as a Deacon. Throughout the years Karen has volunteered to participate in many activities and serve on many committees including Worship and Sacraments. She is currently serving on the Personnel Committee, the Kitchen Task Force and is a coordinator/teacher for the children's Church School program. Karen enjoys spending time with her family and grandchildren.

### **Patricia Maddish**

Patty has been an active member at Carmel for many years. She has served as a Shepherd, Elder and now Deacon. In addition, Patty has been involved in many activities and committees such as Worship & Sacraments, Church Officer Nominating and Women's Fellowship. Patty and her husband Ron live in Oreland and enjoy travelling.

### **Heide Miller**

Heide is a new member at Carmel. Although she officially joined Carmel in 2011, Heide has regularly attended services at Carmel, along with her family. Heide recently joined the Sanctuary Choir and you can see her singing at almost every Sunday morning service. Heide and her husband Bruce have four sons, Michael,

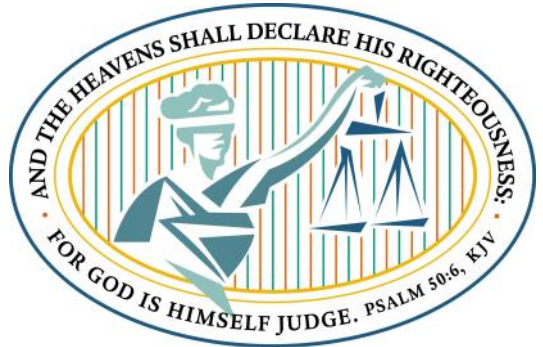
Daniel, Kevin and Ian. Heide, along with her family, has been faithfully involved in worship and youth activities.

### **Carol Moll**

Carol is an active member at Carmel and will be starting her second term as a Deacon. Over the years Carol has served as a Shepherd and a Sunday School teacher. Carol, her husband Gary, an Elder, and son Tyler can be seen around Carmel volunteering on several committees and participating in many activities.

### **R. Wesley Rose**

Wes grew up at Carmel and has been a faithful active member for most of his church life. Wes has served as a Deacon for many years and joyfully continues to serve on this Board. Wes, his wife Kelly and their two sons can be seen around Carmel participating and serving in many activities.



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# Thank You

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Carmel was decorated and undecorated for the Holidays by many hands. Special thanks to Florence Dyer, Nancy O'Brien, Rod Hackman, Walt Newman, Bill Pfifer and Pat Cleary.

*Karen Bogle*

Thank you Jean Badger for bringing me the lovely bouquet of flowers from Church on New Year's Day. They were so colorful and helped to brighten my day. It is so nice to be thought of by my Church family.

*Peg Hibbs*

To all my Carmel Friends,

Thank you so much for the lovely Poinsettia plant I received and delivered by my Shepherd. Wishing you all a very happy and healthy New Year.

Thank you again,  
*Marie Langton*

Dear Carmel Saints,

One of the cards I received for my birthday said "90 is no ordinary birthday" and I have to say "AMEN" to that.

So many of my dear friends at Carmel made it "extraordinary" with the wonderful letter filled with friends both old and new—a keepsake.

The bright fall flowers, delivered by a dear friend, Jean Badger, were a warm reminder of the love that flows in Carmel Church.

Thank you so much,  
*Toddy Tomkins*

Dear Carmel Friends,

Once again I thank you for the Poinsettia that Jean Badger so kindly delivered to me at Christmas, for the group that came to sing carols, for the birthday card from the Carmel Shepherds and the letter signed by so many of the congregation. And once again I say that I'm thankful to belong to such a thoughtful and caring church as Carmel.

Thank you everyone,  
*Ruth Chestnut*

Dear Carmel Family,

Thank you for your outpouring of kindness and support after my mother's death.

All members of my family were grateful to have the memorial service at Carmel. The church was so beautifully decorated for the holiday. It added to the memory of the service.

I am truly blessed to be part of the Carmel family.

*Kim Williams*

See **THANK YOU** on page 22

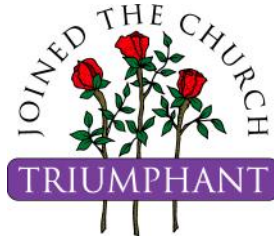
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# *This and That*

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We keep Kim Williams and family in our prayers as we mourn the loss of Kim's mother, Barbara Hoffman.



