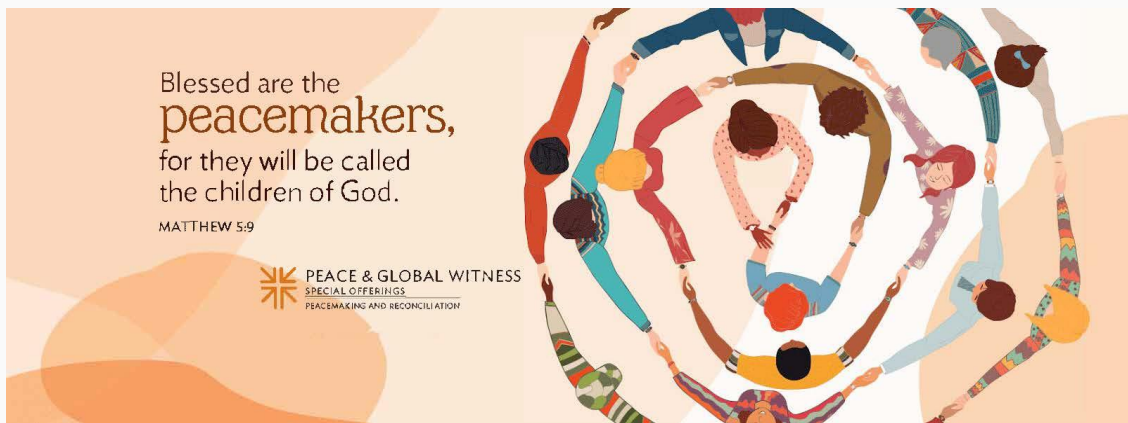


[View this email in your browser](#)



Hearts Open to Christ – Doors Opening to Christ's World



Dear <<First Name>>

A Home for Your Heart

In May the Surgeon General issued an Advisory, a public statement that called the American people's attention to an urgent public health issue: loneliness. "Loneliness is more than just a bad feeling," the Advisory states. "The mortality impact of being socially disconnected is similar to that caused by smoking up to 15 cigarettes a day, and even greater than that associated with obesity and physical inactivity." The Surgeon General warned that a failure to strengthen social connections would leave us "angry, sick, alone" and unable to solve society's problems. He challenged Americans to "answer that phone call from a friend. Make time to share a meal. Listen without the distraction of your phone. Perform an act of service. Express yourself authentically."

The nation's most prominent physician is calling our fellow Americans to a way of life that the Great Physician has long called people

of all nations. Members of First Presbyterian reach out to each other by phone, text, and email requesting prayer, and God hears our prayers! On the first Sunday of the month, the Risen Christ shares his very self with us at the Communion table. Each Sunday after worship, we renew friendships with refreshments and conversation in the Bean Parlor. Members and neighbors with disabilities gather for much-needed fellowship through our Social Connection Ministry. People impacted by addictions find mutual support at AA and Al-Anon meetings in our facilities. We cook meals for homeless neighbors and sick members, and we distribute food and clothing to people struggling to keep up with high prices. We are our most authentic selves when we live joyfully and consciously for the One God in Three Persons.

First Presbyterian Church is a home for your heart. In this place and through these and other ministries, we open our hearts to friendship with God, and we open our doors to share love with a lonely and hurting world. Now more than ever, the world needs the Church. You need the Church. And the Church needs you.

A Home for Your Heart is in our Mission Statement. It's also the theme of this fall's Annual Campaign. Over the next six weeks you're going to hear testimonials from your fellow members about the special place that First Presbyterian Church has in their hearts. You'll hear about how our ministries feed the hungry with food and feed hungry hearts with the Good News of Jesus Christ. You'll be invited to make this place and these people your home by giving your time, talents, and treasure.

1. **Time.** If you got out of the habit of church participation during the pandemic, we invite you to make your presence and participation a priority. It's good for you, body and soul.
2. **Talents.** What are you good at? Does the church know about it? How could you share your skills and knowledge to benefit the body of Christ and the community at large? When you receive your commitment card for 2024, use it to let us know.
3. **Treasure.** The median gift of First Presbyterian households to our annual budget is \$825. This is not a sustainable level of giving to an annual budget that exceeds \$800,000. If your heart sings when our

children's choirs sing, if your heart treasures the hundreds of children who learn about God and God's world in Preschool, Children's Church, and Vacation Bible School, then remember the words of Jesus, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." If you have never made a financial commitment to the Church, make one for 2024. If you have made a pledge in the past, we thank you and ask you to raise your pledge for 2024.

