



Steeple Views

First Presbyterian Church
209 Union Street
Schenectady, NY 12305

Pastor Larry Roff

www.1stpreshurch.org

518 374-4546

January 2010

Family News

Goodbye to the McHeards

The First Pres family said goodbye to Ken and Lisa on Friday, December 18, with a buffet dinner in their honor. We will miss Ken's ministry and warm smile as he takes up his new responsibilities as the senior pastor of the Duaneburg Reformed Presbyterian Church.

"Lisa and I give heartfelt thanks to everyone who had part in the evening, for your expressions of gratitude and generosity. We had a great time.

"Please know that your investment in our ministry is deeply valuable to us, and we cherish the relationships we've formed here. We look back with appreciation and fondness, even as we look forward to our new ministry with anticipation and trust in God's faithfulness.

"We love you."

Pastor Ken



photo by Chris Millian

Pastor Ken McHeard gives his closing remarks at his farewell dinner with the First Presbyterian Church family and friends

(See more pictures Page 5)

Pastor's Points

Senior Pastor Larry Roff

Become a Groupie

Did you know that there were hundreds of small home groups in the Jerusalem church at the time of Stephen's martyrdom and Paul's conversion? That's the only way the church members could meet since there were soon more than 10,000 believers in that city. We read specifically in Acts 2 that they met together "from house to house" studying the apostles' teaching, breaking bread, praying, and sharing with one another according to their needs.

It was in a small home group that John and Charles Wesley were converted. Though already serving as ordained ministers, they had not yet understood the gospel of grace and what it meant to trust Christ. John Wesley wrote in his journal, "My heart was strangely warmed" after God opened his understanding in one of those home groups. The two brothers became key instruments in God's hands in the Great Awakening of the eighteenth century. And it all began in that home group.

Small home groups have always been an essential part of a healthy church. In fact, instead of describing themselves as a church **WITH** small groups, some congregations today describe themselves as a church **OF** small groups with virtually every member participating in a home group. The degree of spiritual intensity and fervor small groups develop rarely occurs outside of them.

In these small groups we get to know not only the Bible but also the God of the Bible in a wonderfully intimate way. Here we develop relationships with one another that truly make us one in Christ.

We want everyone at First Pres to experience the blessings that come from being in a small home group. Sign up now so that you will be ready to participate in one of the groups when they begin meeting in February. Call the church office to request information about a group near you—or to offer your home as a host—or even to volunteer to lead such a group if there is an opportunity to do so.

Happy New Year!
Pastor Roff

Children's Ministries

Operation Christmas Child Record Setting Collection

We broke our record! This year we prepared **81** boxes for distribution through Samaritan's Purse. This was double last year's collection and a record high for the last five years. Imagine the happy faces of children opening their gifts and learning about Jesus.

Junior Choir Singers Welcome!



If you are a child in kindergarten through junior high, you are eligible to participate in the junior choir. All are welcome. Join us on Wednesday nights at 6:30 in the choir room.



Mrs. Peg Meo assists
the children at the
Mitten Tree

The Mitten Tree

Warm Hearts, Warm Hands!

Again this year, Children's Ministries is decorating a Christmas tree with mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats to warm some of our neighbors. Items can be for infants through adults and should be new or in like-new condition. If you would like to participate, please bring your items to the tree located in the center hallway of Turnbull House. Place them on the tree or in the boxes located under the tree. Donations will be accepted through January 3, 2010.

Kids Zone - Don't miss all the fun!

Ages 4 years - 6th grade

Every Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:15p

Bible and Activities
each week

This year's Bible theme is

Jehovah Jireh: God Will Provide, a study of Genesis

4-6 year-old class taught by Liz and Jim Bailey

2nd- 6th grade taught by Miss Gower and activity leaders

Missions

Notes from the Committee

Thanks to all of you who helped make the 60th Annual Missionary Conference in October a success by hosting missionaries, preparing food, and praying. It is "By His Grace and For His Glory" that we present Christ at home and abroad. Our missionaries, refreshed and appreciative of the conference, sent some notes to share with you.

Notes from Missionaries

"We sure had a rewarding time being at 1st Pres. We were especially encouraged this time as we felt that we were able to get to know more people."

- Peter and Sharon McMillan

"We so appreciate all of you and what you do!! It was our joy to be there in your midst for this special missions week...You are a dear people. ... Thank you for your loving ways!"

