

This week's news...



May 18, 2023

Dear Friends,

It's All About the Abrahams

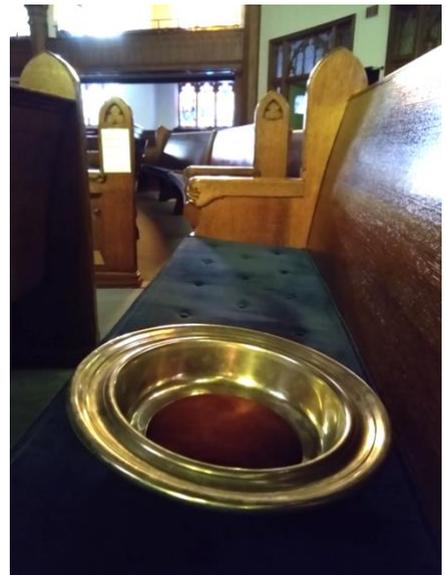
I've got good news and bad news and more good news! First, here is the good news. Through the first four months of the year, the congregation's budget deficit is smaller than anticipated. The bad news is the congregation *is* running a deficit of \$8,101. To put that in perspective, our entire Christian Formation budget is \$7,100. Imagine if we as a church were to decide not to fund Christian Formation any longer—no curriculum to tell the stories of the Bible to our children, no supplies that make Vacation Bible School such a rewarding experience, no background checks to ensure our children and youth are being mentored by people with integrity. We wouldn't do that! But that is what this budget shortfall represents.

The good news is we can close this shortfall rather easily. Since Easter, we've been averaging 175 people in worship. ***If every worshipper chipped in an extra five bucks from now until mid-July, our deficit would be erased!*** For the cost of one cappuccino per week, you can outfit our Vacation Bible School, screen volunteers, and equip our Sunday School teachers to raise a new generation of Christians. Talk about a big bang for your buck! Or in this case, a big bang for a fiver.

If you look in your wallet, do you see Abraham Lincoln looking back at you? Leave Honest Abe in the offering plate this Sunday. Or use the QR code in the bulletin to chip in just five dollars more per week.

Small is beautiful. Our small Christians are beautiful, and small gifts to nurture the seeds of faith in them are also beautiful. Thank you for your generosity.

Marvin



WORSHIP MOVES TO FELLOWSHIP HALL NEXT WEEK! With the arrival of warmer weather, worship will take place in the air-conditioned comfort of Fellowship Hall starting Sunday, May 28 and continuing through the summer. Come gather and praise God!

SOCIAL CONNECTION MAY 22 – The May gathering of adults with disabilities is this coming Monday. Meet in the Hospitality Center on **Monday, May 22** for crafts, games, and Fellowship.



The Social Connection

A gathering for adults with special needs and abilities

Fellowship and Friendship ~ Crafts ~ Community Service Projects

Games ~ Music ~ Snacks

ALL WELCOME!

Meets on 4th Monday of the month
6:30-8PM

First Presbyterian Church
20 Kings Hwy E
Haddonfield, NJ 08003
(856) 429-1960



Please RSVP to
Joyce Stout
Billandjoyce1@aol.com
609 605-3653

COOKING FOR JOSEPH'S HOUSE – We will cook on **Tuesday, May 30** from 1-3. All choppers, stirrers, and cooks welcome!

PASTOR NIKKI'S BIBLE STUDY THURSDAYS @ 7

– Pastor Nikki is hosting a Bible Study via Zoom on the book of Genesis, entitled “Genesis: Relational and Family Dynamics.” The reading schedule is linked on [the Adult Ed page](#) of the website. The Zoom link is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81798184993>, and 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!

PORCH BIBLE STUDY – The Porchers will study Daniel and Esther beginning Tuesday, May 30, on Zoom at 7 p.m. We will follow a Pastor Max Lucado study guide. Our group also prays for many joys and concerns and is happy to hear prayer needs. All are welcome.



