

*This week's news...*



August 26, 2021

Dear Friend,

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – SUNDAY, AUGUST 29**

Directly after worship this coming Sunday, join the congregation in Fellowship Hall and online to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee. **Here is the Zoom link:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84918031449>.

The Nominating Committee has identified eight church members to serve on the PNC. See their names and bios below. Many thanks to the nominees for their willingness to serve and many thanks to the nominating committee:

Betsy Westermaier, chair  
Quint Lerch  
Linda Hess  
Amy Stedman

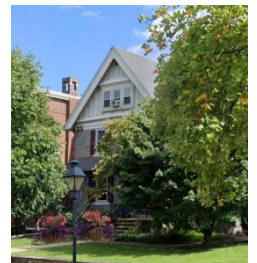
Jayne Grabowski  
Joyce Stout  
Chuck Bell  
Doug Gerdts, ex officio

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## **MOVING DAY IS ALMOST HERE!**

Next week, Nikki and Marco become official Haddonfield residents. The Manse has been shaped up and cleaned in anticipation. Thank you to Travis, Mark, contractors, and especially the Property Committee. Nikki will take time off to move during the coming week.

**A note from Nikki and Marco:** *We are thrilled to be living at the Manse beginning Sept. 1st and are excited to be a part of the neighborhood and make our home on historic Kings Highway! A huge thank-you to Paul Nussbaum, chair of the property committee at First Presbyterian; the property committee, Travis, Ryan – our steadfast painter, and Mark Hall. Thank you to the contractors and all the generous benefactors, along with a special thank-you to the Rev. Dr. Douglas Gerdts for his consistent support and advisement. Thank you so very much and it is a joy to be neighbors!*



**A NOTE FROM PASTOR DOUG AND PAUL NUSSBAUM:** While we have enjoyed use of the Manse for many years as an annex to the main church building, we now enter a new phase, or perhaps return to a much older one, and that is, that the Manse is indeed a private residence for one of our pastors and her family. Please give Nikki and Marco every courtesy as we protect and honor their privacy.



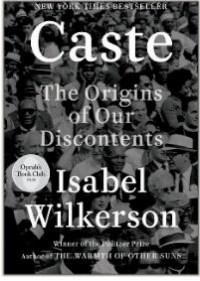
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## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY BRYCE AND CHASE DAVIS!**

Read about their special birthday celebration in the current issue of [Glad Tidings!](#)



## CONVERSATION ON RACE IS OFF THIS WEEK



The Conversation on Race is held every other week after worship in the choir room. We are discussing Oprah's Bookclub podcast with Isabel Wilkerson on Wilkerson's book Caste. All are welcome, regardless of whether you have joined prior conversations on race or not. Questions? Contact Becky Bryan.

We will schedule a virtual book discussion on the book, *Caste*, sometime in September. All Cherry Hill high school students have been assigned this as summer reading - let's join them and find out why! Questions? Email Becky Bryan: [rebeccabryan@me.com](mailto:rebeccabryan@me.com).

## STUDY OPPORTUNITITES

NEW TESTAMENT CLASS RESUMES MONDAY, AUGUST 30 – 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 James 2:1-17.

PASTOR NIKKI'S BOOK STUDY on Richard Rohr is ongoing Wednesdays @ 7:30 p.m., Zoom link. *Please note that there will be no meeting on September 1.*



PASTOR NIKKI'S BIBLE STUDY resumes on Thursday, September 16, on Zoom to begin a discussion of the Letter to the Hebrews.

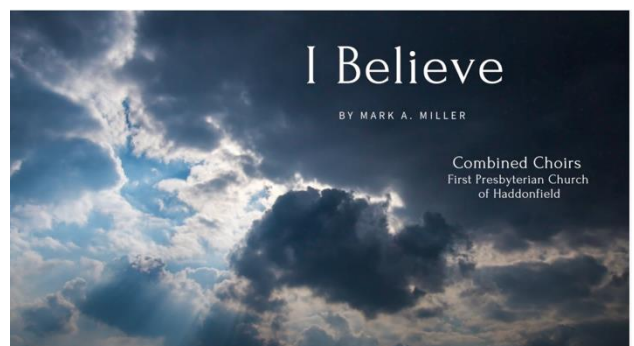
PORCH BIBLE STUDY RESUMES IN SEPTEMBER – The Porch Study will resume on Zoom on Tuesday, September 14. We will also meet on Tuesday, September 28, and Tuesday, October 12. We will be starting with Philippians, Chapter 3. Meetings start at 7 p.m. and end by 8:30 p.m. All are welcome. If you are new and don't yet have the link, contact the church office.

STEPHEN MINISTRY INTEREST MEETING – In light of increased COVID restrictions, the Stephen Ministry interest meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, October 13th at 7:00. Stay tuned for more details.

## CHOIRS ARE REORGANIZING

If you are thinking about signing yourself or your child up for a vocal or bell choir this fall, now is the time to get in touch with Peter Leibensperger or Nancy Ruth Wainwright. Go to the music page on the church website (<http://www.haddonfieldpres.org/music-ministry>) to find schedules and COVID guidelines.

