

# Old First Church

# WEATHERVANE

Huntington, NY

March 2007

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## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

It's human nature, perhaps – in the church, anyway -- to be brooding and critical, and to mull-over the negatives. So, let's pause to thank God for Ten Great Things About Old First Presbyterian Church!

(1) The Confirmation Class participated February 2-3 in the Youth Services Opportunities Project, a Friends (Quaker)-run ministry in Greenwich Village. Members of our class worked side-by-side with youth from churches in Connecticut and New Hampshire, in soup kitchens and shelters in New York City.

(2) There are now 15-20 Middle Schoolers participating in Old First youth programs, being planned and led by our newest staff member, Cathy Jones.

(3) The session recently completed a comprehensive revision of the church's Wedding Policies, designed to update important details of planning a wedding at Old First, but also intended to define the church's Biblical understanding of marriage, in a warm-hearted, welcoming spirit and tone.

(4) The budget presented to the Congregational Meeting on March 4 is balanced, and includes allocations for denominational mission causes which for several years were dropped in order to meet local expenses.

(5) In a period of increasing polarization and division in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Old First remains a place where theological liberals, conservatives, and those at all points in-between, continue to worship, work and witness together, remaining united in essentials while respectfully and gracefully diverse in other matters.

(6) The ministers of the six Huntington-area Presbyterian churches – Old First, Central, Bethany, Greenlawn, Sweet Hollow and Northport – now get together monthly for fellowship, prayer and conversation. This monthly gathering may result in collaborative ministries. But more important than new programs, the friendship and trust among clergy may lead the way to renewed friendship and trust among congregations, which, from time-to-time in the past, have regarded one another in unfriendly or distrustful ways.

(7) Our Presbytery of Long Island has an excellent new Interim Executive, The Rev. Ellen Marquardt, an exciting new organizational design, and renewed energy and vision for the challenges of faithfulness in this place at this time.

(8) We continue to serve the “least of these” in Huntington, through HiHi, the Community Food Council, and many other programs of service.

(9) More “outside” community groups than ever are using our facilities, providing some income, of course, but more important than that, keeping faith with our historic commitment to be a place and presence in the community.

(10) Spring Training has begun! (That’s not a church thing, but I include it on any list of great things this time of the year!)

Thanks for all you do and for who you are!

See you in Church!  
Rick

#### MARCH WORSHIP, 10 AM

March 4	Worship with Communion
March 11	Worship with Baptism Daylight Saving Time Begins!
March 18	Worship with Kids and Youth Choirs
March 25	Worship with Special Music - The Sanctuary Choir will present the cantata “Footprints in the Sand” by Joseph M. Martin. This is a new work and will be incorporated into the service.

Choir Fund-Raiser      March 24

Pancake Breakfast      March 18

#### CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE

Friday-Saturday, March 2-3      Retreat at Holmes Presbyterian Camp

Sunday, March 18, 6-8 PM      Regular Class

## ANNUAL MEETINGS

The semi-annual meeting of the Congregation and the annual meeting of the Corporation, Old First Presbyterian Church, Huntington, is scheduled for March 4, 2007.

The meeting of the Congregation will be held immediately following the 10 a.m. worship service, at approximately 11 a.m. The purposes of the meeting will be: (1) to receive reports from church programs and leaders, (2) to receive financial statements for 2006 and the budget for 2007; (3) to act on a recommendation from the session to change the Terms of Call of the Minister; and (4) to transact any other business which rightly may be raised. The recommended changes in Terms of Call are as follows: Salary increase from \$59,000 to \$64,000, with Board of Pensions (medical and retirement) payment increased as required per formula. Copies of reports will be available beginning February 25.

## LENT BIBLE STUDIES

Wednesday, 10 AM

Study #1: *Cuba Partnership Studies*

February 28      John 7:53-8:11

March 7            John 13

Study #2: *Trial, Crucifixion and Resurrection According to John*

March 14          John 18

March 21          John 19

March 28          John 20-21

## COMMUNITY FOOD COUNCIL

Our food of the month for March is soap, small shampoo and toothpaste. Please bring you donations with you to worship on Sunday, March 4.

## TO OUR FRIENDS AT OLD FIRST

Pat and I would like to thank you for all the cards, phone calls and concern for Pat while he was in the hospital for lung surgery and during his recovery at home. We are most fortunate and thankful he is doing well. Thanks also to the Deacon's for the delicious cookies they sent to Pat and to Heather Tucker for delivering them to us all the way to our door in Commack. What friends we have at Old First! Thank you for your thoughtfulness! God Bless you all.

