

# *This week's news...*



June 3, 2021

Dear Friend,

## **The Unexamined Life Is Not Worth Living (Socrates)**

At dinner last evening with two of my favorite people, one of them told of planning an online reunion for her graduating class from an all-girls boarding school. The alums are now mostly "post-retirement" age and living into that segment of their lives. My friends, a couple I married a year ago in the midst of COVID and who were both recent widow/ers, are the kind of people who thrive on pondering life's deepest questions. They love a thoughtful conversation, and we're close enough to trust each other with our vulnerability.



Hence, I wasn't at all surprised when we were presented with the first two of nine questions which were crafted as a component of the virtual reunion.

Number 1: What are the challenges, large and small, that you are working on, trying to achieve, or coping with at this point in your life?

Number 2: As you have gotten older, what is something you have moved on from that once meant the world to you, or something that is increasingly important that once was less so?

Granted, these questions were written to be posed to folks in their 70s, but they apply to anyone of any age.

What are the challenges of your life right now?

- Raising a family?
- Caring for parents or an aging spouse?
- Addiction?
- Physical and/or mental health issues?
- Financial woes?
- Relationship turmoil, tension, or lack of interest?
- Legal entanglements?
- Boredom, anxiety, or lack of purpose?
- Staying focused on your core goals and priorities?

- Work/family/play/self balance?
- Employment — under/un/over?
- School?
- Letting kids grow up and out? or "failure to launch?"

The first challenge of any of these is following Socrates' advice — examine our lives and take a brutally honest inventory. Perhaps do that with a trusted friend/spouse/parent/therapist. As you do, reflect on question Number 2 — chances are the stuff we worry about today will be forgotten a year from now. My corollary to Socrates would be this: Just keep things in perspective!

Lastly, as you consider your life and its challenges, I'd invite you to read Psalm 130 — it's only eight verses — and see if you discover a kindred spirit in the psalmist!

Be well, stay safe, and God bless,



**Weekly Wisdom:**

It takes no compromise to give people their rights...it takes no money to respect the individual. It takes no political deal to give people freedom. It takes no survey to remove repression. (*Harvey Milk*)

**JUNE 6 – COME CELEBRATE COMMUNION**

Sunday, June 6 will be the first week for in-person Communion. Elements will be individually packaged. The spirit will be shared. If you are worshipping at home, bring elements with you to the service. This is also the Sunday when the 4th-grade communion class joins the congregation at the table having learned the history, theology, and spirit of the sacrament.

**SUMMER SUNDAYS FOR KIDS**

**The Nursery is Back!** The nursery is back for infants – 3-year-olds. Parents wishing to drop off their darlings 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 nurse do not hesitate in reaching out to Gabrielle Heimerling.



Children's Church



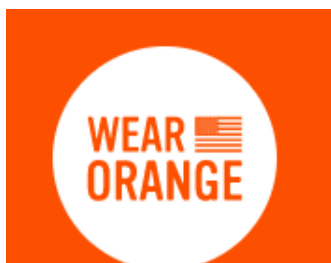
Nursery

**Children's Church is Back!** 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 C.E. Room for a bible story, craft, and some play. Masks are required. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Please note:** *There is no children's church this week (6/6/21) due to 4th Grade Communion Sunday, but children older than 3 who need some play time are welcome to join us in the nursery this week - our helpers are ready for kids of all ages. Children's Church will return next week.*

**DEACONS SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE IS SATURDAY, JUNE 5.**  
[CLICK HERE FOR INFORMATION](#)

## WEAR ORANGE DAY JUNE 6



On Sunday, orange ribbons and bows will be around the church for Wear Orange Day in honor of victims of gun violence. National Gun Violence Awareness week will follow. Wearing orange or decorating your home in orange helps draw attention to this serious crisis. The PCUSA Office of Public Witness calls gun violence in America "a national sin". It devastates people from every demographic. Those who also suffer the impact of systemic racism are even more vulnerable. The trauma inflicted on survivors and communities by gun violence lasts for generations. The Mission Committee and the Justice and

Advocacy Committee have distributed information on the Be SMART for Kids initiative over the last three years. Have you taken action to protect your family? Have you shared the information with your neighbors and co-workers? If not, now is the time to do it! We all want our children to grow up happy and healthy. Those choosing to own a gun, those wishing to abolish them, and everyone in between can learn more @ [besmartforkids.org](https://besmartforkids.org).

- Secure guns in homes and vehicles.
- Model responsible behavior.
- Ask about unsecured guns in other homes.
- Recognize the risk of teen suicide.
- Tell your peers to be SMART.

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### 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 journey to the North Castle in a frozen land where we are on a quest 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! [Registration](#). Due to limited spacing 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!** Please consider donating your time for one of these:

**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 26th-30th. 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 26th-30th. It's always such a fun week made all the better by volunteers like you. Contact Gabrielle Heimerling to sign up.

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### PORCH BIBLE STUDY

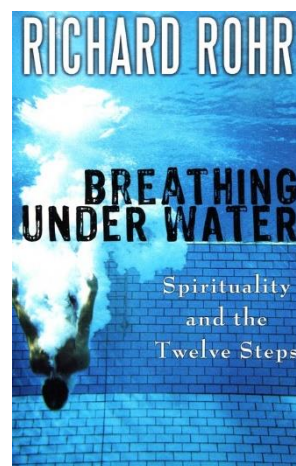
The Porch Bible Study will continue its study of Philippians (on Zoom) Tuesday, June 8, and Tuesday, June 22. The class starts at 7 p.m. All are welcome. If you would like the link, please contact Rebecca at the church office.

