

This week's news...



October 7, 2021

Dear Friend,

Stupid Things I Won't Do When I Get Old

I love reading reviews: movies, plays, restaurants, vacation spots, products of all sorts, and books.

Given a pronounced tilt toward frugality and efficiency, spending money wisely is important to me and using my time wisely is paramount – the latter even more so as the years go by. Hence, trusted reviews are indispensable to both of those pursuits.

When I read Jane Brody's column about "Aging Gracefully" and her high marks for Steven Petrow's book, *Stupid Things I Won't Do When I Get Old*, I clicked the link and ordered a copy.

From the jacket:

The fact is, we don't want to age the way previous generations did. "Old people" hoard. They bore relatives and strangers alike with tales of their aches and pains. They insist on driving long after they've become a danger to others (and themselves). They eat dinner at 4pm. They swear they don't need a cane or a walker (and guess what happens next). But there is another way.

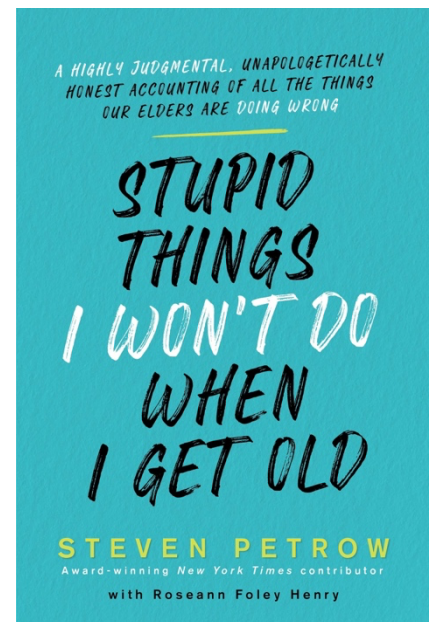
Petrow candidly addresses the fears, frustrations, and stereotypes that accompany aging. He offers a blueprint for the new old age, and an understanding that aging and illness are not the same.

Getting older is a privilege. This essential guide reveals how to do it with grace, wisdom, humor, and hope. And without hoarding.

One of my favorite essays in the book is entitled, "I Won't Become a Miserable Malcontent, a Cranky Curmudgeon or a Surly Sourpuss." In essence, it's a really good reminder about the importance of humor and laughter. He writes about taking care of his mother toward the end of her life. One day, she was really feeling down and announced, "I think I'm really dying." To which Steve replied, "You mean today? Because I'm going to the supermarket, so if you really think so, I won't shop for you." "That's hilarious," she countered. "What's for dinner?"

Getting older has its challenges yet when we consider the alternative, it becomes a privilege. If we're going to be taking up space we might as well do it with joy and gratitude.

(At this point I was going to pivot to how this is a metaphor for a church – but I'll resist!)



I think this is a valuable book and might provoke some equally valuable conversations and reflections. Anyone interested in being part of a group read? (I'm also resisting the term "book study" – sounds too serious and my hope is that we'd have a fairly frolicking confab!) The book consists of 43 short chapters/topics divided into three sections which makes it convenient to pick up when we have a few minutes. Let me know if that sounds like something you'd enjoy!

Be well, stay safe, get vaccinated, and God bless!

Doug

RETURN TO THE SANCTUARY ON OCTOBER 10!

On Sunday, worship returns to the Sanctuary. How wonderful to welcome the community to this sacred space! Choirs will be back, the organ will sound, Sunday School will begin in person, and the nursery will move back upstairs. Please be vaccinated and wear a mask. Live streaming will continue as before using the [Watch Live](#) link on the church website.



OCTOBER 10 IS BIBLE SUNDAY

Along with celebrating our return to the Sanctuary and in-person Sunday School, The Great Bible Giveaway is BACK! If you are in the following grades and didn't receive a Bible last year from our Giveaway, please join us on Sunday, October 10th in the Sanctuary and receive your Bible during the Children's Message before being dismissed for Sunday School.

