

This week's news...



April 8, 2021

Dear Friend,

**"It's okay to be angry.
It's not all right to be violent."**

That quote is by Rep. Maxine Waters (Dem, California's 43rd), and given the deadly insurrection of January 6th in Washington DC, one might leap to the conclusion that she's speaking of that. Alas, she is not. The quote comes from a daily calendar (April 7) which was produced in 2020. A large component of maturity is recognizing where those lines are and having the self-control to respect them.



Rep. Waters' quote is a classic reminder that there are lines in life. (Yes — there are also lanes...!)

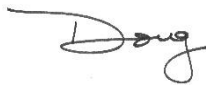
We can want something very badly (in Bible-talk "covet"), but stealing crosses the line.
We can be frustrated with someone, but gossip crosses the line.
We can be attracted to another person, but cheating on our spouse or partner crosses the line.
We can wish we could write like someone else, but plagiarizing crosses the line.
We can be in a huge hurry, but speeding crosses the line.
We can be very, very tired of the pandemic, but refusing to wear a proper mask crosses the line.

You get the point.

The whole idea behind most rules and regulations is to protect the community. Witness the Ten Commandments and the 613 regulations in the Hebrew Scriptures. Their existence points to the need of securing the safety and integrity of the community — its members (especially those at the lowest end of affluence and power) and its structure. Those admonitions paint a clear line across which we may not travel — and if we do — we are aware of consequences from mild to severe.

Grateful to live in a free society, grateful for our rule of law, grateful for our *Book of Order*, grateful for fellow travelers, and most of all, grateful for a God whose love often presents itself in the form of clear lines!

Be well, stay safe, and God bless,



BLOOD DRIVE THIS WEEK at First Presbyterian

Tuesday, April 13, 2-7 p.m. Sign up on the American Red Cross [website](#).



A BIG THANK YOU to all who came out to our first FPCH Egg Hunt. It was such a joy to see you all on that beautiful Saturday morning. We're looking forward to many more years of this new tradition. And a huge thank you to Daniel, Stella, and Leo Heimerling, Luke and Keira Wackes, and Lee and Keira Federline for their help with the hunt! We couldn't have done it without you!

AND THANKS FROM PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN to the youth crew who "planted" the Pinwheel Garden on the front lawn of the church after the Easter Egg Hunt. We thank Alexis Chamberlin, Daniel Heimerling, Leo Heimerling, Stella Heimerling, Keira Wackes, and Luke Wackes for their generous contribution to bringing attention to Child Abuse Awareness Month. On Saturday and Sunday, May 1 & 2 children may stop by the garden to pick a pinwheel to take home.

PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION



Once again Presbyterian Women is creating a pinwheel garden in April for the observance of National Child Abuse Prevention month. It is a program of *Prevent Child Abuse-New Jersey (PCA-NJ)* which promotes great childhoods, positive parenting and healthy child development. Founded in 1979, all their efforts throughout the state are dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect in all forms for all New Jersey children. April is the national observation of Child Abuse Prevention Month. During this time, PCA-NJ implements its "Pinwheels for Prevention" campaign. The pinwheel is in their logo and was chosen as a national symbol of prevention because it is whimsical and evokes childlike notions – so it is a good emblem of the "Great Childhoods" that is desired for all children.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

"This Week in Youth Group: We will meet this Sunday, 4/11/21, from 5pm-6pm. The weather predicted Sunday is questionable. If it's cooperative, we'll stay outside. If it's raining or too wet, we'll meet inside in Fellowship Hall. (This has been approved by the Covid Response Team in case your parents have questions). Hope to see you there!

PRESCHOOL FLOWER SALE



This is the only fundraiser this year for the Preschool. Fundraisers pay for playground maintenance and improvements. Our fundraisers also support capital improvements which benefit the Church. Any support would be greatly appreciated. **Order form – [click here](#)**

Order deadline: April 13

Pick up: May 3, 10:30-12:30

Checks: 1st Presby. Preschool

Info: 856-429-0609

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Our preschoolers participated in traditional Easter fun with their friends. The children rushed around the playground searching for Easter eggs. They were delighted to find the colorful eggs filled with treats and surprises! How did egg hunts become a part of our Easter celebration? Like many traditions, the egg hunt dates back thousands of years! The first eggs hunt can be traced back to a time when men hid the eggs for women and children to find. The happy act of finding the Easter eggs replicated the joy the biblical women would have felt when they discovered Jesus's empty tomb. Of course, eggs also hold association with spring, new life and resurrection.



The Preschool is closed April 2nd - 9th. We hope all of our friends had a wonderful Easter filled with happy traditions! (More photos below)

WHAT DO THE DEACONS DO? #2

Presbyterian Deacons are called to a ministry of "compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress" (G-2.0201)



If you are not familiar with the Deacons or what we do, here's a little introduction. The Deacons are a committed group of individuals who provide outreach and service to our church members and wider community. Some might even say that the Deacons are the hands and feet of the church.

Deacons traditionally serve our church family and the community at large in several ways:

- Delivering flowers
- Visiting with church members in need
- Transporting church members to services who lack transportation
- Dispersing funds to various community causes / non-profit organizations
- Fundraising to award students with scholarship money
- Ushering and greeting at church services
- Assisting with communion

Another service we are making meals for our family of faith through the Care and Share Committee. This has been a wonderful way for us to stay connected to our family of faith throughout this difficult season. Thank you, Judy Sikora and the Care and Share Committee for making this possible!