## NEW BOOK STUDY

**Beginning Wednesday, June 16th at 7:30**, Pastor Nikki will be offering a book study on Richard Rohr's *Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps*.

From the book blurb:

*"We are all addicted to something, according to Franciscan Father Richard Rohr. When we learn to identify our addiction, embrace our brokenness, and surrender to God, we begin to bring healing to ourselves and our world. In this book, Richard Rohr shows how the gospel principles in the Twelve Steps can free anyone from any addiction - from an obvious dependence on alcohol or drugs, to the more common but less visible addiction that we all have to sin."*



Purchasing the book is required. **Buy local.** Paul Urian will make it easy. If you are so inclined, Paul will make a group order of books from Inkwood, and you can compensate him accordingly. The book costs \$19.00. The companion journal that Nikki recommends as an option costs \$17.00.

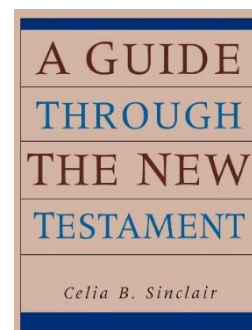
**June 5th is the deadline for ordering books.**

You can pay for your books via Venmo: @Paul-Urian . Or you can send Paul a check at 247 Lake Street, Haddonfield 08033.

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## A GUIDE THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT

This course, like the one on the Old Testament, is meant as an introduction to Bible Study and is perfect for someone who hasn't had much experience with the text. The course is a combination of online teaching and discussion led by Doug and weekly homework in the workbook. Course meets on Mondays from 11:00 a.m. to noon on Zoom, and **will begin on June 21st** and run for approximately 12 weeks. (Don't worry if you'll be away on vacation — this is easy to do on your own!) If you'd like to sign-up or would like a book to use on your own, send Doug a note and he'll reserve one for you! Books are \$15! **Books will be available this Sunday!**



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## CONVERSATION ON RACE

 FPCH's commitment to the Matthew 25 initiative has led to an active Sunday morning discussion group. The online conversation moves to in-person on Sunday, June 13. (No meeting on June 6.) Listen to a recent episode of "On Being," "History is Upon Us" in preparation. Conversation will be held after worship in the choir room, across from Fellowship Hall. Questions? Contact Becky Bryan.

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## 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](mailto:cheryltarditi@gmail.com)

Rebeca Silva de Foote (Moderator of Deacons) [silvadefoote@verizon.net](mailto:silvadefoote@verizon.net)

Kelly Stout (Deacon Representative) [kellystout322@yahoo.com](mailto:kellystout322@yahoo.com)

Anne Vial (Administrator) [avial@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:avial@haddonfieldpres.org)

Rev. Passante (Assoc. Pastor) [npassante@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:npassante@haddonfieldpres.org)

Any questions or comments, please contact Pastor Nikki at [npassante@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:npassante@haddonfieldpres.org)

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**NOTE: Doug's Tuesday morning Bible study will be on vacation next week, Tuesday, June 8.** The weekly discussion of upcoming scripture readings will reconvene on June 15 at 8 a.m. See Adult Ed on the website for details and the link.

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Please keep members and friends of the congregation in your prayers. 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 still available for private requests sent directly to the pastors.*

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### ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC – TEAMWORK

In today's world, where do we find teamwork, the working together of individuals in an orderly and focused action to achieve a goal together that could not be achieved as quickly and easily if individuals performed the acts independently? At St. Wilfrid's Open Door Clinic. With teamwork, there is a satisfaction of working for the whole and not oneself; loving others as we love ourselves...GOD AT WORK!

This week marks the **63rd straight week** that the Open Door Clinic at St Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic; **78 bags, 5,842 total. Over 146,050 pounds** of food and dry goods, distributed by the all-volunteer, everything donated, nobody gets paid Open Door Clinic at St. Wilfrid's. In the Pouring Rain! Thank you all for your generous collections and contributions.

**CURRENT NEEDS:** We are very low on diapers—sizes 4,5, & 6-and adult sizes large and extra-large—and baby wipes. If you would like to donate these in bulk from Amazon or Walmart, you may have your order sent to: Corey Crumley, 40 Warwick Rd, Haddonfield, NJ 08033.

**NEW REQUEST:** It appears that there will be some upcoming changes at the food bank, reverting to pre-pandemic practices. As we prepare for the future, we are looking for iPads, not too old, for intakes in the future. iPads may also be dropped off at Corey's house

**OTHER NEEDS** are canned fruits and veggies, cold cereal, deodorant, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. And always plastic grocery bags from Shoprite or 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 bins behind Grace Episcopal Church or Sundays at FPC. If you have any questions or would be interested in helping with food bank pickup during the week or in helping on Saturdays to give out food, please call Jill Mascena at 856-428-7342 and leave a message or check out the website: [opendoorcliniccamden.org](http://opendoorcliniccamden.org).

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### WEEKLY CALENDAR

June 6 – 10 a.m. IN-PERSON and Online Worship with Communion  
June 6 – 10 a.m. 4th-grade Communion Class in worship  
June 6 – Wear Orange to End Gun Violence  
June 8 – Doug's Bible Study DOES NOT MEET  
June 8 – 7 p.m. Porch Bible Study  
June 13 – 10 a.m. IN-PERSON and Online Worship  
June 13 – 11 a.m. Conversation on Race in Choir Room



*DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR BOOKS FOR PASTOR NIKKI'S BOOK GROUP (STARTING 6/16) AND PASTOR DOUG'S NEW TESTAMENT STUDY (STARTING 6/21)*