

# This week's news...



February 25, 2021

## True Confessions!

Dear Friend,

As of this week, I've been with you for eight months and — from my perspective — they've been great. Well, they've been full, varied, different, and marked by gratitude, joy, sadness, and growing appreciation for each other.

By now, you've heard some sermons, read a bunch of emails, attended some classes and meetings, and maybe we visited during a "courtyard conversation!"

So — it's high-time I confess: I'm a tad liberal — well, maybe more than a tad!

My approach to most social, theological, environmental, and justice issues and situations is basically "off-the-charts" progressive, inclusive, and liberal! One caveat: I have a strong conservative tendency when it comes to money and fiscal responsibility — mostly my own! I abhor debt, am a serial saver, and am extremely careful with how I spend money — mine and others'. My liberalism intersects with my conservatism about money when I consider the politics and policies of a company before I do business with them.



That said — and while I teeter between my high-horse liberalism and inherent appreciation and non-judgmental approach to all people — I do draw the line at snow-covered sidewalks. What is wrong with people who don't clear their sidewalks of snow? (Don't get me started on businesses that don't...)



If you're too old, infirm, ill, or lazy — hire a neighborhood kid or local company to do it for you — but clear your sidewalk. It's rude, inconsiderate, and dangerous not to. If I ran the world, there would be huge fines handed out to transgressors!

My morning walks in both NJ and DE take me through neighborhoods that range from very affluent to solidly middle-class and I'm continually disgusted at some of the most beautifully-kept homes that don't bother to clear their walks. There oughta be a law!

OK, rant over, and the 50-degree weather we're enjoying these days is rendering my grievance moot.

I now return to my natural state of kind, weak-minded, blissful ignorance!

Be well, stay safe, and God bless!

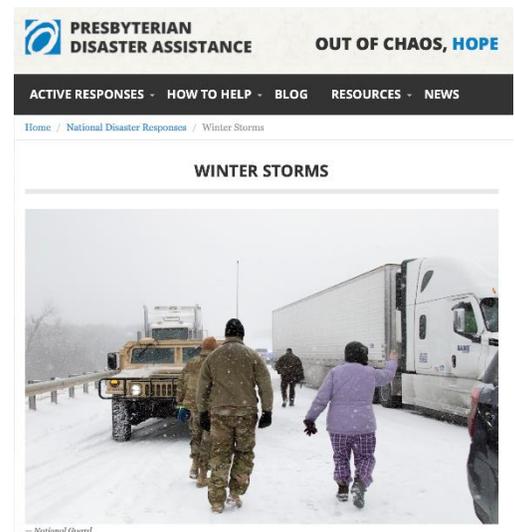
**PLEASE USE NAME OR GIVING NUMBER ON OFFERING ENVELOPES** – This year, giving envelopes are not marked with individual numbers—a money-saving decision. In order for your account to be properly credited, please include your name or giving number on the envelope. This is especially important if you are giving cash. Thank you!

## COMMUNION AND DEACONS OFFERING

We will celebrate the Lord's Supper together on **Sunday, March 7** during worship. And on the first Sunday of the month, we collect the Deacons offering. This past month, your donations allowed the Deacons to send \$500 to Texas for disaster relief. Many thanks to the Deacons for taking the love of this congregation out into the world.

### WANT TO HELP WITH DISASTER RELIEF?

The PCUSA is reaching out to those affected by winter storms. If you would like to donate, go to <https://pma.pcusa.org/donate/make-a-gift/gift-info/DR000148/>.



## CONVERSATIONS ON RACE

This coming Sunday will be the 4th in our series “Delving into Structural Racism.” We welcome the Rev. Dr. Gregory McMillan to lead us in discussing housing policy. In preparation, please read [this article](#) about affordable housing in Haddonfield by Kevin Riordan, and please review the [town's website on COAH/Affordable Housing](#). Conversations on Race continue on Sundays from 9-9:45 a.m. on Zoom at [this link](#). Each week's resources are linked in the weekly email newsletter and on the [Adult Ed](#) page of the website. Questions? Email Becky Bryan, [rebeccabryan@me.com](mailto:rebeccabryan@me.com).

