



Carmel Courier

November, 2011
Carmel Presbyterian Church of Glenside, PA 19038-3099

Your stewardship walk with God

By William Miller

A Message from Stewardship –
Please respond as you can in the
2012 Stewardship campaign.



In case you haven't noticed,
Carmel is making great strides as it leads us in our walk
with God. Our youth ministry is growing. Attendance
is on the rise. We have been blessed with gifted leaders.
We experienced a successful mission trip this summer,
and there are plans for more.

Educational opportunities abound. Everyone
has an opportunity to participate in classes designed for
their age group. Please make sure you choose the right
group. New times, new places, and even a new coffee
hour, oops ½ hour. Fellowship is on the rise and the
only limits are those you impose on yourself.

New ideas are turning into new programs
which open new doors for more opportunities and more
ideas. The church is cleaner, the organ sounds brighter
and you hear more voices singing. Wonderful things
and noteworthy accomplishments, every one! We are

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A Pastoral Message

THE POWER TO LET GO

When we read Philippians chapter 3, we see that having encountered the Risen Lord on the Damascus road, Paul knew that his past no longer mattered. Christ had turned Paul's life upside down. So, thereafter, Paul could say that there was but one thing important in his life: knowing Christ and the power of his resurrection. Thus, we are to leave behind what we've done in the past to be worthy. We are to put away our accomplishments, or the lack of them. Only one thing matters in life: knowing Jesus Christ.

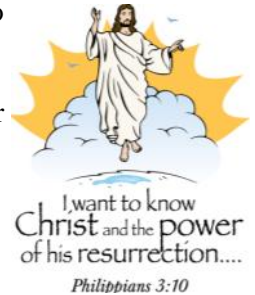


But what does it mean to "know" Christ? Behind that word in both Hebrew and Greek is the notion of intimate experience. It is not enough to know "about" Jesus Christ. We can be the most knowledgeable expert in the world on the life of Jesus, and not have the slightest idea what Paul is talking about here. Indeed, we may have taught Sunday School all of our life, gone on every mission trip the church has offered, served on every church board, know the Bible inside and out, and still not



"know" Christ in the way Paul is talking about knowing him.

To know Christ means to really experience his presence in our daily lives, much the way we experience one another. It is like marriage partners who come to know one another after years and years of living together -- knowing each other in conversation and in non-verbal communication, knowing each other in sharing and bearing life experiences, knowing each other in hardship and in joy. We experience the presence of Christ in worship, in the daily conversation of prayer, in silently waiting upon and listening to what he says to us in scripture, in serving him in both our work and our leisure.



For Paul, knowing Christ meant that if his court trial were to end in a death sentence, death was not the end of his existence, but the beginning of new life. But it means more than life beyond death, it is important to life right now as we give up the past. Knowing Christ allowed Paul to quit holding onto the negative experiences of life, as well as those positive items into which he had placed his worth. Knowing Christ meant that he could leave behind the beatings, the

See **PASTOR** page 7

According to



Abigail

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 43:19

This scripture verse is carved into one of the walls in the music building at Valparaiso University, where I received my undergraduate degree. It serves as a reminder to all who enter the building that God truly is doing a new thing among God's people, even in this time and place.

This is not only true for the students and faculty at Valparaiso - but for the congregation of Carmel Presbyterian Church, as well! One very clear new thing that God has called us to this summer is a trip from July 1-7 to Joplin, Missouri. Our mission? To serve in conjunction with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), and be part of the hope and healing of God's Holy Spirit in the wake of the spring 2011 tornado that ripped through that small town.



We already have 22 people signed up for the trip! Out of 32 slots for service, that's not too bad in just a few short weeks. If you or someone you know is thinking of joining us this summer, I would encourage you to get your \$30 deposit in ASAP to Abigail's church office mailbox. Information packets can be found on the table in the Narthex.

Curious about what we're doing? We'll be housed at the First Presbyterian Church in Joplin, and through PDA, we'll be working with local groups like Habitat for Humanity to rebuild houses. At this point, most of the disaster response efforts in Joplin have been centered around debris removal, so we'll be able to be a part of the next step: rebuilding. Our plan is to fly from Philadelphia to St. Louis, and then rent multi-passenger vans to carry us the four additional hours to Joplin. We'll sleep, eat, work and worship together during that first week of July, and we'll even take time our last day there to visit the historic St. Louis "Gateway Arch" and see a bit of the city.

