

*First Congregational Church of River Edge
River Edge, New Jersey*

*A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany*

January 29, 2012

10:00 am

**Those who are able please stand*

SILENCE *God of the prophets, help us to recognize your voice among the competing claims of our day. Be present with us now to guide our prayers and praise. Light your fires within us so we may hear your call and give our best in your service. Amen.*

WELCOME

Russ Van Wetering *Capital Fund Fundraiser*
Alice Rushforth *Call for Annual Meeting*

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

*During the Prelude, we invite you to take time to quiet your heart
and discover anew God's presence in your life.*

PRELUDE

Daystar
The Pilgrim Ringers

arr. Anna Laura Page

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: This is the day that the Lord has made.

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!** (Psalm 118:24)

*HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

28

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

CALL TO CONFESSION (seated)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION (seated)

Forgive us, O God, if we take a negative view of life, if we see the blemish and ignore the beauty; if when we receive, we question the motive; if we see the glass half empty rather than half full; if we anticipate the worst rather than the best. Forgive us, we pray, for our gloom, and teach us to walk with confidence, trusting in your grace. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Prayer for Mercy (Kyrie)
The Chancel Choir

John Weaver

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD AND ONE ANOTHER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*CONGREGATIONAL CHORAL RESPONSE (standing)

**Glory to the Creator,
the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three – in – One;
as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
world without end, Amen. Amen.**

*PEACE OF CHRIST (standing)

Pastor: As we are forgiven in Jesus Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us extend to one another the peace of Christ...

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

In the Sweet By and By
The Pilgrim Ringers

arr. Anna Laura Page

THE WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Charles F. Holm

(Church School children, youth and staff may leave for their classes)

SCRIPTURE READING

William Lins, *Lay Reader*

Matthew 6:25-34

NT pg. 6

Lay Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

One Step at a Time

The Rev. Charles F. Holm

“This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”
(Psalm 118:24)

“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.”
(Matthew 6:34)

ORGAN RESPONSE

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

SHARING OUR TITHES, OUR GIFTS, OFFERINGS

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem

Sing a Lofty Song
The Chancel Choir

Robert J. Powell

*Doxology

*Unison Prayer of Dedication (standing)

God of peace and joy, we know that this is the day that you have made. Help us to rejoice and be glad in it. Help us always to give happily, always to give generously, always to give unselfishly, always to give humbly, always to give thankfully. In Jesus’ name. Amen.



O ra - diant Christ, in - car - nate Word, e - ter - nal love re - vealed in time:



Come, make your home with - in our hearts, that we may dwell in light sub - lime.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN
THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts and debtors)

CHORAL RESPONSE

*HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign

#300

*BENEDICTION

Carillon

Gordon Young

This is a time for reflection and prayer, and we invite you to remain seated in silence until the postlude is ended.

POSTLUDE



DEACON /USHERS: ☩ William Lins, Diane Lento, John Kuharetz, Stuart Heinzinger, Tim Wallace

☩ Head Usher

COUNTERS: John Kuharetz, Linda Stark, John Chatellier

GREETER: Gert Miller

LAY READER: William Lins

ALTAR GUILD: Diane Lento and Noreen Van Wetering

CHILD CARE: Diane Lento and Eileen Mars

FELLOWSHIP TIME: Ruth/Rebekkah Circle

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Please turn off or silence all electronics before worship.

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WELCOME, if you are a guest or visitor with us this morning! You are invited to sign our guest book in the Narthex, or fill out one of the visitor cards found in your pew. Cards can be placed in the plate as the offering is received.

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NURSERY AND CHILD CARE – is provided during Sunday worship for infants and toddlers in the Nursery on the lower level. Ask an usher or greeter for assistance.

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BOXES OF OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2012 are available in the Parlor. Please pick up yours today.

*

LARGE PRINT HYMNS may be obtained from an usher.

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ALTAR FLOWERS - If you would like to donate altar flowers for one of our worship services, please contact our Flower Coordinator, Carole Meeks at 201-262-3020. The donation for the flowers is \$25.00. Flowers can be taken home after the service or given to one of our shut-ins. The deadline for ordering altar flowers is the Sunday prior to their being placed on the Altar.

*

PRAYER CHAIN – You are welcome to put the name of a loved one, friend or neighbor on the Prayer List weekly. Call the church office at 201-261-1712, if you would like to add someone to the list. The Prayer List can be found in the bulletin. A Prayer List request form can be found in the Narthex each Sunday morning. Prayers **DO** make a difference.

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DEVOTIONAL PAMPHLETS, “Care Notes,” and devotional guides, “The Upper Room,” are available in the church narthex. The rack is refreshed regularly. Please take these for your own use or for friends.

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AVAILABLE - Copies of the **Annual Report Booklet** and the proposed new **Constitution and By-Laws** (revised) are available on the narthex table. Get your copies today in preparation for the Sunday, February 5 Annual Meeting!

*

THE ALTAR FLOWERS which enrich our worship today are provided by Marianne and Chuck Keehn.

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WINE, BEER AND CHEESE TASTING to benefit the church's Capital Fund will take place on Saturday, February 11, 2012, 6:30 pm at Nelson Patterson Insurance Agency, 746 River Road, New Milford, NJ. Tickets are available at Fellowship Time or by contacting Tom Rushforth at 201-265-1062.

