

February 10, 2022

Dear Friend,

"But this church already does a lot!"

Pastors can be a pain, at least this one can!

It seems we're always insisting on more and more and more!

More outreach, more service, more giving, more mission, more classes, more attendance, more, more, more!

Guilty as charged.

Remember in Matthew when Peter asked Jesus how many times he had to forgive someone?

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. (Some scholars record this as not 77 times but 70 times 7 or 490)

Jesus was a big fan of extravagance and rarely, if ever, limited things like grace, generosity, or forgiveness. In fact, one of the key characteristics of the God's realm is abundance — and we're included in that both as recipients and dispensers.

Is there a limit to God's grace? No. Is there a limit to the number of times God will forgive us? No. Is there a limit to the care, service, and advocacy we show toward or on behalf of those persons ignored or overlooked? No.

I agree: This church does a lot. It's impressive and many, many people benefit from its acts of charity and generosity. Yet, no one would disagree that there is much to be done and as long as there is physical or emotional need, injustice, oppression, or marginalized people — the church much never rest nor consider its work done.



St. Wilfrid's 2/5/22

One of the great hymns is "Come, Labor On" The first and last stanza are as follows:

Come, labor on. Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain while all around us waves the golden grain? And to each servant does the Master say, "Go work today."

Come, labor on. No time for rest, till glows the western sky, till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie, and a glad sound comes with the setting sun, "Well done, well done!"

Hopefully what we hear on a regular basis is both of the last lines: Go work today. And. Well done, well done! Rinse and repeat!

Thank you for being the vibrant and generous people you are! This Sunday during the Annual Meeting you'll hear just how much you're doing and in myriad ways. You'll also hear that the need is great and continues to grow. You'll hear a generous helping of "Well done, well done!" with an everincreasing plea, "Go work today."

Be well, stay safe, and God bless,

ANNUAL MEETING

On Sunday, February 13 following worship, the Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held in the Sanctuary and on Zoom for the purpose of receiving the 2021 Annual Report. (Elections were held and terms of call approved at the Congregational meeting on January 2, 2022.) Copies of the Annual Report have been emailed to the congregation and are available on the church website or <u>here</u>. A limited number of print copies are also available. Zoom link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84899576450. To call in 1-929-436-2866, 84899576450#.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING - FINAL CALL FOR DONATIONS

Please bring in your canned goods or consider a monetary donation to the Souper Bowl of Caring Youth Group Fundraiser! THIS SUNDAY! Let's see how far we can get over our goal of \$300! All proceeds benefit the Cherry Hill Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity!

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.
- Give monetary donations either online or in person. 100% of proceeds through 2/13/22 are donated to the Cherry Hill Food Pantry. The QR code and link for donations are at right and below. Cash or checks (made out to FPCH) will be accepted at church – please mark donations for Souper Bowl of Caring or Cherry Hill Food Pantry. <u>https://map.tacklehunger.org/donate/firstpresyouth</u>

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL – DEADLINE EXTENDED

Slots are filling up for the 2022 Lenten devotional made up of contributions from the congregation, *but there is room for you*. Instructions are available <u>here and on the church website</u>. Sign up for a particular day's devotions using <u>Sign-up Genius</u>. Email devotions to <u>Anne Vial</u> by February 16.



DOUG'S BOOK STUDIES ARE UNDERWAY

- A 14-week Bible Study on Acts Into the World: The Acts of the Apostles, 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. Contact Doug for the book.
- A 4-part book study/workshop on *The Dead Beat: Lost Souls, Lucky Stiffs, and the Perverse Pleasures of Obituaries*, by Marilyn Johnson on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. <u>via Zoom</u> on Feb 8, 15, 22, and March 1. Please order your own book.

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. To join by phone, here is the corrected number: 1-646-558-8656, then 6467052376#. Participants are responsible for the book purchase.

Class schedule:

- 2/16 Ch. 3-Getting Rid of the Church
- 2/23 Ch. 4-Christians and Political Commitment
- 3/2 NO CLASS Ash Wednesday
- 3/9 Ch. 5-Contemplation the Spiritual Challenge
- 3/16 Ch. 6-The Freedom of the Sons and Daughters of God (Luke 8)
- 3/23 Ch. 7-What Is This 'Women's Stuff'?
- 3/30 Ch. 8-The Social and Political Vocation of Christians
- 4/6 Ch. 9-Less is More Paths to a Spirituality of the Simple Life

<text><text><text><text>

February Circle Meetings:

Circle 4 – February 14 on Zoom at 7:15

Circle 1 – February 15 in the Hospitality Center at 10:00

Circle 3 – February 15 on Zoom at 10:00

DOUG'S TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY (8 a.m. <u>via Zoom</u>) is ongoing—and you can join at any time. The text for the coming week is Luke 6:27-38.

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.