Sarah and Abraham O'Brien, son and daughter of Kevin O'Brien and grandchildren of Joe and Nancy O'Brien, born on October 29, 2011.

Jacob Nolan Thompson, son of Scott and Terri Thompson and grandson of Jim and Barb Thompson, born on November 11, 2011.

Patrick Timothy Gergely, son of Colleen and Steve Gergely and grandson of Bob and Judy White, born in January.



*"To love another person is to see the face of God."*

-Lyrics from *Les Misérables*, Claude-Michel Schönberg



Please pray for the safe and speedy recuperation of the following recently hospitalized members:

Floss Gutekunst  
Reed Lang



Coralise Conrad  
Rydal Park  
1515 The Fairway  
Apt. # 660B  
Rydal, PA 19046-1455

William D. Gerhard  
115 Bickley Road  
Glenside, PA 19038

Enos Shupp  
Sunrise of Dresher  
1650 Susquehanna Road  
Room 124  
Dresher PA 19025

## Meet The Class—Shepherds

### Judy Dyjak

Judy and her family have been members of Carmel for many years. This will be Judy's second term serving as a Shepherd. Over the few years, Judy has volunteered and participated in many activities including the Youth Group, Mission Trip and Choirs. Judy and her husband Ray have two daughters. You can see them all actively involved at Carmel.

### Louise Robinson

Louise is a long-time member of Carmel. She will be joyfully beginning a new three year term with the Shepherds. Louise can be seen in the choir loft singing along with the Sanctuary choir at most every church service. She is also an active member of Women's Fellowship.

### Joan and Earl Rotenbury

Joan and Earl have been members at Carmel for many years. They are returning to serve as a couple for our Shepherds after taking a few years off. Joan and Earl have been actively serving at Carmel over the years not only as Shepherds but also with Vacation Bible School.



## MISSION TRIP page 3

We've also spent some time familiarizing ourselves with the extent of damage due to the 2011 tornado that swept through Joplin. ESPN made a powerful video chronicling the story of Joplin's high school football team and the challenges that the high school youth faced after losing so many family members and community leaders due to the tornado. We've watched clips from that video, and another video made by a community member when the storm hit.

As our preparation continues, we'll learn about who has been pitching in to rebuild this city, and the role that our group will play in that task! As always, we are thankful for the ongoing support of Carmel members. Please pray for us (and for Joplin!), buy our hoagies, consider donating items for our Silent Auction, and keep an eye out for how you can "Buy-A-Mile" of our travel! If you feel moved to make a specific donation - either to the trip as a whole, through a fundraiser, or to individual members, we welcome that kind of giving. Please contact Rev. Abigail with questions at: [revabigail@gmail.com](mailto:revabigail@gmail.com). Any checks toward our trip can be made out to Carmel Presbyterian Church with "Joplin Mission" in the memo line. And again-thank you in advance for your prayers, concern and support!

*Abigail Visco Rusert*

## More From The DR

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By Janet Simon

*Carmel's Dominican Republic Mission Group of 2011 is eager to share some of the wonderful experiences we had there with you, who sent us to the DR to do God's work under the leadership of the Foundation for Peace. These daily blog and journal excerpts tell about various aspects of our mission service.*

### Medical Clinic and July 4

HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY EVERYONE! Hope you all had a great time celebrating, we know we did! Today was medical clinic day; it was a huge success. We handed out over 800 hygiene kits (thanks for all your donations), and supplied over 200 Dominican families with much needed medicine. You could see the gratitude and thankfulness on the face of each and every patient there. Many jobs were done by the group members today; including runners for the doctors, pharmacists, security/crowd control, and child care. Each job was taken very seriously and done to the peak of perfection.



See **DR Memories** page 25

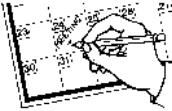



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## Refocus For Lent

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Give up complaining — focus on gratitude.  
 Give up harsh judgments — think kind thoughts.  
 Give up worry — trust God to provide.  
 Give up discouragement — be full of hope.  
 Give up bitterness — turn to forgiveness.  
 Give up hatred — return good for evil.  
 Give up anger — be more patient.  
 Give up pettiness — become mature.  
 Give up jealousy — pray for trust.  
 Give up gossiping — control your tongue.  
 Give up sin — turn to virtue.  
 Give up giving up — persevere.  
 —Author unknown



# Carmel Family Activities



In keeping with the spirit of penitence and preparation during Lent, on Ash Wednesday, February 22, Carmel will have a meal, followed by a service of worship which will include Imposition of Ashes and Lord's Supper. The dinner will begin at 6:30 PM in Carmel Hall and the service of worship will begin at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary.