The following grades will receive Bibles:

- Preschool/Kindergarten receive *The Beginner's Bible*
- 3rd Graders receive *The Children's Bible in 365 Stories*
- 6th Graders receive our traditional "Red Bibles" *
- 9th Graders/Confirmation Class receive *NIV Quest Study Bibles*

This is a wonderful tradition that grew out of our 3rd Grade Bible Sunday. If you have a child in any of the above grades and did not receive a bible during last year's event, please be sure to come out and see us.

*Note that the current 6th grade class received their traditional Red Bibles during the 3rd-Grade Bible Sunday in October 2017. But any 6th grader that doesn't have a Red Bible or didn't participate in that event is more than welcome to receive one.

MEETING TO SHARE MISSION AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES 10/10

Interested in learning more about opportunities for helping others with FPC's Mission and Outreach committee? **Please join us for a meeting immediately following worship in the Hospitality Room on Sunday.** The committee supports a wide variety of local, national, and international charities. We partner with different organizations to bring aid and comfort to those in need as we spread the good news of God's everlasting love. There are many opportunities for church members to volunteer their time and talents, donate goods, or contribute to projects and organizations of their choice. If you cannot attend on Sunday, please contact Caroline Yount, Mission Committee chair, at cnyount@gmail.com or (267) 679-9024 for more information on how to get involved.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH GROUP!

Youth Group: We are meeting this week 10/10/21 from 5pm-6pm and friends **GROG IS BACK!!** Please come join us for pizza al fresco and then we shall head indoors for the first GROG in 18+ months. I for one cannot wait! Please make sure to bring a mask and we will see you then.

Sunday School Registration Now Open Sunday School is starting this Sunday, 10/10/21. Please use the following link to fill out the online registration to make sure your child has a spot in class. We can't wait to see you! Any questions, please contact Gabrielle Heimerling at gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org. [SS 21-22 Registration Form](#)

This Week in Sunday School: It can be really hard to be a kid. A lot of times you may hear that you're too young to do something or too young to understand something. Your parents drag you to places you don't want to go. In our story this week the kids were dragged to see Jesus with their parents, and the disciples were not happy to have them around. And then Jesus does something extraordinary. And just like Jesus welcomed and blessed all the children for acting just like children should act, we are hoping you will join us for in person Sunday School starting this week, 10/10/21. Want to get on the mailing list for Sunday School lessons and activities? Please reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling at gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org.

Sunday School Teachers Needed WE NEED YOUR HELP! We still need teachers for grades 3/4, 5/6, and 7/8. All that's needed is a willingness to teach; we will provide everything you need: the curriculum, teaching manuals, supplies and support. We promise it is a fun and rewarding experience. Please reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling at gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org.

We need help in the Nursery, too: Looking to earn some extra cash? We are looking to staff our nursery as many of our wonderful nursery helpers headed off to college. Ideal candidates will be high school aged or older with ample babysitting experience and/or certification. Must love babies and toddlers! This is a paid position! Please reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling for more details at gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org.



STEPHEN MINISTRY INTEREST MEETING NEXT WEEK

Nikki is holding a Stephen Ministry interest meeting on **Wednesday, October 13th at 7 p.m.** in the Youth Room on the lower level. Read Nikki's 2020 [blog post](#) for a description of this ministry. Go to <http://www.haddonfieldpres.org/blog>

PASTOR NIKKI'S INSTALLATION – AT LAST!

You are cordially invited to the Installation of the Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante at First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield, NJ, on Sunday, October 17, 2021, at 3:00 in the afternoon. Speakers will be the Rev. Dr. Douglas D. Gerdts, the Rev. Dr. Debby Brincivalli, who serves as the Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey, and the Rev. Dr. William D. Hess II who will be delivering the sermon for the afternoon. Rev. 'Bill' Hess served as the Senior Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in West Chester, PA, for 27 years, and has served as a transitional pastor throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Bill currently serves as the summer pastor for Christ Union Chapel in Branchville, NJ.