Total cost per person for the trip is in the ballpark of \$760. We're asking for participants to pay \$270 out-of-pocket (\$30 monthly payments) and commit to raising \$200 each via a letter campaign to those outside of our Carmel community. Our in-house Carmel fundraising will include some staple favorites: Spaghetti Supper/Talent Night, and of course a car wash! Keep your eyes peeled for more bulletin inserts and Courier articles for how you can help us serve the people of Joplin.

Of course, this is one of the many new things that God is doing with and in our congregation at this time. I have seen God working through our new Children's



Board Updates

Session Notes

By Cindy Gerhard

The following items were among reports and business conducted at Session's Regular Meeting on October 11, 2011:

Christian Education Carmel's 2012 Mission Trip will take place in Joplin, Missouri, from July 1 through July 7, under the auspices of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Participants of all ages are welcome, and youth under age 12 must be accompanied by a parent. Contact Rev. Visco Rusert for details.

Session approved 22 member volunteers who will be serving as this year's Youth Ministry Team leaders and Fall Christian Education Hour teachers. In addition, Melissa MacFarland has volunteered to assist Karen Bogle with Children's Church on Sunday mornings.

Thanks to Our
Teachers and
CYM Team



Property The Property Committee has been especially busy dealing with contractors in the aftermath of the excessive amounts of rain we all experienced earlier this fall. The good news is that in some instances preemptive action was instrumental in avoiding property damage from water infiltration.

However, in other cases there were tremendous efforts from volunteers and our staff, plus hired professionals, to dry out and clean up multiple water messes. At this time the Committee is considering both necessary and desirable preventive actions to protect Carmel's property and grounds from potential water damage in the future.



Session approved spending for replacement of the apartment porch, and also for concrete repairs to stone walls and curbing in the lower parking lot.

Worship and Sacraments Session approved the following Christmas Worship Service Schedule: on Christmas Eve there will be a service at 6:30 PM and a second service at 10:00 PM with Communion; on Christmas Day morning the service will begin at 10:00 and include "Nine Lessons and Carols" plus Communion by Intinction.

Session also approved the 2012 Schedule for Ushering, which includes members of the Session, Deacons, Shepherds, the Congregation, and our Youth.

Kitchen Renovation Last summer Session approved the Kitchen Renovation

Committee's selection of an architect to assist with the design and installation of a new kitchen for



Carmel Hall. You may recall that back in 2008 Session set aside funding for this project from the Donald Jones bequest. The Committee is making good progress with plans for this major undertaking.

Deacons Notes

By Heidi Lindsay

I struggled as I started to write this article because it didn't seem that there was much to write about this month. The Deacons delivered 10 bags of food to Inter-faith Food Cupboard in Abington, provided meals to a Carmel family through our Meals in a Moment ministry and completed a successful collection for Cradle of Hope. Three things, that's it.



And then it hit me. Serving God isn't about the number of things we do or the grandiosity of the things we do. Following Christ and working as He did often takes the form of doing everyday tasks that do not seem inherently important, but are, in fact, tremendously impactful.

A collection of everyday items may seem mundane, but just knowing that the cupboards are stocked, laundry can be done and diapers are at the ready provides an opportunity to put those worries aside and focus on the "larger" pieces.

It's just dinner, I make dinner every night. How can a dinner make a difference? Well, when you are emotionally and physically exhausted, it isn't just dinner. It is a respite from the storm and an opportunity to be cared for.



Inter-faith Food Cupboard routinely gets requests from 40 families each week for emergency food assistance and often prepares over 100 Thanksgiving and Christmas orders. For most of us, an extra box of rice, a jar of sauce or a can of tuna thrown into the grocery cart is not a budget breaker. For others, when added in with additional items from Inter-faith, it is knowing that your family won't go to bed hungry tonight and that the kids can have breakfast before going to school.



See folks, the little things add up. Intentional acts of caring done every day make a difference far beyond what we are able to see with our own eyes. In the eyes of your Board of Deacons, that's what following Christ is all about.



Thank You



To the Saints at Carmel:
Greetings, my dear friends,

What a joy it was to open the letter containing your congratulations to me on the 30th anniversary of my ordination to the ministry. I read through every signature (not an easy task!) trying to remember which of you were actually there that day. For those who were, I tried to imagine your thoughts, being present as I took my vows. That is always a big event for any church, and I can't tell you how important it was for me on that day that you were there!