## OLD TESTAMENT BIBLE STUDY

Bible study for anyone who has hesitated to join a Bible study or wants to try something new. **Meets Mondays at 11:30 a.m.** on [Zoom](#). Contact Doug [here](#) to get a book. *If you can't join the discussion but would like to work through the book on your own, that works, too. Doug is happy to have one-on-one conversations on the texts at any point.*

A GUIDE  
THROUGH  
THE OLD  
TESTAMENT

Celia Brewer Marshall

## THE FPCH LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

With contributions from staff and congregation members, this year's devotional follows the Revised Common Lectionary and offers personal reflection, meditation, and prayer. Please find and [print your own copy here](#). There are a limited number of print copies available—check with the church office.



## IHOC MALL WALK THIS SUNDAY!!! The 2021 Annual Mall Walk has gone hybrid!

Join IHOC on Sunday, February 28, 2021 starting at 12:00 Noon **In-person** at Voorhees Town Center OR **Virtually** at the location of Your Choice. [Click here](#) for full details or to donate. Contact Ed Hess with questions: (856) 428-8598 The goal is to raise \$50,000 to support IHOC's programs for the homeless of South Jersey. Needs are great this year and programs are ongoing.

## MUSICAL MEDITATION FROM MARK

*What Wondrous Love Is This*, arr. Mac and Beth Lynch



[Listen Here](#)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul?  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul?  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Anyone feel like we are in a bad weather rut lately? I am tired of the snow and grey skies and very ready for sunshine and Spring. Our story today also deals with stormy weather patterns with lots and lots of rain. I bet you've heard this story before....It's a Sunday School classic. We're talking floods, animal pairs, and an ark built and steered by Noah. It all ends with a promise by God and a rainbow—because rainbows make everything better.

We are in a special season in church right now called Lent. Lent is the 40 days that lead up to Easter. There are lots of ways to make Lent a meaningful time for you. Sometimes people give things up for lent like candy or TV. Or people like to take the time in Lent to learn more about their faith and Jesus. You can also dedicate the time in Lent to do good deeds for others. Another way to participate in Lent is to take time for daily prayers. On Sundays each week during Lent I am going to give you a special project to work on that will hopefully make this Lenten season special for you. I picked a rainbow-colored chain in honor of our story today!

This week's Lent project focuses on prayer. Our younger grades were encouraged to make a prayer chain where they write a person or situation on each of 40 strips of paper, assemble them into a paper chain. Each day they remove one link and pray for that thing with your families. The older grades were encouraged to create a prayer journal, jar, or board.

Sometimes it seems like everything around us breaks and the world is a great big mess. But God does not break. God is always faithful and always remembers us and the promises God makes to us. And God puts rainbows in the sky to remind us (and God!) about the promises that God makes to us and never breaks.



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## YOUTH GROUP NEWS!

It was all about timers and quick thinking this week in Youth Group with Scattergories. We are meeting virtually again this Sunday, 2/28, for another round of Among Us. If the weather continues to improve, we can start to meet in person again! Come on Spring...! Contact [Gab Heimerling](#) to receive Youth Group emails.

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## A BIG FAT GREEK MOVIE NIGHT!

**Have you watched the movie-night movie yet? On Tuesday, March 9, from 7 to 8 p.m.** join a Zoom conversation about “My Big Fat Greek Wedding.” Watch the movie on your own beforehand, and then meet up online—just for fun and fellowship—no work, no study, no reading! If this is something that folks enjoy, we'll do it every month!

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## ONGOING...

**Doug's Bible Study:** Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m. on Zoom, Doug hosts an informal conversation about the scripture that will be the text for the following Sunday's sermon. The texts for **Tuesday, March 2** are Exodus 20:1-17 and John 2:13-22. Here's the [Zoom link](#).

**Speaking Truth in Love:** Nikki's class "Speaking Truth in Love: How to Be an Assertive Christian" continues on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. Find the syllabus [here](#) and the Zoom link [here](#).

**Nikki's Bible Study:** Join Nikki on Thursday evenings at 6:30 for an in-depth study of **Revelation**. Here is the [Zoom link](#), and here is the [Syllabus](#).