There will be a celebration following the service.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER of First Presbyterian Church in Haddonfield, NJ? *New Members classes* are scheduled for two consecutive Sundays: November 7th and November 14th, beginning at 11:15 a.m. after the worship service. The first New Members class will be held via Zoom, and the second class on November 14th will be offered in-person. If you'd like to know more about this faith community, are interested in attending, or have any questions, please contact Rev. Nikki Passante at npassante@haddonfieldpres.org or at the church office: 856-429-1960 ext. 110.

SING, SING, SING!

Choirs for children, youth, and adults are in full swing. Vocal choirs accept members at any time. Contact [Peter Leibensperger](#) first if you are interested in ringing bells. Choirs rehearse as follows:

Wednesdays –

- Cherub Choir (ages 4 - 5) at 3:45 - 4:15 p.m., in Room 304
- Carol Choir (grades 1 and 2) at 4:30 - 5:00 p.m., in Room 304
- Whitechapel Bells (grades 7 and 8 with adults) 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
- Chapel Choir (3rd - 6th grade) @ 3:45 - 4:30pm in the Fellowship Hall
- Alleluia Bells (4th - 6th grade) @ 4:45 - 5:15pm in the Sanctuary
- Thomas Sherrerd Memorial Choir (7th-12th grade) @ 6:30 - 7:15pm in the Fellowship Hall
- Kirk Ringers (9th - 12th grade) @ 7:30 - 8:15pm in the Sanctuary

Thursdays –

- Moore Bells (Adults) @ 6:30pm in the Sanctuary
- Chancel Choir (Adults) @ 7:30 - 9:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Choir musicians (and others) are invited to stay at church on Wednesday evenings for spaghetti suppers from 6-6:30. Meet in in the Hospitality Center.

THE NEXT MATTHEW 25 CONVERSATION ON RACE will be held on Sunday, October 24, after the 10 am service in the Choir Room. Bob Lehman will be leading a fascinating discussion on segregation in the US, based on the book, *The Color of Law: The Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America*, by Richard Rothstein. Reading the book is not required to join in the discussion—in preparation, we invite you to listen to this interview with Mr. Rothstein: <https://www.minneapolisfoundation.org/podcasts/conversations-with-chanda/the-color-of-law/>. Questions? Email Becky Bryan at rebeccabryan@me.com.

PW FOR OCTOBER:

Circle 1: October 19 – 9:30 a.m. Hospitality Center

Circle 3: October 19 - 10:00 a.m. Hostess Connie Reeves, 5 Smokebush Ct., Marlton, NJ, 429-0326.

Circle 4: October 11 – 7:15 p.m. on Zoom. Contact Nancy Ruth Wainwright for the link.

PW FALL GATHERING – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 9:30 a.m. All women & friends of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey are invited to attend our Fall Gathering. The host church is Trinity Presbyterian Church in Cherry Hill. Our speaker is Karen Jennings from the Military Support Group of New Jersey. For full details including donation requests, see the [event flyer here](#) or on the FPCH website.

Porch Bible Study will meet on **Tuesday, October 12** to study Philippians. Meetings start at 7 p.m. and end by 8:30 p.m. All are welcome. If you are new and don't yet have the link, contact the church office.

Pastor Nikki's Bible Study is underway on [Zoom](#) with a discussion of the Letter to the Hebrews.

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 Mark 10:35-45.