PW MEETS – VIRTUALLY, THAT IS

PW members are encouraged to put aside their sweatshirts and don their favorite fancy hat for a May 11, 2021, virtual gathering. In place of the annual Spring Luncheon, the membership, as well as anyone who is interested, is invited to participate in a Zoom event featuring Carrie Wiggins from Feed My Starving Children. Carrie will provide us with an update on how FMSC has met the challenge of packing meals during this difficult time. So mark your calendars for the 1 p.m. event and be ready with your best hat and favorite dessert to Zoom together. (More information on how to participate will follow in weeks to come.)

CONVERSATIONS ON RACE



Sunday morning discussions continue from 9-9:45 a.m. on Zoom at [this link](#). During our Conversation on Race this week (4/11), we will be discussing access to childcare through the lens of structural racism, with [this article](#) as a starting point. We will also have an open discussion of what's next for our Matthew 25 focus...it's time to think about action. 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.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS!

First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield will be hosting spring New Members classes [via Zoom](#) on Sunday May 9th, and Sunday May 16th. Start time for both meetings is 1:00 and each will last for approximately one hour. If you are interested in joining, or simply learning more about membership, this time is for you. We will have the opportunity to make new friends, share more about First Presby's mission in the church and the world, and learn more about what makes Presbyterians unique. Please contact [Pastor Nikki](#) to RSVP, for more information, or any questions.

ONGOING...

Old Testament Bible Study: Meets Mondays at 11:30 a.m. on [Zoom](#). Contact Doug [here](#) for info.

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 text for **Tuesday, April 13** is Luke 24:36b-48. [Zoom link](#)

Pastor 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](#). This Bible study is open to all, and you are welcome to join in when you are able. Give it a try!

IHOC ADOPT-A-BOX COLLECTION



It's time to collect hygiene products – toothbrush and paste, shampoo, baby shampoo, hand sanitizer, deodorant, underwear, socks, comb, shaving supplies, soap, washcloth, etc. (travel sizes are fine) – and put them in a shoebox to be distributed to neighbors in need. Close each box with a rubber band, label it “Man,” “Woman,” “Boy,” “Girl,” or “Baby,” and drop it off at the Sunday drive-through.

ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

There is nothing like the various colors, fragrances and textures of spring. Who could ever think up the beauty of creation? How many different colors of green are outside? Hopefully we will have more opportunity to return to what we were used to as a normal life. And hopefully we have learned not to be as selfish as many were prior to the pandemic. Hopefully we have learned about the joy of helping others. Hopefully, we have learned about giving time and treasure to less fortunate.



This week marks the 55th straight week that the Open-Door Clinic at St Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic: 90 bags on April 3, 5, 102 total. Over 127,550 pounds of food and dry goods, distributed by the all-volunteer, everything-donated, nobody-gets-paid, Open Door Clinic at St. Wilfrid's. AND.....120 Easter bags were given out!

At left is St. W's volunteer Jon in front of the bread station. We distribute loaves of bread outside of the food bags. The swirl and white bread are the most popular.

Volunteers Are Needed for Foodbank Fridays: Each Friday we assemble for fresh air, exercise, and carton exercising at the So. Jersey foodbank at 8:00 am. and 8:40 am at St Wilfrid's to transport dry goods to their proper spot at St Wilfrid's. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Rose Guthrie at intrepidrose@hotmail.com. The tentative schedule for pick-ups this month are Friday the 9th, the 16th, and the 23rd. The first pick-up in May is the 7th. **Volunteers also needed** to be “on call” to pick up 100 or so loaves of bread at a home on Grove Street in Haddonfield. Is there a day you are usually free...Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays? When bread is available that day, you would be called to pick it up. (The bread will be picked up few hours later from your house and taken to St Wilfrid's.) Please call Jill Mascena if you are interested in helping this way or need more details.

NEEDS: Again this week, we could use canned peas, canned carrots, canned mixed vegetables, pasta and sauce, diapers—sizes 5&6 for kids and L & XL for adults, and wipes. Items may be dropped off at the drive-through on Sundays after church OR weekdays in bin behind Grace Episcopal Church. Yard cleanup will start in a couple weeks – if you are interested, or would like to help in another way, call Jill Mascena @ 856-428-7342 or check the Grace Church website: <http://www.gracehaddonfield.org/open-door-clinic-at-st-wilfrids>.

The Church Triumphant

We celebrate the life and resurrection of William Amos, September 23, 1931 - March 19, 2021.
Pastor Nikki officiated at a family service on March 30. Bill joined First Presbyterian in 1960.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

- Apr. 8 – 6:30 Nikki's Bible Study
- Apr. 11 – 9 a.m. Conversations on Race
- Apr. 11 – 10 a.m. Worship
- Apr. 11 – Donations drive-through (portico)
- Apr. 11 – 5 p.m. Youth Group
- Apr. 12 – 11:30 a.m. Old Testament Bible Study
- Apr. 13 – 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study
- Apr. 13 – PRESCHOOL FLOWER ORDER DEADLINE
- Apr. 13 – 2-7 p.m. Blood Drive
- Apr. 14 – Youth Choirs Resume
- Apr. 14 – 7: 30 p.m. STIL
- Apr. 15 – 6:30 p.m. Nikki's Bible Study
- Apr. 18 – 9 a.m. Conversations on Race
- Apr. 18 – 10 a.m. Online Worship
- Apr. 18 – 11 a.m. Donations drive-through (portico)
- Apr. 19 – 11:30 a.m. Old Testament Bible Study
- Apr. 19 – 7 p.m. Session