OPEN HOUSE VOLUNTEERS

Please sign up to greet visitors to the church on the morning of **Saturday, June 3** between **11 a.m. and 1 p.m.** Downtown will be hopping, and it would be wonderful to literally have our doors open. Please sign up using the usher and event scheduler: <https://www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/haddonfieldpres>.

YOUTH SERVICE NIGHT ON SUNDAY, JUNE 4 – The next monthly service night for Middle School and High School youth will be Sunday, June 4. Middle schoolers will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and high schoolers will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Details will follow on service projects for the evening.

Join Us This Sunday, May 21 at 3:30 p.m. – GREENFAITH'S SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY CIRCLE will meet in Prince of Peace Church, 61 E. Rt 70 Marlton, NJ. In addition to the regular agenda, members of the plastics working group will share their presentation on plastic pollution and solutions. Go to greenfaith.org for more information.

EXPLORE OUR NEWLY UPDATED SOCIAL JUSTICE PAGE on the church website (www.haddonfieldpres.org). The Justice and Advocacy Committee thanks Anne Vial for a tremendous job making it more user friendly. It is now much easier to access the various resources especially those offered by PC(USA).

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY is Friday June 2 – Honor victims of gun violence by wearing orange that day and all weekend. What would you do to prevent the #1 cause of death for children in America? You can learn more about our denomination's stance on gun violence and ways you can help keep people safe under Ministries/ Social Justice on our church's website. (And see below for details of Pastor Nikki's summer workshop on gun violence.)



GET YOUR TICKETS FOR THE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL!

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.

WORKSHOP ON URBANPROMISE WELLNESS CENTER IN JUNE – Please join us on Sunday, June 11, immediately following worship, for an interactive hour-long workshop with Siomara Wedderburn, vice president, programs, and past director of Wellness at UrbanPromise. The Wellness Center at UrbanPromise receives financial support from this congregation by way of an annual donation from the Mission Committee. Ms. Wedderburn will talk about how UrbanPromise has adapted wellness and experiential learning as key strategic initiatives and integrated these across all programs at the school. Join us for conversation and fellowship as we learn more about this wonderful program.

DRESSMAKING CONTINUES! Sewers are working diligently to have enough dresses for each girl and teen in Founder Girls Raising Hands – YouthPromise in Kenya. That's 30-50 dresses. 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.



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.*

PW SPRING GATHERING

On June 8, all women in the presbytery are invited to a joint Spring Gathering hosted at First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown. We hope you can join us – our PW will be attending. Details: The Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey and the PW Coordinating Team of First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown invite all women to a Joint Spring Gathering on Thursday, June 8th at 6:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown (101 Bridgeboro Road, Moorestown, Miller Commons). Be inspired by a panel presentation, “What is a Christian Woman to Do?” featuring Rev. Dr. Debby Brincivalli, Dr. Leslie Spencer, and Jennifer Allen. Learn about the PWPFSNJ, its purpose and missions. For more information and registration: <https://fpcmoorestown.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1720338>.

Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery For Southern NJ
(PWPFSNJ)
Annual Spring Gathering on June 8th
At First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown NJ
And on Zoom

PW Spring Gathering June 8th

June 8, 2023



DETAILS: The Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey and the PW Coordinating Team of First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown invite all women to a Joint Spring Gathering on **Thursday, June 8th at 6:00 pm** in Miller Commons (101 Bridgeboro Road, Moorestown).

Be inspired by a panel presentation, “What is a Christian Woman to Do?”, featuring Rev. Dr. Debby Brincivalli, Dr. Leslie Spencer and Jennifer Allen. Learn about the PWPFSNJ, its purpose and missions.

Please register to attend on this page.

