

This week's news...



June 24, 2021

Dear Friend,

Catching up on a few things!



One of the things we've really tried to do the past year is to improve communication with the congregation and one means of doing that has been this weekly email. While the typical format has been a short note at the beginning, today I'm going to catch folks up on a few projects and changes.

COVID Restrictions Relaxed. In light of Governor Murphy's lifting of restrictions based on vaccination rates, Session has made the following changes to the COVID guidelines for worship: masks are no longer required for those who have been fully vaccinated; worship will now include singing once children have left the service—singing of the second hymn is permitted, though humming is also encouraged; chairs will be set up with space between them, but strict social distancing requirements are relaxed. We will continue to show appropriate caution while applauding the progress this represents.

Mission Study Completed. Session has approved the recently updated Mission Study and, after completing a few edits, the report will be sent to the presbytery for approval. Concurrent with that, it will be made available to the congregation. The next step is to convene the Nominating Committee and eventually propose a slate for the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) to be voted upon at a Congregational Meeting. Many thanks to Bud Miller, Gene Spinelli, Kathryn Dark, Paul Urian, Rachel Davis, Rebecca Bryan, and Trish Adkins for their excellent work!

Principal Organist Hired. It is with great joy that the Organist Search Committee announces the end of its work! Our new Principal Organist, Lucas Brown, will be joining us on our first day back in the sanctuary in September to lead worship. We'll save a full biographical description for that special day, but for now: Lucas is a graduate of Temple University and Westminster Choir College, where he studied both jazz organ and classical organ, respectively. We are very excited by his hymn-leading ability, the new repertoire he brings, his ability to improvise, and the musical doors he will open up to us with his jazz background. Many thanks to the members of the search committee, and also to everyone who helped us to find and vet our candidates. We feel confident in our decision and blessed by God's answer to our prayer!

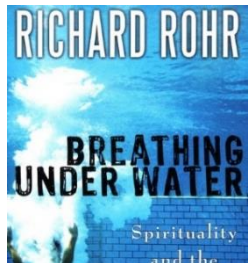
Budget Task Force Commences Work. A group was assembled last month to figure out ways to close the \$50,000 to \$70,000 gap in our annual finances. The task force, which is composed of Caroline Yount, Corey Crumley, Jim Hoobler, Lisa Hurd, Lois Boyce, Margot Dark, Paul Urian, and Warren Pross, are examining ways to increase revenue, reduce expenses, and generally bring as much fiscal efficiency as possible to the church's financial health. They are working toward the goal of presenting their findings and recommendations to Session in the early fall in time for the budget process of 2022. It's important to address this ongoing issue prior to calling a new Pastor/Head of Staff.
(cont.)

One of the things I dislike the most is when folks don't feel included or informed. I can assure you that the session and staff are both striving for transparency and an abundance of information. If there's something you want to know more of – please – don't hesitate to hit "reply" and be heard!

Be well, stay safe, and God bless,



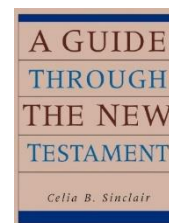
YOU CAN STILL JOIN NIKKI'S BOOK STUDY



Pastor Nikki discussion of Richard Rohr's *Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps* has gotten underway. It meets Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. via Zoom; [link here](#). Purchasing the book is required. If you would like to join the discussion while the group is in the early chapters, contact Pastor Nikki npassante@haddonfieldpres.org. This group is open to anyone: believers, seekers, doubters, addicts alike. All are welcome to attend.

A GUIDE THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT STUDY GROUP HAS BEGUN!

Workbooks are still available. The course is a combination of online teaching and discussion led by Doug and weekly homework in the workbook. Work can also be done on your own. Course meets on Mondays from 11:00 a.m. to noon on [Zoom](#). Questions? Contact [Doug](#).



DOUG'S TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY (8 a.m. [via Zoom](#)) is ongoing and open to all. The text for the coming week is 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR VBS 2021

Knights of the North Castle, July 26-30 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. for children ages 4-10.

Become Knights on a quest to the North Castle in a frozen land to find the King's Armor. We are looking forward to another great VBS week filled with music, games, crafts, and bible stories. Let's take up the gauntlet and accept the challenge to "armor up" and be strong with God! [Info here](#). Due to limited spaces this year, your child(ren)'s spot in camp will not be confirmed until payment is received. Registration alone is not a confirmed spot in camp. If there is available space for your child(ren), you will be sent information regarding payment. Once payment is received, your spot will be confirmed.



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR OUR SUMMER CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS!

Children's Church: Volunteers are needed to teach our young friends each Sunday during the worship service. All that is needed is a willingness to read a story and facilitate a craft. Gabrielle Heimerling will provide you with everything you need to help with the class – all we need is you! All classes will take place in the CE Room (formerly the yoga room) on the lower level.

VBS: Calling all Shepherds! Hello teens – we are looking to you to shepherd our campers through various stations this summer. Come relive your crafting, playground and choir days with us. VBS will run from July 26-30. It's always such a fun week made all the better by volunteers like you. Contact Gabrielle Heimerling to sign up.

