

# This week's news...



December 16, 2021

Dear Friend,

## A Christmas Miracle (or two)!

### Christmas Miracle - #1

A year ago we started talking about a "\$70,000 Problem" which referenced a chronic shortfall in church finances. In response, a task force formed and met for a few months to take a "deep dive" into the revenue and expenses of the congregation and try to craft a balanced budget. That document was presented to Session in September and then dispersed to the committee chairs as a "blueprint to a balanced budget."

They met the challenge and last Monday, Session approved the budget for 2022. Two remarkable things: 1. the budget was approved prior to the start of the year; and 2. it's balanced and sustainable, meaning that no extraordinary funding is required. This is a really impressive accomplishment and will provide the church a template for years ahead.

Here's where you come in:

1. Thank an elder! They worked hard and it's nice to be acknowledged for a job well done!
2. Pledge. None of this works without your pledge. The leadership of the congregation relies on your continued financial support so please, if you haven't already done so, please do so. Please also consider a special end-of-year gift to the church.

For reference, here's a summary of the budget that has been approved and adopted. A more detailed presentation is planned for the Annual Meeting early in 2022.

### Christmas Miracle - #2

We were notified earlier this week that The Bean Family Foundation has voted to make a sizable contribution to the church for the purpose of renovating the Parlor. They

### First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield Budget for 2022

|                               | Yr 2022<br>Budget |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>FPCH Income</b>            |                   |
| FPCH Building Use Fees        | 19,000            |
| Kirkland Fund                 | 2,000             |
| Manse rent                    | 14,975            |
| FPCH Envelope Giving          | 693,672           |
| FPCH Loose Offering           | 15,000            |
| FPCH Per Capita               | 16,500            |
| FPCH Preschool rent           | 70,000            |
| FPCH Special Gifts            | 7,000             |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>          | <b>838,147</b>    |
| <b>Expenditures</b>           |                   |
| Total Administrative          | 30,376            |
| Total Christian Formation     | 13,200            |
| Total Marketing               | 2,500             |
| Total Member Care             | 3,500             |
| Total Outreach and Mission    | 64,749            |
| Total Property                | 120,667           |
| Total Salaries/Taxes/Benefits | 636,162           |
| Total Worship and Music       | 8,800             |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>     | <b>879,954</b>    |
| <b>Net Operating Revenue</b>  | <b>-41,807</b>    |
| <b>Other Revenue</b>          |                   |
| From Unrestricted Funds       | 41,807            |
| <b>Net Revenue</b>            | <b>0</b>          |

generously decided to do so in recognition of the multi-generational importance of the church to the Bean family and also in memory of Skip.

This is huge!

The Property Committee has been formulating plans and budget to give the room a much-needed renovation with the goal of creating a more welcoming and usable space. Given that it's literally the centerpiece of the building, it's appearance and functionality is of utmost importance to the congregation.

Session received this news on Monday is exceedingly grateful for the Bean Foundation's generosity and confidence. We all look forward to dedicating the new space in 2022.

As always, I hope this finds you well!



P.S. The weekly email is taking a break and will return to your inboxes on Thursday, January 6, 2022!

Just for fun, this "recognition" was installed in the hallway outside of our offices on 2R:



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## Advent and Christmas Worship:

**Fourth Sunday in Advent, December 19 – 10 a.m. In-person and Online**

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES ON DECEMBER 24** – We will celebrate the birth of Christ together this year at our three traditional Christmas Eve services. Come to hear the familiar stories and sing the familiar carols.

- 4 p.m. Family Service in the Sanctuary – Carols and a story
- 7:30 p.m. Chapel Service – Lessons and Carols – contemplative
- 10 p.m. Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary – Lessons and Carols – In-person and live streamed



**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING** – Today and for the rest of December, your Christmas Joy offering will be received. There are envelopes in the pews or simply mark your gift “Christmas Joy.” God has blessed the Church with incredible leadership, but those leaders often need support from their communities. The Joy offering addresses leaders’ needs, including leadership development for communities of color and support for Presbyterian church workers in their times of need.

