

Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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E-mail: wITHERSPOON@verizon.net

Website: www.wITHERSPOONCHURCH.org

Rev. M. Muriel Burrows, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Louise Johnson, Director of Christian Education

David Shedden, Seminary Intern

Elsie McKee, Lector

Beverly Owens, Music Director

Amy Shortt, Interim Organist

Cecelia B. Hodges, Verse Speaking Choir Director

November 19, 2006

10:00 a.m.

Stewardship Sunday

*Enter Reverently, Meditate Quietly, Worship Devoutly,
Leave Gratefully, Serve Christ Faithfully*

PRELUDE

INTROIT

I Was Glad

Wooten

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CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

People: Worship God with gladness and come into his presence with happy songs.

Leader: The Lord is our God. He made us and we belong to him.

People: We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and bless his name.

People: The Lord is good. His steadfast love endures forever.

All: Let us worship the living, loving God!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

All: Gracious God, you who supply your people with every blessing in abundance, lift up our hearts in gratitude and thanksgiving this day. Help us, we pray, to thank you for the gifts we seldom notice, to praise you for the bounty we often take for granted, and to glorify your name for how you have watched over us through another year of seed-time and of harvest. For all that you have done, for all that you are, and for all that you will ever do, we lift up our voices in praise to you.

Hear our prayer and our song and help us to live as ones with eternally grateful hearts – we ask it in Jesus’ name. Amen.

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*HYMN OF PRAISE

Come, Ye Thankful People Come

#551

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Amid the blessings God has provided, we are tempted to exalt ourselves rather than thank the Creator. We begin to think that we alone are responsible for our good fortune. In prosperous times, we are less than thankful, and in adversity we feel alienated from the source of help. Let us confront our sin.

All: O God, to whom all people may come and find acceptance, we bring our unfaithfulness, seeking to renew our awareness of you in every moment of every day. We confess our sins: our forgetfulness of your love, our unkindness to others, our misuse of our bodies and minds that you have entrusted to us. Despite your generosity, we have sowed sparingly for the sake of others. O God, we need your forgiveness. Awaken our thankfulness as we learn to fully appreciate all you have provided. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT CONFESSION

Congregational Response (Sung):

#276

**Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, Creator,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God offers liberation from the bondage of sin. When we are open to the Eternal One, we realize that God goes with us through all the times of life, even the wilderness times. God leads us out of the wilderness to find hope

and profound joy. Accept our gifts God is giving you. Believe the good news of the Gospel;

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI (kids' pink page)

#579

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of peace!

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Stewardship

Pamela Espenshade

READING

On Prayer
from *The Prophet* and the *Lord's Prayer*

Verse Speaking
Choir

*HYMN

Let All Things Now Living

#554

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 6:25-33

Page 6

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Students in grades 1-12 are dismissed for their Bible classes.**)**

SPECIAL MUSIC

We Rejoice

McKenzie

SERMON

Stone Soup

Rev. Muriel Burrows

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (kids' orange page)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Offer the sacrifices of righteousness,
and put your trust in the Lord.*

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY (kids' red page)

#592

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: O God, as we recount the story of your willingness to journey with us through life, we become freshly aware of the many blessings we receive from you in Jesus and through the power of your Spirit. We respond with these offerings and the service of our lives, and we pray that you will transform them in ways that bless others and glorify you. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Thank You, Lord

Smallwood

- * Congregation stands
- ** Latecomers ushered in

ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOME - The Pastor, Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon welcome most warmly all worshipers. Our fellowship is enriched by your presence. If you do not have a church home of your own, we do sincerely invite you to be a part of our fellowship. Please contact the church office for further information if you are interested in church membership (609-924-1666 or witherspoon@verizon.net).



SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGE GROUPS! Adults will meet on their own schedule each month in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m. All other Sunday school classes for students in grades 1-12 begin immediately after the children’s message in morning worship. (A nursery is available for children in preschool and kindergarten.)



