

First Notes

*The First
Presbyterian Church
in the City of New York*

Volume XIV Issue 11

November 2006

EUCHARIST

Am I the only one who feels this way or has this been the shortest autumn on record? Each year the distance between Labor Day and Thanksgiving appears to get shorter. We hardly celebrate the Fourth of July before the card stores are filling their shelves with Halloween greetings. And the day after Halloween, the Thanksgiving cards are pushing up from the card rack like mushrooms in the forest, competing for a few weeks with the encroaching Christmas cards and tree ornaments and wrapping paper. My first Christmas catalogue arrived in the mail sometime before the end of September.

Clearly, the rush is on.

Before we lose the marking of these holidays altogether, I would like to pause in this season of Thanksgiving and underscore the fact that giving thanks is inherent to our faith. The Greek word for thanksgiving is "Eucharisto," the modern equivalent of the ancient word for the Lord's Supper, the Eucharist. Today in modern Greece it is not uncommon to hear the familiar word "eucharisto" spoken whenever a transaction takes place between two people. You buy a newspaper at a kiosk in Athens and the seller says to you, "Eucharisto." Someone holds the door open for you and you are supposed to say, "Eucharisto," to express your thanks for this simple gesture of kindness. Everything that is appreciated is marked in Greece with the word that is the same as we use to describe the presence of Christ at the table of community, Eucharist.

For Christians the act of giving thanks is intertwined with the understated and yet inescapable acknowledgment that God is present in every act of kindness, every deed of mercy, every healing encounter, every time that bread is broken and wine is poured and life and our eyes open to see that our lives are truly blessed.

We take a lot of the gifts of our life for granted because we are relatively well-off, well-fed, well-protected North Americans. In less-well-off, less-well-fed, and less-protected societies in Africa and Latin America, and even in the poorer communities of New York City, we know that people cannot take life for granted. Where children die of starvation, and parents die of AIDS, and food is hard to find or prepare, where even feasting on a chicken or a catch of wild game is a rare and special meal, people know because of their poverty, both what true abundance is and what sincere thanksgiving means. And there's the rub.

Most of us have such relative abundance in comparison to the poverty that so many in the world know that we respond to God and God's many gifts to us as our entitlement, our due, as if all that we receive is something that we are owed. It is only when we become aware of our poverty that we can give thanks for that which is a gift to us.

The child who has everything is thankful for almost nothing. But the child who has nothing is thankful for everything. So it is with us. It is only when we become aware that without God's generous giving we would have nothing that we can begin to give thanks for everything that really counts in our lives; health, friends, food, our five senses, our family, the gifts that we often mistake as our entitlement or the result of our earning.

It is only when we remember that all that we have that counts is a gift from the generous One who delights in giving us every good gift, that we see how full and blessed our lives are. Then in the midst of our rushing, speeding days we can discover God as present and respond with a heartfelt Eucharisto.

Jon M. Walton

Grant us Wisdom

FIRST KIDS: FRIDAY NIGHTS

Friday, November 10, at 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. — Dinner & Evening Program

Save the date for a special *First Kids* evening event for kids and parents. Families will gather for a big group dinner sponsored by *First Kids* (a freewill offering is appreciated). Families will then split up—the kids will watch a movie as they organize a service project (older kids will be on hand to supervise), preparing needed materials for the church's mission trip to the Gulf Coast in January; and parents will enjoy a one-hour adult church school program focusing on the continued impact of Hurricane Katrina. Please sign up in the church house lobby or RSVP to families@fpcnyc.org.



SAVING JESUS

The first five sessions of this series, *Saving Jesus*, will focus on these topics: Jesus Through the Ages and Across Cultures; Who Was Jesus?; What Can We Know About Jesus and How?; The World Into Which Jesus Was Born; and Jesus' Birth: Incarnation. Please join us for this exciting new series which is sure to broaden and deepen your understanding of Jesus.

Sundays, October 29, November 5, 12, 19, & December 3 at 9:30 a.m., The Rev. Barbara E. Davis

First Press Conference – Sunday, November 5, at 12:30 p.m.

