



THE SPIRE ~ NOVEMBER 2006

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MANHASSET (United Church of Christ)
1845 Northern Boulevard, Manhasset, NY 11030 / 516-627-4911 / www.uccmanhasset.org
Ministers: Rev. Jimmy Only and Rev. Chase Peebles

A WORD FROM OUR ASSOCIATE MINISTER

During worship on Sunday, October 29, I announced that I have accepted the position of Minister at First Christian Church, St. Joseph, Missouri and that I will be leaving at the end of the calendar year. If you were not present in worship, I hope you will pick up a copy of my sermon at church or read it on the church web site. In it, I expressed the mixed emotions I feel at leaving: joy at doing what I believe God wants me to do and deep sadness at leaving the church family I have come to know and love over the last five years. I explained that my decision was based upon my sense that God would have me take the next step in my vocational journey and become a Senior Minister as well as upon my desire along with my wife Jennifer to be closer to family. Neither a few lines in a newsletter nor a Sunday sermon can fully express how difficult a decision this was for me and the love I bear for the people of this church. It has been my deep honor to serve as one of your Ministers over the last five years, and my love for you will not end on the day I cease to be one.

Grace and Peace, Chase

NEW CHURCH LIBRARY

We now have a new church library to serve as a spiritual resource for our community of faith. Last Spring, the Board of Deacons approved a special committee led by Margot Kramer to set up a special room containing books and other resources to help church members grow in their spiritual journeys. Thanks to the work of the committee, the room next to the soda machine downstairs (some may know it as the old Women's Club room) has a collection of excellent religious books along with comfortable furniture in which to read them. In the future, library books will be available for checking out, but currently they should remain in the library. The committee also asks for donations of books for the library, but please note: **ONLY DONATIONS OF RELIGIOUS BOOKS IN GOOD CONDITION WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Stay tuned for future developments regarding this exciting resource for our church and take some time to visit our new church library.

MISQUOTING JESUS: THE STORY BEHIND WHO CHANGED THE BIBLE AND WHY ~ NOV. 5th BOOK CLUB SELECTION

In his provocative book, *Misquoting Jesus*, Bart D. Ehrman, chair of the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, tells the story behind the mistakes and changes that ancient scribes made to the New Testament. He frames his account with personal reflections on how his study of the Greek manuscripts made him abandon his once ultraconservative views of the Bible.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN CONTINUES GIVE UNTIL IT FEELS GOOD

Thanks to those of you who have found the time to return your pledge cards. If you haven't pledged yet, we have pledge cards available around the church for your use, or you can call the church office (627-4911) and we will happily mail you a card. Your pledge helps our church make important budgetary decisions for 2007. We appreciate your support!

KRISTIN LYNCH McCABE OF THE LONG ISLAND CRISIS CENTER LAITY SUNDAY SPEAKER ~ NOVEMBER 12, 2006

On Sunday, November 12, 2006, our Board of Missions and Outreach will lead 10 AM worship. Our special guest speaker, Kristin Lynch McCabe, is a Crisis Hotline Counselor and Community Outreach Counselor for Long Island Crisis Center. Founded in 1971, Long Island Crisis Center is a multi-service, community-based organization whose mission is to provide youth, families, seniors and adults throughout Long Island with free, high quality, confidential services to address a wide range of concerns. They believe that everyone has the right to free and anonymous help at any time, no matter who they are or what their needs may be. This belief underlies their mission, which is carried out through crisis intervention, counseling, information, referral, and other supportive services, primarily through a 24-hour a day, seven-day-a-week telephone crisis hotline and live, online counseling.

Following her address, Ms. McCabe will join us in the North Lounge for a question and answer session.

BLOOD DRIVE ~ MONDAY ~ NOVEMBER 13 ~ 3 - 8:30 PM

Our annual blood drive will take place in the Parish Hall on Monday, November 13. If you've given before, how about donating again? There is no substitute for blood. It cannot be manufactured. It is **"the gift of life"** that only human beings can give to one another.

PILGRIM THANKSGIVING SERVICE - NOVEMBER 19

This year, we'll celebrate our traditional Pilgrim Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 19 at 10 AM. Our Tithing Man will be there, as will the Pilgrim Family and Pilgrim Drummer.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE ~ NOVEMBER 19

Plan now to attend the Manhasset Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 19 at 4 PM. This year the service will be held at Temple Judea on Seeringtown Road. The Manhasset Clergy Association sponsors this community service.