Soup will be provided, but bring your own soup bowl and plate and utensils. This helps to speed up serving and cleanup time, thus allowing the evening to end at a reasonable hour for families with young children.

The alphabetical listing of items to bring is:

A to G and S to Z – Salads  
H to L – Cupcakes  
M to R – Bread, muffins or rolls

**Please make reservations** for the number coming from your family by using the Friendship Folder by Sunday, February 19, or calling the church office at 215-887-1074. The Presbyterian Women's Circles who are setting the tables want to be sure they have tables prepared.

## Scout News

By Julie Still

Boy Scout Troop 33 is continuing to work on the Personal Fitness badge as a group. Some of the boys are also working to complete the Communications Badge. For the third year in a row the boys decided not to exchange gifts at their holiday meeting, but instead to send care packages to troops overseas. Scout families donated snacks, books, magazines, and movies. The boys each packed a box to go to an individual soldier, and included a personal letter. The boys are also making initial preparations for summer camp.



Cadette Girl Scout Troop 7577 finished the Comic Artist badge and is working on the Trees badge. They have completed the first part of their year-long study of the air (the Breathe journey). The girls took advantage of a half day of school in December to visit a local comic book shop, walk a tree history trail at Briar Bush Nature Center, and also make holiday decorations for the residents of Edge Hill Nursing Home. Over the next month the girls will be working on the New Cuisines badge and preparing for the annual cookie sale!

## Meet the Auditor

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### Randall Cramp

Randy grew up attending Carmel and has participated and been involved in many activities not only as a youth but as an adult. Randy was a member of Carmel's Boy Scout Troup 33. Randy is a graduate of Drexel University with a Bachelors Degree in Accounting and is also a CPA. Randy currently works for Oracle. He and his wife Stephanie have one daughter, Delaney who regularly attends Carmel and sings in the Children's Choir.

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Interested in becoming part of Carmel's Prayer Community? Join us in dedicating time each week for meaningful prayer for those in need. Contact Abigail or Bonnie Miller for more information.

## Congregational Life Wows The Crowd

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By Janet Simon



A gourmet Christmas brunch, offering choice of breakfast menu with made-to-order omelets or lunch menu with turkey or ham and lots of sides, a stunning ice sculpture angel on the punch table, festive designer desserts, and live vocal and piano music of the season, all offered on the Sunday before Christmas! One of our area's finer restaurants perhaps? Wait, there's more—free of charge and shared with 127 friends! All to be found at Carmel's unforgettable Christmas brunch, planned and carried out by the Congregational Life Committee, and in the absence of a functioning Carmel kitchen.

Although this certainly sounds like a holiday fantasy, Melissa Deacon and her Committee really did accomplish miracles. Members of the hard-working committee included Carol Moll, Bonnie Miller, Connie Tolton, Doug Warburton and Kelly Sweeney.



See **BRUNCH** page 22

**SESSION** page 4

Session approved the various Statistical Comparisons within the congregation, required annually by the General Assembly. Did you know that 40% of our members are men and 60% are women or that the next highest percentage of members to those in the 65+ category is found in the 26-45 age group?

Session also approved reception of the following four PC (USA) special offerings during 2012: Souper Bowl of Caring (February), One Great Hour of Sharing (April), Peacemaking (World Communion Sunday), and Christmas Joy (December).

We are blessed to welcome 2012 with a full slate of officers to serve on our boards, accompanied by such a dedicated and capable staff. When you hear the Word proclaimed in worship, as you read through weekly worship bulletin inserts and monthly editions of the *Carmel Courier*, please give thoughtful and prayerful consideration to your role in God's plan for the ministries at Carmel this year.

**This month edited by  
Heidi Lindsay  
Next Courier Deadline —  
February 12, 2012  
Editor of the month —  
Janet Simon**

Keep those Food Cupboard donations coming! A can or box a week can be bought for well below a dollar. Please commit to bringing at least one item each Sunday.