And for those who have joined Carmel since then, perhaps you can understand a little of what it's like for a congregation to watch a child grow, mature, and then take the awesome step of continuing the amazing legacy of Christian ministry! It humbles me every day! I trust it does you, too. With these thoughts, I hope you can all understand the deep appreciation I have, knowing that you remembered me on this great milestone in my life. ...and I hope you know that you are part of it!

With great love and appreciation,
Skip Brecht

Dear Carmel Friends,

Thank you for the flowers, cards and the letter with all your signatures, also

Jim's visit in the hospital. It was an unexpected stay.

Many thanks,
Kay Bauer

Dear Carmel Friends,

Roy and I want to thank our congregation for all of the many kindnesses you have shown us. We appreciated the letter and cards congratulating us on our 66th wedding anniversary.

And then there were the wonderful meals brought to our door by the Deacons. We enjoyed the visits and the delicious food prepared for us. What more could we hope or ask for!

We thank each and everyone for thinking of us and hope that we both can soon be a part of Sunday worship.

Sincerely,
Betty and Roy McGlade

Dear Carmel Friends,

I wish to thank you for your kind letter of concern. It is so good to read all the signatures and remember each one of you each time I read the letter. Yes, the cataract surgery was successful. Thank you again for thinking of me.

Sincerely,
Doris Golingan

STEWARDSHIP from page 1

truly blessed with resources and people that have enabled this, and we are now challenged with the responsibility to continue this growth.

Now the pitch; each of these accomplishments comes with a cost, and this is on top of maintaining the base where we started. Carmel's management is always budget conscious. If you have ever participated in or attended a board meeting, you know how we will pay for something is always at the top of the priority list.

Carmel is blessed with assets that help in financing our activities; however, this has only ever covered a part of our needs and this asset income has been declining in recent years. Pledge and plate offerings represent the lion's share of the budget. Your time, talent and financial contributions are the principal resources of this church and its mission.



The Pony Express Campaign started in mid-October. This saddle bag delivery, in addition to a mailing to certain members, will provide you with financial information on the church and a pledge card for your commitment. We ask that you carefully review everything and return your pledge. We pray that you will consider increasing your pledge to the best of your ability.

Remember, as you consider your response, this is your walk with God. Carmel is only an implementer on your path. What you pledge and donate to Carmel is between you and God and represents but a portion of what is his to begin with.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

2011 Year to Date
(October 9, 2011)

Anticipated	\$214,202.13
Received	<u>\$212,254.16</u>
Difference	(\$1,947.97)

PASTOR from page 2

humiliations, the threats, and the attacks on his character, life and ministry. And so must we. If we hold onto all the hurts, all the wounds, all the disrespect and hatred directed our way, we will not fully experience the presence of Christ in our lives. We must let them go.

Indeed, knowing Christ gives us the power to let go. In doing so, it raises us from death, day after day, and gives us a new vitality for life. It is the power that turned common people into martyrs and it is a power that continues to profoundly deepen the spiritual lives of people who make knowing Christ their goal.

Dr. James W. Thornton



Carmel Family Activities

Glenside Thanksgiving Service invitation

By Janet Simon

The Glenside Ministerium invites local church members to a Thanksgiving Service of worship on Tuesday, November 22, at 7:30 PM at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Easton Road and Mt. Carmel Ave., Glenside. Ministerium pastors will share in the service, and Carmel's Rev. Abigail Visco Rusert will be preaching the sermon.



Musical offerings will be shared by a Community Children and Youth Choir and a Community Adult Choir, as well as the Lighthouse Fellowship United Methodist Church Worship Team and the St. Paul's Lutheran Church Adult Choir and the St. Paul's Ringers. The evening offering will be collected for the Interfaith Housing Allowance.

This community Service of Thanksgiving offers a wonderful opportunity to join with area churches and give thanks to God, as well as joyfully sing together traditional Thanksgiving hymns.



Singers wanted!

By Abby Palmisano



A Festival **FESTIVAL CHOIR** Choir for the Christmas season will begin rehearsing on Thursday, November 10, at 8:00 PM. The choir will be preparing for the annual Candlelight Carol Service on Sunday evening, December 11, and the 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Service.

This choir is made up of youth and adults from the Carmel choirs and members of the congregation who enjoy singing but who cannot commit to weekly rehearsals year round.