Grace and Peace to you,

Marvin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUTH SERVICE NIGHTS

MONTHLY SERVICE NIGHT FOR YOUTH RETURNS - Please RSVP to Caroline Yount at cnyount@gmail.com. **2023-2024 Service Nights are scheduled for:** November 5, December 3, January 7, February 4, March 3, April 7 and May 5 (subject to change).



JOIN THE HOSPITALITY TEAM

Calling all who anticipate and appreciate after-service social time! The Hospitality Committee is soliciting volunteers to provide snacks and to host the hospitality table. As we continue to offer this ministry of camaraderie and connection in our beautiful parlor, we will have a sign-up sheet on which folks can volunteer for any Sunday of their choice. Please consider this easy and fun way to connect with old and new friends. If you would like to help us develop additional ways to serve, we would also be happy to welcome you as a member of the Hospitality Team. Please contact Joan Fiorella at jmfiorella@gmail.com, or Pete Hurd at phurd75@gmail.com. Thanks to all who have agreed to be part of this important ministry!

The [Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council](#) is holding a dinner on **Saturday, October 21, 2023** from 6:00-9:00pm at the Catholic Church of St. Mary in Cherry Hill.

A buffet dinner will be preceded by a social hour with appetizers. They will also have entertainment, a 50/50 and door prizes. Tickets are \$35.

The dinner will include information about their plans to purchase a home for use as transitional housing.

Please contact our Council of Churches social worker Ed Hess (Wednesday and Friday mornings in the main office) for more information or if you would like to purchase tickets.



Advent Festival

SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, December 3rd from 11am - 1pm:

We are changing things up and having the festival after church but the format will be the same...soup, sandwiches, desserts and crafts.

If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Cheryl Tarditi: cheryltarditi@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2023 CROP WALK

On **Sunday, Oct. 8, from 1 to 3 p.m.** we will join congregants of Trinity Presbyterian Church at Challenge Grove Park, located at the corner of Bortons Mill Road and Caldwell Road (near Jake's Place), for an easy 5K walk. The event also includes a kids' walk and a pet blessing. Sign up in the Bean Parlor after worship on Sundays. For more information, contact Caroline Yount at cnyount@gmail.com.



**ENDING
HUNGER**
**ONE STEP
AT A TIME**
CROP HUNGER WALK

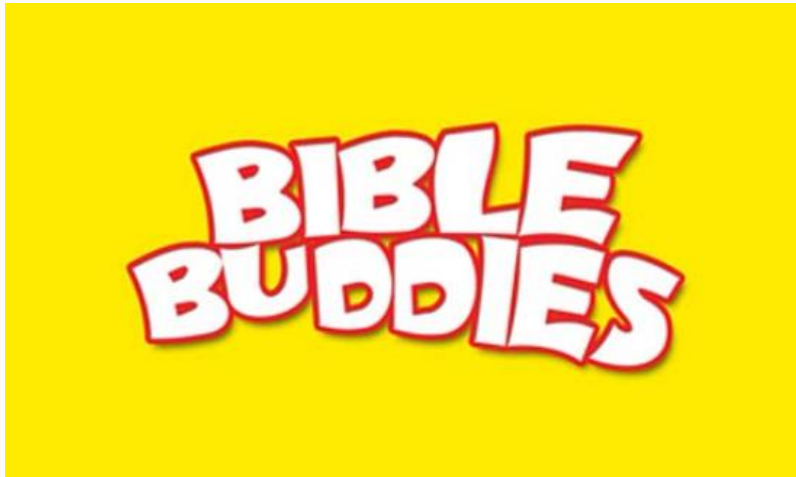


Walking Group

Get your sneakers ready! On Tuesday, Oct. 10th, join PW Walkers for a brisk walk throughout the church neighborhood. Our walk will be approximately 2 miles long and should take less than an hour. Meet Linda Hess under the church portico at 10 AM where we will begin our walk together and time of fellowship.



