

*This week's news...*



February 4, 2021

## **Snow Brings out the Best!**

Dear Friend,

Here's hoping that everyone survived the snowstorm this week! It seems as though it was a bit less than anticipated — at least in our vicinity — but still brought out shovels, car scrapers, boots, and warm gloves.

The snow also brought out a couple other things that I'd like to share:

1. In the world of remote learning the concept of a "snow day" could have been a casualty — after all — if a student is already home, what's the point? Well, congratulations to Superintendent Robert Fiscaro who sent this note to parents and students:

While the advancement of online learning has minimized the need for a traditional snow day, the pandemic has undoubtedly created a lot of stress on families and teachers. I would like to include a special message for upper elementary, middle school, and high school students. Your families and teachers have done everything that we can to support you during this difficult time. Tomorrow morning, you will not have an obligation to report for an online class. Don't use this extra time to use more social media, play video games, and do mindless things. Instead, help your parents shovel out, and clear your sidewalks. If your parents don't need assistance, find a neighbor or older adult who does. If you are unable to find one, spend time outside, or write a handwritten note to your favorite teacher and explain to them why they have made such an impact on you.

In addition to using Monday as a day to dig out from winter's havoc or recover from potential power outages, I hope families will have a chance to unplug and enjoy the day.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Fiscaro, Ed. D.

Superintendent

In essence, he implores the students to do three basic things:

1. Go outside and move and enjoy nature.
2. Help a family member or neighbor.
3. Express gratitude!

That's a great "to do" list for anyone of any age!

2. Late Monday evening, Becca Bean heard noise outside of their home and looked to find a fire truck parked on the street and a crew of firefighters were caught shoveling their sidewalk, driveway, and walk.



As you know, the Bean family is suffering through COVID-19 and Skip is still in the hospital. Kris is home recovering and Becca appears to be through the worst of it. Skip's been a volunteer firefighter for 45 years and his crew rode over to help out his family. Needless to say, Kris and Becca were very moved by the gesture and are so grateful to their friends, family, and church for the outpouring of support they've received.

What all of this says to me? **Never, ever underestimate the power of a random act of kindness — especially one you do when no one is looking!**

I am forever grateful that God chased me across the river and I landed here in Haddonfield among some of the most gracious and compassionate people I've known.

Be well, stay safe, and God bless!



P.S. Thanks to Marisa McGovern and Kris Bean for sharing their stories and photos!

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7**, we celebrate the Lord's Supper. And because it will be the first Sunday of the month, your Deacons offering will be collected. Thanks you for your generous support of the missions of the Deacons.

## CONVERSATIONS ON RACE

This Sunday we begin an eight-week series, "Delving into Structural Racism," with a discussion of mass incarceration and its dubious role as one of the leading indicators of Structural Racism in the US. Paul Urian will moderate the discussion focusing on two videos:

- ["Slavery Evolved"](#) (6 min.) is a short video that posits that the "myth of difference" created to sustain American slavery still persists today. Slavery did not end in 1865; it evolved.
- [Bryan Stevenson – "We Need to Talk about an Injustice"](#) (24 min.): this is an engaging and personal TED talk by human rights lawyer and author Bryan Stevenson, who shares some hard truths about America's justice system, starting with a massive imbalance along racial lines: a third of the country's black male population has been incarcerated at some point in their lives.

Watching these videos is not required in order for this discussion to be meaningful to you, but they sure will open your eyes. We hope you can join us for the first time or as someone already involved in the discussion. All are welcome. Listening and speaking are equally valued. You choose your level of participation.

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).

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## LENT BEGINS ON WED., FEBRUARY 17

The Ash Wednesday worship service will be available all day on February 17 on [www.haddonfieldpres.org](http://www.haddonfieldpres.org) and on Facebook. The imposition of ashes will occur in the portico from 12-1 p.m. and 5-6 p.m. See below for full Lent and Holy Week schedule.

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## Yet *Another* Bible Study — BUT — This One Is for You!

Yes *YOU!*

**Doug is starting a new Bible study for anyone who has hesitated to join a Bible study or wants to try something new.** The class will use a book called *A Guide through the Old Testament* and meet on 12 consecutive Mondays beginning on February 22 at 11:30 a.m. (*If that schedule is terrible for folks who want to participate, we'll re-examine during our first session!*) The books are \$15 and will be available soon! If you know you're interested and want to reserve one, just click [here](#) to send Doug an email. Take a chance and let the world of the Bible open up!

A GUIDE  
THROUGH  
THE OLD  
TESTAMENT

Celia Brewer Marshall

## IHOC MALL WALK!!! 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 on-going.

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### **MUSICAL MEDITATION FROM MARK** *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded, arr. Brian Büda*

[Listen Here](#)



O sacred Head, now wounded,  
with grief and shame weighed down,  
now scornfully surrounded  
with thorns, thine only crown!  
O sacred Head, what glory,  
what bliss till now was thine!  
Yet, though despised and gory,  
I joy to call thee mine.

Brian Büda holds the BM and MM from Bob Jones University. Brian has several choral and instrumental compositions published under several music publishers. He currently resides in Greenville, South Carolina.

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### **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

A couple of times over the years I have been witness to medical emergencies happening during a church service. They were really scary! We are very fortunate that our church family has health care professionals and quick-thinking people who make sure our sick members get help quickly. (Quick shout out to my Doctor Dad who's helped on some of these emergencies!). In our story this week, we learn Jesus heals a man in a synagogue, which is Jewish house of worship. Just like me, the people in the synagogue were scared and surprised, but then everyone was amazed at Jesus power to heal. Finally Friends, 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 people's hearts with love.

