



# the open door

*November 2015*

## A LETTER FROM CHENOA STOCK SERVING IN BOLIVIA

### *Covenants of Love and Renewal*

I was filled with the Holy Spirit, and I hadn't even walked down the aisle. The days leading up to this special moment of becoming a "Señora" and committing to live my life in covenant with my now-husband, José Luis Claire, were days of last-minute errands, of catching up with close friends from all over the world, some not seen for years, of visits and city wanders around Pittsburgh, Pa., with present and future family members, of eating delicious food, and of embracing the peace within the joyful chaos. Before walking down the aisle my bridesmaids and I shared a moment of prayer and then, there I was, my arm around my father's, awaiting my brother's trumpet processional call, filled and ready to enter into covenant.

During our service we not only emphasized our marriage covenant of abiding love, symbolized by a ring, but we also invited our guests to recognize their covenant of baptism, the gift of life and renewal through water and God's unconditional love. This was symbolized by a scallop shell (Christian symbol of baptism) that each one took with them as they exited the church's outdoor courtyard, where we were married.



I can only say that this Holy Spirit simply flowed throughout each thread of the marriage celebration. This was surely God's unconditional love surrounding us—in our loved ones present, in the music, sung in Spanish and English, in the candle lighters, in the Scripture readers, in the words spoken by my father, in the homily, in the vows, in the Communion and breaking of bread together, in the blessing, and at the reception in the toasts, and in the dancing that occurred on all decks of the boat that sailed throughout the night along the three rivers of Pittsburgh on a gorgeous and balmy August evening.

There is no greater love than that of worshiping and celebrating in fellowship and service.

[Letter continued on page 10]

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Chenoa Letter.....p. 1
- Pastors Desk.....p.2
- Lectionary/Nursery.....p.3
- Bible Study/PWGathering.....p.3
- Thanksgiving/Shoprite.....p.3
- Poinsettias/Home for Holiday...p.4
- Service of Hope.....p.4
- Women's Retreat/PW Party.....p.5
- Bon Temps Brass Band.....p.5
- Events/Calendar.....p.6-7
- Diary/Food Drive.....p.8
- Ministry/Choir/Giving Tree.....p.8
- Food Pantry/Shoebox.....p.9
- Chenoa/Deacons/DBSA.....p.10
- Prayers and Joys.....p.11
- Box Tops/Contact Info.....p.12

### AT THE OPEN DOOR

**Pastor:**

Rev. Carie Morgan

**Secretary:** Janet Melvin

Editor: Ann Rhodes

Church Office: 973-584-5238

Fax: 973-584-5140

E: [fpcsunna@optonline.net](mailto:fpcsunna@optonline.net)

W: [www.fpcsuccasunna.org](http://www.fpcsuccasunna.org)

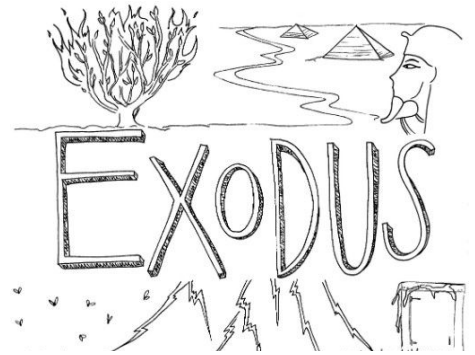
**Submissions:**

December Deadline: Nov. 8th

[OpenDoorEditor@yahoo.com](mailto:OpenDoorEditor@yahoo.com)

## BIBLE 101 - EXODUS

Last month, I started a brief overview of the books of the Bible. Genesis concludes with the death of Joseph and Exodus begins with a listing of the sons of Israel, and declares that they were prolific and grew strong. The mood of the story quickly turns when it declares that a new king arose who did not know Joseph. In order to keep this populous people from becoming too powerful, he imposes forced labor upon them. Exodus is a story of God hearing the cry of the oppressed and liberating them into a new life as God's people.

