

This week's news...



January 27, 2022

Dear Friend,

Three Types of Kindness

Last week's email note was more of a Public Service Announcement (PSA) about scams. True to form, this week a member called me to say that they received a text from me asking them to buy Apple gifts cards so that I could help a person with cancer. Thankfully the recipient of the email detected something was fishy and called me to confirm. The first tip-off? 1. I'll NEVER text and ask for money of any form. 2. My cell phone has a 302 area code! If you get a text from "me" — you might simply reply and ask for the name of the high school I went to. (*Psst...it's Cranbrook!*)

Since last week was about the underbelly of society — scams and rip-offs — for balance, this week we'll climb up on the high road and talk about kindness, actually, three types of kindness! (*With gratitude for a column by Seth Godin that's been in my file for over a year!*)

There is the **kindness of 'please' and 'thank you.'** And the kindness of "I was wrong, I'm sorry." The small kindnesses that smooth our interactions and help other people feel as though you're aware of them. These don't cost us much, in fact, in most settings, engaging with kindness is an essential part of connection, engagement and forward motion. (*Note by Doug: I once heard that "manners are the grease of society" — they keep things moving smoothly!*)



And then there is the **kindness of dignity.** Of giving someone the benefit of the doubt. The kindness of seeing someone for the person that they are and can become, and the realization that everyone, including me and you, has a noise in our heads, a story to be told, fear to be danced with and dreams to be realized.

And there's another: The **kindness of not seeking to maximize short-term personal gain.** The kindness of building something for the community, of doing work that matters, of finding a resilient, anti-selfish path forward.

Kindness isn't always easy or obvious, because the urgent race to the bottom, to easily-measured metrics and to scarcity, can distract us. But bending the arc toward justice, toward dignity and toward connection is our best way forward.

Kindness multiplies and it enables possibility. When we're of service to people, we have the chance to make things better.

In these days of heightened stress, anxiety, and isolation it might take a little extra oomph to be kind — simple things — like those mentioned about.

I called customer service at Dick's Sporting Goods this morning about a possible refund and the person who helped me could not have been more kind or efficient. I complimented her on her cheerful and efficient service and she said, "at this company we figure that if someone has to call customer service we've already messed up so we're empowered to do nearly whatever it takes to keep a customer happy." I told her that the call was a wonderful way to start my day!



The people of First Presbyterian seem to be naturally kind — so this is clearly “preaching to the choir” — so accept this note as my gratitude for being the people you are and encouragement to keep going!

Be well and God bless,

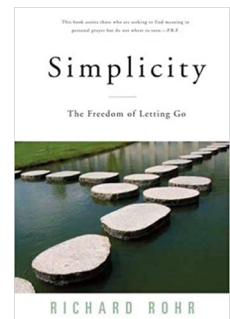
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug".

SIMPLICITY BOOK STUDY HAS BEGUN

SIMPLICITY BOOK STUDY HAS BEGUN – Pastor Nikki is leading a study of Richard Rohr’s book *Simplicity: The Freedom of Letting Go*. The group meets on **Wednesdays at 6:30** via Zoom. Here is the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6467052376>. If you would like to join by phone, use this updated number: 662-608-3419 (PIN: 655696482). Participants are responsible for the book purchase.

Class schedule:

- 1/19 Forward, Preface, and Introductions
- 1/26 Ch. 1-*God the Father – God the Mother?*
- 2/2 Ch. 2-*Community Life as a Challenge*
- 2/9 Ch. 3-*Getting Rid of the Church*
- 2/16 Ch. 4-*Christians and Political Commitment*
- 2/23 Ch. 5-*Contemplation – the Spiritual Challenge*
- 3/2 **NO CLASS – Ash Wednesday**
- 3/9 Ch. 6-*The Freedom of the Sons and Daughters of God (Luke8)*
- 3/16 Ch. 7-*What Is This 'Women's Stuff'?*
- 3/23 Ch. 8-*The Social and Political Vocation of Christians*
- 3/30 Ch. 9-*Less is More – Paths to a Spirituality of the Simple Life*



DOUG LEADS TWO NEW BOOK STUDIES STARTING IN FEBRUARY:

- A 14-week Bible Study on Acts *Into the World: The Acts of the Apostles* (books are \$30 and will be ordered from The Kerygma Program), **Mondays at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom** on Feb 7, 14, 28; March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, 11, 25; May 2, 9, 16, and 23.
- A 4-part book study/workshop on *The Dead Beat: Lost Souls, Lucky Stiffs, and the Perverse Pleasures of Obituaries*, by Marilyn Johnson (books are available on Amazon at a variety of prices – most \$10 or under) on **Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom** on Feb 8, 15, 22, and March 1.