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### **YOUTH GROUP NEWS!**

Pictionary dominated Youth Group this week! Turns out that drawing things on your laptop with a mouse is way harder (and more funny) than drawing with a pencil. We also played Bible Trivia Kahoot, and our winners get to choose the next Kahoot themes (shockingly NOT bible trivia). We are going to do another Super Bowl box pool this week so please let me know if you want to participate! I will send out the completed pool by Friday or Saturday so you can see how you do. THERE WILL BE PRIZES! We are going to take this Sunday off but will be back! Contact [Gab Heimerling](#) for the info.





## A BIG FAT GREEK MOVIE NIGHT!

Here's something that's just for fun — no work, no study, no reading — just taking a couple of hours and watching a really great movie that's guaranteed to leave you feeling happy. It's simple:

1. Sometime in the next few weeks, watch "[My Big Fat Greek Wedding](#)" on whatever device or streaming service you prefer.
2. Block off Tuesday, March 9, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. for a Zoom conversation.

That's it. If something that folks enjoy, we'll do it every month!

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## AN UPDATE ON THE PATH TO CALLING A NEW SENIOR PASTOR – THE PROCESS:

1. Mission Study: a Mission Study Team (MST) will review the Mission Study and Holy Cow survey data from the recent associate pastor search and update as needed. This study must be approved by West Jersey Presbytery's Committee on Ministry (COM).
2. Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC): the congregation votes on a slate of candidates for the PNC put forth by the Nominating Committee. The PNC first completes a Ministry Information Form (MIF) to submit to the PCUSA for posting. Then the PNC reviews Pastor Information Forms (PIF) submitted by candidates interested in the job.
3. Description and Terms of Call: at the same time as Step 2, Human Resources (HR) and the PNC write a position description and Terms of Call for the senior pastor position.
4. Search and Call: PNC reviews Pastor Information Forms (PIF) submitted by interested clergy and moves through the numerous steps toward bringing a candidate to the congregation, following all COM and PCUSA call requirements.

Where we are as of 2/4/21: Step 1: Doug will submit a slate of names for the Mission Study Team for Session to approve at its February meeting.

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## ON-GOING...

**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, February 9** are 2 Kings 2:1-12 and Mark 9:2-9. 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 February 16 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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**ANNUAL MEETING** – The Annual Meeting of the corporation will take place on Sunday, February 21 on [Zoom](#) immediately following worship. The Annual Report will be available on Sunday, Feb. 14.

## ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

### Report from Saturday, January 30:

This week marked the **46th straight week** that the Open-Door Clinic at St Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic; **108 bags, 4,194 total. Over 105,000 pounds** of food and dry goods, distributed by the all-volunteer, everything-donated, nobody-gets-paid clinic. Thank you all for your generous collections!

**A Word About Coats:** You have been magnificent. This morning it was 27 degrees. As long as it's cold, we will be able to use more coats, but we left St Wilfrid's Saturday, with a small inventory. If you see the weather getting cold, you will know there is a need for more: thank you. And **please NO clothing, other than coats and winter outerwear.**

**A few notes about peanut butter and jelly sandwiches:** Saturday, we distributed somewhere between 275-325 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Believe me when we tell you. **THEY ARE Greatly Appreciated!!!** We have 10 volunteers from FPC who make PBnJ sandwiches every week—last week the group made 180 sandwiches. If anyone would like to help make them at home, please contact Jill Mascena at 428-7342

**Toys and Backpacks:** Please be reminded, Rose Guthrie is collecting "look like new" toys, and we are collecting backpacks for next September. And although it is 25 degrees, we will probably be collecting box fans for the heat of the summer. Other current needs are peanut butter, tuna, pasta, toothpaste, soap, grocery paper bags, newspaper bags, winter coats and jackets, and mittens-hats. These may be dropped off at the drive through after church on Sundays from 11-12 or any weekday in the bin behind Grace Church.

Any questions, please contact Jill Mascena at 428-7342 or Check the website [opendoorclinnccamden.org](http://opendoorclinnccamden.org)

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### WEEKLY CALENDAR

- Feb. 4 - 6:30 p.m. Nikki's Bible Study
- Feb. 7 – 9 a.m. Conversation on Race
- Feb. 7 – 10 a.m. Worship – Communion and Deacons Offering
- Feb. 7 – Donation drive-through, church driveway
- Feb. 9 – 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study
- Feb. 10 – 7:30 p.m. "Speaking the Truth in Love" class
- Feb. 11 – 6:30 p.m. Nikki's Bible Study
- Feb. 14 – 9 a.m. Conversation on Race
- Feb. 14 – 10 a.m. Worship



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HADDONFIELD



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, February 17: **Ash Wednesday Service** streamed all day  
Imposition of Ashes - 12-1 p.m. and 5-6 p.m. in Church portico (enter through playground)

Sunday, March 28: **Palm Sunday Service** streamed live - 10 a.m.

Palms distributed in parking lot drive-through - 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Monday, March 29: Holy Week Zoom Prayer Service - 6:30-6:45 p.m.

Tuesday, March 30: - Holy Week Zoom Prayer Service - 6:30-6:45 p.m.

Wednesday, March 31: - Holy Week Zoom Prayer Service - 6:30-6:45 p.m.

Thursday, April 1: **Maundy Thursday Service** streamed live at 4:00 p.m.

Communion served in parking lot - 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 2: **Good Friday Zoom Service** at 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 4: **Easter Service** streamed live at 10:00 a.m.

Streamed events are available at [www.haddonfieldpres.org](http://www.haddonfieldpres.org) and on Facebook and can be viewed after initial streaming; Zoom services will be recorded for later viewing.

For drive-through and parking lot events use entrance on Chestnut Street next to playground.

Daily Lenten Devotions available at [www.haddonfieldpres.org](http://www.haddonfieldpres.org) and on Facebook.

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