Come and sing for this special festive Christmas season. Rehearsals will be on Thursdays, November 10 and 17, and December 1, 8, 15, and 22 at 8:00 PM in the choir room. We hope you can join us! Please tell Abby you are coming so a folder of music will be ready for you!

Participate in Advent Festival, Christmas brunch

By Melissa Deacon



Yes, Advent is coming later this month! The Congregational Life commit-

tee would like to invite you to the next big event. Mark your calendars now for the annual Advent Festival, Sunday, November 27, beginning at 3:00 PM, in Carmel Hall. Join us and get into the holiday spirit!

We'll provide the greens and other wreath making supplies; you bring your own shears. If you'd like to share your baking talent with fellow Carmel members, we'll be happy to add your cookies to our sweets table.



Christmas Brunch

While you've got that calendar out, reserve Sunday, December 18, at 11:00 AM for our Christmas Brunch. We're very excited to offer this new event at Carmel, and we think you'll enjoy the 'fruits of our labors.' It's going to be a marvelous celebration. Please make sure you are there to celebrate the season with your Carmel Family!

All Saints service November 6

Carmel will remember all the Christian faithful in an All Saints Day worship service, Sunday, November 6. As part of our service that day, the names of Carmel members who have died during the past year will be read, and remembered in prayer. The families of these loved ones



For All the Saints

are being invited to attend worship on that day to participate in the observance.

“On this special day we glorify God, not just for the faithfulness of the saints, but most of all for His faithfulness to the saints,” Dr. James Thornton wrote in his column last year.

DR kids love VBS

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. .

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Today in the morning we had VBS with the children of the community in the area near the school. There were so many children and they greeted us with cheers as we arrived; they were so happy to see us there. It was an amazing feeling! We started VBS off with some Spanish songs, which was quite amusing. We really had no idea what we were singing, but hey “fake it ‘til you make it.”

After the songs we moved on to the skit, which was the story of *The Feeding of the Five Thousand*. The skit went great-- the kids loved it. We then handed out the fish and crayons for the children to make name tags. After the name tags we did a coloring page and sang

some more songs. We did a little better with our Spanish this time.

After that we played with bubbles, chalk, and frisbees. The children loved it. They loved when I let them blow the bubbles themselves and then they would run and catch them. At one point it got a little bit hectic and we attempted to play duck duck goose but it was difficult to explain with the language barrier. Chelsea was the only successful one at starting the game with the help of Jose. We all figured out our own way to control the chaos though. Everything turned out wonderful.



Christine Vincent

We spent Thursday morning at the work site, working hard under the hot sun to accomplish as much as possible because it was our last day. Then we shuttled back to the house to quickly shower and grab lunch before returning for afternoon VBS and evening worship. Several of us were in the first return group back for VBS, and there were already 150-200 kids plus moms waiting for us in the shade under the trees. Kristin (Hamner, the Foundation for Peace site director) began songs with the wound-up and noisy kids, incorporating motions and actions, until she started losing her voice. Carmel teenage girls did their part by finding adorable Dominican babies to hold during the bedlam.

When the second group finally arrived, we were able to do our Bible story skit. We had selected a new Bible story

because of repeat kids returning—this time *David and Goliath* (el gigante) from the Spanish children's Bible stories purchased by the Carmel Library for the DR school and orphanage. (Thank you Gail Warburton and Bonnie Miller. The books were great!)



Aaron, of course, was the logical Goliath, Anthony was David, Gary King Saul, and the rest of us the Philistine army and Saul's army. It was hard to get the kids quieted down enough to hear Colleen read the story. Some of them did know the answers to Abigail's questions afterwards however. They loved seeing Goliath, all 6 ½ feet of him, struck down by little David.

Our craft for 150 plus kids, thankfully easy, was making a mariposa (butterfly) from crepe paper strips, a sandwich Ziploc baggy, and pipe cleaner twist. Abigail managed to link the symbolism of a butterfly to the story of David and Goliath. You'll have to ask her about that theological feat! *Janet Simon*

Daily accounts with photos are available online at www.presbycarmel.org; click on DR Mission Trip Blog.

A word about letters...


By Jean Badger

Your letter-writing team for Sunday's letters



will now be writing them for 50th wedding anniversaries—then every five years thereafter. The birthday letters will continue to be written for 90th birthdays and each following year.

Your signatures are always appreciated by the Team, as well as those receiving the letters. Thank you!