Volunteers are needed for Meals in a Moment to cook and deliver a hot meal on an as needed basis to members of the congregation. Please see Carol Moll or Karen Bogle if you would like to sign up or need more information.



## NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

By Jan Heckman

Carmel Nursery School celebrates community helpers during the month of February. Exploring the jobs of police officers, fire fighters, doctors, nurses, teachers, librarians, and many more professions that serve our community will be part of the curriculum. We look forward to our yearly visit from Officer Dwyer of the Abington Police Department to tell the children what a day of work is like for him. We also welcome the Visiting Nurse Association to give screenings in vision, speech, and hearing. These screenings are important to begin an early intervention program.



Members of the Suburban Dog Training Club will be showing off their dogs to the students. It is amazing to see how smart these beautiful animals can be.

The Teachers of the Month for February work in our Monday through Friday Four Year Old Program. Denise Byrnes is the lead teacher and has been here for four years. She had nieces and nephews who are graduates of the nursery school. Her son was attending summer camp at Carmel when she heard the news about the need for a teacher. With a back-



## Teachers Of The Month

ground in education and plenty of experience, she was perfect for the job! The aide in the class is Louise O'Neill. Louise started as a substitute for Carmel while she was also substituting at St. Paul's Nursery School. When asked if she would like an aide position, she accepted. She has become our resident expert with the new laminator. Louise takes a day off each October to participate in the Susan G. Komen "Walk for the Cure" and we love to cheer her on! Both teachers live in the area. Louise sometimes bikes to work. They have been working together for two years now and are both a true asset to our school.

Registration has begun for the 2012/2013 school year. Carmel offers programs for children aged two to five. Each program is geared toward that age group while catering to the needs of the individual child. Extended hours are available. If you are interested in any of the programs that Carmel has to offer, call the nursery school office at 215-886-7677.

Nursery School Registration



Better yet, schedule a tour and see why amazing things happen here!

# *Carmel Memorial Library*



By Gail Warburton

Gift of Nancy Rose.

THEN CAME YOU: The plans of four women--including a college student egg donor, a working-class surrogate mother, a wealthy woman, and her stepdaughter--are thrown into turmoil when the wealthy woman's husband suddenly dies and names the stepdaughter the unborn baby's guardian. By Jennifer Weiner. (F We)

Gift of Leslie Donaghy.

DEADLOCK: Dedicating her life to rescuing priceless artifacts from being destroyed by war, Emily Hudson is captured and tormented by a sadistic adversary, a situation for which the CIA calls on mercenary John Garrett for help in Emily's rescue. By Iris Johansen (F Jo)

The Rose Trilogy; by Beverly Lewis

THE THORN: In this first book of The Rose Trilogy, Rose Kauffman, a spirited young woman, has a close friendship with the bishop's foster son, Nick, who stirs up plenty of trouble. But when Rose's sister cautions her against becoming too involved, Rose dismisses the warnings. (F Le)

THE JUDGMENT: In this second book of a unique, mysterious and romantic series, Rose Kauffman and her older sister, Hen, struggle to find love, acceptance and their place in the Amish community. (F Le)

THE MERCY: The Amish and modern worlds clash in this moving conclusion to *The Rose Trilogy* as two sisters love young men lost to the English world. (F Le)

HERSHEY: Milton S. Hershey's Extraordinary Life of Wealth, Empire, and Utopian Dreams. Examines the life and achievements of the head of the chocolate factory empire, describing his fatherless upbringing by a strict Mennonite mother, his failures with two early candy companies, and his construction of the utopian Hershey village. By Michael D'Antonio. (338.7 Da)

HEART AND SOUL: An inspiring book that demonstrates how African-Americans helped our country achieve its promise of liberty and justice. The story of African-American history, from Revolutionary-era slavery up to the election of President Obama. By Kadir Nelson. (973.04 Ne)

A Trilogy by Iris Johansen

EVE: In the first of this trilogy forensic sculptor Eve Duncan zeros in on the kidnapper who years earlier abducted her seven-year-old daughter, Bonnie. (F Jo)

QUINN: A follow-up to Eve finds Navy SEAL-turned-cop Joe Quinn at the mercy of Eve Duncan's former lover,