JAZZ @ First Presbyterian

Jazz organist Lucas Brown brings his quartet, with special guest guitarist Peter Bernstein, to the First Presbyterian on Friday, March 4 at 7:30 p.m. Also featuring Byron Landham on drums and tenor saxophone Chris Lewis, the band will bring excitement as well as lyricism to the Sanctuary while swinging hard through a mix of standards and originals. There will be a freewill offering to benefit the church music program. Audience and performers will be masked and vaccinated

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 <u>here</u> 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 <u>Prayer Request portal</u> on the website is available for private requests sent directly to the pastors.*

Youth News

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

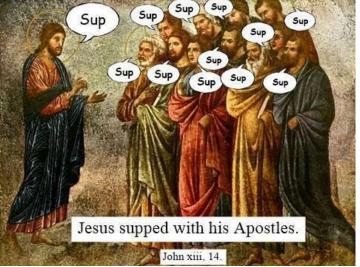
- Nursery: We are looking forward to hanging out with your babies and toddlers at the end of February!
- Sunday School: Please be on the lookout for virtual Sunday School lessons emailed each week. To make sure you are on the distribution list please reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling at <u>gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org</u>.

YOUTH GROUP – Field trip time! We are meeting Sunday, 2/13/22 from 2-4 at WinterFest at Cooper River. Lace up those skates and get ready to do your best Pemchenko. If you don't know what this is, your parents do! Look for the youth group email for details or reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling at <u>gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org</u>. Not in Youth Group? You can still join us – just make sure to RSVP!

YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2022 – Join us for our first meeting on 2/27/22 at 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary with both chaperones and participants where we get to know each other, talk schedules, fundraising, and other important information. See you there! **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 chaperon application, please reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling at <u>gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org</u>. To learn more about ASP, please visit their website: <u>https://asphome.org</u>.

This week in (virtual) Sunday School: It was disciple week! The younger grades learned about how Jesus called the disciples. They were normal people, with normal jobs, but God had a special plan for them. Jesus taught the disciples the Bible, how to pray and how to obey God. Also friends, Jesus has also given US what we need to take the Gospel to others. Not only did Jesus give us the tools we need, but promises to go with us along the way.

The older kids got a crash course on ALL the disciples, so we tried to lighten the mood a bit with some disciple memes.







EQUAL EXCHANGE – Delicious coffees, teas, chocolate bars and more are still available, though supplies are limited. Go to the Presbyterian Women webpage for prices and ordering details. <u>http://www.haddonfieldpres.org/presbyterian-women</u>

ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

This week marks the **95th week** that the Open Door Clinic at St Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic; **90 bags this week**, **9,168 total. And all kids received Valentine bags of candy— Big Smiles! Over 229,250 pounds** of food and dry goods have been distributed! Thank you all for your generous collections and contributions.

Foodbank: The next Foodbank pickup will be February 25th. The foodbank crew will be picking up at the SJ Foodbank a little after 8:00 a.m., and then off to St. Wilfrid's about 8:35 or so to unload. Please contact Paul Urian at <u>umanpaul@me.com</u> if you can help transport food to St. Wilfrid's. **Paul expresses his gratitude to all the new volunteers and helpers:** *"We are so pleased to see a steady stream of new volunteers. There are lots of jobs for everyone on Saturdays, both standing and sitting. Volunteers can pop in for an hour or two or stay the morning. Come every week, or come when you can. Same goes for drivers that transport food from the Food Bank on selected Fridays. We need people who can help load cars, yet we also welcome those who can just help by driving their cars which others load."*

Coats: The weather may be milder this week, but look out. The groundhog saw his shadow! Puffy jackets are starting to go on sale—someone without a coat would be very grateful! Any adult-size jackets and coats are needed as are hats and gloves or mittens! They may be dropped off on Corey Crumley's porch (bagged please): 40 Warwick Road, Haddonfield OR at St Wilfrid's Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and you can see in person what's happening! Donation receipts for IRS are available! **NEEDS**: White rice (20 lb. bags are on sale), canned tuna, spaghetti sauce (canned or plastic jar), cold cereal, toothbrushes, diapers size 2 and 6, and wipes and more 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 items

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



Corey Crumley helps patron with coats

Wendy, who coordinates the peanut butter and jelly traffic, can be reached at her email: <u>wendy.coffman@gmail.com</u>. The PB&Js are deeply appreciated—300 sandwiches a week are given out and received with BIG GRINS!

If you would like to know more or have any questions, check out the website <u>www.opendoorcliniccamden.org</u> or call Jill Mascena at 856-428-7342 and leave a message—she will get back to you

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: <u>onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteril1244/-/form/give/now</u> or by check

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Feb. 10	– 6:30 Moore Bells
	– 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
Feb. 12	 Youth choir NYC trip
Feb. 13	 – 10 a.m. Worship, SOUPER BOWL OF CARING
	 – 11 a.m. Annual Meeting in the Sanctuary and on Zoom
	 – 2 p.m. Youth Group Field Trip
Feb. 14	 – 11 a.m. Doug's study of Acts
	 – 4 p.m. Finance Committee
	– 7:15 p.m. Circle 4 on Zoom
Feb. 15	– 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study
	 – 10 a.m. Circle 3 on Zoom
	 – 10 a.m. Circle 1 in the Hospitality Center
	 4:30 p.m. Doug's Obituary book group
Feb. 16	 Youth and Children's Singing Choirs Rehearse
	– 4:45 p.m. Alleluia Bells
	– 5:30 p.m. Whitechapel Bells
	– 6:00 p.m. Spaghetti dinner
	 – 6:30 p.m. Simplicity Reading Group
	– 7:30 p.m. Kirk Ringers
Feb. 17	 – 4 p.m. Communications Committee
	– 6:30 p.m. Moore Bells
	– 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
Feb. 20	– 10 a.m. Worship
	– No Youth Group
Feb. 21	 Presidents Day – Office Closed