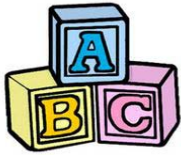


- The King of Egypt – orders all male Hebrew babies to be killed
- Midwives: Shiphrah and Puah fear God and defy the King
- Moses is born – at 3 months old his mother places him in a basket in the Nile
- Pharaoh's daughter finds him – Moses' mother is called to nurse the baby
- As an adult, Moses kills an Egyptian
- Moses flees to Midian for fear that Pharaoh will kill him
- Moses marries Zipporah
- God hears the groaning of the Hebrew people
- God calls Moses through the Burning Bush
- Moses takes his family and returns to Egypt
- Moses and his brother Aaron meet with Pharaoh asking: Let my people go
- Pharaoh's heart is hardened
- The Plagues: Aaron is the one who lifts up the rod to make the plagues occur
  1. The water of the Nile turns to blood as does all the water throughout Egypt
  2. The land is over run with frogs
  3. Dust of the earth turns into gnats
  4. Swarms of flies – but not in the land of Goshen where the Hebrew people dwelled
  5. Egyptian livestock dies
  6. Moses throws soot in the air and it causes boils upon the Egyptian people
  7. Hail falls and destroys the crops
  8. Swarm of Locusts come upon the land
  9. Three days of darkness
  10. Death of all Egyptian first born males
- Hebrew people are instructed to take a lamb and place the blood on their doorpost – the First Passover. The angel of death will pass over the Hebrew homes.
- The Hebrew people leave Egypt – 600,000 men, along with their wives, children, and livestock
- The people cross the Red Sea with the Egyptian Army close behind – Moses parts the water
- The people complain of hunger. God provides the manna and the quail
- Moses receives the Ten Commandments
- Various other laws are given
- The Ark of the Covenant and the Tabernacle
- The Golden Calf
- Moses receives two new tablets and God renews the Covenant
- The Tabernacle is set up
- Aaron and his sons are consecrated as priests

Take time to read this fascinating story – or watch: *The Prince of Egypt* or the classic *Ten Commandments*.

Pastor Carie

**PASTOR CARIE'S EMAIL: [PASTORCARIE25@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PASTORCARIE25@GMAIL.COM)**  
**SERMONS: [HTTP://PASTORCARIE.BLOGSPOT.COM/](http://PASTORCARIE.BLOGSPOT.COM/)**



## CHURCH NURSERY

Church Nursery is located in Fellowship Hall. Families with young children are welcome to use this space.

If you would like to volunteer once a month in the nursery during worship, please use the sign-up sheet available in the Fellowship Hall.

Please consider signing up to be a worship leader, usher, or to host a fellowship hour. The sign up board can be found in the Fellowship Hall.

## LECTIONARY

### November 1st

#### *All Saints' Day*

Isa. 25:6-9;  
Ps. 24;  
Rev. 21:1-6a;  
John 11:32-44

### November 8th

#### *32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17;  
Ps. 127;  
Heb. 9:24-28;  
Mark 12:38-44

### November 15th

#### *33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*

1 Sam 1:4-20;  
1 Sam. 2:1-10;  
Heb. 10:11-14;  
(15-18) 19-25;  
Mark 13:1-8

### November 22nd

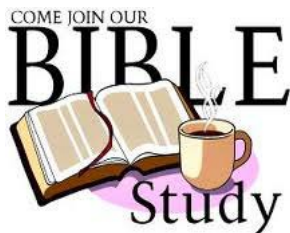
#### *Christ the King/ Reign of Christ*

2 Sam. 23:1-7;  
Ps. 132:1-12 (13-18);  
Rev. 1:4b-8;  
John 18:33-37

### November 29th

#### *1st Sunday of Advent*

Jer. 33:14-16;  
Ps. 25:1-10;  
1 Thess. 3:9-13;  
Luke 21:25-36



## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The Sunday morning Adult Bible Study is continuing their study of the book of Acts. Join us from 9:05-9:50 in Fellowship Hall to learn more about Paul's missionary journeys and the early church. Contact Cindy Medici with any questions ([cjmedici@gmail.com](mailto:cjmedici@gmail.com)).