Foundations for the Journey: Inquirer's Ed – Sundays, November 12 & 19 at 12:30 p.m.

“Aging Well”

Adult Education and The Geriatric Outreach Committees present their second seminar in the *Aging Well* series on Thursday, November 2.

“Are You an Exhausted Care-giver?” (How to avoid burnout when caring for an older person)

We live in a society today in which people are living longer and longer. And most believe that people should be allowed to live as independently as possible as they age rather than being consigned to an institution. To make this happen, more and more people find themselves in the role of care-giver or care-receiver. Our speaker, Rosemarie Green, LCSW and former Director, Care Givers Center, St. Vincent's Hospital, will discuss both roles – the needs, fears, pitfalls, and joys. Supper will be at 6:30 pm, discussion from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Not signed up yet? Call the church receptionist at 212-675-6150 by Wednesday, Nov. 1.

THIRD TUESDAYS @ FIRST

Tuesday, November 28, 2006

(Fourth Tuesday)

A WAY OF PROCEEDING — Willie J. Smith, LCSW, MDiv.

At holiday time especially, but even all through the year, it is hard to balance the overwhelming tasks of everyday life with a healthy spiritual life. Join us for this evening when Willie J. Smith, LCSW, MDiv., from the Psychotherapy and Spirituality Institute will explore with us the question: How do we proceed through the holidays without losing ourselves to the forces that derail us and stealing the joy we can encounter in our work, family, and spiritual life?

Please RSVP for supper by signing up in the church house lobby or emailing education@fpcnyc.org



GLBT Retreat

A Long Journey Back to Reality: The Faith You Always Knew You Had — Seminar Leader Daniel Vigilante

Nov. 18th, 2006, 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at Identity House

This retreat is open to all gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons in the community who are interested in examining ways to strengthen their faith life and meet other who are interested in doing the same. *Daniel Vigilante* serves as Director of Ministries with Youth and Young Adults at St. Mark Presbyterian Church in Newport Beach, California. Sign up today for this great day of faith exploration and fellowship. Email education@fpcnyc.org to register or contact The Rev. Barbara E. Davis bdavis@fpcnyc.org for more information.



Stewardship 2007 —What Can You Do!

With so much to give thanks for at a very energized "Old First" can you imagine what your life would be like without this wonderful old church? The hope that this church gives to all of us is manifest in the worship services, the music, the full church school classrooms, the inspiring preaching, the senior programs and after-school programs, the adult education offerings and...well, we could go on, but you get the idea! You might consider your annual pledge an investment in your church community, or a way to help make the world a better place. But since all that we have in this world is given to us by God, your pledge can provide a means to return to God a portion of the gifts you have received, and to support the work of First Presbyterian in the coming year.

Very soon you will be receiving the 2007 pledge card in the mail. We ask that you prayerfully consider making a greater commitment to the discipline of financial giving to the church than you have in the past. Here's what you can do:

- Become a regular giver
- Make an annual pledge – we know what it is like to work in a field with uncertain income from year to year. Your annual pledge can be adjusted up or down as circumstances dictate
- Increase your pledge to a greater percentage of your income
- Go for it! Celebrate the biblical tradition of tithing (10%). Most of all start somewhere with a percentage of your income dedicated to God's work.

On Sunday, November 12th, we are asking you to bring your pledge card to the worship service and place it in the offering plate to be dedicated to God's work. If you are unable to attend worship that day, we invite you to mail your pledge card ahead of time.

You can find more information about stewardship at First Presbyterian on our website at www.fpcnyc.org/stewardship including Frequently Asked Questions, charts/graphs, and some interesting facts about the budget. Please come and visit. We'll see you in church.

Yours in Christ,

Ingrid and Douglas Ladendorf,

A message from Church and Society Committee

Recently, the Church and Society's volunteer opportunities booklet was distributed at the Mission Fair on October 15, 2006. We invite and challenge all members of the congregation to look through the booklet, form a covenant with two of three friends, and commit yourselves to take advantage of one volunteer opportunity this year. Someone will be grateful. You might also consider exploring the many volunteer opportunities present here at First Presbyterian. We are always looking for new voices, gifts, and hands.