Order forms for a box supper are available. Download a copy and return it to the church with your payment (\$15 each). Choices are available either as a sandwich or as a wrap and meals include pasta salad, fruit salad, chips, and a brownie. **Food orders are due by Thursday, May 25.**

Download dinner order form

The Spring Gathering will also be available via live stream that evening at www.fpcmoorestown.org/live-stream.

Questions? Please contact Susan Masiko 856-630-3253 or susan.masiko@comcast.net or Jane Murphy 856-427-0618 or mrsmurphyiii@gmail.com.

PASTOR NIKKI LEADS SUMMER WORKSHOP SERIES:

This summer Pastor Nikki is reprising the *Summer Workshop Series*, offering requested topics and subjects relevant to our faith life together. All workshops take place after Sunday worship in the Hospitality Center and will go for approximately one hour. Light snacks will be provided as well as ample time for questions and discussion! Mark your calendars for the following dates:

Sunday June 25: 'Prayer'

Together we'll look at numerous resources on prayer. A variety of prayer books will be provided to peruse, along with resource lists of noteworthy authors, and famous (and not-so-famous) prayers. Along with suggestions for leading and sustaining prayer groups, we'll explore what scholars, pastors, and Jesus say about prayer. And finally, we'll learn more about creating our own prayers (and praying them aloud)!

Sunday July 16: 'The Art and Skill of Connecting'

This workshop will provide the tools to connect with visitors and members of our church and will also equip any person to reach out to someone who is in need or struggling. Participants will be introduced to a 'Continuum of Care,' which allows all members avenues to connect based on their comfort level, whether as an usher, deacon, elder, a member of the visitation ministry, or as a Stephen Minister. Regardless of who you want to connect with and where (it could be someone in your everyday life) you'll be given the tools on how to do it.

Sunday August 13: Gun Violence

The Presbyterian Outlook is dedicating its June issue to the topic of gun violence. Your Christian Education and Justice and Advocacy committees have combined to purchase advance copies of the magazine for our congregation to read, with an invitation to join a discussion on August 13th. Rev. Passante will moderate this difficult and necessary discussion as we take a closer look.



ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC UPDATE

Members of FPCH generously support the effort to ease the pain of poverty for families in Camden. Last month, our efforts at St. Wilfrid's in Camden provided much needed food support for 365 families comprised of 964 adults and 592 kids. On the average, each family received \$178.90 worth of food at retail pricing. That's huge.

Our efforts are blessed by the fact that food is readily available to us from the Food Bank of South Jersey. Just last Friday, volunteers picked up and transported over 3.5 tons of food to be distributed this month. (continued)

Yet the need goes beyond food. Countless diapers and baby wipes (costing around \$3.15 a day) get into our clients' hands. So does shampoo at \$5 a bottle, toothpaste at \$3 a tube and a variety of other adult personal and feminine hygiene items.

This is where you come in. These items are not readily available from the Food Bank. We humbly ask that you consider donating these items instead of food. Our clients need diapers Size 4, 5 and 6, baby wipes, shampoo, bar soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. They are also in need of spring/summer clothing (adult and child) that is clean and in good repair. (No winter clothes please – we don't have the space to store them). Every penny our clients aren't required to spend on these items gives them more money to spend in filling out their food needs for the month. Donated items can be dropped in the alcove closest to the playground doors. Have questions? Contact Paul Urian at umanpaul@me.com or 856-676-2770.

Luke 3:11 - The crowd asked: "What should we do Lord?" And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.

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**. The cost of the camp is \$25 per Mender, payable via

Check (First Presbyterian of Haddonfield memo line: VBS), Venmo ([@FPC Haddonfield](#)), or through Realm (QR code links directly to Realm payment). **Register Menders** at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/19Sy90YduYRI4CUBhARYBaO1dh-DDxjibM-mhEPWi6Do/edit?usp=drive_web or on the church website. We look forward to seeing you in July!