Listen here to "I Believe in Love," recorded by our choir musicians last February and produced and edited by Peter Leibensperger:



**NURSERY WORKERS** – We are looking for people to help staff our nursery as some of our current wonderful nursery helpers are headed off to college in the fall. Ideal candidates will be high school aged or older with ample babysitting experience and/or certification. Must love babies and toddlers! This is a paid position! Please reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling for more details at [gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org).



**CHILDREN'S CHURCH IS CLOSED FOR THE SUMMER** – With an abundance of caution we are suspending our Children's Church program until further notice. Our primary goal is to keep our children safe and healthy and most importantly ready for school. As our Children's Church participants are too young for vaccinations, we feel this is the safest option for our young friends.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** – We will be holding off meeting in person until we meet again in the Sanctuary, which will be October 10th at the earliest. While we are disappointed to not be able to meet in person in September, we are confident that if we take precautions now, we will be back together safely in no time. Look for virtual lessons to be sent out starting mid-September.



**CONFIRMATION CLASS** – Calling all rising 10th graders! The 2021-2022 confirmation class is forming now! Notifications have already gone out regarding this year's confirmation class and if you have not received an email yet and want to participate, please reach out to [gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org) for more info. We are excited to bring back this rewarding year of learning and growth to our church youth.

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### THANKS FOR THE BACKPACKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES!

Please keep them coming so the Camden Community Center can help the kids served get ready for school. Bring donations to worship or drop off on Sundays at 11, office-side door. Contact the church office if you would like to bring donations during the week. Needed items include:

- Erasers
- Colored Pencils
- Crayons
- Glue Sticks
- Handheld Pencil Sharpeners
- Pencil Box or Pouch
- 3-Ring Binders – 1" or 1 ½ "
- Loose Leaf Filler Paper – Wide Rule
- Calculator
- Washable Markers
- Watercolor Paint
- Art Smock
- 12" Ruler
- Junior Scissors with 5" Blunt Tip
- Pocket Folders
- Composition Notebooks
- Tissue Packets
- Backpacks (the biggest need is for Grades 3-8)

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### ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

**This week marks the 75th straight week** that the Open Door Clinic at St Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic; 103 bags, 6,984 total. Over 174,600 pounds of food and dry goods. Thank you all for your generous collections and contributions. **Now for even bigger news:** Plans are underway to distribute fresh vegetables in addition to our food bags. We may need last minute help, but the result of being able to distribute fresh vegetables along with our dry goods is something very wonderful. To offer assistance and transportation to St Wilfrid's on Saturday mornings between 8:00-9:00 am, please contact Paul Urian at [umanpaul@me.com](mailto:umanpaul@me.com). Thank you to Paul and all the supporters for making this important project come to life. (cont.)



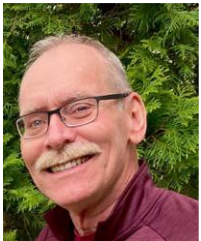
**Merry Christmas!** Each year at the beginning of December, we donate gifts for parents to give to their children for Christmas. Here is a Christmas Registry on Amazon if you would like to help by donating. The link is: [https://smile.amazon.com/registries/custom/C0BPZCQM7V9W/guest-view?ref=cm\\_sw\\_em\\_r\\_gr\\_un\\_4L1bCni31qPWZ](https://smile.amazon.com/registries/custom/C0BPZCQM7V9W/guest-view?ref=cm_sw_em_r_gr_un_4L1bCni31qPWZ). The delivery address is to Rose Guthrie in Blackwood. As we proceed, we'll report back. Thank you for all your prayers and consideration. Any volunteers can email Rose directly: [intrepidrose@hotmail.com](mailto:intrepidrose@hotmail.com)

**Current Needs:** Tuna, pasta & sauce, diapers – size 6, and wipes. These may be left weekdays in the bin on the steps on the PATCO side of Grace Episcopal Church or on Sundays on the tables outside Fellowship Hall or between 11 and 12 after church on the cart by the bench by the door to the office at FPC on the Masonic Temple side.

**PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY Sandwiches:** for the next 4 weeks, we are in need of at least 200 more sandwiches each Thursday! Families, service groups at school, sport teams, Scout troops – think about it please! Thankfully, last Thursday, 6 girls from HMHS tennis team helped out with 3 loaves of bread each and we had the 180 sandwiches we were short!! If you are interested in making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, please select a donation week by signing up on this signup form: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0845aba72caa8-pbjs1> or call Jill Mascena at 856-428-7342 and leave a message. I will get back to you. Check out other things going on at [www.opendoorcliniccamden.org](http://www.opendoorcliniccamden.org)

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## Nominees for the Pastor Nominating Committee



**Peter Hurd** – I grew up at FPC where my parents, Chuck and Bunnie Hurd, were active members for many years. My wife, Lisa, and I raised our two children here. I have served on Session once and am currently in my third stint as a deacon, where I serve as secretary and chair of the transportation committee. I am also half of the A/V committee with Jim Peterson, and in that capacity we have been streaming the church services and related activities for the past decade.