Finally, we encourage you to view your potential commitment as a new way to cultivate the Spirit in your lives.

MEETING TO ORGANIZE THE 2007 MISSION TRIP TO NICARAGUA

Even though the trip dates are March 17 - 25, 2007, we need to sign up a minimum of 10 people by December 15, 2006, to meet the criterion of Bridges to Community, the facilitating agency. If you are at all interested, please join us for this meeting to learn more about the trip from the "alumni." We already know that our dormitory site will be the one we were assigned in 2005, so we can give a detailed description of the setup. The trips in 2005 and 2006 changed the way we see the world and our place in it. We want to share this experience with many more people. So come to the meeting on Sunday, November 5, in the Parish House Roof Lounge at 12:15 pm and bring all your questions Can't attend but still interested? Call Dick and Georgia Pease at 212-477-1693.

First Presbyterian Church

Sun

Mon

Tue

The First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York

12 West 12th Street (at Fifth Avenue), New York, NY 10011

Tel: (212) 675-6150 Fax: (212) 675-8674

Indicates Volunteer Opportunities ♥

All data subject to change without notice.

Check with Church Receptionist at (212)675-6150 for confirmation and details.

5 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time/All Saints

9:30 Adult Education	12:30 Youth Leader Training
10:00 Youth Discussion	
10:45 Child Care	12:30 Baby Gathering
11:00 Worship♥ <i>All Saints' Communion</i> <i>Dr. Walton preaching</i>	2:00 Grief and Faith
11:20 Church School & Children's Choir	9:00 Homeless Shelter
12:00 Children's Choir Rehearsal	Begins♥
12:15 Coffee Hour♥	
12:30 First Press Conference	

6

9 to 5 Caring Community♥

12:00 Sanctuary Open

7:15 Nursery School Workshop

9:00 Homeless Shelter♥

7 Election Day

9 to 5 Caring Community♥

6:00 A.A. Groups

6:30 Personnel Comm.

6:30 Building & Grounds Comm.

6:30 Candidates Comm.

9:00 Homeless Shelter♥

12 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 Adult Education	
10:45 Child Care	
11:00 Worship♥ <i>Dr. Walton Preaching—Stewardship Dedication</i> <i>Children's Choir Sings Receive New Members</i>	
11:20 Church School Discovery Day	
12:00 Combined Children's Choir Rehearsal	12:30 Inquirers' Ed. Part 1
12:30 Coffee Hour♥ and Artist's Reception	
2:00 Grief and Faith	
9:00 Homeless Shelter♥	

13

9 to 5 Caring Community♥

12:00 Sanctuary Open

7:15 Nursery School Workshop

9:00 Homeless Shelter♥

14

9 to 5 Caring Community♥

9:00 Nursery School Tour

1:00 Presbytery (off site)

6:00 A.A. Groups

9:00 Homeless Shelter♥

19 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 Adult Education	
10:45 Child Care	
11:00 Worship♥ <i>Rev. Fenimore preaching</i>	
11:20 Church School (Grades K– Youth remain in Worship)	
12:00 Children's Choir Rehearse after Worship	
12:30 Coffee Hour♥	
12:30 Pre-baptism Meeting	12:30 Toddler Gathering
12:30 Inquirers' Ed. Part 2	
1:30 Literary Group	9:00 Homeless Shelter♥

20

9 to 5 Caring Community♥

12:00 Sanctuary Open

7:15 Nursery School Workshop

9:00 Homeless Shelter♥

21

9 to 5 Caring Community♥

9:00 Nursery School Tour

6:00 A.A. Groups

9:00 Homeless Shelter♥

26 Christ the King/Reign of Christ

NO Adult Education

NO Church School

NO Children's Choir Rehearsals

10:45 Child Care

11:00 Worship♥ *Dr. Walton preaching — Baptism*

12:15 Coffee Hour♥

9:00 Homeless Shelter♥

Tartan Fair Set-up
Week Begins

27

9 to 5 Caring Community♥
(In Assembly Hall)