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### **TOY COLLECTION EMERGENCY**

More toys are needed to share Christmas with the many families we help each year. Toys (new, please) can be added to the toy box in the Parlor or dropped off at the office **through Wed. Dec. 21**. Help First Presbyterian play Santa! Share the Christmas spirit!



**THE MITTEN TREE** is in the back of the Sanctuary for your donations of mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves for all ages. Donations accepted through December.

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### **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.*

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### **Youth News**

**NURSERY SCHEDULE CHRISTMAS EVE:** The nursery will be staffed and ready for your little ones during the 4 p.m. Christmas Eve service. For the 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. service, the nursery will be open to parents who need a play space for their little ones. Parents must remain with their children in the nursery during those services, but the service will be live streamed in the nursery.

**WINTER BREAK – SUNDAY SCHOOL AND THE NURSERY:** Please note that Sunday School and the Nursery will be closed on 12/26/21 and 1/2/22 for the holiday break! We’ll be back in session on 1/9/22. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**Mission Trip 2022:** It's official! 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 chaperon application, please reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling at [gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org). To learn more about ASP, please visit their website: <https://asphome.org>.

**BIG THANKS FOR YOUR CARING HEARTS DONATIONS!!** Because of your generosity we were able to go above and beyond in fulfilling all the families’ wish lists through Caring Hearts this year, and also give each family extra money to use towards groceries. A huge shout out to the Confirmation Class and teachers for contributing so much this year! Thank you for helping make the holidays a little brighter for these families that are struggling with HIV/AIDS.



**Youth Group** is meeting this Sunday, 12/19/21 for our White Elephant Gift Exchange and *Elf* Movie Trivia game. All participants need to bring a gift, but please abide by these Gift Dos and Don'ts: 1. It must be wrapped 2, It must be no more than \$10, 3. It cannot be a gift card/gift certificate, 4. Make it silly - the sillier the better! Gag gifts are awesome! There will be gifts and prizes! And pizza and fruit snacks! Hope to see you there for our final Youth Group of 2021.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A congregational meeting has been called for **Sunday, December 26**, immediately following worship for the purposes of electing elders and deacons and approving Pastor Nikki's terms of call. Meeting will be both in-person and on Zoom. [Here is the link.](#)

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## GIVING ENVELOPES FOR 2022

Thanks to all who pledged for the coming year! If you requested giving envelopes, please pick them up in the copy room behind the office (where the accessible bathroom is). Find the box with your name on it. (As with last year, we are saving money by not having giving numbers printed on envelopes.) If you would like envelopes but didn't say so on your pledge, you may take one of the unlabeled boxes. Cash donors take note: when using giving envelopes make sure to include a name or giving number so your offering can be credited to your account.

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## NEW OPPORTUNITIES

**SIMPLICITY:** Beginning January 19, you are invited to begin studying Richard Rohr's *Simplicity: The Freedom of Letting Go*. We will meet every Wednesday at 6:30 via Zoom, and cover one chapter a week. (Watch for Zoom link in future announcements.) Participants are responsible for the book purchase. Books may be purchased on Amazon for approximately \$15, or Lesley Kirsch can order books, from Ida's Bookstore in Collingswood to support a new black-owned business (also available online through <https://www.oursisterbookshops.com/>.) Contact Lesley at [lesley@lesleykirsch.com](mailto:lesley@lesleykirsch.com).

**USHER TRAINING** – Ushers are doorkeepers in the house of the Lord and play a significant role in providing first impressions! Do you generate a spirit of welcome and hospitality? If so, the ministry of ushering is calling to you! The Deacons have traditionally retained responsibility for ushering and are opening the work up to the congregation. Interested? Ushering training will be provided via Zoom on two separate occasions to accommodate varying schedules: on Thursday, January 20, at 6:30, and Thursday, January 27, at 6:30. You only need to attend once! The book *The Work of the Usher* will be available in the Church office beginning on January 3, and training will be based on this small manual. You are encouraged to pick it up (at no cost)! Questions? Contact Pastor Nikki.

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Some of the St. Wilfrid's Elves



## BIBLE STUDY

**DOUG'S TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** (8 a.m. [via Zoom](#)) is ongoing—and you can join at any time. The texts for the coming week are 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 and Luke 2:41-52.

