

# This week's news...



February 24, 2022

Dear Friend,

## Odds and Ends

Every couple of months I try to gather up some loose ends or odd bits that while by themselves don't warrant a full-length entry still muster enough attention to be highlighted. So, in no particular order...

1. I mentioned in my report to Session this month that I have set my retirement date as July 1, 2022. That is a little over 2 years since I started at FPCH and will be the 25th anniversary of my ordination. Seems like an auspicious time to hung up my stole! It's way too early to talk about my departure as we have lots and lots to do but I didn't want it to be a surprise.
2. The Wordle craze has taken root among our church community as it has all over the country! I've had all kinds of responses to article about it a few weeks ago and have enjoyed sharing results. For the uninitiated, here's the link to the website (now part of the New York Times family). AND, in case you need more puzzles in your live, try Nerdle — it's a number equation version that is built on the same scheme as Wordle. The best part (IMHO) of both games is that everyone has the same puzzle and it's limited to one per day, hence, you won't waste an entire day!
3. The fascination around obituaries isn't around death, but rather life. The folks in *The Dead Beat* book group have explored the craft and composers of professional obituaries in both Europe and the U.S. We've dissected their interwoven parts and marveled at the concise language the so poignantly captures an entire life. As one author said, "What it takes to be a good obituary writer is an ability to write well, to capture a person with economy and grace, and work in the hurricane of emotion that swirls around the newly dead." We discovered so many interesting people — many led lives that never made headlines yet changed the world in big and small ways — they've inspired us, entertained us, and gave us hope. I've attached one about Heath Ledger (next page) and here are two more links: One for the Candy Bomber of WWII and the other for Finnegan, a dog with a special nose! Hope you enjoy them!
4. Last, and clearly not least, this Sunday is reserved for the Confirmation Class! Please make every effort to attend and support this wonderful and hard-working group of young people as they declare their intention to further their faith journeys by aligning with First Presbyterian! PLUS — it's the return of congregational singing!



Hope this finds you well and safe!



## TRANSITION

## Charisma as Natural as Gravity

### HEATH LEDGER, 28, ACTOR

Best known for his haunting, Oscar-nominated performance as Emmis Del Mar, one of the gay cowboys in 2005's "Brokeback Mountain," Ledger was a massive young talent on the cusp of greatness when he died last week in New York. The native Australian, who is survived by his 2-year-old daughter, Matilda, had recently finished work on this summer's "Batman" sequel, "The Dark Knight," in which he plays a villain, the Joker. Christopher Nolan, the film's director, shared these memories:

One night, as I'm standing on LaSalle Street in Chicago, trying to line up a shot for "The

Dark Knight," a production assistant skateboards into my line of sight. Silently, I curse the moment that Heath first skated onto our set in full character make-up. I'd fretted about the reaction of Batman fans to a skateboarding Joker, but the actual result was a proliferation of skateboards among the younger crew members. If you'd asked those kids why they had chosen to bring their boards to work, they would have answered honestly that they didn't know. That's real charisma—as invisible and natural as gravity. That's what Heath had.

Heath was bursting with creativity. It was in his every gesture. He once told me that he liked to wait between jobs until he was creatively hungry. Until he needed it again. He brought that attitude to our set every day. There aren't many actors who can make you feel ashamed of how often you complain about doing the best job in the world. Heath was one of them.

One time he and another actor were shooting a complex scene. We had two days to shoot it, and at the end of the first day, they'd really found something and Heath was worried that he might not have it if we stopped. He wanted to carry on and finish. It's tough to ask the crew to work late when we all know there's plenty of time to finish the next day. But everyone seemed to understand that Heath had something special and that we had to capture it before it disappeared. Months later, I learned that as Heath left the set that night, he quietly thanked each

crew member for working late. Quietly. Not trying to make a point, just grateful for the chance to create that they'd given him.

Those nights on the streets of Chicago were filled with stunts. These can be boring times for an actor, but Heath was fascinated, eagerly accepting our invitation to ride in the camera car as we chased vehicles through movie traffic—not just for the thrill ride, but to be a part of it. Of everything. He'd brought his laptop along in the car, and we had a high-speed screening of two of his works-in-progress: short films he'd made that were exciting and haunting. Their

exuberance made me feel jaded and leaden. I've never felt as old as I did watching Heath explore his talents. That night I made him an offer—knowing he wouldn't take me up on it—that he should feel free to come by the set when he had a night off so he could see what we were up to.