In the

HOSPITAL
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→

Ed MacFarland was hospitalized for knee replacement surgery at Abington Memorial Hospital this month and is now doing rehab at home. **Thelma Richards** is currently residing and receiving care in the Medical Center of Spring House Estates.

Please remember Ed and Thelma with prayers, cards, and contacts. The other members on Carmel's Sunday bulletin blue list would also appreciate hearing from you.

ABIGAIL from page 3

Church ministry, our youth ministry leaders, the outreach of our Deacons and our adult education ministry- to name a few! Please keep Carmel in your prayers as we are moved in new directions.

Abigail Visco Rusert



Longtime Carmel member **John (Jack) Harting, Jr.** passed away on September 28. His memorial service will be held at Carmel on November 10. Jack's wife Rosemary joined the church triumphant on September 10. Please keep their daughters Sue, Patti, and Nancy and the Harting grandchildren in your prayers.

Rev. Dr. James Thornton's father, James T. Thornton, joined the church triumphant on September 30. Carmel extends deepest sympathy to Rev. Thornton and the Thornton family in their time of loss and asks that you remember them in prayer.

YEARBOOK from page 18

They organized a weekend-long event that brings together several thousand volunteers from many churches to help individuals, schools and nonprofits do cleanup and repairs. Members are focused on helping serve the needs of the local homeless population by providing housing at the church when the homeless shelter is at capacity.

Outreach to meet the needs of children is an ongoing ministry focus. The church adopted an elementary school and hosts a club for students. They also sponsor a weeklong sports camp in the summer and distribute 1,300 backpacks of food each weekend to help feed hungry students.

Kids Korner



Give Praise

Solve this puzzle to read a Bible verse about praising God for all his blessings.

Directions: In each group, underline the word that doesn't belong. Then write the underlined words on the lines below.

- | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Give
Take
Grab | 2. peanut
praise
pear | 3. temple
house
LORD | 4. proclaim
past
present | 5. name
boy
lad | 6. ruin
destroy
make |
| 7. pine
acorn
known | 8. train
nations
bus | 9. done
donut
muffin | 10. Sing
Sleep
Yawn | 11. she
him
girl | 12. sun
praise
moon |
| 13. tell
fast
slow | 14. red
all
blue | 15. horrible
dreadful
wonderful | 16. acts
sisters
aunts | | |

" _____ to the _____ his _____ ;
 1 2 3 4 5
 _____ among the _____ what he has _____ .
 6 7 8 9
 _____ to _____ sing _____ to him; _____ of _____ his
 10 11 12 13 14

 15 16

" PSALM 105:1-2, NIV

Answers: 1. Give; 2. praise; 3. LORD; 4. proclaim; 5. name; 6. make; 7. known; 8. nations; 9. done; 10. Sing; 11. him; 12. praise; 13. tell; 14. all; 15. wonderful; 16. acts.
 Give praise to the LORD; proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done; Sing to him; sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. (Psalm 105:1-2, NIV)

This and That



What I'd Like to Be Thanked For

Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to pause, notice and express our appreciation for the abundant gifts in our lives and for those who have bestowed them on us. But what do we do with those nagging thoughts that slip into our awareness about our own



longing for gratitude: the kind deed unnoticed? responding to the crisis of a relative or friend but when it's over, nothing? lending money that never gets paid back? being the designated driver? babysitting graciously which then becomes an expectation?

Certainly we trust that God who sees all things hidden recognizes and values our generosity, and yes, maybe there are times we need to "teach others how to treat us" by being more assertive in setting limits, but maybe we also need to practice thanking ourselves! Perhaps our inner dialogue could sound something like this: *I'm so proud of you for that act of kindness. Even if no one else notices, I did and I'm grateful for the person you are!* You might be surprised how good it feels to be your own best friend.

If kind words to your own self seems like an impossibility, consider

learning how to "love your neighbor as yourself" with some guidance from another. (Call **215-247-6077** for the **Samaritan Counseling Center** nearest you.)



Carmel Nursery School News

By Jan Heckman, Director

In November, children of Carmel Nursery School gain knowledge of harvest time and how grateful we are for all of the food that we have. Just before Thanksgiving, the children will bring donations of nonperishable food items to help stock the Deacon's Food Cupboard. They will learn to share what they have with others who do not have as much.