12:00 Sanctuary Open

9:00 Homeless Shelter♥

28

9 to 5 Caring Community♥
(In Assembly Hall)

10:00 First Notes Mailing Team♥

6:00 A.A. Groups

7:00 Third Tuesday @ First Supper and Program

9:00 Homeless Shelter♥

November 2006

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 <i>All Saints Day</i></p> <p>8:00 APNC 9 to 5 Caring Community♥ 10:30 Staff Meeting 12:00 Midday Prayers 6:00 Vespers 6:30 Fellowship Supper Committees meet 6:30 Tartan Fair Crafts</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9 to 5 Caring Community♥</p> <p>6:30 "Aging Well" Series 6:30 Nominating Committee</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9 to 5 Caring Community♥</p> <p>12:00 Sanctuary Open</p> <p>6:00 D.A. Group</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:30 Inquirers' Class</p> <p>10:00 Tartan Fair Work Day</p> <p>12:00 Session Lunch with Inquirers</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:00 APNC 9 to 5 Caring Community♥ 9:00 Advent Planning Mtg. 9:00 Parents League 10:30 Staff Meeting 12:00 Midday Prayers 6:30 Family Ministry Comm 6:30 Joint Finance Comm. 6:30 Tartan Fair Crafts 9:00 Homeless Shelter♥</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9 to 5 Caring Community♥</p> <p>6:30 Nursery School Board</p> <p>9:00 Homeless Shelter♥</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9 to 5 Caring Community♥ 9:30 N. S. Workshop</p> <p>12:00 Sanctuary Open</p> <p>6:00 D.A. Group 6:00 First Kids</p> <p>9:00 Homeless Shelter♥</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00 Tartan Fair Work Day</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:00 APNC 9 to 5 Caring Community♥ 10:30 Staff Meeting 12:00 Midday Prayers 6:00 Taizé Vespers Service 6:30 Deacons/Trustees Session 6:30 Tartan Fair Crafts 9:00 Homeless Shelter♥</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9 to 5 Caring Community♥</p> <p>6:30 Nominating Comm.</p> <p>9:00 Homeless Shelter♥</p>	<p>17 <i>First Notes and Calendar Deadline</i></p> <p>9 to 5 Caring Community♥ 9:30 N. S. Workshop</p> <p>12:00 Sanctuary Open</p> <p>6:00 D.A. Group 9:00 Homeless Shelter♥</p>	<p>18</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: fit-content;"> <p>GLBT Retreat (off site) 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.</p> </div> <p>10:00 Tartan Fair Work Day</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:00 APNC 9 to 5 Caring Community♥ 10:00 N.S. Children's Lunch 10:30 Staff Meeting 12:00 Midday Prayers 6:30 Tartan Fair Crafts 7:00 Thanksgiving Eve Inter-faith Service (<i>Children's Choir Sings</i>) 9:00 Homeless Shelter♥</p>	<p>23</p> <p><i>Thanksgiving Day Staff Holiday</i></p> <p>12:30 Dinner at Our Lady of Pompei Church</p> <p>9:00 Homeless Shelter♥</p>	<p>24</p> <p><i>Staff Holiday</i></p> <p>6:00 Wedding Rehearsal Lee/Hughes</p>	<p>25</p> <p>4:00 Wedding (<i>Rev. Fenimore</i>) Lee/Hughes</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8:00 APNC 9 to 5 Caring Community♥ (In Assembly Hall) 10:30 Staff Meeting</p> <p>12:00 Midday Prayers</p> <p>6:30 Tartan Fair Crafts 9:00 Homeless Shelter♥</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9 to 5 Caring Community♥ (In Assembly Hall) 9:00 N.S. Tour</p> <p>6:30 Tartan Fair Volunteers Preview Party</p> <p>9:00 Homeless Shelter♥</p>	<p>December 1</p> <p>9 to 5 Caring Community♥ (In Assembly Hall) 9:00 N.S. Parents 12:00 Sanctuary Open</p> <p>4:00 Tartan Fair Begins</p> <p>6:00 D.A. Group 9:00 Homeless Shelter♥</p>	<p>December 2</p> <p>9:00 Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>Tartan Fair 10 AM to 5 PM</p>

Volunteer Opportunities

Welcome to the **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES CALENDAR**, published monthly to let you know of events where you can help.

