

This week's news...



April 27, 2023

Dear Friend,

POPS RESTRUNG!

What happens when you mix a quartet of talented string players with the music of today's most popular female recording artists? POPS RESTRUNG! This Saturday at 7:30 p.m., the group who entertained with animated movie favorites in the fall is back to lift our spirits once again with the music many of us have (or will soon have) on our play lists.

Violist Kathryn Dark, longtime member of First Presbyterian Church, has been sharing her musical talents with this church community for years. We appreciate the professional she's become and her willingness to return. Playing alongside her will be violinist Alexandr Kislitsyn, violinist Aisha Dossuomova, and cellist Branson Yeast, all of whom play widely throughout the Philadelphia region and around the world. These are musicians to keep an eye on – and musicians sure to inspire young instrumentalists.

Saturday's concert is made possible by a generous grant to First Presbyterian's music program, a grant that enables the presentation of professional musicians without an admission charge. An offering will be collected Saturday evening with money going to further enhance our strong music ministry.

PLEASE COME!



Pastor Nikki's New Bible Study Starts **TONIGHT**

Beginning **Thursday, April 27 at 7 p.m.**, Pastor Nikki will be hosting a Bible Study via zoom on the book of Genesis, beginning with chapter 12 and the call of Abram. Entitled "Genesis: Relational and Family Dynamics," we will be looking at God's promise to God's people as it travels through 4 generations of one family, and all the peculiar ways they (and we) try to avoid God's promise and plan. The Zoom link is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81798184993>. We will also meet in person at pre-determined times. Please contact Pastor Nikki if you have questions and are interested, or simply join us on zoom on the 27th!



THERE WILL BE A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, APRIL 30, AFTER WORSHIP
for the purpose of electing deacons to fill unexpired terms.

DEACONS TO BE ELECTED 4/30/23:

- **Kathi Bell** – I was baptized in this church, my parents were married in this church, and 3 of our children were also married in this church. I went through all the Sunday school classes and choirs until I graduated from high school. I attended vacation bible school every year and have taught vacation bible school while I was in high school. I served 2 terms as a deacon and worked with the senior lunches and activities for several years along with Vivian Stauder and Jacquie Minor Dunnavan. I have been in circle for many years. I am willing serve as a deacon again.
- **Terry Carpenter** – Terry (deacon class of 2025) and his wife Linda are new members having recently moved to NJ to help babysit grandsons. Before retiring Terry was a full-time stage manager and occasional director at a theatre in suburban Detroit for over 40 years. He managed to fit in a few projects elsewhere as well as serving a brief stint as a deacon at University Presbyterian in Rochester Hills, MI.
- **Pete Hurd** – I grew up at FPC where my parents, Chuck and Bunnie Hurd, were active members for many years. My wife Lisa and I raised our two children here. I have served on Session once, and have served three previous stints as a deacon, recently as secretary and chair of the transportation committee. I am also half of the A/V committee with Jim Peterson, and in that capacity we have been streaming the church services and related activities for the past decade.

CHRISTIAN HERITAGE CLASS will not meet on Sunday, April 30. The next scheduled meeting will be May 14, Pentecost. Pentecost is celebrated on May 28, 2023. It is the Greek name for the Feast of Weeks, a prominent Levitical feast in the calendar of ancient Israel, and for Christians Pentecost is the "birthday of the Church." Read details about this important church holy day on the [Christian Heritage syllabus](#).

MONTHLY COOKING FOR JOSEPH'S HOUSE POSTPONED – Please note that our regular cooking date on the last Tuesday of the month has been rescheduled for Tuesday, May 16, meaning that we will have two cooking dates in May – Tuesday, May 16, and Tuesday, May 30

SPRING CLEANUP AT MOUNT PEACE CEMETERY POSTPONED — The cleanup scheduled for Saturday, April 29, has been postponed due to a lack of volunteers. We plan to reschedule.



PINWHEEL GARDEN – For the past month PW has brought attention to April as Child Abuse Prevention month by planting a pinwheel garden on the front lawn of the church. It is hoped that the garden reminds everyone to treat all children as wonderful gifts from God and entitled to safe environments in which to grow. After worship this Sunday, children of the church (and child-loving adults) are invited to “pick” a pinwheel to take home to enjoy.

As Earth Month Comes to an End, We Still Need to Protect God's Creation

The work of the 2,000,000 Americans who joined in the first Earth Day events in 1970 continues. Every day we make choices that matter. Did you know that more than a third of the food produced never gets to the table? Food waste is related to 8 – 10% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. Those leftovers can be a yummy next day meal or put into a compost pile. What else can I do?