John Gallo, who plays a dangerous game of cat-and-mouse with CIA agent Catherine Ling, in an installment that recounts the story of how Joe and Eve met and fell in love 10 years earlier. (F Jo)

BONNIE: Finally, in the trilogy that began with EVE and continued with QUINN, comes the story that fans have been looking forward to reading. With the help of her beloved Joe Quinn and CIA Agent Catherine Ling, Eve Duncan gets closer and closer to answering the questions that have tormented her. (F Jo)

CALEB'S CROSSING: Forging a deep friendship with a Wampanoag chieftain's son on the Great Harbor settlement where her minister father is working to convert the tribe, Bethia follows his subsequent Ivy League education and efforts to bridge cultures among the colonial elite. Historical fiction by Geraldine Brooks. (F Br)

### *For Younger Readers*

Gift of Joan Cramp.

BEAUTIFUL BLACKBIRD: Long ago, Blackbird was voted the most beautiful bird in the forest. The other birds, which were colored red, yellow, blue, and green, were so envious that they begged Blackbird to paint their feathers with a touch of black so they could be beautiful too. Although Blackbird warns them that true beauty comes from within, the other birds persist and soon each is given a

ring of black around their neck or a dot of black on their wings -- markings that detail birds to this very day. By Ashley Bryan. (jF Br)

The Janie Book Series by Caroline B. Cooney:

THE FACE ON THE MILK CARTON: A photograph of a missing girl on a milk carton leads Janie on a search for her real identity. (jF Co)

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO JANIE: The members of two families have their lives disrupted when a teenage girl who had been kidnapped twelve years earlier discovers that the people who raised her are not her biological parents. Sequel to "The Face on the Milk Carton." (jF Co)

THE VOICE ON THE RADIO: While working at the college radio station, Reeve, Janie's boyfriend, decides to tell the story of her kidnapping, and the details of Janie's painful event are broadcast to all, with no regard for her feelings or her family. (jF Co)

WHAT JANIE FOUND: While still adjusting to the reality of having two families, her birth family and the family into which she was kidnapped as a small child, seventeen-year-old Janie makes a shocking discovery about her long-gone kidnapper. (jF Co)

See **YOUNGER READERS** page 26

*Sunday Lectionary Readings***February 5      5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Isaiah 40:21-31

**Communion**

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Mark 1:29-39

**February 12      6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

2 Kings 5:1-14

Psalm 30

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Mark 1:40-45

**February 19      Transfiguration of the Lord**

2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalm 50:1-6

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9

**February 22      Ash Wednesday**

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or

**Communion**

Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalm 51:1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

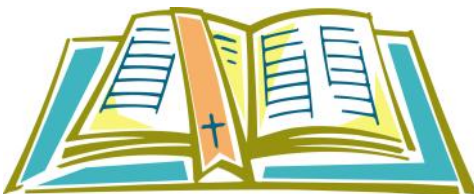
**February 26      1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalm 25:1-10

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15

**DEACONS** page 5

Our American Red Cross blood drive in early December netted 38 donations, surpassing our goal of 30. Many thanks go to Lori Raquet for singlehandedly tackling this project and ensuring its success. Our next drive should be in late spring, probably in May. A delivery of 14 overflowing bags of non-perishables was taken to InterFaith Food Cupboard.

We officially welcomed

**New Faces**

new Deacons Heide Miller and Patty Maddish to Board, along with the returning Karen Bogle, Carol Moll, and Wes Rose. Serving as officers on the board are Wes Rose (Moderator), Heidi Lindsay (Vice Moderator), Joyce Kornfeld (Treasurer) and Karen Bogle (Secretary). Please pray for our Deacons as we strive to be disciples in Christ and minister to the needs of others.

Sadly, we learned in late January that Chris McReynolds will no longer be serving PC(USA) as a missionary along the Texas/Mexico border. The Deacons will be carefully selecting another missionary among several suggested by PC(USA).

# Mission Yearbook

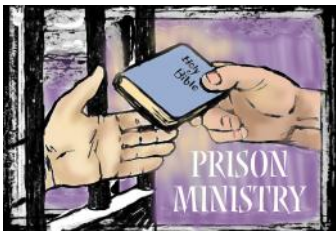


By Betty McGlade

## Changing lives

As the members and staff of the Community Presbyterian Church of Yarnell, Arizona, report on the effects of the mission program grants they received from the General Assembly, they realize that they themselves have grown in unexpected ways. They understand that in transforming peoples' lives, the size of the church isn't as important as the size of its members' hearts.