- Evan and Carol Smith

"Dr. and Mrs. Tson truly enjoyed the time and fellowship at your Missions Conference. [We] trust God will sink all messages delivered at that time in the hearts of the listeners. May He continue to bless you and your ministry!"

- Romanian Missionary Society

"The conference simply couldn't have gone any better from our perspective. It was a true joy and honor to attend. May God bless you all in the coming year for His glory!"

- Adam and Joyce Kjørvestad

"Thank you so much for the invitation to share about New Hope in your morning worship service and adult Sunday school on November 1. It was wonderful to meet you all and to thank you in person for your faithful support of New Hope over the [more than thirty-six] years...Thank you for your prayers – they mean so much.

- Judy Geyer, Executive Director of
New Hope Family Services of Syracuse

Manhattan Declaration

One of the most significant
spiritual events of our time

Recently a group of evangelical leaders (such as J. I. Packer, James Dobson, Charles Colson, Albert Mohler, Tim Keller, Joni Eareckson Tada, Erwin Lutzer, Harry Reeder) gathered in Manhattan to pledge themselves to the defense of three issues that are under major attack by our culture ...

1. The sanctity of human life (abortion, euthanasia, genocide)
2. The sanctity of marriage (homosexual marriage, divorce, pornography)
3. The sanctity of religious liberty (erosion of freedom of Christian expression)

From the original 180 signers, a public invitation has thus far elicited over 300,000 signatories, most of them laypeople just like you. These are critical matters in which Christians need to stand up to defend the faith in the face of major hostile attack.

Authors of the document include this prefatory statement:

Inasmuch as these truths are foundational to human dignity and the well-being of society, they are inviolable and non-negotiable. Because they are increasingly under assault from powerful forces in our culture, we are compelled today to speak out forcefully in their defense, and to commit ourselves to honoring them fully no matter what pressures are brought upon us and our institutions to abandon or compromise them. We make this commitment not as partisans of any political group but as followers of Jesus Christ, the crucified and risen Lord, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

We encourage you to go on-line to read the entire declaration. (It is a superbly worded document defining these three issues.) We also encourage you to add your name (confidentially) to the rapidly-growing list of signers. You will find all the information at www.manhattandeclaration.org.

Sing to the Lord

The Hymnody of the Christian Church (Part 1)



One of the unique characteristics of Christian worship is the congregational singing of hymns. You won't find Moslems celebrating the love of their god in a mosque. Sounds of joyful singing aren't heard in the courts of Buddhist temples. Neither will you hear beautiful music wafting from voices in the gardens of a Shinto shrine.

But Christian worship is at its best when sanctuaries filled with believers respond to the preaching of God's word with jubilant songs of praise. The story of Christian hymnody over the centuries is a thrilling account of how God has prompted His people to compose new words and music for every generation to laud His saving greatness.

During this year I will take you on a brief survey of the hymnody of our faith beginning this month with hymns of the ancient church. I hope that by doing so, you will come to appreciate the rich resources of our hymnals and that you will be equipped and motivated to sing to the Lord with even greater enthusiasm and appreciation.

The early church worshipped in the pattern imitated from the Jewish synagogues in which most of the first converts had learned Messianic promises. Scripture, preaching, and prayer were combined with the singing of the Psalms of the Old Testament. With the discovery that Christ was that Messiah came the beginnings of new Christian Psalms. We see that pattern beginning with the nativity songs in Luke's gospel.

There were original compositions of the apostolic churches sung along with the Old Testament Psalms. Paul refers to these new psalms in his letter to the Corinthians (1 Cor. 14:26) as well as in his letters to the Ephesians (Eph. 5:19) and Colossians (Col. 3:16). In addition, most Biblical scholars recognize a few passages in the New Testament that are poetic quotes and may well be lines from familiar first century hymns (such as 1 Tim. 3:16).

Add to these the hymns that are sung in the book of Revelation ("Worthy is the Lamb"), and there is no doubt that original Christian hymns were being written and sung in the worship of the apostolic church. We know from church history that this continued in the early church, since we have descriptions of that practice in the writings of the early church fathers.

(continued on Page 4)

Take the New Year's Challenge

Through the Bible in a Year



Want a Happy New Year? Then fill your mind and heart with God's Word. This is a tool to help you read through the Bible in a year. (We've included January through March. You will notice there are four readings for each day.) Your year may not go the way you planned, but God's Word will change the way you look at each day.