Pat and Joan Lobasso



**OLD FIRST CHURCH  
ANNUAL CHOIR  
FUNDRAISER**

**DINNER CONCERT  
MARCH 24, 2006  
Hors D'oeuvres 6:00 p.m.  
Candlelight Dinner 7:00 p.m.**

**Menu**

*Salad with Raspberry Vinaigrette  
Dressing  
Breads  
Beef Bourguignonne, Baked  
Potatoes  
and Glazed Carrots*

*Cannoli with Coffee or Tea*

**Entertainment by**

**Solo Noi Tre**

**(Ken, Gary and Justine)**

*Concert will start  
after dessert is served*

**Tickets \$25 per person**

*Please reserve in advance  
(Tickets on sale starting  
Sunday, March 4)*

**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE  
HEALTH KITS REMINDER**

At our March meetings, all Circles will put together Church World Service Health Kits. Please bring:

*1 comb  
1 metal nail clipper with file  
1 tooth brush  
1 4.7 ounce tube of toothpaste  
1 bar of soap  
6 band aids  
\$1.00 to help defray shipping charges*

These items will be wrapped in a hand towel with washcloth, both of which are provided by PW. The plastic bag to contain items has been donated.

Questions? Call Ginny Thompson (423-1381)

**VACATION**

**BIBLE SCHOOL 2007**

Discussion and plans are in the works! We believe that VBS, together with Greenlawn Presbyterian, is a possibility this year as we all had such a wonderful experience last summer. If you have any input at all, such as time of month, availability to help out, curriculum suggestions, etc., please contact Jamie in the church office or by email at

[jcr1610@aol.com](mailto:jcr1610@aol.com) Your prompt response will be reflected in the quality of the Vacation Bible School Program this year.

## BIBLE SUNDAY

*This spring we look forward to presenting the third grade children with his or her very own Bible. A Bible that we hope your child will turn to for guidance and support in the years to come.*

*We would like to have the Bible inscribed with each child's full name. First name, middle name, and last name.*

*In a effort to be sure that we have all of the correct information please complete the form below and return to the church office at your earliest convenience.*

*We will be in contact with you as to the date of the Sunday Bible presentation.*

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*PARENTS FULL NAME* \_\_\_\_\_

*CHILD'S FIRST NAME* \_\_\_\_\_

*CHILD'S MIDDLE NAME* \_\_\_\_\_

*CHILD'S LAST NAME* \_\_\_\_\_

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**PW Coordinating Team ... Tuesday,  
March 6, 9:30 a.m.**

**Circle 1 ... Monday, March 26, 7:30  
p.m.** Leslie Schult will lead the discussion - "The Creative Spirit - God's Spirit Within Us". All welcome. Questions? Call Lori Kepler (271-4628) or Anna Bess Robinson (673-5177).

**Circle 2 ... Wednesday, March 28,  
11:30 a.m.** The speaker will be a Police Officer with "interesting tales to tell". Everyone is welcome. Questions? Call Edie Jahier (367-3170) or Carol Saenger (423-7624).

**Circle 3 ... Tuesday, March 21, 12:30  
p.m.** The study of Genesis will continue with "Perspectives on Matriarchs - Rebekah, Leah and Rachel". Come join us. Questions? Call Pat Horner (673-5072) or Lucy Fetterolf (549-9499).

**Circle 4 ... Quilting Circle meets  
Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.** They continue to work on the "Fair Quilt" as well as shoulder covers for oncology patients at Huntington Hospital. Questions? Call Asenath Fuchs (692-4139).

**Circle 6 ...** will work on the Layette closet sorting and rearranging. Call Cindy Samuels (367-1857) for more information.

**Crafts ... Fridays, 9:30 a.m.** They are busy preparing for the Fall Fair making lovely gifts. Questions? Call Kris Colbert (271-4072)

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

March 18  
11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Please come, bring your family and friends for an excellent Pancake Breakfast, including sausage, eggs, coffee and tea.

Advance tickets can be purchased in the Parish Hall after worship.

\$7 adults  
\$5 youth (ages 3-12)  
Children under 3 are free.

Tickets will also be available at the door the day of the breakfast. Prices will increase \$1 so plan ahead and purchase

## EASTER FLOWERS



The beautiful Easter lilies which decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday have a dual purpose. Not only do they symbolize God's promise of rebirth, but they enable us to share this joyous spirit with the sick and homebound among our church family.

If you would like to provide flowers for these purposes, please fill out the form below and send it to:

*Presbyterian Women*

*Old First Church  
125 Main Street*

*Huntington, New York 11743*

The cost of purchasing an Easter lily is \$12 per plant. Please indicate how many plants you would care to donate, and indicate whether you would care to bring your lily home with you or would like to donate it to the church for distribution to our infirm church members. All requests must be in by ***Palm Sunday, April 1.***

We would like to thank all those who contribute to making our sanctuary a place of beauty and spiritual joy for Easter Sunday.

Audrey Boillotat (423-0831)

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# Plants \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Would like to take home. \_\_\_\_\_ Would like to donate.

Presented in loving memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

By:

\_\_\_\_\_

(Please make checks payable to Presbyterian Women, Old First Church. To insure correctness, please double check forms and be sure they are received by ***April 1.***)