**PASTOR NIKKI'S BIBLE STUDY** meets Thursdays at 6:30 on [Zoom](#) for a discussion of the Letter to the Hebrews. You are welcome to join whenever you can.

## CHRISTMAS BLOOD DRIVE



### First Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, December 22nd  
2pm – 7pm

First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall  
20 Kings Highway East  
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT](#)

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The Preschool celebrates the season in the Sanctuary with a school-wide Caroling event! The children laughed and sang all the way!

May your home be filled with joy, your heart with love, and your family with health. We wish you a Merry Christmas!

## ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

This week marks the **90th week out of 91** that the Open Door Clinic at St. Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic; **129 bags** again, **8,694 total. Over 217,350 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. On Saturday, we distributed **313 toy bags** of 2 and/or 3 toys each to parents to gift their children at Christmas. For most of these children, it will be the only toys they receive. One woman started the line at 4:00 am so she wouldn't miss out. And many thanks to the high school youth who helped carry bags to cars, and who ran into the sanctuary to collect for the different ages.

### NEEDS:

- **Coats:** As we enter this holiday season, please be on the lookout for coats, gently used or new, sizes 24 months to XXL. These may be dropped off in the alcove behind the parlor. (Check out Walmart, Boscov, Costco and BJ's). And there seems to be a desire for "puffy coats." Last Friday at Costco Cherry Hill, there were "puffy jackets" selling for under \$20.00.
- **PB&J sandwiches:** If you are interested in making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches or need service hours – please select a donation week by signing up on this sign-up 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](mailto:wendy.coffman@gmail.com).
- **Other Needs:** Baby wipes, feminine pads, diapers – sizes 5 and 6, tuna and spaghetti sauce. Always needed: Plastic shopping bags from Shoprite or Wegman's, paper grocery bags to line the plastic bags, and newspaper bags to hold hygiene products. These may be dropped off on the steps on the PATCO side of Grace Episcopal church or Sundays at FPC in the alcove between the parlor and the Sanctuary

**The Open Door Clinic will not be Open Saturday December 25 or Saturday January 1.**

If you would like to know more, check the website: [www.opendoorcliniccamden.org](http://www.opendoorcliniccamden.org) or call Jill Mascena at 856-428-7342 and leave a message.

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### WEEKLY CALENDAR

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| Dec. 16 – 6:30 p.m. Bible Study with Nikki                                 | Dec. 24 – 4 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service in the Sanctuary       |
| Dec. 16 – 6:30 p.m. Moore Bells  | Dec. 24 – 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Chapel Service                     |
| Dec. 16 – 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir  | Dec. 24 – 10 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary |
| Dec. 17 – 9 a.m. Women's Prison Ministry Zoom                              | <b>Dec. 25 – CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS</b>                        |
| Dec. 19 – 10 a.m. Worship – 4th Sunday in Advent, Reception of New Members | Dec. 26 – 10 a.m. Worship  |
| Dec. 19 – 5 p.m. Youth Group   | Dec. 26 – 11 a.m. Congregational Meeting – elect Elders and Deacons  |
| Dec. 21 – 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study  | Dec. 26 – No Youth Group   |
| Dec. 21 – 10 a.m. Circles 1 and 3  | Dec. 28 – Doug's Bible Study does not meet                           |
| Dec. 21 – 7 p.m. Governance Committee                                      | Dec. 29 – No Youth and Children's Choir Rehearsals                   |
| Dec. 22 – 2-7 p.m. Blood Drive   | Dec. 30 – 6:30 p.m. Bible Study with Nikki                           |
| Dec. 22 – No Youth and Children's Choir Rehearsals                         | Dec. 30 – No Adult Choir Rehearsals                                  |
| Dec. 23 – 6:30 p.m. Bible Study with Nikki                                 | Jan. 2 – 10 a.m. Worship   |
| Dec. 23 – 6:30 p.m. Moore Bells  | Jan. 2 – No Sunday School  |
| Dec. 23 – 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir  | Jan. 2 – No Youth Group  |
| Dec. 24 – Jan. 31 Church Office Closed (reopen 1/3)                        |  |