- Go to climate-quiz@climatereality.com to see what you know. For another challenge go to www.earthday.org/the-climate-change-quiz. You may be surprised at what you do and do not know.
- On May 8 – 11 you can participate in the “No Faith in Fossil Fuels: A Climate Finance Summit” on-line. Go to info@greenfaith.org to register. Learn what your money is doing.
- You're invited to join the meeting of Greenfaith's South Jersey Circle at 3:30 on May 21 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church on Rte. 70 in Marlton. The Single-use Plastics Reduction working group will make its presentation, and the steering committee will provide information about the "Plastic-Free July" initiative. Shout out to two of the circle's members, whose congregation, Adath Emanu-El, is honoring its Green Team for which Ileen and Joan work so diligently!
- *On June 25 the Burlington County Earth Fair will be held at Smithville Park. This great event is open to the public from 10AM to 4PM. Please come join the fun!



SAVE THE DATE – THE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL IS BACK! Friday, June 2, 6 – 8 p.m. Sweet strawberry short cakes will be smothered with berries and “sugared” with Musical Notes from Peter and our adult choir for your entertainment.

VBS 2023 – REGISTRATION OPEN!



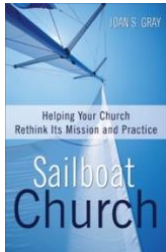
This year's VBS: Operation Restoration! invites kids to be menders in God's world. As they make connections between Bible stories and mending actions, they'll discover simple ways to live out faith in daily life by exploring the daily themes of Feed, Heal, Forgive, Pray, and Rest. Dates are July 24-28, 2023. Register [here](#) or through the church website: <http://www.haddonfieldpres.org/children>. As always,



we look forward to including youth shepherds and adult volunteers in the adventure!

The cost of the camp is \$25 per Mender, payable via Check (First Presbyterian of Haddonfield memo line: VBS), Venmo (@FPCHaddonfield), or through Realm (QR code links directly to Realm). We look forward to seeing you in July!

WOMEN'S WALKING GROUP will walk again on **Tuesday, May 9 at 10 a.m.** Yes, that it is the day of the PW luncheon at 12, but the previous walkers want to go again. As before, we will walk between 1.5 and 2 mi. over an approximate 1 hr. Meet in the portico.



SAILING TOGETHER – After worship on April 23, 2023, thirty-one members gathered to discuss and reflect on *Sailboat Church* by Joan S. Gray, which was read by several small groups and by Session members. Observations and suggestions were offered by many regarding the importance of prayer, the power of small group gatherings, and ways to minister to our church family and neighbors. Read notes from the meeting [HERE](#).

HOSPITALITY UPDATE

Based on popular demand and inspired by the Lenten study book "Sailboat Church," after-service refreshment time will be returning soon to FPCH. The Deacons have assembled a Hospitality Committee (Joan Fiorella, Janet Shoemaker, Quint Lerch and Pete Hurd) and agreed on a plan to bring back refreshment time beginning with the movement of the church service to Fellowship Hall for the summer season, probably on June 4. There will be a sign up for individuals, couples,

families, and hopefully other church committees, to volunteer to provide refreshments after service on any Sunday of their choice. (More information on exactly how that will work will be presented sometime in May.) When the church service returns to the Sanctuary in early September, we will begin holding refreshment time in our beautifully refurbished parlor. Then, sometime during the autumn months, we would like to bring back "Soup Sundays" to Fellowship Hall. **We are hoping to recruit volunteers, both to handle refreshments after church, and to consider joining the Hospitality Committee. We would love to welcome the input of additional volunteers!**



CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST - Please keep members and friends of the congregation in your prayers. The weekly Prayer List is available in Sunday's bulletin or online [here](#). If you would like to add a personal prayer request, please contact one of the pastors or Anne Vial. Please obtain the permission of the person needing prayer. *The Prayer Request portal on the website is available for private requests sent directly to the pastors.*

STEPHEN MINISTER COMMISSIONING – MAY 7



On Sunday, May 7th we will commission 2 new Stephen Ministers. They are Paul Sommers and Donna George. Paul and Donna have been through 50 hours of specialized training in Christian caregiving. As a Stephen Minister each will provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people experiencing a crisis or going through a difficult time. They meet weekly with their care receiver to listen, care, encourage, pray, and provide emotional and spiritual support. Please lift up our new Stephen Ministers in your prayers, asking that God bless their ministry and work through them to bring hope and healing to those they will serve. They will be depending on our support in the time ahead as they assume the duties of their ministry. Our congregation is one of more than 13,000 worldwide, representing 160 Christian denominations that use the Stephen Series system of lay caring ministry developed by Stephen Ministries in St. Louis.