Coming Soon: Linda Hess will also be hosting a "Slow and Steady Walk" on the last Tuesday of each month to accommodate those that would like to walk, but find 2 mi. too much. We will be walking at Crows Woods. Date and time will be announced soon.



What's Bible Buddies? Bible Buddies is a group for families with young children (Infants-5th Grade) that periodically meets for events during the year. Playground After Church: From September-November and March-June, our group will meet on the playground after church from 11am-11:30am each week!

Join us after church or if you just need to get out of the house on a Sunday.

Bible Buddies Events

November 5th: Kona Ice Truck - 11am (after church)

December 3rd: Advent Festival - 11am-1pm in Fellowship Hall

December 10th: Candlelight Service - 4pm (Kids' Christmas Activities to Follow)

January 15th (Monday): MLK Day of Service - 8:30am

February 25th: Trip to SkyZone Trampoline Park (Maple Shade)

March 10th: Picnic at the Farrow's Home - 11:30am (128 Westmont Ave)

March 24th: Easter Egg Hunt - 11:30am (after church)

April 14th: Cupcakes 2 GoGo Truck - 11am (after church)

May 19th: Mr. Softee Truck - 11am (after church)

June 2nd: Phillies Game - 1pm

events subject to change

Questions? Contact:

Paul Sommers (856-522-9340) or Lindsay Sommers (856-412-0950)

SIGN UP FOR BIBLE BUDDIES AT THE FOLLOWING LINK:

[BIBLE BUDDIES REGISTRATION LINK](#)

Justice and Advocacy Committee

Let's Talk! The Justice and Advocacy Committee ZOOM meeting will be on October 10, 2023 at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to join us in this safe space. Bring your ideas, questions and hope for a better

future. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88038622644?pwd=L09uMHNOUTN1STREbTN5KzdZamNXUT09>.

Thursday, Oct. 12th The author of **The Color of Law** and **Take Action**, Richard Rothstein, will be the guest speaker during the Embracing Race - the Conversation **7pm zoom** meeting. The meeting is open to everyone. You must [email embracing.race.conversation@gmail.com](mailto:embracing.race.conversation@gmail.com) to request the link. **The Color of Law** is a New York Times Best Seller and one of our book studies last year.

Sunday, Oct. 15th **GreenFaith** in-person meeting at 3:30pm in The Prince of Peace Church on Rte. 70, Marlton. This will be a follow-up to the presentation by Maya van Rossum, author of **The Green Amendment** (not to be confused with the Green New Deal.) Learn more at NJGreenAmendment.org.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: If you are a woman attending our church or zooming into church programs, you are invited to consider our Circle of PW activities. We have changed our names to **Women of the Bible**.

Names: Circle 1 is now called **The Ruth Circle**. 3rd Tuesday monthly @ 9:30 am, Hospitality Room. Our emphasis is fellowship while making items for those in need and support of missions.

Ruth is a model of loving kindness. She acts in ways that promote the well-being of others. She was committed to relationships and her family. Ruth was diligent in her work as well as polite, respectful, and appreciative. She had integrity and wasn't afraid of working hard. From Ruth we learn that following your heart with integrity can increase your influence with others.

Circle 3 is now called **The Esther Circle**. 3rd Tuesday monthly @ 9:30 am, Bean Parlor.

Esther is initially portrayed in the book named for her as beautiful and obedient, though relatively passive. Throughout the story, she evolves into a character who bravely takes a decisive role in her own future and that of her people.

A remarkably clever young woman Esther, as queen, was willing to sacrifice her life to save her people, the Jews, from genocide and secure the rights of the Jews to defend themselves.

Circle 4 is now called **The Elizabeth Circle**. 2nd Monday @ 7:30 pm, your living room on Zoom.

We chose "Elizabeth" for our circle's name because Elizabeth was chosen by God for a significant role in the story of salvation of humankind, as was Mary, the mother of Jesus. When Mary came to Elizabeth, Elizabeth "recognized the presence of God in her midst and became the first gospel bearer recorded in the New Testament..." (Olive Mahibir, "Sacred Encounters", p.16). We, too, have been chosen by God and we desire to recognize the power of God acting through our lives. We are grateful for our circle friends who help us recognize God acting through us, even when we do not.