FLOWERS – Flowers for today’s service were given by *Aubrey, Debra and Alexis Peart* in memory of *Eric A. Jones* (brother and uncle). If you would like to provide flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, or simply to beautify the church, please sign up on the chart located on the door of the sound room (left-hand entrance from the sanctuary to the parish house). After worship service, the donor may take the flowers home. At present, it is the responsibility of the person giving the flowers to make his/her own arrangements for preparation and delivery of the flowers for the Chancel. The next available date is December 10.

USHERS for this morning’s service are Melvin and Regina Campbell. Next week’s ushers are Audiway and Michelle Peal.



COFFEE HOUR - Please join us for a Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall following this morning’s worship service. Host for the month of December is Vicki Meisel. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour should contact Vicki (609-637-9417).

ATTENDANCE at the service of November 12 was 111.

LECTIONARY TEXT for next Sunday, November 26, is 2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-18; Revelation 1:4-8; John 18:33-37.



BRING A FRIEND TO WSPC! – The Deacon Board is asking all members to bring their friends to church during the month of November. It will be a time to showcase and share all the wonderful gifts our church has to offer, especially for those that don't attend a church – maybe they'll choose Witherspoon. For more information, contact Deacon Michelle Peal (908-369-4753).



ADVENT FAMILY ACTIVITY PACKETS – December 3 is the first Sunday of Advent. Louise Johnson has prepared Advent Family Activity Packets which are available in the Narthex. Please pick up one for your family from the ushers.



A BLUE CHRISTMAS – On **Saturday, December 16**, we will have a worship service called *A Blue Christmas* – a special service for those mourning or otherwise “blue” – who have lost someone and wish to remember them at this time. The service will begin at 4:00 p.m. with a soup and bread dinner. The dinner and service will be informal and held in the Fellowship Hall. Those who attend are encouraged to bring a memento (e.g. picture, piece of jewelry, etc.) to remember their loved one; this will be placed on a table during the service. For more information, please contact Rev. Burrows.



Trenton Area
**Habitat
for Humanity**[®]

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WORK WEEK – Our Habitat for Humanity project needs your help. To participate, please contact Meg Coghlan (609-651-2945 or meg_coghlan@yahoo.com).



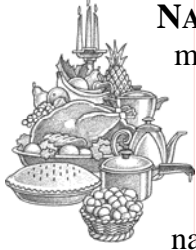
FOOD DONATIONS FOR CRISIS MINISTRY – The Deacons are collecting nourishing food for the Crisis Ministry. *****NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE.***** Checks made payable to the Crisis Ministry are always welcome and may be placed in the offering plate or given to a deacon. Please consider an extra purchase during your next grocery shopping trip and place items in the wooden box in the Narthex.



A CHRISTMAS CAROL AT MCCARTER – Janet Giles from Nassau Presbyterian Church has been given half price tickets for the performance of *A Christmas Carol* at McCarter Theatre on **Thursday, December 7**, at 7:30 p.m. Call Janet (908-359-0801) for details.



THANKSGIVING SERVICE – All are invited to the interfaith service sponsored by the Princeton Clergy Association at the Princeton University Chapel on **Thanksgiving Day** at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Cornell Edmonds, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of New York City, will be the guest preacher for this community Thanksgiving service.



NASSAU CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AND MUSIC PROGRAM – **All** members of the Witherspoon Church community are invited to Nassau's *Christmas Luncheon* on **Sunday, December 3**, 12:30-2:30, hosted by the Senior Adult Fellowship and Presbyterian Women of Nassau Presbyterian Church. Cost for the luncheon is \$15 per person. Please RSVP by this Wednesday, November 22. Details are posted in the narthex and the back hall by the nursery. You may also contact Marion LaBar (b_mlabar@juno.com or 609-419-0190) or Jan Gibson (609-759-3340).



PROPERTY ACQUISITION UPDATE

(as of June 30, 2006)

Total collection for property acquisition*	\$143,359.43
Total expenses*	<u>84,313.17</u>
Balance	\$59,081.26

*2004 to present