## PW GATHERING

Women of the church join the Presbyterian Women of Newton Presbytery for its fall gathering "Get Away with God!" led by Rev. Stefanie Muntzel at the Star Lake Lodge in Bloomingdale, NJ on Friday, February 19-20, 2016 from 4 p.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$110.50 for the whole weekend or \$80.00 for just Saturday. Interested? Contact Donna Rahmann for more information 908-894-3176.



## COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE



There will be a Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 22nd at 7:00 p.m. in the FPCS Sanctuary. Join in the celebration of God's goodness as we worship with friends and neighbors. Bring a non-perishable food for offering.

## SHOP RITE GIFT CARDS!

ShopRite cards are available for you to purchase for your grocery shopping. The church receives 5% of the face value of each card from ShopRite. This a great, on-going fundraiser for the First Presbyterian Church of Succasunna. Orders placed by the end of each month are distributed the first Sunday of the following month. For more information, contact Harry Gedicke at 973-398-3759 or email him at [hgedicke@optonline.net](mailto:hgedicke@optonline.net).



## ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA PLANTS

Orders for poinsettia plants to adorn our Sanctuary during Christmas are now being taken. Plants are \$8.50 each and can be ordered by filling out the form below and returning it to the church office or put it in the offering plate during worship. Checks should be made payable to FPC of Succasunna. (In memo put poinsettia order.) Please place your final orders by Sunday, December 13th. Plants will be available for you to take home after Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve.



### Please note and print clearly.

Number of Plants: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_



## ROXBURY'S HOME FOR THE HOLIDAY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH ~ 11 AM-5 PM

Join us for a fun-filled, family event with caroling and entertainment groups as well as crafters, food trucks and Santa Land all concluding with the Annual Roxbury Township Tree Lighting.

More details will follow as the event gets closer. You can also stay up to date by "liking" the Holiday Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/HomefortheHolidayRoxbury>

If you are interested in being a vendor for the event please complete our vendor application or join our community in celebrating the holidays by entering the Holiday Wreath Contest. Show off your creativity, help our community and maybe win a prize. To participate please complete this entry form or vendor application available at [www.roxburynj.us/holiday](http://www.roxburynj.us/holiday).

The women of the church will be selling coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and baked items during the Home for the Holidays celebration on Saturday, December 5. We are asking every family in the church to donate homemade

items for the bake sale. Suggestions include small bags of Christmas cookies, small loaves of bread, and other holiday confections. Please deliver items to the church during office hours on Friday, December 4 or between 9:00 and 11:00 am Saturday, December 5.

Alternative Gift Market will be at the "Home for the Holidays" event. During this event our church will be open to vendors and our very own Gift Market as in previous years. You will have the opportunity to purchase meaningful gifts for those on your Christmas list. Your purchases will support international and local missions such as Serv, The Heifer Project, Habitat for Humanity and Faith Kitchen to name a few. Give a gift that makes a difference! In addition, the market will be open on Sunday, December 6th during Fellowship Hour. If you are interested in helping out with this event, please contact Linda Fleischer at 973-271-2846.

## SERVICE OF HOPE

Over the past several years the Succasunna United Methodist Church has offered an ecumenical Service of Hope (or the Longest Night Service). It is a service on the Christmas Message through scripture, song, Advent Reflections, and communion. The reflections come from the writings of Max Lucado. It's message is particularly directed to those who have a difficult time with the Christmas season as they are not always easy, have added stress, as well as sadness in a season that promotes joyfulness. The service this year will be held on Tuesday, December 8th at 7:30 p.m. Come and worship. Center yourself in God's presence.





## RETREAT FOR ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH



### RETREAT THEME "WE ARE CHILDREN OF THE KING"

#### Psalm 139:13-14

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well".

