

## Rev. Roberts Named Pastor At Presbyterian Church

WESTFIELD — The Reverend Dr. Raymond R. Roberts, a minister for 20 years, has been named as head of staff at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, becoming the 23rd senior minister in the church's 277-year history.

He will deliver his first sermon this Sunday, March 6, at the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services at the church, located at 140 Mountain Avenue.

Reverend Roberts joins a ministerial staff made up of the Reverend Christina McCormick, Associate Pastor for Youth, and the Reverend Victoria Ney, Associate Pastor.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Westminster Col-

lege in Missouri, a Masters of Divinity degree from Columbia Seminary in Georgia, and a Doctoral degree in History and Theology from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia.

Earlier in his career, Reverend Roberts served several congregations in Virginia. Most recently, he was head of staff at the Grace Presbyterian Church in Jenkintown, Pa.

Author of the book "Whose Kids Are They Anyway? Religion and Morality in America's Public Schools," he has also written articles for various publications. He and his wife, Sallie, have two teenage children, Harrison and Katherine.



Rev. Raymond Roberts

### Caregivers Meeting Set Monday at St. Helen's

WESTFIELD — A support group for those caring for elderly or chronically ill loved ones will meet this Monday, March 7, at 8 p.m. in the parish center of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church, located on Lambert's Mill Road in Westfield.

Meetings are held on the first non-holiday Monday of each month. These are information and sharing sessions. For more information, please call Marilyn Ryan at (908) 233-8757.

### Rosarians to Gather On Monday Evening

SCOTCH PLAINS — St. Bartholomew's Rosary Altar Society will hold its next meeting on Monday, March 7, following the 7:30 p.m. Mass at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, 2032 Westfield Avenue in Scotch Plains.

A Lenten program will be featured. All women of the parish are invited to attend. Guests are welcome. For more information, please call (908) 322-5409.

## Spring Dates Announced For 'Tales in the Grove'

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, located at 1961 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains, has revealed the spring schedule for its "Tales in the Grove" storytime program.

Held the first and third Sundays of every month, "Tales in the Grove" starts at 7 p.m. and lasts 45 to 60 minutes. While currently geared towards children age two to five, older or younger siblings are welcome to attend as well.

The spring schedule is as follows: March 6 and 20, April 3 and 17, May 1 and 15, June 5 and 19.

Two congregation volunteers will attend Nutrition Lecture Set at Westfield Area 'Y'

WESTFIELD — Trinitas Hospital personnel will be at the Westfield Area "Y" on Monday, March 7, from 7 to 8 p.m. to present a lecture entitled "The Best Nutrition For Every Phase of Life."

Participants will learn which foods and nutrients are important at various stages of life. A question-and-answer session will follow the lecture.

This program is free and open to the public. The "Y" is located at 220 Clark Street in Westfield. For more information, please call (908) 233-2700, extension no. 251.

### First Baptist to Offer Living Wills Seminar

WESTFIELD — The Reverend Lou Ruprecht, a minister and attorney, will lead a seminar on Living Wills at 12:30 p.m. this Sunday, March 6, at the First Baptist Church of Westfield, located at 170 Elm Street.

He also will explain related topics such as a durable power of attorney and a health care advocate. Such documents protect the wishes of an individual if that person becomes ill and is unable to express them directly.

A cold buffet lunch will be provided for \$2 per person. For further information, please call the church office at (908) 233-2278 or email firstbaptist.westfield@verizon.net.



BEANIES FROM HOME...Brownie Troop No. 661 from Wilson Elementary School in Westfield recently collected over 200 Beanie Babies and sent them, along with Valentine's Day greetings, to United States soldiers stationed in Iraq. Beanie Babies are easy for the soldiers to carry and the children love them. Pictured above, from left to right, are: Katie Barry, Natasha Peregrin, Jill Rosenfeld, Kristen Ryan, Rebecca Kaufman, Gabrielle Buckman and Sophia Palla.