Step 1: Get a Bible that you can highlight and write your study notes in. Cut out each of the four Bible Reading Plan Bookmarks below.

Step 2: Insert Bookmark 1 into Genesis. Insert Bookmark 2 into Psalms. Insert Bookmark 3 into Matthew. Insert Bookmark 4 into Acts.

Step 3: Read the verses for each day from each of the bookmarks.
Example: On January 1, read Genesis 1-2, Psalm 1, Matthew 1:1-17, and Acts 1:1-11.

Step 4: Check the boxes beside each verse when you have completed the reading. Repeat this process daily until you have read the entire Bible.

Bookmark #1: Genesis			Bookmark #2: Psalms			Bookmark #3: Matthew			Bookmark #4: Acts		
January Genesis	February Exodus	March Numbers	January Psalms	February Psalms	March Psalms	January Matthew	February Matthew	March Matthew	January Acts	February Acts	March Romans
<input type="checkbox"/> 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 48	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:21-42	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:23-32	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:22-41	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-17
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4-6	<input type="checkbox"/> 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 25	<input type="checkbox"/> 49	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:18-25	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:1-19	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:33-46	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:12-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:1-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:18-32
<input type="checkbox"/> 5-8	<input type="checkbox"/> 7-9	<input type="checkbox"/> 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 26	<input type="checkbox"/> 50	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:20-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 22:1-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:1-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:16-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 9-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 10-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 27	<input type="checkbox"/> 51	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:13-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:1-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 22:15-33	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:22-47	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:1-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
<input type="checkbox"/> 12-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 13-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 9-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 28	<input type="checkbox"/> 52	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:22-37	<input type="checkbox"/> 22:34-46	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:16-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
<input type="checkbox"/> 15-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-18	<input type="checkbox"/> 12-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 29	<input type="checkbox"/> 53	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:13-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:38-50	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:1-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:1-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:1-11
<input type="checkbox"/> 18-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 19-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 15-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 30	<input type="checkbox"/> 54	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 13:1-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:13-24	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:23-37	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:18-28	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:12-21
<input type="checkbox"/> 21-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 31	<input type="checkbox"/> 55	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:12-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 13:24-43	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:25-39	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:1-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:1-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:1-14
<input type="checkbox"/> 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 24-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 32	<input type="checkbox"/> 56	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:18-25	<input type="checkbox"/> 13:44-58	<input type="checkbox"/> 24:1-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:17-42	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:23-41	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:15-23
<input type="checkbox"/> 25-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 27-29	<input type="checkbox"/> 23-25	<input type="checkbox"/> 10	<input type="checkbox"/> 33	<input type="checkbox"/> 57	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 14:1-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 24:15-35	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:1-12
<input type="checkbox"/> 27-28	<input type="checkbox"/> 30-31	<input type="checkbox"/> 26-27	<input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 34	<input type="checkbox"/> 58	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:13-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 14:22-36	<input type="checkbox"/> 24:36-51	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:1-38	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:13-38	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:13-25
<input type="checkbox"/> 29-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 32-33	<input type="checkbox"/> 28-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 35	<input type="checkbox"/> 59	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:21-32	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:1-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 25:1-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:39-60	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:1-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:1-17
<input type="checkbox"/> 31	<input type="checkbox"/> 34	<input type="checkbox"/> 31-32	<input type="checkbox"/> 13	<input type="checkbox"/> 36	<input type="checkbox"/> 60	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:33-48	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:21-39	<input type="checkbox"/> 25:14-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:1-25	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:27-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:18-39
<input type="checkbox"/> 32-33	<input type="checkbox"/> 35-37	<input type="checkbox"/> 33-36	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	<input type="checkbox"/> 37:1-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 61	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:1-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 25:31-46	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:26-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 22	<input type="checkbox"/> 9:1-18
<input type="checkbox"/> 34-35	<input type="checkbox"/> 38-40	<input type="checkbox"/> Deut 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/> 15	<input type="checkbox"/> 37:23-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 62	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:16-24	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:13-28	<input type="checkbox"/> 26:1-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 9:1-19	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 9:19-33
<input type="checkbox"/> 36	<input type="checkbox"/> Leviticus	<input type="checkbox"/> 4-5	<input type="checkbox"/> 16	<input type="checkbox"/> 38	<input type="checkbox"/> 63	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:25-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:1-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 26:17-35	<input type="checkbox"/> 9:20-43	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:12-35	<input type="checkbox"/> 10
<input type="checkbox"/> 37-38		<input type="checkbox"/> 6-8	<input type="checkbox"/> 17	<input type="checkbox"/> 39	<input type="checkbox"/> 64	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:1-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:14-27	<input type="checkbox"/> 26:36-56	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:1-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:1-24
<input type="checkbox"/> 39-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 5-7	<input type="checkbox"/> 9-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:1-24	<input type="checkbox"/> 40	<input type="checkbox"/> 65	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:15-29	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:1-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 26:57-75	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:24-28	<input type="checkbox"/> 25:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:25-36
<input type="checkbox"/> 41	<input type="checkbox"/> 8-10	<input type="checkbox"/> 13-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:25-50	<input type="checkbox"/> 41	<input type="checkbox"/> 66	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:1-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:15-35	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:1-10	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:1-18	<input type="checkbox"/> 25:13-27	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:1-8
<input type="checkbox"/> 42-43	<input type="checkbox"/> 11-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 19	<input type="checkbox"/> 42	<input type="checkbox"/> 67	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:14-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:1-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:11-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:19-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 26:1-18	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:9-21
<input type="checkbox"/> 44-45	<input type="checkbox"/> 14-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 22-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 20	<input type="checkbox"/> 43	<input type="checkbox"/> 68	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:23-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:16-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:27-44	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 26:19-32	<input type="checkbox"/> 13
<input type="checkbox"/> 46-47	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 27-28	<input type="checkbox"/> 21	<input type="checkbox"/> 44	<input type="checkbox"/> 69:1-18	<input type="checkbox"/> 9:1-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:1-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:45-56	<input type="checkbox"/> 13:1-25	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:1-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 14
<input type="checkbox"/> 48	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 29-31	<input type="checkbox"/> 22:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 45	<input type="checkbox"/> 69:19-36	<input type="checkbox"/> 9:14-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:17-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:57-66	<input type="checkbox"/> 13:26-52	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:27-44	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:1-13
<input type="checkbox"/> 49	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 32	<input type="checkbox"/> 22:12-31	<input type="checkbox"/> 46	<input type="checkbox"/> 70	<input type="checkbox"/> 9:27-38	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 28:1-10	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	<input type="checkbox"/> 28:1-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:14-33
<input type="checkbox"/> 50	<input type="checkbox"/> 24-25	<input type="checkbox"/> 33-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 23	<input type="checkbox"/> 47	<input type="checkbox"/> 71	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:1-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:12-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 28:11-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:1-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 28:17-31	<input type="checkbox"/> 16