Dear Sisters in Christ,

We have busy lives and for many of us we are so busy taking care of others needs that we don't always take care of ourselves. I am encouraging you and giving you an opportunity to spend some time to be in communion with other Sisters in Christ and take time for yourself. I learned many years ago that I needed and wanted time to spend with God in the presence of other Sisters in Christ to learn and grow as a person and, more importantly, to strengthen my faith. After attending retreats, I felt God calling me to create retreats. I answered His call and have done over 25 women's retreats in the three churches I was a part of at the time.

I hope you will decide to attend this retreat.

~For His Glory, Carole Rose

#### Where will the retreat be held?

St. Frances Center for Renewal  
395 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem, PA

#### When will it be held?

Friday, Oct. 7-8, 2016

#### What Time?

Fri., 7 p.m. to Sat., 4:30 p.m.

**What are the room accommodations?** There are 5 rooms with two single beds and a large common bathroom on the third floor (There is an elevator)

**Will meals be provided?** Saturday breakfast and lunch in the main dining room

#### What is the cost?

- For the room and two meals the total cost is \$73.50 and is non-refundable unless weather or sickness prevents your attendance.
- Reservations are limited to ten women on a first come, first serve basis. Don't delay-make your reservation today!
- Please make your \$25 deposit check out to FPCS and give it to Janet Melvin, in the church office, no later than October 25th.

Are you looking for time to spend with other Sisters in Christ in a serene and calming environment? A time to relax, learn, and grow both personally and spirituality? Then this retreat is for you!



## P.W. CHRISTMAS PARTY

All women are invited to the Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. Please bring a donation for Jersey Battered Women's Services. Suggested items include nail polish, lotion, cards and stamps, holiday socks, and other items to make the clients feel special. We will also be collecting monetary donations to be used toward the purchase of gift cards for Roxbury Social Services. Suggested donation is \$10 or more.

## THE BON TEMPS BRASS BAND

The Bon Temps Brass Band shall return on Sunday, December 13th for another wonderful Christmas concert here at FPCS! Stay tuned for more information.



## ON THE BULLETIN BOARD

### UPCOMING EVENTS (SAVE THE DATE)

Sunday, November 15, 2015	Deacon's Blood Drive (see p. 8 for more info)
Sunday, November 22, 2015	Operation Shoebox Packing Event (see p. 9 for more info) Community Thanksgiving Service (see p. 3 for more info)
Saturday, December 5, 2015	Home for the Holidays (see p. 4 for more info)
Tuesday, December 8, 2015	Service of Hope at SUMC (see p. 4 for more info)
Sunday, December 13, 2015	Bon Temps Brass Band (see p. 5 for more info)
Tuesday, December 15, 2015	PW Christmas Party (see p. 5 for more info)
Friday, February 19, 2016	PW Gathering (see p. 3 for more info)
Saturday, February 20, 2016	PW Gathering (see p. 3 for more info)
Friday, October 7, 2016	Women's Retreat (see p. 5 for more info)
Saturday, October 8, 2016	Women's Retreat (see p. 5 for more info)

### CLEANING OUT YOUR GARAGE? GETTING NEW FURNITURE? REMODELING?

Then consider donating your new or very gently-used building materials, lighting fixtures, hardware items, furniture in excellent condition and appliances that are operational and clean to ReStore in Randolph part of the Morris Habitat for Humanity. The money raised is used to finance the houses we build, renovate or repair. For more information, please visit: <http://www.morrisrestore.org/>.



### FPCS USED CLOTHING BIN AVAILABLE 24/7!

FPCS has teamed up with Millennium International Textile, Inc. out of Flanders, NJ to have a Used Clothing Bin placed near the garages in the back of parking lot. This bin will replace the annual clothing drive the fundraising committee used to hold.

Acceptable items for collection include: clothing, shoes, linens (bedsheets, blankets, curtains), soft and hard toys, and accessories (handbags, belts, baseball caps, wallets, backpacks, and travel bags).

**FPCS Website:** [www.fpcsuccasunna.org](http://www.fpcsuccasunna.org) **Please contact the church office for Approved Session Minutes.**



**FPCS on Facebook:** To become a friend of the group on Facebook, search **"First Presbyterian Church of Succasunna"** on [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

**OPEN DOOR VIA EMAIL:** To receive the Open Door via email, please email [OpenDoorEditor@yahoo.com](mailto:OpenDoorEditor@yahoo.com) and provide your email address.