## Historical Society to Hear Talk on POW Experience

WESTFIELD — Zack Roberts, Past National Commander of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, will give a slide and lecture presentation on the Prisoner of War Experience in the European Theater during World War II to the Westfield Historical Society.

The program will take place on Friday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Westfield Municipal Building, located at 425 East Broad Street.

Mr. Roberts, a Mountaineer resident, served in North Africa, Sicily and Italy with Company E, 179th Regimental Combat Team, 45th Infantry Division. Captured on February 18, 1944 at Anzio beachhead in Italy, he was interned in a German prison camp for 15 months.

He was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in ground combat against an armed enemy during World War II in the European, African and Middle Eastern theaters of operation.

In addition to his three battle stars, Mr. Roberts received the Prisoner of War Medal and the New Jersey Dis-

tinguished Service Medal. He has served as the Judge Advocate, Department of New Jersey for the past 15 years.

The program is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served at the end of the presentation. For additional information concerning the program, please call Bob Miller at (908) 233-6360.

### First Baptist Singles List March Meetings

WESTFIELD — Widowed, divorced or never-married individuals are invited to join their peers at 9 a.m. on Sundays, March 6, 13, 20 and 27, at the First Baptist Church of Westfield for coffee and cake, plus lively discussions on single living.

Meetings are held in the church's downstairs Fellowship Hall, located at 170 Elm Street. A \$2 donation is requested and all are welcome.

Group members also participate in winter movie nights, summer picnics and holiday get-togethers, among other activities. For more information, please call (908) 889-5265 or (908) 889-4751.

## First Baptist Plans Supper To Introduce Alpha Course

WESTFIELD — The First Baptist Church of Westfield, located at 170 Elm Street, will hold an introductory supper for the Alpha course on Sunday, March 6, at 5 p.m. at the church.

Alpha is a 10-week course for adults of all ages who are interested in learning more about the Christian faith.

The supper offers participants a chance to explore their interest in the course. It will include a video entitled "Christianity: Boring, Untrue, Irrelevant?" at 6:15 p.m., to be followed by coffee and dessert.

The course itself begins the following Sunday, March 13, and will meet weekly through June 5 (except for Easter and Mother's Day). Each session will begin with dinner at 5 p.m., continue with a talk on a topic such as "Who is Jesus?" or "Why and How Do I Pray?" and allow time for discussion in small groups before ending at 7:45 p.m.

There is no charge or registration requirement for this course. For more information, please call the First Baptist Church at (908) 233-2278, or email firstbaptist.westfield@verizon.net.

## AIDS Ministries Plan Week Of Prayer, Remembrance

WESTFIELD — The AIDS Support Ministry of Holy Trinity Parish and the AIDS Ministry of St. Helen's Parish have planned a week of prayer and remembrance, March 5 through 11, addressing the tragedy of HIV/AIDS.

On Monday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m., an AIDS Compassion Prayer Service will be held at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, located at First Street and Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

Brother Joseph McAlister, who ministers to people living with HIV/AIDS through St. Bridget's Support Network Program, and Maria Davis, an AIDS activist, motivational speaker and hip-hop and R & B music promoter, will be the speakers.

On Friday, March 11, The Stations of the Cross, with reflections by a person with AIDS, will take place at 7:30 p.m. at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church, Rahway Avenue and Lambert's Mill Road in Westfield.

Both parishes will display a section of the AIDS Memorial Quilt for prayerful reflection and respect. All are welcome to attend, and there will

be time for socializing and sharing after the prayer service.

### Thrift Shop Bag Sale To Get Underway

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Thrift Shop will hold its winter bag sale from Tuesday through Saturday, March 8 to 12. Patrons will be able to fill a bag for \$5.

This event will serve as a prelude to the start of the spring season at the Thrift Shop, located at 1730 East Second Street in Scotch Plains, on Tuesday, March 15, at 10 a.m.

For the new season, the shop will feature spring outfits for men, women and children. Operated by the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League, the shop is open from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Donations are accepted during shop hours. All proceeds from the shop benefit local charities. For additional information, please call (908) 322-5420.

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