DOUG’S TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY continues (8 a.m. on **Zoom**) —you may join at any time. The texts for the coming week are Jeremiah 1:4-10 and Luke 4:21-30.

PORCH BIBLE STUDY will be studying the Book of James. Our next Zoom meeting is at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 22. All are welcome. Please contact the church office for the link.

BeSMART PRESENTATION – Thank you to everyone who joined our Zoom presentation by Dave Austin. Apologies to those kept out by the sign-in glitch. Hopefully, we will be able to have an in-person session to include small group discussions, practice time and problem solving to protect our children.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL –

Plans are in the works for another Lenten devotional with contributions from any of you who would like to participate. Instructions are available [here](#) and on the website. Sign up for a particular day's devotions using [Sign-up Genius](#). Email devotions to [Anne Vial](#) by February 7.



Youth News

THESE CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMS will be staying virtual a little longer:

- Nursery: We are looking forward to hanging out with your babies and toddlers at the end of February!
- Sunday School: Please be on the lookout for virtual Sunday School lessons emailed each week. To make sure you are on the distribution list please reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling at gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org.
- Youth Group: See below for Souper Bowl Mission Project Info!

We are hoping to bring everyone back together in person 2/27/22.

YOUTH GROUP is taking the week off from meeting 1/30/22, but we can still work on our Mission Project - Souper Bowl of Caring. See below for details on how you can help!

PLEASE HELP THE FPCH Youth Group Mission Project: Super Bowl of Caring initiative – Collecting canned goods and monetary donations for the Souper Bowl of Caring.

Two ways to donate:

1. Bring in **canned goods** to donate to the Cherry Hill Food Pantry through 2/13/22. Please make sure they are labeled or marked Souper Bowl of Caring or Cherry Hill Food Pantry. (This means bringing an extra can or two in addition to your regular St. Wilfrid's donations.)
2. Give **monetary donations** either online (through the QR code provided or through the link) or in person. 100% of proceeds through 2/13/22 are donated to the Cherry Hill Food Pantry. Help us crush our fundraising goal of \$300! The QR code and link for donations is below, or cash/checks (made out to FPCH) will be accepted at church – please mark donations for Souper Bowl of Caring or Cherry Hill Food Pantry.

<https://map.tacklehunger.org/donate/firstpresyouth>

YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2022 – Spots still available for the 2022 mission trip for both students and chaperones! We're partnering with Appalachia Service Project and headed to Kentucky for the 2022 Youth Mission Trip! Trip dates are Saturday, June 25 to Saturday, July 2. Any eligible students (rising 9th graders through recently graduated seniors) and potential chaperones, please turn in your completed applications NOW plus \$225 deposit to the church office Attn: Gabrielle Heimerling. If you have any questions or concerns, or need a student or chaperone application, please reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling at gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org. To learn more about ASP, please visit their website: <https://asphome.org>.

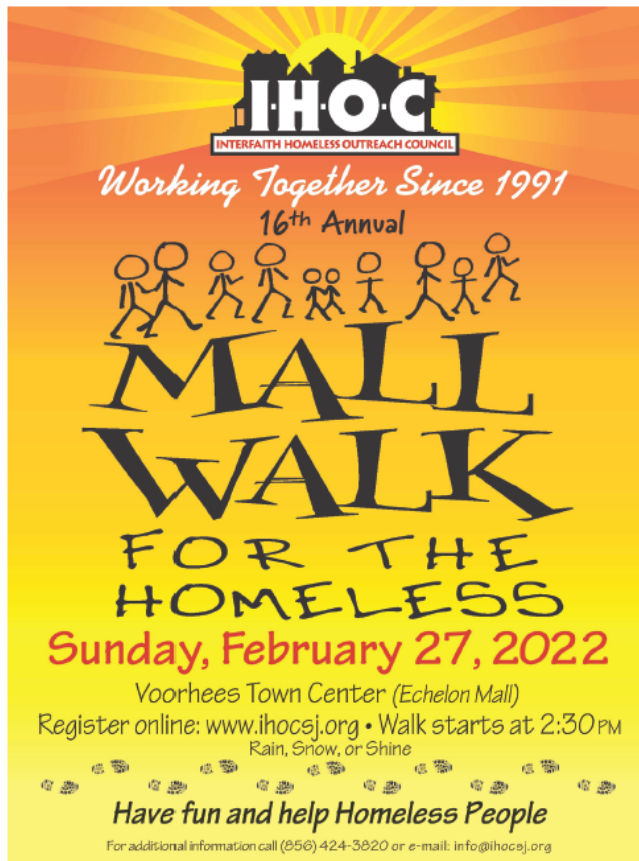
This week in (virtual) Sunday School: Isaiah was a prophet and told people many messages from God. Some messages were about God's judgment about people's bad behavior, but other messages were more hopeful. This week we learned about a hopeful message about God's house. God's house is bigger than the tallest mountain and all people are welcome! The people clapped and danced with joy when they heard about God's house. Isaiah invited God's people to walk in the light of the Lord to follow the path to God's house.