Upcoming events will be posted as they are received. If you need to schedule dates to use the church for your event, please contact the church office first, then contact Ann Rhodes to enter it on the church Facebook page. This is to avoid overlapping events and the use of the building.

**Open Door Submissions** are due the second Sunday of every month. Next month's deadline is **November 8th**. Take a look at past issues to see what you might be able to contribute. Submit announcements or event information for the calendar of events page, a short article about a committee or group event, issue, or update, or write a feature article. Be creative, have fun and contribute pictures! Contact the church office for more information.

# Calendar for November 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Choir Practice Sunday School Adult Sunday School</p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship <b>Communion</b></p> <p><b>Following Worship</b> Fellowship Time</p> <p><b>All Saints' Day</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>6:45-9:30 PM</b> Boy Scout Meeting in Fellowship Hall</p> <p><b>6:30-9:00 PM</b> DBSA Meeting Downstairs in Sunday School Room</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>7:30 PM</b> Worship Committee Meeting in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>6:30-8:00</b> Men's Ministry Meeting in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Choir Practice Sunday School Adult Sunday School</p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship</p> <p><b>Following Worship</b> Fellowship Time</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>6:30-9:00 PM</b> DBSA Meeting Downstairs in Sunday School Room</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Bible Study in Fellowship Hall</p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Deacons Meeting</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> Bible Study in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Presbyterian Women Book Club in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p><b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Choir Practice Sunday School Adult Sunday School</p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship</p> <p><b>Following Worship</b> Fellowship Time</p> <p><b>11 AM – 5 PM</b> Blood Drive</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>6:30-9:00 PM</b> DBSA Meeting Downstairs in Sunday School Room</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Bible Study in Fellowship Hall</p> <p><b>7:30 PM</b> Session in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> Bible Study in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>5:45-7:45 PM</b> Girl Scout Meeting in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Choir Practice Sunday School Adult Sunday School</p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship</p> <p><b>Following Worship</b> Fellowship Time</p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Thanksgiving Service @ FPCS</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>6:30-9:00 PM</b> DBSA Meeting Downstairs in Sunday School Room</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Bible Study in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>Thanksgiving Day</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>Church Office Closed for the Holiday</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>5:00-8:00 PM</b> Girl Scout Meeting in Fellowship Hall</p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p><b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Choir Practice Sunday School Adult Sunday School</p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship</p> <p><b>Following Worship</b> Fellowship Time</p> <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p><b>6:30-9:00 PM</b> DBSA Meeting Downstairs in Sunday School Room</p>	<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>

## FROM THE DIARY OF ELIZA ANN STODDARD - 1867

“In reviewing the past -- feeling something like those experienced in its passing scenes come to my heart and amid troubled thoughts and fears, trusting and loving, blessed thoughts are found.”

Just a note to let you know that the monies received from both the Stoddard book and the cemetery tour booklet are \$2,467, about half of what is needed for one estimate of repair for the chapel porch. We are still looking for other estimates and avenues for more monies. Your Historical Committee will continue to hope for the completion of this project.

~Phyllis Guerrero, Your Historical Committee

## DEACONS THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

The Thanksgiving Food Drive will soon be upon us as well. We will put the collection bags in the church on November 1. Please return your donations on November 15th. The collected foods will be delivered to Roxbury Social Services in time for distribution to needy families for the holiday. This is an opportunity for us to impact our community in a positive way. Please give generously.



## MINISTRY TO MEN

The recently deceased Yankees catcher, Yogi Berra once said “When yo come to a fork in the road, take it.” Several mem of FPCS have taken a “new fork” in the road and are experiencing the Ministry to Men’s First Thursday of each month meeting, enjoying learning, and growing in fellowship. Perhaps you might want to join us at the next meeting, November 5th at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and

walk with Christian Brothers on this new path. We will look forward to seeing you.