Sing to the Lord (continued from Page 3)



One of the greatest theologians of the church was Augustine. Following his conversion (in the late 300's), he became a bishop in North Africa. A factor influencing his conversion was the marvelous singing he heard in Milan when visiting there to hear the famous Ambrose of Milan preach. Most hymnals today include a translation of Ambrose's hymn "O Splendor of God's Glory Bright" as well as another written even earlier by Clement of Alexandria (ca. 200), "Shepherd of Tender Youth."

The best example of ancient hymnody in the hymnals at First Presbyterian Church is the song we often sing at Christmas, "Of the Father's Love Begotten." Written by a Spanish soldier turned lawyer turned missionary, Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, it lauds the eternal deity of Christ. This was especially powerful at a time when adherents of an early heresy, the Arians, were writing hymns that rejected that key doctrinal truth.

As the centuries rolled on, more and more Christian hymns began to be written, often arising as folk music rather than by a known composer. Two examples of those in our hymnal are "Be Thou My Vision" (from Ireland in the eighth century) and "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" (a seventh century Latin text). We don't know what music would have been used originally for these ancient hymns, but it was probably something resembling medieval chant.

Next month we'll look at the hymnody of the medieval church.

First Presbyterian Church 250th anniversary 1760 – 2010

Prominent Figures in the Reformed Faith in America

No. 1- Francis Makemie, the “Father of American Presbyterianism”

Francis Makemie (1658 – 1708) was born in Ramelton, County Donegal, Ireland. In 1676, he was enrolled in the University of Glasgow. This young brown-haired blue-eyed Irishman witnessed the extensive persecution of Presbyterians in Ulster and Scotland which followed the restoration of the monarchy in 1660. He was ordained in Northern Ireland in 1682 by the Presbytery of Laggan and sent to America as a missionary to plant Presbyterian congregations.