*two above circles are actively involved in Horizon Bible Study (Presbyterian

Magazine) and independent missions as Women's Prison Ministry, Pinwheel Ministry, Equal Exchange, Kiva.

Come Join us!

If you have an interest, please email Judy Grantham,
@ judygrantham@comcast.net

Presbytery for Southern New Jersey

FALL GATHERING—SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21ST ON ZOOM 9:45 – NOON

“DO EVERYTHING IN LOVE” 1 Corinthians: 16:14



Join women from around the Presbytery For Southern New Jersey for a Biblical based message of hope and growth and challenge. This is all about women helping women. *

Inspirational speaker, Rev. Dr. Inga Brockington, Executive Director of ***The Good News Home*** in Flemington, NJ is our featured speaker.

ABOUT GOOD NEWS HOME

The mission of the Good News Home is to provide a comprehensive long and short-term residential substance abuse treatment program that offers a professional, faith-based, non-denominational approach, focusing on healing the total woman utilizing Christian 12-steps, addiction counseling, life skills and spiritual counseling to overcome chemical addiction, with integrated treatment as appropriate for clients who have been diagnosed with co-occurring disorders.

The purpose of our program is to rehabilitate women who have life-destroying problems associated with substance abuse. The Good News Home provides support to women to become mentally sound, emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well and spiritually alive.

Special Guest: Executive Presbyter, Debby Brincivalli

Program: Rev. Dr. Inga Brockington, Executive Director of ***The Good News Home***

Video Update from Churchwide Leadership—Triennium

Inspirational Women's Choir
Fellowship and Shared Prayer
Mission Update

A short Business Meeting

*Presbyterian Women Churchwide has chosen "Violence Against Women and Children" as the Social Justice theme for the 2024 Triennium.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAsd-mvqzItH9YI4Y6LgRe8Jaorvv5IRWtO>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Christian Heritage Class

Our 34th Year Learning about Our Lord Jesus Christ and His Church through an in-depth study of Church history, theology, art, music—and (sometimes!) pilgrimage travel.

Topic for Fall 2023: *Jesus and His Followers*

All are invited to join Church historian David Stedman after worship to learn more about the history of our faith.

October 8: NO CLASS

October 15: Mary Magdalene: Apostle to the Apostles! Part 1 "I have seen the Lord!" Seeing is believing. St. Mary Magdalene, also called Mary of Magdala, (feast day July 22), is one of Jesus' most celebrated disciples—famous, according to Mark 16:9–10 and John 20:14–17, for being the first person to see the resurrected Christ, and then rushing to the Apostles to witness to His Resurrection. (She was also confused and conflated with other individuals in the Gospels.) Her witness and ministry as Apostola ad Apostolos has led many in the Roman Catholic Church to believe that

women should be able to serve as priests. Illustrated lecture.

October 22: Mary Magdalene: The New Eve. Part 2 Dulcis Amica Dei. The Magdalen's Veneration in Popular Religion and Art. Mary Magdalene could play a part in popular religion that the Virgin Mary, raised to divinity as Queen of Heaven between the 11th and 14th centuries, could not. While the sinless Virgin was the antithesis of Eve, the Magdalen—as a repentant sinner—represented sexuate femininity redeemed: the New Eve. Tradition has given the Magdalen many other personae, richly preserved in Western art. Illustrated lecture.

October 29: NO CLASS



Singing is good for you!

**The Chancel Choir
NEEDS YOU!**

the only requirement is
that you can carry a tune

Thursdays 7:30 - 8:45 pm
Sundays 9:30 - 11:00 am

Contact Peter with questions
PLeibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org



One of the highlights of the year at St. Wilfrids is the day we distribute Christmas gifts to the children. Many would receive nothing without your generous donations. Rose Guthrie has coordinated the gift collection and distribution for the past several years and for that we (and the kids) are thankful. **Rose is ready to pass the torch to a new coordinator.** Want to learn more about what this volunteer assignment is all about? **Contact Paul Urian at umanpaul@me.com.**



CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST - CONGREGATIONAL

PRAYER LIST - Please keep members and friends of the congregation in your prayers. The weekly Prayer List is available in Sunday's bulletin. If you would like to add a personal prayer request, please contact one of the pastors or Katie Miller. 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.