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SECOND SUNDAY DONATIONS NEEDED – Donations for the Second Sunday's program are needed. If you would like to help, please see Anna Lou Kuenzler during Fellowship Time. Second Sunday is our congregation's ministry to our developmentally challenged friends of our church and community.

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CHAIR LIFT TO FELLOWSHIP HALL – The Chair Lift is located in the hallway at the exit by the pulpit. Please let one of the ushers know you will need assistance.

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PLEDGE CARDS – A solid financial commitment from our members and friends helps First Congregational Church of River Edge grow and thrive. Please remember to return your 2012 pledge card to the church as soon as possible. Pledge cards are on the table in the Narthex.

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SING A LOFTY SONG

Come, let us sing a lofty song,
and raise to Christ our joyful voice;
glory and worship to him belong,
let all be glad, let all rejoice.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of the First Congregational Church of River Edge will be held on Sunday, February 5, 2012, immediately following the morning service. The business will include the presentation of annual reports of church boards and committees, the financial report of the church, election of officers, and action on a proposed new Church Constitution and By-laws. Annual Report booklets will be available prior to the meeting. Child care will be provided for younger children.

Alice Rushforth
Church Clerk

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COPIES OF PROPOSED NEW CHURCH CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AVAILABLE

Copies of the proposed new Church Constitution and Bylaws are now available on the narthex table or from the Church Office. The congregation will be asked to vote on the document at the Annual Meeting scheduled for Sunday, February 5, 2012.

The Life of Our Church This Week

Sunday, January 29, 2012

- 9:15 am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 am – Carol/Nowell Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 am – Worship Service/Church School/Child Care
- 10:00 am – Confirmation Class
- 11:00 am – Fellowship Time
- 11:15 am – Info Sharing Constitution/By-Laws (Parlor)
- 12:30 pm – Korean Baptist Church

Monday, January 30, 2012

- 12:00 Noon – Al-Anon
- 7:30 pm – Church Council at Bob & Barbara Wieboldt's home

Tuesday, January 31, 2012

- 7:00 pm – Building Renovation Team
- 7:00 pm – Rachel Circle Meeting

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

- 12:00 Noon – Adult Study (Parlor)
- 7:00 pm – Vision Team (Board Room)
- 7:00 pm – AA

Thursday, February 2, 2012

- 3:15 pm – Girl Scout Troop #185
- 7:30 pm – Board of Christian Education
- 7:00 pm - Bell Choir
- 8:10 pm - Chancel Choir

Friday, February 3, 2012

- 7:00 pm – Tri-County Pipe & Drum Rehearsal

Saturday, February 4, 2012

- 8:30 am - KWIS
- 7:00 pm – AA

Sunday, February 5, 2012

Souper Bowl of Caring

- 9:15 am – Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 am – Carol/Nowell Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 am – Worship Service/Communion/Church School Child Care
- 10:00 am – Confirmation Class
- 11:00 am – Annual Meeting (Sanctuary) Fellowship Time to follow in Fellowship Hall
- 12:30 pm – Korean Baptist Church

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF RIVER EDGE

Our Mission

Our mission is to worship God, care for one another, and witness to Jesus Christ in our community and the world.

Our Vision

We seek to be a dynamic community of faith committed to spiritual growth, following Christ's example and God's Word. Respecting our past and recognizing today's challenges, we move forward with diverse worship, education, mission and compassionate care for all.

*First Congregational Church
109 Continental Avenue
River Edge, New Jersey 07661*

CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION

Phone (201) 261-1712

Website – www.fccriveredge.org

Church Office e-mail – office@fccriveredge.org

*Church Office Hours: Monday to Friday
9:00 am to Noon and 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm*

Church Staff

The Rev. Charles F. Holm Pastor	cfhcfhrev@aol.com 201-483-8717 (home)
Gloria Norton, S.M.M. Director of Music	glorinor@aol.com
Theresa Wallace Administrative Assistant	office@fccriveredge.org



**ANOTHER PUMPKIN PATCH 2012
PLANNING MEETING SET!**

Another important Meeting---to plan for this October's Pumpkin Patch---will be held on Sunday, February 26, 11:30 AM, in the Church Parlor (first floor). Those wanting to know more about 'the patch', and perhaps to be a part of this year's patch coordination and planning, are urged to attend. Your support is needed! For more information, contact Pam Weiler or Ron Phillips, 201-261-3895. See you at the Pumpkin Patch Planning meeting!



Sunday, February 5, is Super Bowl Sunday, and once again our congregation will take part in the *Souper Bowl of Caring!*

Souper Bowl of Caring began over 30 years ago, and since then, tens of millions of dollars have been raised for local charities across the country. Through this annual mission, young people learn what it's like to make a positive difference in the world. As they collect food and raise money for charities, they provide food to the hungry and compassion to those in need.

On Sunday, February 5, the members of the Confirmation Class will stand at the church doors with containers and collect **money** – which will be donated to the Center for Food Action in Englewood.

Also on February 5, everyone is invited to bring a **can of soup**, which also will be donated to the Center for Food Action.

Our *Souper Bowl of Caring* effort is being coordinated by the Board of Christian Education and the Board of Christian Service. Please give generously on Super Bowl Sunday!