VBS Calling all Station Leaders! Hello grown-ups – we are looking to you to help us staff our various stations for VBS. Please consider helping with Games, Crafts, or Bible Story. All supplies and lessons will be supplied to you – all we need is you! VBS will run from July 26-30. It's always such a fun week made all the better by volunteers like you. Contact Gabrielle Heimerling to sign up.



Nursery

NURSERY – Parents wishing to drop off infants – 3-year-olds can do so in the Hospitality Room where our nursery helpers will be happy to entertain your babies while you worship. Want to save time at drop off? Please have your information filled out ahead of time for our helpers. The link to the forms can be found here: <http://www.haddonfieldpres.org/children>. Any questions concerning the nursery, do not hesitate to reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH – Have children too big for the nursery? Send them to Children's Church! Each week kids ages 4-10 are invited to join us in Children's Church in the CE Room for a bible story, craft, and some play. Masks are required. We look forward to seeing you there!

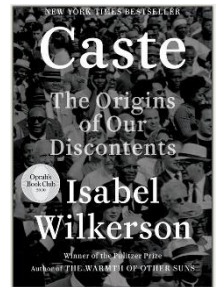


CONVERSATION ON RACE MEETS IN PERSON

FPCH's commitment to the Matthew 25 initiative has led to an active Sunday morning discussion group. Join the conversation each week after worship in the choir room, across from Fellowship Hall. All are welcome, regardless of whether you have joined prior conversations on race or not! Questions? Contact Becky Bryan.

MATTHEW 25 BOOK STUDY FOR FALL

The congregation is invited to read Isabel Wilkerson's book *Caste*, in preparation for a book discussion in early September. Wilkerson began researching the construct of caste as a better way to capture race relations in our country after writing her award-winning book *The Warmth of Other Suns* and hearing the word used repeatedly by her sources. Is "caste" a better way to describe U.S. race culture? Is discussing caste emotionally easier than discussing racism? Please make this book one of your summer reads and look forward to a thought-provoking conversation.



MEMBER CARE COORDINATION TEAM

Do you know of needs in the congregation? Please contact one of these folks:

Cheryl Tarditi (Elder Representative) cheryltarditi@gmail.com

Rebeca Silva de Foote (Moderator of Deacons) silvadefoote@verizon.net

Kelly Stout (Deacon Representative) kellystout322@yahoo.com

Anne Vial (Administrator) avial@haddonfieldpres.org

Rev. Passante (Assoc. Pastor) npassante@haddonfieldpres.org

Any questions or comments, please contact Pastor Nikki at npassante@haddonfieldpres.org

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Please keep members and friends of the congregation in your prayers. An updated Prayer List will be available in Sunday's bulletin. See previous list [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 still available for private requests sent directly to the pastors.*

MEMORIAL FOR SKIP BEAN

Kris Bean extends the following invitation to her church family: "Since we couldn't have a proper send off in February, we are having a Memorial Birthday Celebration on what should have been Skip's 60th birthday. On June 28, 2021, we will be toasting Skip. We will be in the garden behind the Haddonfield Historical Society if anyone would like to stop by. It will be Open House style so please stop by anytime between 5-8 and say hi! We would love to see you."

ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

One of our frequent clients died last week. Sammy lived in the apartment complex on Cramer Street that burned down few months ago. He was disabled. Housing was found and thankfully not in a shelter where, as Sammy said, "all the druggies are." He was bilingual and often helped translate for other clients. Our clients care about each other. Please pray for Sammy's clinic family He will be missed!!!

This week marks the **66th straight week** that the Open-Door Clinic at St Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic: **108 bags, 6,113 total. Over 152,775 pounds** of food and dry goods have been distributed by the all-volunteer, everything-donated, nobody-gets-paid Open Door Clinic at St. Wilfrid's. Contributions other than from the foodbank, allow us to feed everyone; thank you.

NEEDS: canned veggies and fruit, tuna, large and extra-large adult diapers, and wipes. (We received large donation of baby diapers so are okay with them this week). **Also needed:** plastic grocery bags from Shoprite and Wegman's, paper grocery bags to line the plastic bags, and newspaper bags to hold hygiene products. These may be dropped off weekdays in the bin behind Grace Church on the left marked St. Wilfrid's or on Sundays at FPC on the table outside Fellowship Hall or the table outside the church by the door to office on the Masonic Temple side. **Food Bank pickup help** is needed on Fridays – especially since some of the regulars need a day off to visit family or take a vacation this summer...if you might be able to help, please email Rose Guthrie at intrepidrose@hotmail.com. If you are available to help fill bags, give out food on Saturdays, or help translate and would like to know more – call Jill Mascena at 856-428-7342 and leave a message or check the website: <http://www.opendoorcliniccamden.org>.

FANS: We need fans. Six were given away Saturday. And there are currently Amazon Prime Days and competing Walmart and Target sales. Fans may be dropped off or sent to Corey Crumley, 40 Warwick Rd., Haddonfield, NJ 08033.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

June 27 – 10 a.m. In-person and Online Worship
June 27 – 11 a.m. Conversation on Race in Choir Room
June 28 – 11 a.m. New Testament Class
June 28 – 5 – 8 p.m. Skip Bean Memorial Open House
June 29 – 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study
June 30 – 7:30 p.m. Richard Rohr book study with Nikki
July 4 – 10 a.m. In-person and Online Worship with Communion



Sunday, June 20, 2021