When you get into the edit suite after shooting a movie, you feel a responsibility to an actor who has trusted you, and Heath gave us everything. As we started my cut, I would wonder about each take we chose, each trim we made. I would visualize the screening where we'd have to show him the finished film—sitting three or four rows behind him, watching

the movements of his head for clues to what he was thinking about what we'd done with all that he'd given us. Now that screening will never be real. I see him every day in my edit suite. I study his face, his voice. And I miss him terribly.

Back on LaSalle Street, I turn to my assistant director and I tell him to clear the skateboarding kid out of my line of sight when I realize—it's Heath, woolly hat pulled low over his eyes, here on his night off to take me up on my offer. I can't help but smile.



**I have never felt as old as I did watching Heath explore his talents. He made me feel jaded.**

## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY IS THIS SUNDAY 2.27.22.

Please join us in welcoming the 2021-2022 Confirmation Class. The class will serve as our worship leaders and is not a service to be missed. **Sunday School and the Nursery** will return IN PERSON starting 2/27/22 for PreK/K and 1st/2nd/3rd grade only. 4th-8th graders are invited to attend the Confirmation Sunday Service. Don't forget a mask!

**All Sunday School grades will meet in person on 3/6/22** - we are so looking forward to getting everyone back together again! We'll see you then! Don't forget a mask!



**Communion Class 2022 Starting Soon!** Communion Class is back for 3rd and 4th graders! Preparation for Communion will take place Sunday, March 6th through

Sunday, March 27th from 10am-11am, with Communion Sunday on April 3rd. 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](mailto:gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org).

**Youth Group is Meeting IN PERSON** this week 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!

## LENT BEGINS ON MARCH 2, ASH WEDNESDAY

The Ash Wednesday worship service will be streamed all day, beginning at 11 a.m. Like last year, Doug and Nikki will provide a drive-through imposition of ashes in the portico from 12:45-1:45 p.m. Enter by the playground.

## LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

are available [online here](#) and through the website. There are a limited number of printed copies available. Contact the church office. Many thanks to the individual church members who picked up pens or keyboards so that the community could share the Lenten journey.



## STEPHEN LEADERS TO BE COMMISSIONED SUNDAY, March 6

On March 6, we will commission Stephen Leaders Carol Carty, Lisa Hurd, and Joyce Stout to lead Stephen Ministry at First Presbyterian Church. These Stephen Leaders will lead, train, and supervise the Stephen Ministers who provide care for those who are going through a variety of life's difficulties. Please join us in the commissioning next Sunday during worship as the church begins this new ministry. To read about Stephen Ministry and for a link to a short video, [click here](#) or scan the QR code. Watch for more information to roll out over the coming months.



## DOUG'S BOOK STUDIES ARE UNDERWAY

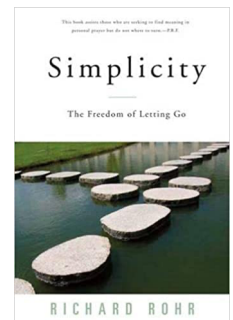
- A 14-week Bible Study on Acts *Into the World: The Acts of the Apostles*, **Mondays at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom** – meets Feb. 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, 11, 25; May 2, 9, 16, and 23. Contact Doug for the book.
- A 4-part book study/workshop on *The Dead Beat: Lost Souls, Lucky Stiffs, and the Perverse Pleasures of Obituaries*, by Marilyn Johnson on **Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom** – meets once more on March 1.

## 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:

- 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 text for the coming week is Ephesians 4:11-16.

## JAZZ @ First Presbyterian – March 4

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.



## More Youth News

**MISSION TRIP MEETING THIS SUNDAY 2/27/22 at 11:15am** 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](mailto:gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org). To learn more about ASP, please visit their website: <https://asphome.org>.

**This week in (virtual) Sunday School:** This week we learned about Jesus as a healer. Did you know the vast majority of miracles recorded in the Gospels were miracles of healing? It's true! Everything Jesus did was about love—he cared for people and taught everyone that God loves us always, no matter what. These are things we can do to love God's people as well. We don't have to be doctors or nurses to be able to heal. Thanks to God and Jesus we have the power to heal peoples' hearts with love. Virtual Sunday School will be taking a break (hooray!). Our younger grades will meet in person 2/2/22 while our older grades are invited to join us for Confirmation Sunday. All Sunday School grades will meet in person on 3/6/22.



### OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 9:30 – 11:30

Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 4:30 – 6:30

**PLEASE DROP IN FOR A TOUR!**

*Haddonfield First Presbyterian Preschool*

20 Kings Hwy. East

856-429-0609

[Haddonfieldpres.org](http://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.*

### "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



## 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.*

## IT'S TIME TO ORDER EASTER FLOWERS

Orders for tulips and daffodils (\$9 each) are due to Margot Dark with payment by April 11. But don't wait – growers' supplies are short. Order forms are available in the Sanctuary, the church office, and online [here](#) or on the website, [www.haddonfieldpres.org](http://www.haddonfieldpres.org).

## ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

This week marks the **97th week** that the Open-Door Clinic at St Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic; **124 bags** again, **9,405 total**. **Over 235,125 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 Pickup...help needed** in March: meet at SJ Foodbank a little after 8 a.m. and then to St. Wilfrid's starting at 8:35 or so. If you would like to know more or can help, please contact Paul Urian at [umanpaul@me.com](mailto:umanpaul@me.com)

**Needs:** Tuna, white rice, spaghetti sauce (plastic jar or canned please), bar soap, and wipes! Winter coats or jackets – all sizes, hats, scarves, mittens, and sweatshirts for all ages. We are also collecting new or gently used 500-1,000 piece puzzles. Plastic grocery bags from Shoprite or Wegman's, paper grocery bags to line plastic bags, and newspaper bags. We are beginning to collect reusable plastic grocery bags as soon plastic grocery bags will be stopped. Food may be dropped off weekdays in the bins on the steps of the PATCO side of Grace Episcopal Church, or Sundays in the alcove between the Parlor and the Sanctuary until 11 a.m., then on the cart outside the door to the office on the Masonic Temple side of the church until 12 p.m. Coats and jackets, hats, mittens, and scarves may be dropped off on Corey Crumley's front porch at 40 Warwick Road, Haddonfield. If you donate food regularly or coats, etc. – keep your receipts. There is a St. Wilfrid's donation receipt available for income tax which you can fill out using the receipts as backup. Available near the donation basket, in the office, or on the FPCH church website. Thank you for caring!

**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](mailto:wendy.coffman@gmail.com).

If you have any questions or would like to know more...check out the website: [www.opendoorcliniccamden.org](http://www.opendoorcliniccamden.org) or call Jill Mascena at 856-428-7342. Leave a message and she'll get back to you.

## MALL WALK THIS SUNDAY, 2/27!

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/FirstPresbyterii1244/-/form/give/now](https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyterii1244/-/form/give/now) or by check

**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](http://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](mailto:info@ihocsj.org)

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

Subaru, Edward's Unlimited, CENCO, Dambly's, Voorhees Town Center, and others.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

- Feb. 24 – 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
- Mar. 1 – 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study  
– 9:45 a.m. PW Coordinating Team  
(Hospitality Center)
- Mar. 1 – 10:30 a.m. Staff meeting (Parlor)  
– 4:30 p.m. Doug's Obituary book  
group
- Mar. 2 **ASH WEDNESDAY**  
– Worship streamed from 11 a.m.  
– 2:45 – 1:45 p.m. Imposition of  
ashes drive-through  
– 4:45 p.m. Alleluia Bells  
– 5:30 p.m. Whitechapel Bells  
– 6:00 p.m. Spaghetti dinner  
– No Simplicity Reading Group  
– 7:30 p.m. Kirk Ringers
- Mar. 3 – 6:30 Moore Bells  
– 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
- Mar. 4 – 7:30 p.m. **Jazz at First  
Presbyterian**
- Mar. 6 – 10 a.m. Worship – Communion  
and Stephen Leader commissioning

### EASTER FLOWERS

If you wish to place a plant(s) in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday in  
memory of a loved one, please use the following form:

Please use a separate form for each memorial plant.

(Please PRINT)

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ OR

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tulip @ \$9.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Daffodil @ \$9.00

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my flowers or leave in Church \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:

First Presbyterian Church

And Mail to:

Margot Dark

127 Linden Ave

Haddonfield, NJ 08033

Must be RECEIVED by **April 11, 2022, or until supplies run out.**

**Get your order in soon! Growers limited supply**

So that all can enjoy the beauty of the flowers please do not remove any  
flowers from the chancel area until after the final service

Any extra money will be donated to support youth mission trip