**Porch Bible Study**, studying the Book of Ephesians, meets next on March 2 at 7 p.m. Deb Nussbaum and Jill and Tony Mascena host this Zoom study. We end every session with prayer concerns. All are welcome. If you would like the Zoom link, please contact the church office to be put on the Porch Study mailing list.

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## ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

### The Report of the Open Door Clinic February 20, 2021:

Three young men jumped out of an old compact car, carefully walked across the ice ridges and snow on Dudley Street Saturday and went to the end of the food line at St Wilfrid's. They were together, looking a little lost, and unsure of themselves. They spoke little English. They wore only sweatshirts in the 25-degree temperatures. They were greeted with a pair of warm gloves, and then offered new winter jackets. They smiled: they did know "thank you." This scene could not have taken place without the overwhelming support of volunteers and sponsors gathering, and mostly buying new winter jackets: first 36, then 8 more, then 4 in the mail, then 100 gathered by a relatively new volunteer. We do not have an exact count of the number of coats given to our patrons; maybe 50 Saturday is as good a guess as any. And we do have coats in inventory in case we have another cold spell. Have we given out 450 new coats this year? Maybe. And if memory serves me correctly, many of the collections were by new volunteers who "dug in." It was pretty good.

**This week marks the 49th straight week** that the Open-Door Clinic at St Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic; 93 bags were given out Saturday...4,503 total. Over 112,575 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!

**Needs:** Baby wipes and disposable face masks

**Requests from the Kitchen:** hearty soups, canned chicken or salmon, and rice-any size. And over the next two weeks, we are attempting to gather 108 boxes of "**Complete Pancake Mix**" (just add water). Everyone will get that treat in their bags! (And-we still need plastic grocery bags from Shoprite or Aldi's or Wegman's, paper grocery bags to line the plastic bags, and newspaper plastic bags to hold hygiene products).



**Foodbank Group:** The Foodbank Food delivery and restocking at St Wilfrid's is a continuing operation, needing vehicles and bodies to move goods. Please contact [intrepidrose@hotmail.com](mailto:intrepidrose@hotmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering and team building in this wonderful endeavor. Donations may be dropped off at the bin behind Grace Church any day during the week or at the drive-through after church on Sundays. Any questions, please contact Jill Mascena at 428-7342 or check the website [opendoorcliniccamden.org](http://opendoorcliniccamden.org).

## MUSIC AT THE PRESCHOOL



At the Preschool, Mrs. Davis enriches core nursery school classes with her special musical talent. She brings music, dance, creativity and imagination into each of our classes on a monthly basis. Music ignites all areas of child development, including intellectual, social-emotional, motor, and language. Mrs. Davis engages students in experiences that provide new sounds, words, and patterns. She provides opportunities for children to express themselves through music and movement. In addition to developmental benefits, music brings joy! Mrs. Davis's love of music and children truly shines through and gives everyone at the Preschool something to smile about! Watch Preschool [video here](#).

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## More music...

Did you miss (or want to see again) the video of Mackenzie and Mrs. Wainwright from Sunday's Children's Message? You are in luck—here it is again! ["God Is With You"](#)



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## THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

We celebrate the life and resurrection of

Margaret Tomlinson, member since 1954

A service is planned for Saturday, February 27 at 1 p.m. at Kain-Murphy Funeral Services. For further information, please contact [Kain-Murphy](#). At this time, there are no plans for a Zoom broadcast.

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If you were unable to attend the Zoom service for Skip Bean last week, a recording is [available here](#).

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## WEEKLY CALENDAR

Feb. 25 – 6:30 p.m. Nikki's Bible Study  
Feb. 28 – 9 a.m. Conversation on Race  
Feb. 28 – 10 a.m. Worship  
Feb. 28 – Donation drive-through, church driveway  
Feb. 28 – 5 p.m. Youth Group  
Mar. 1 – 11:30 a.m. OT Bible Study  
Mar. 2 – 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study  
Mar. 2 – 7 p.m. Porch Bible Study  
Mar. 3 – 7:30 p.m. "Speaking the Truth in Love"  
Mar. 4 – 6:30 p.m. Nikki's Bible Study  
Mar. 7 – 9 a.m. Conversation on Race  
Mar. 7 – 10 a.m. Worship – Communion, Deacons Offering collected