

This week's news...



May 25, 2023

Dear Friends,

Different Languages

This Sunday is Pentecost, and there's this single line in Acts 2: 1-21 that has not stopped speaking to me since back in February. It's nestled in the verses, and I've bypassed it for years; it says simply that many different people were there of all languages, and when the Holy Spirit came the scripture says that while each spoke in their own native language, everyone still understood each other.

Wow.

What are the different languages we speak?

When I go to Starbucks, I just want a medium cappuccino. Why does the menu have to list the sizes in Venti, Grande, etc.? I just want a coffee! Likewise, when visitors or even people seeking to know more about this Jesus come to church – they get welcomed with a foreign language: What is a Doxology? Why are these people speaking about eating Christ's body and drinking Christ's blood? Why are we singing praise to a ghost?

There is the language of each of our families. When we meet a life partner, we each bring into the relationship 2 different languages, each language learned in our family of origin, each language unique. This could be said a different way: we each learned our family's own personal set of rules. What is marriage if not forming your own family – your own set of rules, your own language? Perhaps some marriages fail because one of us cannot bend or refuses to understand. Perhaps the miracle of marriage is that two people grow to truly hear one another.



And then there's God: the ultimate conversation partner. Thanks be to God for the coming of the Holy Spirit that allows the soul to hear things the mind cannot comprehend. The coming of the

Holy Spirit equips us to see and hear differently, among many other wonders. But perhaps the most wonderful of them all is that for a moment in time, everyone understood one another perfectly.

The Good News is that God is still speaking.

In Christ's service,

Nikki

WORSHIP MOVES TO FELLOWSHIP HALL THIS 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. The nursery moves to the Hospitality Center across the hall. Come gather and praise God!

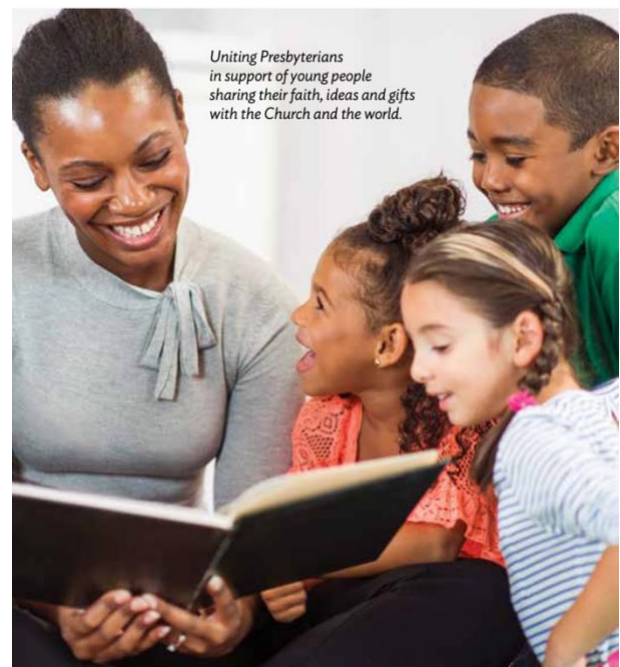
SUNDAY IS PENTECOST

The Pentecost Offering will be received.
Find information on the uses of that
offering [here](#).

**After-worship hospitality is
back at FPCH!**

 PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

**BUILDING UP THE
BODY OF CHRIST.** — EPH. 4:12, CEB





As Pastor Nikki announced at the May 21 church service, we will be hosting light refreshments after worship, beginning Sunday, May 28. The Hospitality Committee (Joan Fiorella, Janet Shoemaker, Quint Lerch, and Pete Hurd) is asking for volunteers – individuals, couples, families, and church committees – to provide and serve refreshments on any Sunday of their choosing during June, July, and August. Refreshments can consist of items like donuts, coffee cake, cookies, brownies, and crackers, along with juice or lemonade. There are a number of simple ways you can sign up: 1) Pick a date on the sign-up sheet that will be available on the refreshment table after church each Sunday, 2) send an email to one of the committee members mentioned above

– jmfiorella@gmail.com, shoemakerjanet68@gmail.com, qlerch2@comcast.net, or phurd75@gmail.com, or 3) sign up on REALM.

Please consider volunteering for this important fellowship. Enjoy old friends and make new ones!

Stay tuned for more detail about utensils, plates, cups, napkins, pitchers, etc. Many of these items are already available in the church kitchen.

Thank you,
The Hospitality Committee

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



**PASTOR NIKKI'S BIBLE STUDY THURSDAYS @ 7
DOES NOT MEET JUNE 1 AND 8**

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.



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.

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.*



*Strawberry Festival
and
Special Music*

Sponsored by Presbyterian Women

Friday, June 2, 2023

The First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield
20 Kings Highway East

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

**Dessert
Ice Cream, Strawberries and Cake**

**Admission: Adults \$10
Children 10 and under \$5; Children 5 and under free
Proceeds support PW missions**

**Tickets available from:
Presbyterian Women
Church Office
At the Door**

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.

NEWS ABOUT THE DEACONS' OFFERING: 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.

WOMEN'S WALKING GROUP – Join Linda Hess on **Tuesday, June 13 at 10 a.m.** under the church portico for a walk through the neighborhood. The walk will be approximately 2 mi. and will last about one hour. Bring a little pocket change if you would like to continue in fellowship at Saxby's after the walk.

**OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND GET TO
KNOW ONE ANOTHER**



THE MARKETING COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR FOLKS to help with new members classes, resurrecting rally day, and the fall festival in October. You don't need to help with all – just one will be appreciated. Please contact Margot Dark at margotdark@msn.com, or by text @ 609-238-0694.

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.



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 ([@FPCHaddonfield](https://www.venmo.com/@FPCHaddonfield)), 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/edi?t?usp=drive_web.

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.



Camden County's Current Covid Status:

● Low

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

CALENDAR

May 18 – 4:30 p.m. Marketing Committee
– 7:30 Chancel Choir

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