THANKSGIVING FOOD COLLECTION ~ NOVEMBER 12

We can show our gratitude to God for all of life's blessings by helping those less fortunate. One such opportunity is our annual food collection sponsored by the Board of Missions and Outreach. This year's collection is Sunday, November 12. You may drop off your bags of nonperishable food in the narthex or coatroom before the service. Our food will help feed hungry women, men, and children throughout Long Island.

MUSIC MEMORIALS AT CHRISTMAS ~ NOV. 26 DEADLINE

Christmas is an appropriate time to remember loved ones. Music memorials may be placed in memory of a dear one, in honor of a special person, or in celebration of a significant event. Those remembered will be included on the Music Memorials page of the Christmas Concert Program and in the Christmas Sunday Order of Worship. Memorializations and contributions may be placed in the offering plate or sent to The Congregational Church of Manhasset, attention Donna Marchese, no later than Friday, November 26. Please indicate "Music Memorial" in the lower left corner of your check.

HYMN SING 9:45 AM -- NOVEMBER 5

We had a great time last month at our old fashioned hymn sing. Your next chance to request your favorite hymns will be Sunday, November 5 at 9:45 AM in the Sanctuary.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS ~ NOVEMBER 5

Just before the Pastoral Prayer at the 8 and 10 AM services on November 5, one of the ministers will ask for a list of joys and concerns from the congregation to be included during the Pastoral Prayer. Please feel free to voice any prayer requests during this time.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES

JAMES: PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR THE LIFE OF FAITH

While the New Testament Book of James is only five chapters long, it overflows with practical advice and wisdom. For James, faith means action. The book emphasizes walking the walk over talking the talk. Learn more about the Book of James by joining us in the North Lounge from 12:30-1:30 PM every Wednesday, through November 15 for our Midweek Bible Study. The sessions will be led by one of our ministers.

FRONT PORTICO

At our Annual Congregational Meeting, a short six and a half months ago, a design concept was approved by the Congregation for the renovation of the front portico facing Copley Road. In the interim, the Trustees, led by Red Horowitz, Chair, Nick Fisch, Vice-Chair and John Walter, Project Manager, have been working with our architects, contractor and the Village of Munsey Park to come to a mutually agreeable design. We are pleased to inform you that we have come to a design which adds specificity to the concept that was approved by the Congregation. We now can go forward and make this design a reality. The architect drawing will be in the Narthex for you to see. The Trustees thank John Walter for his endless time and patience on this part of the project. When we have a clearer understanding of the timing, we will inform you. Thank you for your patience.

CHURCH-WIDE PROGRESSIVE DINNER ~ NOV. 11, 2006

While the reservation deadline has passed, call the church office ASAP and we'll try to squeeze you in.

DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec. 2 & 3, P.F. Christmas Tree Sale
Dec. 3, Chancel Choir Christmas Concert "What Sweeter Music"
Dec. 16, Young Adult Christmas Party
Dec. 17, Advent Workshop, Varsity Choral Concert
Dec. 24, Christmas Pageant & Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER FOR THE FEBRUARY 10, 2007 CHURCH-WIDE TALENT SHOW

While our fun-filled Talent Show is several months away, it is never too early to start rehearsing. In case you've missed it in the past, the Talent Show is an amateur hour of sorts (though professionals are welcome) for all ages, young and old alike.

CHILDREN (AGE 3 ~ GRADE 5)

UNICEF COLLECTION, November 5 ~ During Fellowship Time, Sunday, November 5, the children will collect money for UNICEF, so make sure and bring your spare change!

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY AND FAMILY SUNDAY: On November 19 our children will sing in 10 AM worship and Rev. Peeples will offer a special children's sermon.

HELPING HANDS PROJECT: During Sunday School on Sunday, November 19, the children will decorate Thanksgiving cards for our homebound members.

LET'S MAKE ANGELS FOR THE ANGEL TREE: On Sunday, November 26, during Sunday School the children will make angels for the Angel Tree.

YOUTH (GRADES 6 ~ 12)

TRIP TO THE ISLAMIC CENTER OF LONG ISLAND ~ On Friday, November 17 at 7 PM, we will visit the Islamic Center of Long Island to learn more about the Islamic faith. Given the times we live in, it is more important than ever that people of different faiths learn about each other and look past stereotypes. We'll have the opportunity to talk with and learn from Muslims that live right here in the same communities that we live in. We will meet at the church at 6:15 PM and travel to the ICLI together. Let Chase know if you're interested in coming along.