Hear the words of one recent prayer request from a recipient of their mission program: "God and His angels are looking out for me right and left. Thank you for your prayers and support and friendship." The congregation receives these thanks regularly from a mother of two toddlers who is incarcerated for crimes committed before her children were born. Church members serve as surrogate grandparents for the children, help the mother's disabled husband, and write to and visit her in prison. She in turn corresponds frequently to thank the congregation for nurturing her children, caring for her husband, and offering her hope and faith in God's forgiveness and grace.



## Using God's gift

Presbyterians in the Synod of the Sun, which comprises Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas, are growing in their knowledge of God and this is evidenced in many exciting ways. The synod's ministry, Solar Under the Sun, is helping

bring God's gift of solar energy to provide power for water treatment facilities in Haiti and Ukraine and power for electricity to schools in Kenya.



Mission teams go to Solar School in Arkansas where they learn how to form international partnerships and to install solar panels, and then partner with people in countries where help is needed. With solar-powered clean water, lives are being saved. With solar-powered lights in schools, people are learning and improving their quality of life. With solar-powered refrigeration, people are getting the medicines they need.

See **YEARBOOK** page 27

**THANK YOU** from page 10

To Carmel Presbyterian Church,

I would like to thank everyone at Carmel for the flowers and most of all the prayers for my recovery and rehabilitation from my recent knee replacement surgery.

I mended pretty quickly and the rehabilitation sessions were tough. But through all the prayers and determination I am back on track, not 100% but real close.

*Ed McFarland*

Dear Friends,

Many thanks to Shepherd Doris Golligan for bringing me the Communion table flowers several weeks ago.

And thanks to a Mary Ann Hausher and Bertha Campbell for also bringing flowers, they were pretty and appreciated so much.

*Marian Croasdale*

Dear Carmel Family,

Thank you to all of Dad's Carmel family for the love, support and remembrances shared after Dad's passing. We're so grateful.

Fondly,

*Diane Merry, Steve Merry and Joanne (Merry) Layton*

See **THANK YOU** page 24

**BRUNCH** page 15

Friends and family who pitched in to help included Marleen Heintz, Beth Blarsky, Carol Moll's twin sister Mary, Patrick Deacon, Tyler Moll, Gary Moll, Taylor Tolton, Jess Tolton, Dan Tolton, Abigail Visco Rusert and niece Tara Jacobs, Dave Rice.

The talented ice sculptor and chef was Antonio Young of Glenside, Melissa Deacon's brother-in-law. Laurie and Troy Mart, Abigail Visco Rusert's sister and brother-in-law, provided the meal's musical entertainment.

The Christmas brunch was billed as a "don't miss event." It lived up to and exceeded all expectations. Those who attended and those who missed the gala affair are certainly hoping for an encore, with a completed Carmel kitchen renovation making preparations much easier in the future. Hats off to all of those who worked so hard to bring about a very memorable and enjoyable event of holiday food and fellowship!



**Well Done!**

## February 29th— Nobody's Perfect



Don't you love it! Somewhere back in those early-calendar-making days, folks discovered extra minutes were accruing that they didn't know what to do with. Sure they managed to come up with 365 days a year by creating 12 lopsided months of 28 to 31 days. But those annoying minutes just kept piling up and throwing off their calculations. The perfectionists must have been going crazy (and driving everyone else crazy) so finally somebody came up with a wacky idea: "Let's just add an extra day every 4<sup>th</sup> year and call it quits. We'll put it at the end of February. Nobody will even notice." In weary frustration the Calendar Committee must have finally agreed, "Oh what the hell. Let's just do it."

So for all of you who sweat over a checkbook that doesn't balance, or a key that can't be found, or picture that won't hang straight, or a name that won't come to you - this one's for you! February 29<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy it, Baby. The day to celebrate *Whatever*.

If you're compelled to do things perfectly or die trying, you might find relief by talking to a professional about living more freely. Call 215-247-6077 for the Samaritan Counseling Center nearest you.