- **COFFEE HOUR HOSTING** – Hosts, coffee pourers, and greeters are needed for Coffee Hour after church. To volunteer, call **JOHN COX** at (212) 260-3094.
- **USHERS FOR WORSHIP SERVICES** – Volunteers are needed to usher for **Sunday morning services**. To volunteer, please call **JOAN RYAN** at (212) 765-2141, or **SUZANNE FREEMAN** at (646) 827-4559.
- **FIRST NOTES** – Volunteers are needed to help assemble and label **FIRST NOTES** mailings. For the next mailing, volunteers will meet at the Church at 10:00 a.m. and work until about 1:00 p.m., on **TUESDAY, November 28**. Call **PAULETTE GRIEFEN** (212) 226-2531 to help.
- **BAILEY HOUSE** – Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve the evening meal to residents of Bailey House on the 5th Sundays of the month. Call **LIZ HUBBELL-RIGGS** to help (212) 247-0355.
- **LAY READERS** – Those interested in participating as lay readers in worship are asked to call **DENISE JACKSON** at (212) 675-4366.
- **CROSS BEARER** – To explore the possibility of carrying the processional cross at worship, please call **PAT PENICK** at (212) 242-6916.
- **IN THE KITCHEN** – *If you can help with Vespers, please call James Hollander at 646-335-2969 or e-mail hollander-*

james@yahoo.com. For all other events call Jackie Fike 914-793-4017 or e-mail jackief@verizon.net

- Wednesday, November 1—Vespers Fellowship Supper**
Sunday, October 29 — 12:30-3:30 p.m. Prep.
Wednesday, November 1 — 3:00-8:00 p.m. Prep., Serve, Cleanup
- Saturday, November 4—Inquirers Class Luncheon**
Friday, November 3 — 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Prep.
Saturday, November 4 — 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Prep., Serve, Cleanup
- Sunday, November 26—Tartan Fair Volunteers' Lunch**
Wednesday, November 22 — 12:00-3:00 p.m. Prep.
Sunday, November 26 — 9:00-11:00 a.m. Prep.
12:30-3:30 p.m. Prep., Serve, Cleanup
- Monday, November 27—Tartan Fair Volunteers' Supper**
4:00-8:00 p.m. Prep., Serve, Cleanup
- Tuesday, November 28—Tartan Fair Volunteers' Supper**
1:00-5:00 p.m. Prep.
4:00-8:00 p.m. Prep., Serve, Cleanup
- Wednesday, Nov. 29—Tartan Fair Volunteers' Supper**
1:00-5:00 p.m. Prep.
4:00-8:00 p.m. Prep., Serve, Cleanup
- Thursday, Nov. 30—Tartan Fair Party Prep**
12:00-5:00 p.m. Prep.

ONLY ONE MONTH 'TIL



THE FINAL PUSH FOR THE 2006 TARTAN FAIR (DEC. 1, 2, & 3) BEGINS NOW!
HELP US MAKE THIS OUR BEST EVER *Tartan Christmas*.

Here's how: bring us those gently used household items for White Elephants, clean off those library shelves for our Book Loft, go raid the china closet and jewelry boxes, or give us tickets and gift certificates and personal services for the Silent Auction. Newly-weds, did you get one too many somethings? Bring us that gift you really don't want. Someone will!

The deadline for ALL donations is the Sunday before Thanksgiving. If you want your Silent Auction donation featured in the Preview Catalog, we need it by Sunday, Nov. 5.

Also, every Monday & Wednesday nights from 6:30 – 9ish and Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. join our Crafts sessions to share your creativity and our White Elephants & Silent Auction teams to sort & price those treasures. Starting the Sunday after Thanksgiving, we SO need you to help us set-up and decorate the Fair and to work a shift Fair weekend. Look for the Sign-Up tables in the lobby every Sunday. Questions? Call or email Joan Ryan at (212)765-2141 or joanryan@aol.com

A Special Tax Advantage to Donors in 2006

First Church members have a special opportunity this year with tax advantages that can also provide for a special offering to the church benefiting both the donor and the church. The recently enacted Pension Protection Act of 2006 makes it possible for you, under certain circumstances, to contribute directly from your IRA to the church without including the contributed amount in your income. This opportunity is available, however, only in the calendar years of 2006 and 2007.