SARATOGA FAMILY INN ~ On **November 5 and 19** we'll head back to the Saratoga Family Inn homeless shelter to work with the children. We'll leave after the 10 AM worship service and return to church around 3:30 PM.

FAMILY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19 ~ If you would like to usher or read scripture for our next Family Sunday tell Chase.

WOMEN'S CLUB

The Women's Club Board meets on Monday, Nov. 6 at 9:30 AM.

MEN'S CLUB

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, November 2 at 12 Noon. Our speaker will be Michael A.L. Balboni, Republican State Senator. Contact Frank Dotzler at 627-9191 for more information.

NEW HORIZONS (50+)

Come on November 8 at 7:30 PM and learn about the "Past, Present and Future" of the Webb Institute of Naval Architecture, when New Horizons presents a slide show given by Steve Ostendorff.

FELLOWSHIP TIME SPONSORS

Our weekly **Fellowship Time** offers an excellent opportunity to get better acquainted and enjoy a cup of coffee or a bite to eat. A sign-up sheet is available every Sunday during Fellowship Time. For the recommended \$50 donation, the Church Administrator will arrange to purchase the standard light fare such as cookies, pastries or doughnuts. However, in lieu of the \$50 donation, you may purchase a special cake or other treats of your choice. You may host the Fellowship Time for that Sunday or the Board of Deacons will secure hosts.

ALTAR FLOWERS BEAUTIFY OUR SANCTUARY

The Altar Flower Committee is seeking donations for altar flowers. This is a lovely way to remember your loved ones. Send your check along with your memorial information to The Congregational Church, 1845 Northern Boulevard, Manhasset, NY 11030 attention Marge D'Ottavio. The requested donation is \$50, although any amount is welcome.

CHURCH CALENDAR NOVEMBER 1 - 30, 2006

Wednesday, November 1

12:30 pm – Bible Study, Rev. Only

Thursday, November 2

12 noon – Men's Club Meeting
8:00 pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, November 5 ~ ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

8:00 am – **Chapel Service**, Rev. Only preaching
8:45 am – Confirmation, Rev. Peeples

9:15 am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal
9:45 am – Hymn Sing
10:00 am – **Morning Service**, Rev. Only Preaching
10:15 am – Sunday School, Rev. Peeples
11:00 am – Fellowship Time
11:15 am – Music Committee Meeting
11:30 am – Book Club
11:30 am – Depart for the Saratoga Family Inn

Monday, November 6

9:30 am – Women's Club Board Meeting
7:30 pm – Adventures in Learning Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 7

7:30 pm – Deacons Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 8

12:30 pm – Bible Study
7:30 pm – New Horizons Meeting

Thursday, November 9

8:00 pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 10 – CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, November 11 – VETERANS DAY

6:30 pm – Church Wide Progressive Dinner

Sunday, November 12 – LAITY SUNDAY

No 8 am Service

9:15 am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am – **Morning Service**
10:15 am – Sunday School
11:00 am – Fellowship Time
11:15 am – Q & A

Monday, November 13

7:30 pm – Master Plan Meeting

Tuesday, November 14

7:30 pm – Christian Education Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 15

12:30 pm – Bible Study
7:30 pm – Trustees Board Meeting

Thursday, November 16

12 noon – Men's Club Meeting
8:00 pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, November 19

THANKSGIVING / FAMILY SUNDAY

8:00 am – **Chapel Service**, Rev. Only Preaching
8:45 am – Confirmation, Rev. Peeples
9:15 am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am – **Morning Service**, Rev. Only Preaching
10:15 am – Sunday School, Rev. Peeples
11:00 am – Fellowship Time
11:30 am – Depart for the Saratoga Inn

Thursday - November 23

THANKSGIVING DAY Church Office Closed

Friday, November 24

Church Office Closed



Saturday, November 25

11:00 am – Bob Beinbrink Memorial Service

Sunday, November 26

8:00 am – **Chapel Service**, Rev. Only Preaching
9:15 am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am – **Morning Service**, Rev. Only Preaching
10:15 am – Sunday School, Rev. Peeples
11:00 am – Fellowship Time

Thursday, November 30

7:30 pm – Missions & Outreach Board Meeting