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*

MATCHING GRANT 2021 – THE OPEN DOOR CLINIC AT ST. WILFRID'S

Again this year, we are reaching out to our sponsors to assist us in a "Matching Grant" opportunity. First, all October donations up to \$2,000.00 will be double matched: \$5 equals \$15; \$25 equals \$75; \$100 equals \$300. Then, after reaching \$2,000 donated, we have a single match for the next \$2,000. If we don't get the donations, we don't get the match. In 2020, the Open Door Clinic at St. Wilfrid's had an opportunity to receive a matching grant up to \$2,000. Thankfully 37 donors stepped forward giving over ten thousand dollars, and we raised over twelve thousand dollars for our effort at St Wilfrid's. Those funds were spent on the repair of the slate roof, the replacement of the vermin-infested aluminum soffit, replacement the side doors, frame and hardware, and paid for heat, security monitoring, and water and sewer bills. This October presents new challenges and opportunities. Our needs? We need to acquire at least 2 iPads for intake and WIFI to connect those iPads to the foodbank server. We need to point the walls for the parish hall to stop rain from coming in. We need to upgrade our food delivery systems, i.e. carts and service dollies. Financial aid also allows us greater flexibility and ability for emergency purchases of gloves, hats, and diapers. Any donation is worthwhile and appreciated. Donations may be made through the Grace Church website via Credit Card: www.gracehaddonfield.org. Go to "Giving at Grace" and "Make a Secure Online Donation." Select "[Give to Support an Outreach Ministry](#)" and choose "St. Wilfrid's Clinic." You can also send a check to Grace Church Haddonfield, 19 Kings Highway East, Haddonfield, NJ 08033, memo: Open Door Clinic or St. Wilfrid's or drop off a cash donation. With God's help, we can make a difference in the lives of East Camden. "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality" (Romans 12:13).

[DID YOU SEE ST. WILFRID'S VOLUNTEERS ON THE NEWS THIS WEEK? HERE'S THE STORY](#)

MORE ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

This week marks the **81st straight week** that the Open-Door Clinic at St Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic; **108 bags** again, **7,628 total**. **Over 190,700 pounds** of food and dry goods. Thank you all for your generous collections and contributions.

There Foodbank pick-ups, Friday October 15th and 22nd. If you have any questions or can help-please contact Paul Urian at umanpaul@me.com

NEEDS: We are desperate for **baby wipes again and size 6 diapers**. We also need feminine pads and liners, pasta and sauce, canned fruit or applesauce (canned w flip top or single servings).

PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY SIGN UP LINK. 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 link can be reached at her email: wendy.coffman@gmail.com. If you have questions-call Jill Mascena 856-428-7342 and leave a message. For a look at what is going on at St Wilfrid's-check website. www.opendoorcliniccamden.org

PRESCHOOL NEWS – WE LOVE IT WHEN THE FIRE ENGINES COME!



Here is this year's Acorn class along with some new EMT buddies, one of whom was an Acorn himself back in the day. Nick Dante, EMT and medical student, is pictured with other future doctors, lawyers, teachers, and of course firefighters!



WEEKLY CALENDAR

- Oct. 7 – 6:30 p.m. Nikki's Bible Study
- Oct. 7 – 6:30 p.m. Moore Bells
- Oct. 7 – 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
- Oct. 9 – 10 a.m. Visitation for Charles Tourtellotte, Sanctuary
- Oct. 9 – 11 a.m. Funeral Service for Charles Tourtellotte, Sanctuary
- Oct. 10 – 10 a.m. In-person and Online Worship – Bible Sunday and return to Sanctuary!
- Oct. 10 – 10 a.m. Sunday School – begin in the Sanctuary
- Oct. 10 – 11 a.m. Mission/Outreach interest meeting
- Oct. 10 – 5 p.m. Youth Group
- Oct. 11 – 10 a.m. Quilters
- Oct. 11 – 7:15 p.m. Circle 4, Zoom
- Oct. 12 – 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study
- Oct. 12 – 10:30 Staff meeting
- Oct. 12 – 11:30 Property committee
- Oct. 12 – 7 p.m. CE Meeting
- Oct. 12 – 7 p.m. Porch Bible study
- Oct. 13 – 3:45-8:15 p.m. Children's and Youth Choir rehearsals w/ spaghetti dinner
- Oct. 13 – 7 p.m. Stephen Ministry interest meeting
- Oct. 14 – 6:30 p.m. Nikki's Bible Study
- Oct. 14 – 6:30 p.m. Moore Bells
- Oct. 14 – 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
- Oct. 15 – 9 a.m. Women's Prison Ministry Zoom
- Oct. 17 – 10 a.m. In-person and Online Worship
- Oct. 17 – 10 a.m. Sunday School – begin in the Sanctuary
- Oct. 17 – 3 p.m. Pastor Nikki's Installation Service