Before this act, it was impossible to make a charitable contribution from an IRA without recognizing the income first. The newly enacted rules let IRA owners over age 70½ contribute up to \$100,000 in each year directly from their IRA accounts to a charity. You will need to keep these points in mind as you consider a contribution from your IRA:

- This new provision applies only to distributions from traditional or Roth IRA's, not from employer-sponsored retirement plans (such as 401(k) or 403(b) plans), SIMPLE-IRA's, or SEP-IRA's.
- You must be over age 70½ to take advantage of the new rules.
- Since you do not have to include the distribution in your income, you do not receive a charitable deduction for the contribution.
- The contribution must be distributed by the custodian of your IRA directly to the charitable organization.
- The charitable distribution counts toward your required minimum distribution for the year.
- If your IRA includes after-tax contributions, the new rules let you distribute the taxable portion of your IRA to charity first and the after-tax portion last.

This new law creates an attractive opportunity for parishioners to meet their pledges, add to the church's endowment funds, or make special contributions without increasing their taxable income. Because First Presbyterian is a tax-exempt organization, your contribution will escape income taxes completely. Since IRA owners over age 70½ must withdraw some of their account balances each year, the new rules let them complete their charitable contributions with IRA assets, leaving their income or savings for other purposes.

These new provisions also let you remove IRA assets from your estate (which was also impossible under the old rules without including the distribution in your income), which might help to reduce the estate tax liability of larger estates. A contribution removes not only the gift from your estate, but all future appreciation on the gift as well.

If you have assets in a retirement plan that is not an IRA and would like to take advantage of the new law, consider transferring funds from the retirement plan to an IRA first. From there, you can distribute funds to a charity under the new rules.

BABY GATHERING

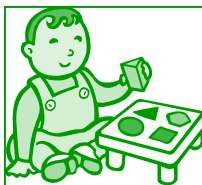
Please join us for our first Baby Gathering of the year on Sunday, November 5, at 12:30 p.m. Hosted by Katie and Aaron Hood, this is an opportunity for you and your baby (infants to 17 months old) to play, meet other families, and enjoy a light lunch. Please bring whatever food your child enjoys as well. Please let us know if you can attend and if you plan to bring older siblings. Sign up in the Mellin-Macnab lobby or email families@fpcnyc.org.



DEACONS FOR THE MONTH-

Bill Claytor (212) 741-2624
Meg Harper (718) 624-1516

TODDLER GATHERING



The Toddler Gathering planned for Sunday, November 19, at 12:30 p.m., is an opportunity for families with young children, ages 18 months to three years, to mingle, play, and get to know each other. A light meal is served and age-appropriate toys and/or activities are provided. Siblings are always welcome. If you and your family would like to attend, sign up in the Mellin-Macnab lobby or e-mail families@fpcnyc.org.



ART AT FIRST

Art at First announces TRAFFIC, works on paper by Tammy Wofsey, from November 1 through November 22, in the Great Hall. There will be an artist's reception at coffee hour on Sunday, November 12.

A Month of Sundays

Worship This Month at First Presbyterian

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture: Psalm 146 Mark 12:28-34
Sermon: Dr. Jon M. Walton preaching on "About as Close to God as You Can Get"
Sacrament: All Saints Communion
Music: Kontakion, Kievan chant
O What Their Joy and Their Glory Must Be,
Harris

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture: Psalm 126 Mark 12:38-44
Sermon: Dr. Jon M. Walton preaching on "Out of Her Poverty"
Pastoral Rite: New Members Welcomed
Music: Blessed is the Man, Rachmaninoff
Bless the Lord, O My Soul, Ippolitov-Ivanov