Also in November, the older groups will be learning about nutrition. They will be going to local supermarkets to see how food gets from the farm to the store and finally to our tables. They will learn about the different food groups and how to make healthy choices.

Thanksgiving gives us a little excuse to indulge in some delicious treats

while spending time with our families. How about a pie from Michele's Family Bakery? Carmel Nursery School will be selling pies to build our fundraiser money just in time for Thanksgiving dinner. Look for an order form in the Sunday bulletin. Orders are due by Friday, November 4, and the pies will arrive on Wednesday, November 23. They may be picked up in the church lobby between 10:00 and 1:00.



To continue with introductions of the nursery school teachers, I will tell you about our teachers in the older three-year-old class. Denise Bottinger, a Carmel member, has worked as an aide at Carmel Nursery School for several years. Denise has been a Shepherd at Carmel Church, and her husband, John, served on different Boards and is presently a Deacon. They have two lovely children who are nursery school graduates. Cindy Kaminski also started working at Carmel Nursery School when her youngest child attended.

Both Cindy and Denise worked with different teachers until a few years ago when Cindy earned her temporary certification and became a lead teacher. Now they work together as an awesome team! Cindy is taking courses to earn her permanent certification as a Nursery/Kindergarten teacher and Denise is finishing her Bachelor's degree in Education. They bring all of their



knowledge to the classroom to give the children in their class an outstanding learning experience. We are very grateful to have them as a part of our school.

Carmel Nursery School has provided programs for children aged two to five for the past 50 years! The programs offer a structured morning filled with education and enjoyment. Extra hours are available. To learn more about the programs that Carmel Nursery School has to offer, call the school office at 215-886-7677. Better yet, schedule a tour and see why amazing things happen here!

News from our Scout Troops

By Julie Still



Boy Scout Troop 33 held their annual spaghetti dinner a few weeks ago; it was a great success! The boys are busy planning out camping trips, badge activities, and service projects for the coming year. Their first outing will be a day trip to a golf course to learn more about that sport. They will also continue working on their personal fitness badge. The troop meets Monday nights at 7:15 PM. (3rd Monday of the month is a parents' meeting)

Cadette Girl Scout Troop 7577 held its inaugural meeting on October 11. The girls are making spiral universe

mobiles for the KidsCare project. This year's theme is "into the atmosphere." The mobiles will be displayed at the Woodmere Art Museum and then distributed to sick children. The girls will be planning out the year's activities.

Cadette Girl Scouts are in 6th through 8th grade. The troop normally meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 PM. Both scout troops are grateful to the church family for their support.

Introducing Kristin Waldner

By Janet Simon

The new face in the Carmel church office and the new pleasant voice answering

Carmel's phone belong to Kristin Waldner, who began work as the Carmel church secretary in August. Kristin is a native of northeast Philadelphia, growing up in Lawndale. She attended Presentation BVM grade school in Cheltenham and graduated from Nazareth Academy. Kristin began college at Shippensburg University and received her BA degree in general studies from LaSalle University.

"I played soccer my whole life," she says, beginning with club teams in Fox Chase and continuing at Shippensburg, where she played left halfback. She was happy to combine academics and athletics

while in school. "You can be both smart and athletic," she laughs.

After college Kristin held a variety of jobs, including the Human Resources Department of Jeanes Hospital, where she was an HR generalist, and Gerhard's Appliances in Glenside, for whom she served as assistant comptroller with accounts receivable for six years.

Kristin is the proud parent of a one and a half- year- old son, Gregory. "He's cute and fun, but exhausting because he never sits still," she says. She has to chase him around the living room to read books to him. The two plan to move into the Carmel church apartment by the end of the year. Her sister's family, with young nephews and niece, lives two blocks away on Tyson, and Kristin is excited to be so near in the Glenside area, which she finds to be a close-knit and warm community.

When asked about hobbies and interests, Kristin said that she loves reading, is interested in photography, and is a "clean freak and neatnik" who loves to clean. She is already swapping cleaning tips with fellow cleaning lover Nancy O'Brien. During her childhood Kristin spent a month every summer at the Jersey shore in Wildwood, a location she loves. Now she only makes it there for a long weekend.

Regarding her job in the Carmel office, Kristin says that she is still learning and has "big shoes to fill" following Pat



Morris's 33 years in the position. "I believe in giving 110%" (to my job), she adds. Kristin welcomes people's help as she familiarizes herself with Carmel routines and activities. "I'm excited to be here; people are already like a second family," she says.