DRESSMAKING CONTINUES! Sewers are working diligently to have enough dresses for each girl in Founder Girls Raising Hands – YouthPromise in Kenya. That's 30-50 dresses. Dresses go both to young girls and to teens. Fabric donations are still being accepted. ***And there are now kits available to take home to sew!*** Look for them in the window alcove on the way into the Sanctuary. Instructions included.



ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC UPDATE




John Reed and Melinda Lamb packing groceries at St. Wilfrid's
SHOEBOX SUCCESS!

In April IHOC's Adopt A Box team led by Rhoda Wus was able to collect and distribute approximately 900 complete boxes and bags of personal care items as well as numerous extra and sample sized items to Camden County Women's Shelter, Camden Rescue Mission, Caring Hearts, Co-Star, Mount Sinai Providence House, Anna Sample House, Camden Neighborhood Center, Catholic Charities, Extended Care Ministries, St. Paul's Episcopal Sisterhood, Cherry Hill Food Pantry and New Beginnings.

First Presbyterian collected 68 personal care boxes that were distributed to Caring Hearts and Joseph's House. Thank you all!

Camden County's Current Covid Status:

 **Low**
 In Camden County, New Jersey,
 community level is **Low**.

CALENDAR

- | | | | |
|---------|---|--------|--|
| Apr. 27 | – 6:30 p.m. Moore Bells
– 7 p.m. Pastor Nikki's Zoom Bible Study
– 7:30 p.m. Chancel choir | | |
| Apr. 29 | – 8 a.m. St. Wilfrid's Open Door Clinic
– POSTPONED: Mt. Peace Cemetery Cleanup
– 7:30 p.m. CONCERT: Pops Restring | | |
| Apr. 30 | – 10 a.m. Worship, Sunday School
– 11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting | | |
| May 1 | – 9:45 a.m. Quilters | | |
| May 2 | – 9:45 a.m. PW Coordinating Team
– 7 p.m. Governance Committee | | |
| May 3 | – 10 a.m. Stephen Ministry Leaders
– 3:45 p.m. Chapel Choir
– 4:30 p.m. Alleluia Bells
– 6 p.m. Nominating Committee Meeting
– 6:30 p.m. TSM Choir – last one | | |
| May 4 | – 6:30 p.m. Moore Bells
– 7 p.m. Pastor Nikki's Zoom Bible Study
– 7:30 p.m. Chancel choir | | |
| May 5 | – 9:30 a.m. Women's Prison Ministry | | |
| May 7 | – 10 a.m. Worship and Sunday School,
Stephen Minister Commissioning
– 11 a.m. Parlor Dedication | | |
| May 8 | – Preschool Flower Sale (all week)
– 9:30 a.m. Quilters
– 7 p.m. Christian Ed Committee | | |
| | | | – 7:30 p.m. Circle 4 Zoom |
| | | May 9 | – 6 p.m. Finance Committee meeting |
| | | May 10 | – 10 a.m. Stephen Ministry Leaders
– 3:45 p.m. Chapel Choir – last one
– 4:30 p.m. Alleluia Bells – last one |
| | | May 11 | – 6:30 p.m. Moore Bells – last one
– 7 p.m. Pastor Nikki's Zoom Bible Study
– 7:30 p.m. Chancel choir |
| | | May 13 | – 8 a.m. St. Wilfrid's |
| | | May 14 | – 10 a.m. Worship, Sunday School
– 11:30 a.m. Christian Heritage Class |
| | | May 15 | – 7 p.m. Session |
| | | May 16 | – 9:45 a.m. Circles 1 and 3
– 1 p.m. Cooking for Joseph's House |
| | | May 17 | – 10 a.m. Stephen Ministry |
| | | May 18 | – noon Ascension Worship Service |
| | | May 19 | – 9:30 a.m. Women's Prison Ministry |
| | | May 21 | – 10 a.m. Worship, Last day for Sunday School |
| | | May 22 | – 9:45 a.m. Quilters |
| | | May 23 | – 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
– 7 p.m. Deacons Meeting |
| | | May 24 | – 10 a.m. Stephen Ministry |
| | | May 25 | – 7 p.m. Pastor Nikki's Zoom Bible Study
– 7:30 p.m. Chancel choir |
| | | May 28 | – PENTECOST |
| | | May 29 | – Memorial Day – Office closed |
| | | May 30 | – 1 p.m. Cooking for Joseph's House |
| | | May 31 | – 10 a.m. Stephen Ministry |