

This week's news...



February 17, 2022

Dear Friend,

Chopped Spinach

In 1924, Clarence Birdseye, a Canadian fur trader, discovered that fish that was frozen immediately after being caught was just as delicious as fresh caught even if defrosted a month later. In short order, he developed a system for flash-freezing meats and vegetables and soon those cold bricks of nutritious greens were in grocery freezers from coast to coast.

As a kid, I thought all vegetables came in frozen blocks that were neatly stacked in our frosty freezer. While preparing dinner, whichever one was next up would be peeled from its waxed paper package and tossed in a saucepan with enough water to help with defrosting. Then, the slotted spoon would portion the watery vegetables onto our plates.

My brother and I dreaded chopped spinach night.



It was always in the rotation so it showed up every week without fail. Why couldn't we have sweet, buttery, delicious corn every night? But no — spinach was nutritious and good for us — just ask Popeye.

The fact that it was chock full of vitamins and nutrients made little impression on us. It tasted gross and had a texture to match which, together, made it wholly hard to swallow.

It was nearly a visceral response this week when I read a Bible commentator refer to Jesus' teaching about loving enemies, and turning the other cheek, and no judging or condemning as the "chopped spinach of the Bible!" It's good for us but no one really wants to dig in. It goes down hard no matter how it's served. Life would be so much easier if Jesus had just left this off the menu!

Here's the text from Luke 6:

"But I [Jesus] say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you."

Of all of the teachings of Jesus — these have to be the hardest — and among the most controversial.

On one hand, they comprise an ethic of generosity for Christians living in an inhospitable world. They offer a challenge to a very high standard. Yet do they promote compliance and perpetual abuse or are they components of resistance in the face of evil?

Just like that portion of chopped spinach, we may not like it, wish it wasn't there, but it's nevertheless good for us and so we'll chew on it together Sunday morning.

Until then — here's a clue: Christ in the world changes the way we see each other — at least it should!

Be well, stay safe, and God bless,



STEPHEN MINISTRY –



On Sunday, March 6, we be commissioning our new Stephen Ministry leaders, Carol Carty, Lisa Hurd, and Joyce Stout, who have recently completed their Bridge Leader Training course. They will help lead our Stephen Ministry in selecting, training, and supervising our Stephen Ministers and making sure that our Stephen Ministry runs smoothly. We ask God's blessings on our new Stephen Ministry leaders and for the success of this ministry. To read about Stephen Ministry and for a link to a short video, [click here](#). Watch for more information to roll out over the coming months.

DOUG'S BOOK STUDIES ARE UNDERWAY

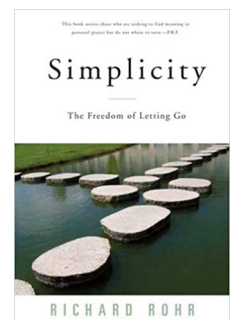
- A 14-week Bible Study on Acts *Into the World: The Acts of the Apostles*, **Mondays at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom** – no meeting on Feb. 21; resumes Feb 28 and continues March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, 11, 25; May 2, 9, 16, and 23. Contact Doug for the book.
- A 4-part book study/workshop on ***The Dead Beat: Lost Souls, Lucky Stiffs, and the Perverse Pleasures of Obituaries***, by Marilyn Johnson on **Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom** – remaining meetings on Feb 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, call 1-646-558-8656, then 6467052376#. Participants are responsible for the book purchase.

Class schedule:

- 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*



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 Exodus 34:28-35, Luke 9:28-43a.

PORCH BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK: 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 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.

Youth News

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND THE NURSEY will return IN-PERSON starting 2/27/22 – we are so looking forward to getting everyone back together again! We'll see you then! Please contact Gabrielle Heimerling at gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org with any questions

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27 is CONFIRMATION SUNDAY – With excitement, First Presbyterian will welcome new members from the 2021-2022 Confirmation class. And those confirmands will be leading in worship. You will want to be present in person or online for this special celebration of faith. Sunday School classes 4th-8th grade will remain in worship, while younger classes are dismissed as usual.

COMMUNION CLASS 2022 STARTING SOON! Communion Class is back for 3rd and 4th graders! Preparation for Communion will take place Sunday, March 6 through Sunday, March 27 from 10-11a.m., with Communion Sunday on April 3. If you have a current 3rd or 4th grader and didn't receive the information earlier this week, please contact Gabrielle Heimerling at gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org.



YOUTH GROUP – We had a great time ice skating for our Youth Group field trip this week at Winterfest at Cooper River Park. We are taking off Sunday, 2/20, but we will be back and in person on 2/27/22 from 5pm-6pm! It will feel just like 2021 – we'll meet in the Hospitality Room for pizza and (fruit) snacks and then play a game. Dodgeball? Grog? So many options. Don't forget a mask. See you there! Contact Gabrielle Heimerling at gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org for information.



THANKS TO ALL SOUPER BOWL OF CARING DONORS! The Youth Group collected 4 boxes of food and over \$500 for the Cherry Hill food pantry. Way over our goal!