~Gerry Rose, Group Facilitator

## ADULT CHOIR

Our adult choir and bell choir have gotten off to a good start! In November, we will be getting ready for Advent and Christmas and we invite you to join us. The choir rehearses at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays with an occasional Thursday evening rehearsal and the bell choir rehearses on Sunday after the service. For more information, call or e-mail Jane Rufino (973-727-8397; [jrufino@optonline.net](mailto:jrufino@optonline.net)).



**Join the Choir...**

**You'll Be Glad  
You Did!**

## THE ANNUAL GIVING TREE



The tree with tags of needed toys will be placed in Fellowship Hall by Sunday, November 29th. The toys will be collected on Sunday, December 13th during the church service in our first ever Toy March. During the service you will walk your toy(s) to the front of the church. If you are unable to attend on that Sunday you can drop off your toys in a box in the Chapel prior to that Sunday. Checks will also be accepted if your would like us to do the shopping for you. Make checks payable to FPCS. This year the toys will be donated to Child and Family Resources, a non-profit organization located in Mt. Arlington, NJ. They serve families that are income eligible by providing financial assistance for child care so that families can work. Each Holiday Season these families have the opportunity to select free toys for their children at the Annual Holiday Toy Shop. The Giving Tree benefits families of Child and Family Resources - <http://www.childandfamily-nj.org/>.





## SUPPORT ROXBURY FOOD PANTRY 2015 HOURS OF OPERATION

72 Eyland Avenue ~ Succasunna, NJ 07876 ~ Phone: 973-448-2026

**WEEKLY HOURS:**

- Monday: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Food Pantry and Social Services
- Wednesday: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Food Pantry and Social Services
- Friday: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Food Pantry and Social Services

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Saturday Dates/Hours - FOR DONATION DROP OFF ONLY**

November 21st - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

December 19th - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**NEEDED ITEMS**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shampoo/Conditioner</li> <li>- Feminine Products</li> <li>- Toilet Paper/Paper Towels</li> <li>- Laundry/Dish Detergent</li> <li>- Diapers/Wipes</li> <li>- Powdered Milk</li> <li>- Coffee/Hot Chocolate</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hearty Soups/Stew/Chili</li> <li>- Pasta/Pasta Sauce</li> <li>- Cooking Oil</li> <li>- Cereal</li> <li>- White Rice</li> <li>- Sugar</li> <li>- Canned Meats and Tuna</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kids Snacks/Pudding</li> <li>- Chef Boyardee</li> <li>- Progresso Soups</li> <li>- Jelly</li> <li>- Juice Boxes/Bottled Juice</li> </ul> |
|---|---|---|

Roxbury Food Pantry: Donation envelopes are in each pew marked for the Food Pantry. In 2014 we were able to contribute \$470 to the Roxbury Food Pantry. Thank you for your on-going support! Let's keep it up! Go to [www.roxburynj.us](http://www.roxburynj.us) for up-to-date needs.

## OPERATION SHOEBOX PACKING EVENT THIS MONTH AT FPCS

Items to be collected before our Christmas packing event on **Sunday, November 22nd.**

Please leave your donations in the collection box in Fellowship Hall.



**NOTE:** We are not collecting any personal care items for this shipment. We do not need shoeboxes.

Donations towards postage are also needed. Checks should be made out FPC of Succasunna with "Operation Shoebox" indicated in the memo line.