The older kids focused on the book of Isaiah. In Summary:

- -Isaiah was a prophet in the Old Testament, called to prophesy to the Kingdom of Judah
- -Judah and its people were a hot mess; other nations were going to take it over
- -God will punish Judah and its people, but will also show mercy and grace
- -Salvation will come through the Messiah

The take-home lesson is that God had a plan from the beginning of time—and His plan was and is being fulfilled. God's plan was revealed in Old Testament times. After Jesus' birth, people testified to God's plan. We can believe in God's plan for His Son and realize He has a plan for each of us too.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER NEEDED – There is an opening for a teacher for our 7th/8th Grade Sunday School class. All that's needed is a willingness to teach; we will provide the curriculum, teaching manuals, supplies, and support. Please consider volunteering for this fun and rewarding experience. Reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling at gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org.



IHO.C
INTERFAITH HOMELESS OUTREACH COUNCIL

Working Together Since 1991
16th Annual

MALL
WALK
FOR THE
HOMELESS

Sunday, February 27, 2022

Voorhees Town Center (Echelon Mall)

Register online: www.ihocsj.org • Walk starts at 2:30 PM
Rain, Snow, or Shine

Have fun and help Homeless People

For additional information call (856) 424-3820 or e-mail: info@ihocsj.org

Presented by Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council and sponsored in part by:

To make an online donation visit our website at www.ihocsj.org

 SUBARU
 Edward's Unlimited
 CENTO
 DAMBLY'S MARKET
 VOORHEES TOWN CENTER
 TOWNSEND PRESS
 BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
 investorsBank
 Holtman ENTERPRISES
 Haddon Savings Bank



In 1990, Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.”

Since then, more than \$170 million has been generated for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement of God's Grace that transforms the time around the Big Game into the nation's largest celebration of giving and caring for those in need.

Through this mission, people learn they can make a positive difference in the world as they collect food, raise money and serve at hunger-relief charities and show caring and compassion in local communities across the country.

Share in God's love for our neighbors in need and give generously on Souper Bowl Sunday. All of the donations collected will go directly to our Souper Bowl of Caring Charity of Choice:

Cherry Hill Food Pantry

To donate virtually, click on the QR Code below.



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.*

MATTHEW 25

As part of the Matthew 25 initiative to dismantle racism, JAC is looking for ways to continue the productive conversations begun in the fall. One possible model came to light in a recent article from the Presbyterian Mission Agency, shared here. From the article: "Barbara Flythe of Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church and Pam Wakefield of Nassau Presbyterian Church in Princeton, New Jersey,...share how the two churches — one predominately Black, the other primarily white — have come together to bend the moral arc toward justice."

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/taking-a-deep-dive-into-structural-racism>

ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

January 24th marked the **94th week** that the Open Door Clinic at St. Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic; **109 bags, 9,078 total. Over 226,950 pounds** of food and dry goods, distributed by the all-volunteer, everything-donated, **nobody-gets-paid**, Open Door Clinic at St. Wilfrid's. Thank you all for your generous collections and contributions.