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 gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org. To learn more about ASP, please visit their website: <https://asphome.org>.

This week in (virtual) Sunday School: This week in Sunday School: In our younger classes our story was called a Man Through Roof and this story had it all...loyal friendship, thinking outside of the box, and another miracle all thanks to Jesus. Like the friends who would not give up until they helped the paralyzed man come to Jesus, we can help our friends come to Jesus too.

Our older friends focused on Luke this week. Luke was a pretty interesting person...he was an author, artist, a doctor and bro's with Paul. One thing he wasn't? A disciple. Liz Konoy of Crosswalk.com sums it up well by saying *No, we don't know everything there is to know about Luke, but I think that's the way he would want it. He didn't write a gospel for fame or recognition, which is why he does not mention his own name in either of the books he wrote. Luke wanted to teach people about the Savior and the glorious salvation Jesus offers to all mankind.*



“PRESBY”

MOTHER'S MORNING OUT
1yr.4mo.-2yrs.4mo.

NURSERY SCHOOL
2 ½ - 4yrs.

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

DREAMCATCHERS
Enrichment for AM or PM Kindergarteners

ADDITIONAL CLASS OPTIONS:
Discovery Days
Creative Classes

STREAM
Extended Play



OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, March 12th 9:30 – 11:30
Tuesday, March 15th 4:30 – 6:30

PLEASE DROP IN FOR A TOUR!

Haddonfield First Presbyterian Preschool
20 Kings Hwy. East
856-429-0609
Haddonfieldpres.org

We believe in Children... There is faith in their eyes, love in their touch, and hope in their attitude. We thrill with them in life's joys, run with them through tall grasses, and bow with them in worship. They are the fragile dreams of yesterday, Life's radiant reality today and the vibrant stuff of tomorrow.
Yes, we believe in children.



Doug reading to Green/Yellow Balloon Class

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.

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. <http://www.haddonfieldpres.org/presbyterian-women>

ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

This week marks the **96th week** that the Open-Door Clinic at St. Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic; **113 bags** again, **9,281 total**. **Over 232,025 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.

Foodbank: The foodbank crew will be picking up at the SJ Foodbank on Friday **February 25** at a little after 8:00 a.m., and then to St. Wilfrid's starting at 8:35 or so. After February 25, the next foodbank pick-up in March. Please contact Paul at umanpaul@me.com if you can help transport food to St Wilfrid's. ALWAYS can use more help with pickup!!!

NEEDS: Canned tuna, white rice, spaghetti sauce in plastic jar or can, diapers (sizes 2 and 6), wipes and more wipes, and toothbrushes. And always plastic grocery 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 in the alcove between the Parlor and the Sanctuary or in the bin on the steps behind Grace Church on the PATCO side on weekdays.

Coats: We are still giving out coats (adult sizes), mittens or gloves, scarves, and sweatshirts for all ages as long as there is a need and supply. They may be dropped off in the bin on the steps of Grace Church on the PATCO side on weekdays or on Corey Crumley's front porch: 40 Warwick Rd, Haddonfield.

PB & J: 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. PB&Js are deeply appreciated. Thanks to all. We still need them! We give out 300 a week!

If you have any questions or would like to know more...check out the website: www.opendoorcliniccamden.org or call Jill Mascena at 856-428-7342. Leave a message and she'll 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: onrealm.org/FirstPresbyter11244/-/form/give/now or by check



WEEKLY CALENDAR

- Feb. 17 – 6:30 Moore Bells
– 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
- Feb. 20 – 10 a.m. Worship
– No Youth Group
- Feb. 21 – Presidents Day – Office Closed
- Feb. 21 – 11 a.m. Doug's study of Acts
– 7 p.m. Session
- Feb. 22 – 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study
– 4:30 p.m. Doug's Obituary book group
– 7:30 p.m. Deacons
- Feb. 23 – 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. 24 – 4 p.m. Communications Committee
– 6:30 p.m. Moore Bells
– 7:15 p.m. Confirmation Worship Rehearsal
– 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
- Feb. 27 – 10 a.m. Sunday Worship – CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
Nursery Reopens, Sunday School for PreK-Grade 3 meets in person,
Sunday School for Grades 4-8: Please attend worship
– 11:15 a.m. Youth Mission Trip Meeting
– 2:30 p.m. IHOC MALL WALK!
– 5 p.m. Youth Group
- Feb. 28 – 11 a.m. Doug's study of Acts
– 7 p.m. JAC Meeting on Zoom



IHOC
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 (956) 424-3820 or e-mail: info@ihocsj.org

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

 SUBARU
 Edward's Unlimited
 CENTO
 DAMBLY'S
 VOORHEES TOWN CENTER
 TOWNSEND PRESS
 HICKORY HOLLOW
 Investors Bank
 Hormon Enterprises
 Hudson Savings Bank

IT'S TIME TO ORDER EASTER FLOWERS (DEADLINE APRIL 11) – ORDER FORMS IN THE BULLETIN, AT THE CHURCH, AND ON THE WEBSITE

CHOIR TRIP TO NYC