Kristin can't believe how involved people at Carmel are in volunteering their time and how caring they are about their church. Obviously the early impressions of Carmel's new employee about the Carmel Church family are favorable. Please introduce yourself and help her as she continues to settle in to the Carmel church office.



The family of **Curt Frederickson** has asked his Carmel friends to remember him with cards or calls as he celebrates his 80th birthday on November 21.

Curt is back home after a stay at Artman Rehab Center. His address is 333 Tennis Avenue, Glenside, 19038, and his phone number 215-886-9105. Drop Curt a line and help to make his birthday happy.



For December/January Courier

Over the last few years, the Carmel *Courier* has published the December and January issues as a single one, which is out by the beginning of December. This has worked fairly well since no one has to write, edit, print, assemble or mail a newsletter during the busy Christmas season.

Because of Thanksgiving week schedules, we need to move the deadline date for articles to **November 6, the first Sunday**. Please mark your calendar now. In order to mail the newsletters on time, we will **not** be able to accept very late articles.

Please try to project all January 2012 activities and programs, even if all details are not yet available, and forward them promptly to the December editor (Doris Golingon). We greatly appreciate your help with this, and your reward is no *Courier* due date to meet in December!!

Host family needed



A host family is needed as soon as possible for a Korean boy in 10th grade at Bishop McDevitt High School. He likes computers, movies, photography, basket-ball and baseball. The host family would provide room and board from November, 2011--June, 2012 and receive a monthly hosting stipend. Get contact details from Abigail Visco Rusert or the Church Office.

Sunday Lectionary Readings



November 6 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Communion

Psalm 78:1-7

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13

November 13 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Judges 4:1-7

Psalm 123

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

November 20

Christ The King Sunday

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 100

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46

November 27

1st Sunday of Advent

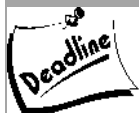
Isaiah 64:1-9

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:24-37

This month's editor Janet Simon



Next Courier Deadline —
November 6, 2011
 Editor of the month —
 Doris Golingan



Brooke Reith and Nicolas

Preite welcomed new daughter **Bella Mia Preite** on October 8. Bella is the granddaughter of Tabitha and Tom Longstreth and the great-granddaughter of Margery and Harry Reith. Our congratulations and best wishes to the family on their new arrival.



Wedding bells rang for **Paul and Doris Staudenmayer** on November 19, 1955, and they celebrate 56 years of marriage this month. Our congratulations to this month's 50-year-plus couple, and we wish them God's blessings.

Guy Gilbert

celebrates 91 years of birthday candles this month, with November 25 his special date. His Carmel friends congratulate Guy and offer their best wishes on his birthday.



Mission Yearbook



By Betty McGlade

Leadership training

The Synod of the Rocky Mountains includes the states of Colorado, Montana, Utah and Wyoming and is home to 45,064 members in 236 churches. The Western National Leadership Training event is a key element of this synod's leadership development emphasis. Each year for 18 years members, deacons, elders and ministers have gathered for worship, fellowship and education. The participants have the opportunity to engage in continuing education, lifelong learning and reflection on the faith with the help of seminary professors and other theologians of ministry. This special training allows the learners to share with a larger group and get a broader understanding of ministry in the church.



Mission of change

The mission of Christ begins in one heart, one conversation, or one church – but then it grows. In the Presbytery of Denver, mission has grown and led to the creation of 20 partnerships among churches across the width of the presbytery. It reaches those most have forgotten or do not see. It recognizes Christ's presence in those who are close by and are hungry, homeless and hopeless.

It cares for children aching for a parent and for teens considering suicide. It gives second chances to those seeking an education as well as those looking for employment. It offers food to the hungry and provides temporary shelter to the homeless. It seeks to include immigrants and refugees and supports the development of new congregations, while also supporting existing congregations trying to do mission and ministry in new ways to meet new concerns.

This mission has deeply changed the churches and the congregations. Churches have grown closer to one another and, in so doing, have understood what it means to be the church.



Taking mission outside church walls

As it celebrates 125 years in the Grand Valley of Western Colorado, the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Junction has made a strong commitment to take the church outside the walls and to be Christ's hands and feet in the community. The church has reorganized its staff and ministry teams to put a greater emphasis on community outreach. It also has taken an active role in networking with other churches to help serve the community.