Many thanks to all those who have purchased coats and donated them to the Open Door Clinic. We are overwhelmed with gratitude. And because it is so cold, we need more! Especially sizes Adult male and female L-XL-XXL. And we need hats and gloves for adults. **If you see coats on sale for under \$25, please let Jill Mascena know!**

OTHER NEEDS are tuna, cold cereal, toothbrushes, diapers — sizes 2 & 6, and wipes. And of course plastic grocery bags from Shoprite or Wegman's, paper grocery bags to line the plastic bags, and newspaper bags to hold hygiene products

PB&Js: If you are interested in making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, please select a donation week by signing up on this [signup form](#):

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0845aba72caa8-pbjs1>

Wendy, who coordinates the peanut butter and jelly traffic can be reached at her email: wendy.coffman@gmail.com. The PB&Js are deeply appreciated. Thanks to all. We still need them — 300 a week are given out and all LOVE them.

If you would like to know more about what volunteers do or have any questions check out the website: www.opendoorcliniccamden.org or call Jill Mascena at 856-428-7342 Leave a message and she will get back to you.



SAVE THE DATE – MARCH 4

You won't want to miss a special jazz presentation by our own Lucas Brown. The evening will feature world-class guitarist Peter Bernstein with Lucas's quartet. Stay tuned for more details!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HADDONFIELD

2022 PER CAPITA NOW DUE

Please help provide the means to strengthen the connections of our work and build lasting relationships to help all Presbyterians share God's love through mission and ministry. Thank you!

\$37 per confirmed member –
pay online: onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/-/form/give/now or by check

WEEKLY CALENDAR

- | | |
|---|---|
| Jan. 27 – 6:30 p.m. Moore Bells
– 6:30 p.m. 2nd Usher Training opportunity
– No Chancel Choir | Feb. 2 – 6:30 p.m. Simplicity Reading Group
– No Singing Youth or Children's Choir Rehearsals (No spaghetti meal)
– 4:45 p.m. Alleluia Bells
– 5:30 p.m. Whitechapel Bells
– 7:30 p.m. Kirk Ringers |
| Jan. 30 – 10 a.m. Worship
– No Youth Group | Feb. 3 – 6:30 Moore Bells
– Chancel Choir – check with Peter for update |
| Feb. 1 – 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study
– 10 a.m. PW Coordinating Team – On Zoom
– 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting Zoom | Feb. 6 – 10 a.m. Worship |

On The Bus with Betsy B!
Wed., March 30, 2022



***Master Poet. Fearless Warrior. Anointed King.** From still waters to shadowed valleys, David's ascent to the throne is filled with lowering giants, wild animals, and Philistine soldiers. *After unprecedented victories lead to devastating failures, this passionate warrior will face the biggest battle of all: the one within himself. Come alongside this young shepherd on his journey to become a man after God's own heart. *With original music inspired by the Psalms, DAVID is a state-of-the-art theatrical experience for the whole family. Witness one of the most legendary Bible stories as it comes to life with spectacular special effects, massive sets, and live animals in this brand-new stage production from Sight & Sound Theatres.

INCLUDES:
 *Sight & Sound Theatre production of "DAVID"
 *Family Style Luncheon @ Fulton Steamboat
 *Round trip Motorcoach Transportation no JCTours
 *All Taxes and Gratuities (Except Driver)

\$142.00 per person

Full Payment due at time of reservation.
 Reservation is not guaranteed until payment is received.
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1, 2022.

ITINERARY:
 10:00 AM DEPARTURE: Haddonfield, NJ - 635 Centre St. @ Wedgewood Swim Club
 12:00 pm Family Style Luncheon (menu on reverse side of flyer)
 2:00 pm Depart for theatre
 2:15 pm Approx. arrival at S&S
 3:00 pm Showtime
 6:00 pm Depart for home
 8:00 pm Approx. arrival home

For Reservations Call:
Betsy B! 856-546-0685 or email: betz26@gmail.com

PLEASE FILL OUT RESERVATION FORM BELOW

Wed. March 30, 2022 Sight & Sound "DAVID" GROUP: On The Bus w/ Betsy B!

NAME: _____ # of People Attending: _____

Address: _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: home _____ / cell _____

Email Address: _____

On The Bus with Betsy B!
Wed., March 30, 2022

Fulton Steamboat Restaurant
Family Style Luncheon Menu

Tossed Garden Salad
w/Ranch & Italian Dressings

Rolls & Butter

Entrees
Lancaster County Pot Roast of Beef
Roasted Turkey

Accompaniments
Baked Corn Pudding
Fresh Seasonal Vegetables

Desserts
Home Baked Apple Pie
Pecan Pie

Coffee/Hot Tea/Iced Tea
(Any additional beverages are personal expense.)

Menu subject to change without notice.