

The Good News Gazette

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

94 – 96 Main Street
Chester, New York 10918
845-469-4877

JANUARY 2012

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

By Reverend Richard E. Ploth

“Happy New Year!!”, we say to each other hoping what we wish will come true. We certainly would be grateful for a Happy 2012.

2011 is gone. Some will say too bad, it was a good year. Others will bid it "good riddance" having found it less than a blessing..

At any rate, we stand at an ending and a beginning, knowing that 2012 will be a great and good year for many and a difficult and painful one for others. It is obvious we cannot control these matters.

We can only seek wisdom and strength for the days that lie ahead. We pray for strength and courage to bear our own burdens and grace and compassion to be a help to those who will be experiencing trials and difficulties.

We can also cultivate the spirit of gratitude as we experience joyful things. We will be most happy when we freely share those blessings.

Whatever, Happy New Year is still our wish. May we be granted grace, mercy and peace in 2012.

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Monthly Readings From
The First Presbyterian Church, Chester, NY

Published June, 1898 in Chester, NY

Historical Record: 1798-1898

Part 7

In 1810 the Chester Church was taken under the care of the Hudson Presbytery, and thus became a child of the General Assembly Presbyterian Church in the U.S. of America. She still retained so many of her independent privileges that the Presbytery was not certain of her status until three years later, when on April 8th, 1813, the Church and congregation, by public vote, adopted the Presbyterian form of Church government and became a thoroughly Presbyterian congregation.

A few days later, and under the direction of the Presbytery, an election for elders was held, which resulted in the choice of the two deacons, General Seth Marvin and Jonathan Hallock with William Vail and William Gray. Mr. Gray declined to serve, but the others were solemnly ordained to their office on the following Sabbath, April 18th, 1813. In September of that same year two more elders, Elnathan Satterly and Abraham Stickney, were added to the Session. The church had been some time without a regular Pastor; but on April 12th, 1813, the Church called Mr. Noah Coe as the successor of Rev. Daniel Crane.

Mr. Noah Coe was ordained and installed as Pastor, July 3rd, 1813, the Presbytery meeting in Chester at that time. Rev. Noah Coe's pastorate was very brief, ending in the following spring of 1814. On August 23rd of the same year a unanimous call was then extended to James H. Thomas, who was ordained and installed Pastor October 12th of the same year. Mr. Thomas was engaged, however, for only two-thirds of his time. The Rev. Dr. Frieland, former pastor of Monroe, thinks the other third of his time was given to that place. His salary from the Chester Church is stated by Dr. Leggett to have been \$333.34.

We hope you will look forward to reading more about the founding and early years of our Church in future newsletters.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN MOVEMENT

The Uniqueness of the FLC

The FLC Prayer Movement is simple, yet significant and unique.

1. It brings Christian women together in a fellowship of prayer without discrimination by race, nationality, color, culture or denomination. The Christian women of the world have solidarity with each other through their common concern and love for humankind. Women throughout the world are bound together in both giving and receiving.
2. The offering is unique because all, whether rich or poor, educated or illiterate, urban or rural women, give only the smallest coin of their national currency. All are within the same discipline and share the common concerns of women around the world.
3. It is stewardship, both of the idea as well as of the Fund. These least coins, when put together, become a larger amount in the same way individual prayers offered by many members throughout the world become a strong force in bringing about reconciliation, peace and justice.

The uniqueness of fellowship in prayer, which binds us together in both giving and receiving, teaches us to appreciate differences; to understand and forgive one another; to live and work together, interdependently as equal partners.

The Least Coin teaches us to be humble, to value the least and to trust that nothing is impossible for God who can do great things from the least and the unexpected.

Women's Council Notes:

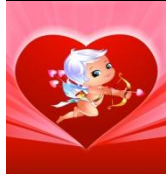
We sent \$28.50 to this offering – and \$125.00 to the American Bible Society (Thank Cards), and we are grateful we could augment funds for our own Church's needs.

TWO MEETINGS IN JANUARY:

January 10 – 1PM in the library with Catherine DeAngelis leading the program,

AND

January 31 – 1PM when we gather to make our very own special VALENTINES!



Always a fun time for all!



See you both dates!



Music / Worship Team



The committee is in agreement about revising and updating the Prayer List in the church bulletins. Therefore it was decided that we would list the names of those families and friends who need to be remembered month by month. Some may be carried over a second or third month if the need continues. If you have a personal health or other issue or know of another's to share with the congregation please call Edna Babcock at 469-2034 or the church office at 469-4877 to leave a message. Thank You for your understanding and acceptance of these necessary changes so the list may be kept current.

Minister:	Reverend Richard E. Ploth
Clerk of Session:	John Ravert (845) 469-2340
Moderator of Deacons:	Matt Van Der Meulen (469-2088)
Treasurer:	John Ravert (469-1801)
Secretary:	Ruth Magyar (469-4078)

Church Office:	469-4877
E-mail:	info@chespresny.com
Website:	www.chespresny.com

**If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact our pastor,
Reverend Richard Ploth at
631-338-4965 or via e-mail (which he checks regularly) to lyndik@optonline.net.**

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