The Porch Bible Study will meet on **Zoom on Tuesday, November 7**, at 7 p.m. Paul Urian will send the Zoom link. We will be doing a Pastor Max Lucado study on Colossians & Philemon. These studies are about applying the Bible to daily life and all levels of Bible readers/explorers are welcome. We will also have prayer time.

On **Tuesday, October 10, at noon**, Porchers and any friends who would like to join us, will meet at the Legacy Diner on the White Horse Pike at noon. In November, our Porcher lunch will be Tuesday, November 14, at noon. Location to be determined. If you are not on the Porcher email list, and would like to attend, please contact Jill Mascena or Deb Nussbaum at church or email Deb at debranussbaum1987@gmail.com. Our Porchers are always happy to take your prayer requests.

"I was hungry and you gave me food to eat." (Matthew 25:35)

A message from St. Wilfrids: As autumn descends upon us, it's time to think about putting away our shorts and t-shirts and getting out our sweaters and pants. But wait! Did you actually wear all the clothes that you are putting away for the winter? What would happen if you decided to donate one (or even five) pieces of warm weather clothing to the impoverished and unsheltered families we serve in North Camden? My guess is that for most of us, they would hardly be missed next spring. Can you also give some thought to the winter clothes you will be pulling out. Can you still stay warm with one or two fewer sweaters? Do you really need four pairs of gloves or a variety of scarves? We are seeking clothing donations for all seasons, all genders and all ages. They can be dropped off in the alcove closest to the playground side entrance.

Our clients continue to need:

- Diapers, size 2-6 in particular
- Baby wipes
- 1 lb bags of dried beans of any variety. If you'd like to donate a larger bag of beans of any size, we will re-portion it into 1 lb bags. Many of the families we serve are of Hispanic heritage and eating Rice and Beans daily is a staple of their tradition. We've got the rice. We need the beans.

"For me, an area of moral clarity is this: When you're in front of someone who's suffering and you have the tools at your disposal to alleviate that suffering or even eradicate it, you act."

- Paul Farmer, Infectious Disease Expert and Humanitarian

Preschool News

September at the Preschool can be quite noisy! Teachers are bustling from supply closets to classrooms. Families fill our hallways and children meet new friends and teachers in classrooms and on the playground! Some of our children have difficulty transitioning away from parents for the first

time but before long there will be tears because they want to stay and play longer!

Farmer Tom from Quiver Farms delivered a dozen eggs to the preschool. We have cared for them and they've successfully hatched into very fluffy little chicks! It is such a joy to hear the little chirps!

Our preschool family has been serving families for 53 years! **We are accepting registrations for the 2024–2025 school year.** We are looking forward to another year filled with friendship, learning, and laughter!





Haddonfield residents concerned about fire safety should contact either the Haddon Fire Company at 856-429-4308, or Travis Bogetti at 856-429-1960 to arrange for a member of the Fire Company to visit your home and conduct a free safety inspection.



Starting on the first Sunday in October, you can have your blood pressure taken in the Bean Parlor following morning worship. Screenings will occur monthly. Please take advantage of this opportunity!

If any medical professionals are interested in supporting this ministry, please email

Linda O'Neill at ElonMail@yahoo.com or Bonnie Manskopf
at BonnieManskopf@yahoo.com.

CALENDAR



October 1 -- World Communion Sunday. Peace and Global Witness Offering received.

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor – mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org

The Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante, Associate Pastor – npassante@haddonfieldpres.org

Peter Leibensperger, Minister of Music – pleibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org

Lucas Brown, Principal Organist - lbrown@haddonfieldpres.org

Katie Beth McBurnie, Director of Children's Ministry - kmcburnie@haddonfieldpres.org

Nancy Ruth Wainwright, Director of Children's Choirs – nancyruthw@comcast.net

Marisa McGovern, Preschool Director – preschool@haddonfieldpres.org

Kris Bean, Financial Secretary – kbean@haddonfieldpres.org

Travis Bogetti, Building Manager – tbogetti@haddonfieldpres.org

Ed Hess, Community Caseworker – edwh517@aol.com

Katie Miller -- kmiller@haddonfieldpres.org