In 1684, Makemie established the first Presbyterian congregation in America, located in Snow Hill, Maryland. The first building was a log building. A frame building was erected next. The fourth and present building

was constructed in 1889 and dedicated to the glory of God and in memory of Francis Makemie. It is the only church in the country allowed to be so named.

In 1687, Francis purchased land in Accomack County, Virginia. He engaged in shipping and trade to make a living, because small town churches could not afford to fully support a pastor. William Anderson, a successful businessman and landowner, helped Makemie become established. Francis married Anderson's

daughter, Naomi. The Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church in Onancock is named after her. In 1706, Makemie helped bring together Presbyterians from different backgrounds to establish the Presbytery of Philadelphia. This was the birth of American Presbyterianism. Makemie was elected the first moderator of the Presbytery. Makemie also established Presbyterian congregations in Maryland in Rehobeth, Salisbury, Princess Anne, Berlin and Pocomoke City as well as in two places in Virginia.

In January 1707, he was arrested by Lord Cornbury (aka Edward Hyde), the governor of New York, for preaching without a license. Though Anglicanism was the official religion, there were many dissenters who preached in different “denominations,” including Congregationalists, Quakers, Baptists, and Presbyterians. Though almost all shared a common commitment to the historic reformed faith, they differed in their views of sacraments and church government, and the relationship of church and state. For example, the London and Philadelphia Confessions adopted by Baptists and the 39 Articles of the Anglicans were virtually identical to the puritan Westminster Confession adopted by the Presbyterians, apart from the aforementioned subjects.

Makemie had a license to preach as a dissenter in Virginia and Maryland. After spending 6 weeks in jail, he was acquitted in June 1707. Though he was found innocent, he was ordered to pay the cost of his prosecution, thus prompting the New York legislature to forbid this from happening again in the future. This is considered a landmark case in favor of religious freedom in America.

Makemie eventually went to the Eastern Shore of Virginia and founded a community there. He died in the summer of 1708 and was buried on his farm on the Eastern shore.



RING IN THE NEW YEAR

on December 31st at

FIRST NIGHT 250

Come anytime after 6:30 p.m.,
stay as long as you wish until midnight.

Events of the evening include:

- Dinner served buffet style from 6:30 - 8:30
- Snack food available throughout the evening



➔ Special guest appearance by Uncle Guido

- Board games, jigsaw puzzles, and conversation anytime around the fireplace in the parlor
- Group events include:
 - ✓ 1st Pres. Jeopardy: test your knowledge of the church!
 - ✓ Pictionary: how do your drawing and perception skills match up with a 1st grader's?
 - ✓ Sing-along: get your body as well as your vocal chords moving
 - ✓ Relays: participate with all ages
 - ✓ Piñata: take a swing, or just wait for the goodies
 - ✓ Photo ID: think you know people? Then match the face with name--be sure to bring an old picture of yourself!

Midnight will find us at the church for prayer and praise.

Young children may stay with parents throughout the evening, or participate in special events and crafts.

Transportation will be available for those who do not wish to drive.



COST: \$5.00 per person
\$15.00 maximum per family-

Please email or phone as soon as possible if you plan on attending. Include your name, number of adults and children, and your phone number.

caroldavidpearson@gmail.com

Phone: 346-1707

Pastor Ken's Farwell

(continued from Page 1)

Photos of Pastor Ken by Chris Milian
www.photosfromonhigh.com



Mike Saccocio, Schenectady City Mission, congratulates Pastor Ken



Pastor Ken receives a standing ovation at his farewell dinner

Sharing God's Love

One Stitch at a Time

At the end of 2008, a group of ladies started meeting the first Saturday of each month to **sit, stitch, and share** God's love. We **sit** in Mekeel Hall between 1 and 3 pm; we **stitch** any kind of needle project, mostly knitting and crocheting; but the best part is **sharing** God's love—among ourselves and as we give our projects away.

We have sent men's knitted hats to Jack Goffigon's ministry with seamen in California; we've also given baby hats, booties, and mitts to Youth for Christ Teen Parents Ministry in Schenectady. Our next project will be to knit more hats, scarves, and mittens for the City Mission in Schenectady.

If you have never knitted before and would like to learn, we will gladly help you get started.

Come join us by the parlor fireplace in Mekeel Hall, Saturday, January 2.

If you have any questions, please call Bev Holt at 399-8310 or e-mail her at joyfully4HIM@msn.com.

*Donations of yarn are
always accepted.*



Bringing Joy to Others

Junior choir members singing
at a local nursing home