## Walking with God

The essence of the Christian life is knowing God and walking with him. It's about sticking with him when the sky is blue and also when it's filled with clouds or choked with smoke. It's about walking with the Lord through thick and thin, and pressing on through every heartache and trial that happens to come our way.

—Greg Laurie

### THORNTON from page 2

Through the grace of Christ, we are destined ultimately for life, not death. Though the words during the imposition of ashes remind us of our mortality (*"Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return"*), they are uttered simultaneously with the sign of the cross to remind us of our baptism into Christ's death and our eternal life in Him. So, these ashes are not to just remind us that we're going to die, but they also call us to a sober examination of our lives, so that we might live more fully in the abundant life of Christ.

This year, begin your Lenten season with a service that has been practiced in the Christian church for many centuries. Join us for an Ash Wednesday service February 22 at 7:30 P.M.

*Dr. James W. Thornton*

THANK YOU from page 22

Dear Christmas Carolers,

What a happy surprise and real joy it was to hear Betsy Manzinger and a group of young Carmel carolers on my porch in December! Having been a caroler for many years past, I now realize how special it is to hear them in front of my house!

Thank you for including me on your journey,

*Cherry Lefferts*

Dear Carmel Presbyterian Women,

On behalf of the day care center, I would like to say thank you for the donations and the little girl clothing. We received the package on 12/17/11. The clothing came at the right time because one of our students got burned out of her home.

Again, thank you and the day care center hopes that you have a very Merry Christmas and happiest of New Year.

May God bless you for the work you are doing,

*Gloria McDole, Director*  
Elizabeth Parrish Day Care Center

Dear Carmel Shepherds,

Thank you so much for the lovely Poinsettia, which will join its sisters from 2010 and 2009. The '09 has a red leaf on it just now! I am sorry that I was not here to enjoy the person (Rose Ewing) who delivered it.

Cordially,

*Alma Leadbeater*

Dear Carmel Saints,

The perfect way to start a New Year is to find a gorgeous Poinsettia sitting at the door.

It is so nice to be thought of at the beginning of a new year and I am so grateful for your thoughtfulness. The plant is lovely!

Ever sincerely,

*Toddy Tompkins*



Friends in Christ

## DR MEMORIES page 13

Probably some of the most entertaining times during this trip would be the bus rides to and from the work site. The entire group is always in a good mood, constantly laughing and joking around with each other. It's amazing how close we have all become. To celebrate the Fourth of July we went out to get ice cream (thank you Georg!), it was muy delicioso!

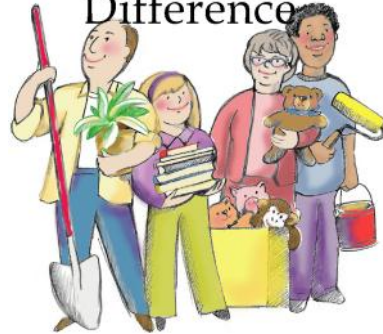
Group time was inspiring, as always. "Highs" and "lows" were shared and we prayed for strength to be able to continue the mission we set out to complete here (because God knows many of us need it). Tomorrow is our last full day of working on Lloyd's home and we hope to accomplish just as much as we have on previous days of construction. We hope and pray that all goes well for those who attended today's clinic, and we ask that God bless all those not here with us who are in need of help as well. ..Buenos Noches!

*Taylor & Jessica Tolton*

### Hygiene Kits and Medical clinic

Pre-trip picnic: It is amazing what a group of 17, plus parents, could accomplish in opening boxes for 800+ toothpastes and dividing all of our hygiene kit supplies up into gallon zip-lock bags. Between us, Abigail and I got funds donated for shipping eight bags of medical kits. We divided hygiene kit items, plus crayons, bubbles, etc. for VBS, between the eight duffels and weighed them.

## Making a Difference



Trip Day 2: At night, after our first hard day of construction work at the vocational school for the deaf, we assembled the individual medical kits, all 870 or so of them. Eighteen pairs of hands working on the assembly line with energy and enthusiasm made the work go fast, despite the glitch of cleaning up leaking bottles of shampoo from the airline shipping. We prefaced the hygiene kit work with our first small group Bible study and followed the assembly line with large group on the roof, where we each gave highs, lows, and God sightings for the day.