**CANDY**

- Candy (Heat Resistant)
- Fruit Breezes
- Twizzlers

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Writing Paper/Envelopes
- Pens/Pencils

**GAMES**

- Playing Cards
- Checkers (Travel Size)
- Chess (Travel Size)
- Crossword Puzzles

**BEVERAGE MIXES**

- Coffee (Instant)
- Coffee Creamer
- Gatorade
- Powered Drink Mixes
- Tea Mixes (sweet)
- KoolAid Burst to Freeze

**MUSIC**

- CDs
- DVDs New
- Sudoku Books

**CHRISTMAS**

- Small Unbreakable Decorations
- Christmas Stockings

**FOOD**

- Oatmeal (Instant)
- Ramen Noodle (any flavor)
- Bars (Clif/Balance)
- Beef Jerky
- Girl Scout Cookies
- Granola Bars
- Pop-tarts
- Canned Food (pop top cans)
- Cereal (in small boxes)
- Ravioli (pop top cans)
- Tuna Kits

## LETTER FROM CHENOA (CONT'D)

Many holy covenants have been made throughout our Christian history—promises that God has made to our ancestors to remind us of the love and grace that embrace us. Thankfully, we continue to be blessed to have the opportunity to renew those covenants throughout our own lives in different circumstances. I have exchanged vows with Jose, new vows for us that call us to commit to our lifelong marriage together and to our community. We have also renewed our baptismal vows with God, a recognition of the sacredness of life.

But in these celebratory days, I would also say that we renewed our covenant with and to care for God's Creation—that precious gift that we cannot take for granted. This covenant has been further affirmed for us with Pope Francis' call, throughout his North and South American visits and his recent Papal Encyclical, "Laudato Si," for us to protect our "Casa Común," our "Common Home." He tells us: "Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home. As Christians inspired by this certainty, we wish to commit ourselves to the conscious and responsible care of our common home."

I am reminded of this covenant and call every day throughout my work with the Bolivian Joining Hands Network, UMAVIDA (Joining Hands for Life), and in our connection with the other eight Joining Hands networks around the world. We are working in solidarity with the people in our country of service and with presbyteries and individuals in the U.S., such as yourselves, to address the root causes of hunger, poverty and injustice in order to create systemic change that will improve the spiritual and physical quality of life of not only our fellow community

members but also for the Creation—the land, the water, the air—on which all depend to survive. As Pope Francis states, "Hear both the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor."

As we move through the final stages of our administrative transition, we of UMAVIDA have the faith and commitment to continue on in our mission for environmental justice and in our covenant to care for our "Casa Común." In order to do that, we will be restructuring our own "casa" so we can better serve our networks, both locally and internationally. We would like to thank you for accompanying us throughout this process, through both your prayers and your financial gifts. I could not be here, walking with UMAVIDA during this process of evaluation and transformation, without you.

So as we rebuild our "casa," I would call you to contemplate the "Casa Común" that is all around you and that connects each of us to each other. We are called now, more than ever, to join hands and begin or renew our covenant with God, that ever-present Source of love and spirit that flows within each of us and God's Creation.

In solidarity and peace,  
~Chenoa

<https://www.pcusa.org/news/2015/4/15/presbyterian-world-mission-faces-potential-funding/>

<http://pres-outlook.org/2015/04/world-mission-financial-shortfall-will-pcusa-mission-co-workers-be-recalled/>

## DEACONS FALL BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, November 15th from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. here at FPCS in Fellowship Hall. Donate blood now! People can't live without it. Open to the Community and Walk-Ins are Welcome! Hot soup will be available for all donors! To give blood, you must be in generally good health, weigh 110 pounds or more and be at least 17 years of age or 16 years of age with parental consent. Remember to eat, drink, and bring ID! Questions? Call 1-800-933-2566 or Visit [www.nybloodcenter.org](http://www.nybloodcenter.org).



## THE DEPRESSION AND BIPOLAR SUPPORT ALLIANCE



The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) of Succasunna's mission is to improve the lives of people living with mood disorders and related illnesses, by providing support and education to such persons, their families and friends, living in and around Morris County. We offer peer led support groups from 7:15-9:00 p.m. every Monday, except holidays. The group meets at the First Presbyterian Church of Succasunna. Attendance is

free of charge. Let's help each other on our journey to wellness. For more information visit us on the web at [www.dbsasuccasunna.org](http://www.dbsasuccasunna.org) or call 973-647-8082.