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture: Psalm 138 I Samuel 1:9-20
Sermon: The Rev. Edee Chase Fenimore preaching on "Food, Faith and Forgetting"
Music: O Sing unto the Lord, Purcell
Psalm 23, Schubert

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Christ the King/Reign of Christ

Scripture: Psalm 132:1-18 Revelation 1:4-8
Sermon: Dr. Jon M. Walton preaching on "A Song for the Journey to God"
Sacrament: Baptism
Music: Lobet Gott in seinen Reichen, (Praise God in all His splendor), from Cantata #11, Bach
Organ: Piece Herioque, Franck

December 3, 4:00 p.m. — Worship Service of Music

Handel's "Messiah"

Soloists, Choir and Orchestra of First Presbyterian

William Entriken, Director

CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE

DECEMBER 17 AT 4:00 P.M.

DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER

***First Notes* IS NOVEMBER 17.**

First Notes

*The First
Presbyterian Church
in the City of New York*

Calendar of Events

CHURCH HOUSE
12 WEST 12TH STREET NEW YORK, NY 10011

Return Service Requested

FIRST NOTES is published monthly by
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in the City of New York
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Jon M. Walton, Pastor
Barbara E. Davis, Minister of Christian Education
Edee Chase Fenimore, Interim Associate Pastor
Mark D. Hostetter, Associate Pastor
William F. Entriken, Organist and Choirmaster
Anna Chimi White, FIRST NOTES Editor





*The First
Presbyterian Church
in the City of New York*

12 WEST 12TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10011

Special Services

Taizé Prayer



We welcome you to Taizé prayer and meditative singing at **First Presbyterian Church**. Taizé (pronounced "teh-ZAY") prayer is a quiet, meditative service designed for all people. These meditative candlelit services include simple chants sung repeatedly, rich silence, scripture, and prayers of praise and intercession.

In the tradition of Taizé hospitality, all people regard less of faith background and age are welcome. Dress is casual and comfortable. Come as you are and bring a friend! Children are welcome.

Wednesdays, October 25 and November 15, 2006
6:00 to 6:40 p.m.

Sunday, December 10, 2006
4:00 to 4:40 p.m.

www.fpcnyc.org

MESSIAH, BY G. F. HANDEL

DECEMBER 3, 2006, AT 4:00 P.M.

On Sunday, December 3 at 4:00 p.m., the Choir and Soloists and Orchestra of the church will present the Christmas Portion (Part I) of Handel's beloved "Messiah." For many music lovers far and wide, attending this performance of "Messiah" is a long-time tradition and one not to be missed. In a tradition established by the composer, Dr. Entriken will also perform one of Handel's Organ Concertos with the orchestra. The oratorio will be presented in the context of worship with hymns and prayers. Experiencing "Messiah" in the beautiful worship space of First Presbyterian Church is a wonderful and meaningful way to begin this most blessed Advent/Christmas season. In the past, the church has been filled to capacity well before 4:00 p.m. so make plans to be early. No tickets are required and a free-will offering will be received.



**Thanksgiving Eve
Service**

The congregation of First Presbyterian Church, and several other faith groups from Jewish and Christian congregations in the Greenwich Village community, will worship together in an Inter-Faith Service for Thanksgiving Eve on Wednesday, November 22, at 7:00 p.m. The service will be held in the Sanctuary of First Church.

Children's choirs from other congregations, as well as the Children's Choir of First Presbyterian, will participate in the service, which will include prayers, stories from various faith traditions, and hymns of the season. A reception will follow the service in the Esther Morrow Room of the South Wing.

**CANDELIGHT
CAROL SERVICE**

DECEMBER 17 AT 4:00 P.M.

On December 17 at 4:00 p.m., the Choir and Soloists will present the annual Candlelight Carol Service. This tradition, one of the first of its kind in the City, is a time when families, friends and neighbors gather in the sanctuary, aglow in candlelight, to hear and sing carols and listen to anthems of the season sung by the choir. At the end of the service, the congregation assembles on the church lawn to sing carols filling Fifth Avenue with song and candlelight. All of this is followed by refreshments and good fellowship.