See **YEARBOOK** page 11



Carmel Memorial Library

By Gail Warburton, Librarian

IN THE GARDEN OF BEASTS: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin. In 1933, William E. Dodd becomes America's first ambassador to Hitler's Germany in a year that proved to be a turning point in history. As that first year unfolds and the shadows deepen, the Dodds experience horror when a climactic spasm of violence and murder reveals Hitler's true character and ruthless ambition. By Erik Larson (943.08 La)

In memory of Janet Hettenbach, a lifelong lover of New Jersey beaches, an avid reader, and a volunteer for many years in Carmel's library. THE OCEAN CITY BOARDWALK: 2 ½ Miles of Summer. Relive the experience of a meander down the Ocean City, New Jersey, boardwalk. Vivid photography and a smattering of history and lore that have become hallmarks of this summer resort. By Dean Davis. (974.9 Da)
 AVALON ON THE SEVEN MILE BEACH: A history of the geographical Borough including related developments on the Seven Mile Beach. By Robert L. Penrose (974.9 Pe)

Gift of Ruth Kucera. SPLIT SECOND, An FBI Thriller. This riveting thriller opens with a bang. Well developed characters and an expertly paced plot build into a

breathtaking conclusion. By Catherine Coulter (F Co)

Gift of Roy McGlade. BOSSYPANTS. At last, Tina Fey's story can be told. From her youthful days as a vicious nerd to her tour of duty on Saturday Night Live, Tina Fey reveals all. (792.7 Fe)

Gift of Gail Warburton in memory of Janet Hettenbach. IMAGES OF AMERICA; OCEAN CITY NEW JERSEY. Authors Frank J. and Robert J. Esposito, father and son, have worked together to produce an exciting and lively photographic trip into the past of this dynamic seashore community. (974.9 Es)

SEAGATE HOUSE: Legacies of Long Beach Island. A riveting tale of family lineage, filled with passion, intrigue, mystery and adventure. This novel was written by a local author, Jeanette Fusco, who has lived in Bucks County for 40 years, and has summered on Long Beach Island, NJ since 1935, and continues to do so along with her large family. (F Fu)

Gift of the Author, Ted Taylor. THE GLENSIDE KID: A poignant, humorous tale of growing up in the author's beloved hometown in the middle of the 20th century. (974.8 Ta)

A STOLEN LIFE: The memoir of Jaycee Dugard, who was kidnapped on June 10,

1991, when she was 11 years old, and was missing-- held prisoner by a registered sex offender-- for more than 18 years before her reappearance in 2009. (364.15 Du)

THE MESSAGE: A Contemporary rendering of the Bible from the original languages, crafted to present its tone, rhythm, events and ideas in everyday language. By Eugene H. Peterson (225 Bi)

For Younger Readers

Gift of Heide Miller. **INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S BIBLE HANDBOOK:** Answering Questions Children ask... Genesis to Revelation. This book uses the *International Children's Bible, New Century Version*, a warm and accurate translation at a unique, third-grade reading level. By Lawrence Richards. (J220.8 Ri)

Here are the new Berenstain Bears books that have been added to our library.

THE BERENSTAIN BEARS SHOW GOD'S LOVE:

THE BERENSTAIN BEARS FOLLOW GOD'S WORD:

Each of these books have five stories of biblical values, morals, and life lessons.

THE BERENSTAIN BEARS DISCOVER GOD'S CREATION: Mama Bear pulls the plug on TV. What are the Bear cubs

going to do now? All it takes is a peek outside for them to see that God has given them a beautiful world that is far more fun than the TV screen. (jF Be)

THE BERENSTAIN BEARS DO THEIR BEST: Papa and the Bear cubs enter a kite-flying contest with a homemade kite. They work hard and do their best, but will their kite actually fly, let alone win the contest? (jF Be)

THE BERENSTAIN BEARS HURRY TO HELP: It's time for the Bear Scouts to earn their Good Deed Merit Badge. But things get a little crazy as they look for someone who really needs their helping hands! (jF Be)



Thanksgiving is coming! We have a good collection of Thanksgiving books in our library. The following are a few new ones.

IT'S THANKSGIVING DAY: This is a "Hello Reader" book for the beginning reader. Preschool to Grade 1. By Mary Packard. (J394.2 Pa)

IT'S THANKSGIVING: This is an easy reader presented in twelve poems about Thanksgiving. By Jack Prelutsky (j394.2 Pr)