Trip Day 6—July 4: I find the medical clinics an inspiration for how well Foundation for Peace organizes them and for the way their staff, the doctors, and our group cooperate to provide medical care to hundreds of people who may only see a doctor once or twice a year. We went home at 3:30 feeling tired but very fulfilled.

*Janet Simon*

Full daily accounts from the 2011 DR mission trip and a number of photos of our group assisting at the Medical Clinic are available online at [www.presbycarmel.org](http://www.presbycarmel.org) Click on DR Mission Trip Blog.

## Happy Anniversary To Us!

Carmel Presbyterian Church was formally organized on February 15, 1882 with 26 charter members. That makes us 130 years old!



### YOUNGER READERS page 19

Samurai Girl Series by Carrie Asai:

THE BOOK OF THE SWORD: Despite being the only survivor of a tragic plane crash at a mere six months of age, this young girl was lovingly raised by a Tokyo couple for the next nineteen years, but all that she has known her entire life is about to change. (jF As)

THE BOOK OF THE SHADOW: After learning that she has been lied to her entire life, Heaven must now face the fact that the people she once trusted are now out to harm her, a realization that causes her to become Samurai Girl. (jF As)

THE BOOK OF THE PEARL: Heaven, while finding it hard to adjust to her new life minus her adoptive family from Tokyo, seems to be embracing her newfound freedom with her best friend at her side. (jF As)

THE BOOK OF THE WIND: After a mysterious fire destroys the house in which she had been living, Hiro puts Heaven on a bus bound for Las Vegas where, even amid the parties and gambling, her life remains in danger. \ (jF As)

THE BOOK OF THE FLAME: After being kidnapped and involved in what turns out to be a fatal accident for their kidnappers, Heaven and Hiro continue to elude the Yukemuras and the Kogos as Heaven tries to piece together the puzzle of her life. (jF As)

THE BOOK OF THE HEART: Back in Japan, leading the life of a princess, Heaven misses the freedom of Los Angeles, but hopes to uncover the truth about who she is and what her future holds. (jF As)

INTO THE WILD NERD YONDER: When high school sophomore Jessie's long-term best friend transforms herself into a punk and goes after Jessie's would-be boyfriend, Jessie decides to visit "the wild nerd yonder" and seek true friends among classmates who play Dungeons and Dragons. By Julie Halpern (jF Ha)



Belated Birthday wishes to **Thelma Richards**, who joined the 90 year club on January 9. We hope your birthday was as special as you are.

Blowing out 93 candles on February 26 will be **Marie Langton**. May the day bring you all the things that make you smile.

**Natalie Griffith** continues to amaze and inspire, celebrating 102 years on February 23.



**YEARBOOK** page 21

## Communicating in many ways

First-century church leaders traveled long distances by ship and by foot to establish and nurture Christian communities. Teaching was supplanted from afar by the use of hand-delivered letters of instruction. Today, with telephones, e-mail, web sites and texting, people can communicate with vast networks in an instant. Though the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a connectional church that uses much of this technology, Commissioners to presbytery and committee meetings travel to meeting places to gather and spiritually discern God's will for the church.

Cimarron Presbytery in Oklahoma with its 14 churches and 2,178 members are spread out in the sparsely populated areas of central and north western Oklahoma. Seeking new ways to productively utilize the talents of their members, the presbytery encouraged its members to form task forces in their missions to Kenya and the Czech Republic. As a result, the Czech Republic task force will continue an annual mission to teach English. The Kenya Solar mission is coordinating with Living Waters of the World to provide solar power for water treatment systems at Kenyan orphanages and hospitals. A third task force has formed to seek ways to improve the use of technology in presbytery communication.

# Kids Korner




## FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE

In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

•••• DIRECTIONS ••••

To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.



 gain   as   or   ear   van   an   for   give  
 gave   her   on   it   one   other   he   an   a

B \_\_\_\_\_ w \_\_\_\_\_ h each  
 ot \_\_\_\_\_ d \_\_\_\_\_ give  
 \_\_\_\_\_ e an \_\_\_\_\_ if \_\_\_\_\_ y  
 of you h \_\_\_\_\_ grie \_\_\_\_\_ ce  
 a \_\_\_\_\_ st some \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 For \_\_\_\_\_ as t \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ d  
 for \_\_\_\_\_ you." COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

Answers: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." Colossians 3:13, NIV