**PRAYERS AND CONCERNS**

*Due to privacy concerns only names are listed; please ask the person before requesting their name be added to this list. To add a name you may fill out a prayer request card and give it to an usher during the Sunday morning worship or you may call the church office.*

Note: Contact the church office if you or a loved one are in the hospital as the hospitals are no longer allowed to automatically call the church.

- |  |                        |                                   |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| All those serving in the<br>Armed Forces | Lois                   | Barbara Danielson                 |
| Harry Gedicke Sr.                        | Josephine DeLucie      | Linda Horvath                     |
| Lee                                      | Kim Saul               | Geza Roman                        |
| Phil Reap                                | Ann Cole               | Eva Roman                         |
| Rex Miller                               | Donna Varcoe           | Aunt Barbara Dierks               |
| Bunny Arbutin                            | Irma Branchfield       | Miley Serafin                     |
| Clara                                    | Barb                   | Charlie Alpaugh                   |
| Harris Schnars                           | Wayne Anderson         | Louise Kent                       |
| John Mantone                             | Lou & Jo Ann Scachetti | Ellen Alpaugh                     |
| Carole Hare                              | Jan H.                 | Sue Buldiger                      |
| Virginia Vandersall                      | Paul Boccia            | Elaine Bearley                    |
| Diane Betancourt                         | Mike Hompesch          | Georganne Pisorchik               |
| Jacqueline                               | Grace                  | Joan Salmon                       |
| Marlene                                  | James R. Smith Sr.     | Ruth Ranft                        |
| Kathleen Haughey                         | Jeris Stewart          | Marge Wilkins                     |
| Kyle Romaine                             | Doug Wilkins           | Carol Bender                      |
| Aunt Mary and family                     | Maxine Davis           | Brett Miller                      |
| Barbara Hofmann                          | Vivian Thomas          | Marie Brennen                     |
| Fred Pisorchik                           | Juanita Koch           | Eric                              |
| Frank Lynch                              | Les Roof               | Christine and her family          |
| Melissa T.                               | C. Hamilton            | Prayers for all the families that |
| Marlene Todd                             | AmiJo Bearley          | have lost loved ones this         |
|  | Lee Anderson           | year and in years past            |

**FOR THE FAMILIES OF...**

- |                   |                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Gregory Underhill | George Donaldson        |
| Derrick Guick     | Pastor Donald Wassinger |

**DONATION**

A donation has been made to the Megan O'Halloran Music Fund in memory of Edward Neighbour, by Charles Treloar.

# SCHOOLS BACK SO LET THE COLLECTING CONTINUE!

As many people head back to school and are stocking up on school supplies, don't forget to look for those products with the **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION** ([www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com)) and **LABELS FOR EDUCATION** ([www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com)) on them. FPCS continues to collect them and all you need to do is clip them out and put them in the designated collection containers outside the church office. It's that easy!



## 2015 COLLECTION TOTALS TO DATE

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION: 547 Box Tops**

**LABELS FOR EDUCATION: 343 Labels for Education**

---

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact the church office at [fpcsunna@optonline.net](mailto:fpcsunna@optonline.net) or at 973-584-5238 if you have a new address and especially a new email address. If you are a college student or have recently graduated, please let the church office know your new email address so that the Open Door can continue to be sent to you.



---

**Children and Worship:** Children are considered to be an important part of our Worship experience. We encourage children to participate in the choirs as well as in the presentation of the word as a part of their Sunday School learning experience. **Children's Time**, for children 3 years through 2nd grade, is a special children's message delivered during the worship service.

**For the Handicapped:** Our Sanctuary is handicapped accessible. We also provide handicapped parking. Our church is equipped with a radio broadcasting system for the hearing impaired. Those with special needs should request assistance from an usher. Recordings of Sunday services are available on cassette. If you are interested in receiving a copy, please contact the church office.

## First Presbyterian Church

*Get Involved ~ Grow in Faith*

99 Main Street

Succasunna, NJ 07876

*Time Dated Material -- Published Monthly*

*Address Service Requested*

Sunday Schedule for November

9:00 AM Adult Bible Study/Christian Education

10:00 AM Sunday Worship