AND as always, we look forward to including youth shepherds and adult volunteers in the adventure! Shepherds and volunteers register at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/13Rj1ERU30w8WHCCeUaoWuZPqxoTbv7HqA5fMcTZB0Ik/edit?usp=drive_web.

COMING SOON – DARK BLUE ENVELOPES

For many years, the Deacons' offering has been collected monthly and then donated to various mission projects. Separately, the church's Mission Committee has a long history of donating money, funded by the operating budget of the church, to bring aid and comfort to those in need as we spread the good news of God's everlasting love.

Donating money to mission causes is the work and ministry of the Mission Committee. Though the committee has been concentrating lately on hands-on service projects, even those take funds to purchase necessary supplies. This spring, noting that both groups were working separately with the same purpose, the Deacons voted to transfer their funds used for mission projects to the budget of the Mission Committee. The Deacons will continue as the "hands of the church," caring for the needs of the congregation.

As of July 2023, there will be one monthly Mission offering, with donations going to support long standing commitments to well-loved partners including the Open Door Clinic at St. Wilfrid's Church in Camden; the Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council (IHOC); Guatemala Milk Fund, which provides milk and medical care for babies; Feed My Starving Children (FMSC); Caring Hearts; Interfaith Caregivers; Urban Promise; and the Women's Prison Ministry.

Look for the new dark blue envelopes for monthly Mission offerings starting in July and visit the Mission and Outreach page of the website at <http://www.haddonfieldpres.org/mission-outreach> to nominate a new organization for funding or find ways to get involved in hands-on service. Questions about the transition in funding may be directed to Joan Fiorella, moderator of the Deacons, at jmfiorella@gmail.com, or Caroline Yount, chair of the Mission Committee

Camden County's Current Covid Status:

 **Low**

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

CALENDAR

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| May 18 – 4:30 p.m. Marketing Committee
– 7:30 Chancel Choir | – 10 a.m. Worship
– 11:15 a.m. Mission Committee |
| May 19 – 9:30 a.m. Women's Prison Ministry | – 5 p.m. Middle School Service |
| May 21 – 10 a.m. Worship, Last day for Sunday School | Night
– 6:30 p.m. High School Service |
| May 22 – 9:45 a.m. Quilters
– 6:30 p.m. Adults w Disabilities
Social Connection | Night
June 5 – 9:45 a.m. Quilters |
| May 23 – noon Staff Lunch
– 7 p.m. Deacons Meeting
– 7 p.m. Governance Committee | June 6 – 9:45 a.m. PW Coordinating Team
– 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
– 7 p.m. Governance |
| May 24 – 6 p.m. Stephen Ministry | June 8 – 6 p.m. PW of Presbytery for
Southern NJ Gathering |
| May 25 – 7 p.m. Pastor Nikki's Zoom Bible Study
– 7:30 p.m. Chancel choir | – Pastor Nikki's Bible Study does
not meet |
| May 28 – PENTECOST 10 a.m. Worship in Fellowship Hall | June 11 – 10 a.m. Worship
– 5 p.m. Youth Mission Trip Retreat |
| May 29 – Memorial Day – Office closed | June 12 – 7:30 p.m. Circle 4 Zoom |
| May 30 – 1 p.m. Cooking for Joseph's House
– 7 p.m. Porch Bible Study | June 13 – 6 p.m. Finance Committee |
| May 31 – 10 a.m. Stephen Ministry
– 7 p.m. Nominating Committee | June 14 – 6 p.m. Stephen Ministry |
| June 1 – Nikki's Bible study does not meet
– 7:30 p.m. Last Chancel Choir | June 15 – 7 p.m. Pastor Nikki's Zoom Bible Study |
| June 2 – 6:30 p.m. Strawberry Festival | June 16 – 9:30 a.m. Women's Prison
Ministry |
| June 3 – 11 a.m. OPEN HOUSE | June 18 – 10 a.m. Worship, Mission Trip
Commissioning |
| June 4 – 9 a.m. Choir breakfast | |