**Brian McGlade** – I was raised in the Presbyterian faith, having attended Carmel Presbyterian Church in Glenside, PA as a child and young adult. I joined First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield 25 years ago along with my wife (fiancé at the time), and we were married by the Pastor, William Levering. Our two daughters attended Sunday School and Confirmation Class, and are members of the church. I have served as an Elder twice, and participated in mission trips to Tennessee and the Dominican Republic.



**Herbert "Bud" G Miller, Jr** – I became a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Haddonfield, in 1986, when Joan and my family (3 children) moved from Texas to Haddon Twp. In 1987, I was asked to serve as a trustee and did so for two years. In 1986, I joined the Chancel Choir and continue to sing with them. For several years, I sang with and then directed "The Grace Notes," an SATB octet that sang at the 8:30am service one Sunday a month. I also formed a quartet, "The Four Chaps." Since joining the church, I have served as an elder and lay reader, served on and chaired the Worship and Music Committee, and served on the search committee to hire our Director of Music, the 2021 Mission Study Team, and the 2021 Organist Search Team. I have worked with "Feed My Starving Children" in several capacities, and in 2015 and 2016 I wrote "Sermon Take-aways" summarizing the theme of each Sunday's sermon for the church's social media.



**Debra Nussbaum** – I have been a member of the church for about 20 years and was on the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee that called Pastor Nikki. I helped run the Church Youth Group before we had pastors and staff involved and was a Sunday School teacher, Confirmation teacher, elder and member of the Christian Education Committee. I have run the Porch Bible Study (with Jill and Tony Mascena) for many years, cook and bake for Care and Share, teach at the Church Preschool, am part of the Prayer Chain, just started running a children's book collection with Jeanne Spinelli (for St. Wilfred's and Broad Street Ministry) and participate in several Bible studies with Pastors Doug and Nikki. My husband, Paul, and I have four children and three grandchildren.

**Margaret O'Neil** – I've been a member of the church since the early 1990s. After singing in an oratorio, I continued coming to First Pres where I found meaning and inspiration in the worship and a welcoming community. I have served as a deacon and elder and been a member of the Chancel Choir. I am happy to serve on the PNC but am aware of the daunting responsibility this entails.



**Andy Reinicker** – I've been a member of First Presbyterian since 1995. I've been married to Amy for 35 years. We have 3 children: Christine 31, Alex 28, and Rachel 26. I've been a deacon at least 4 times and was moderator during one of those terms. I've been in charge of ushering for a number of years. I've been on 11 mission trips with the youth of our church and community. I was on the building committee and have been a part of many projects around our church. I've been in business for myself since 1986. It is truly an honor to be asked to serve on the PNC.



**Maggie Sell** – I have been a member of First Presbyterian for about thirty years and was formerly a member of the Church of Scotland. I found the Haddonfield church warm and welcoming and very much like my church back in Scotland with an American accent. I felt at home. I have served on the Board of Deacons, most recently in 2019 as Moderator, and have been on mission trips to Kentucky and Haiti. I played handbells (a long time ago) and have been a member of Presbyterian Women. I served on two mission study teams.



**Rebeca Silva de Foote** – My husband Matthew and I moved to New Jersey after the birth of our first son, Benicio. We joined First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield in 2005, where our younger son, Manolo was baptized in 2007. I have served as a deacon for the last four years and am entering my second year as Deacon Moderator. Serving as a deacon is not only a natural fit for me but has also been an incredible blessing in my life. I have also enjoyed being a part of the Conversations on Race group, participating in the Speaking Truth in Love course and the book group on Richard Rohr's *Breathing Under Water* offered by Pastor Nikki. I

keep a framed copy of Ghandi's prayer for peace which I read often especially in times of transition or trouble. I am excited about serving on the PNC as I continue my journey with the church.

**REMINDER: Join the congregational meeting on Sunday, August 29, directly after worship, to elect the PNC. In Fellowship Hall or on Zoom. [Link here](#)**

## FINAL PRAYER WORKSHOP TONIGHT, 8/26

Join Pastor Nikki and Guest Facilitator Laraine Thulin for Prayer Workshop #3 Thursday, August 26, at 6:30 on [Zoom](#).

*Laraine Thulin is the Leader for the Prayer Ministry Team at Excelsior Covenant Church in Minnesota.*

Equipping Workshops are for those who wish to deepen their life of faith, spiritually strengthen relationships, and develop a compassionate posture to all God's children. All are welcome!

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### CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Please keep members and friends of the congregation in your prayers. The weekly 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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### WEEKLY CALENDAR



- Aug 26 – 4 p.m. Communications Committee
- Aug 26 – 6:30 p.m. Prayer Workshop #3
- Aug 29 – 10 a.m. In-person and Online Worship
- Aug 29 – 11 a.m. (following worship) Congregational meeting
- Aug 30 – 11 a.m. New Testament class
- Aug 30 – 4 p.m. Budget Task Force
- Aug 31 – 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study
- Aug 31 – 10:30 a.m. Staff meeting
- Sept. 1 – 4 p.m. Communications Committee
- Sept. 1 – Richard Rohr book study DOES NOT meet
- Sept. 5 – 10 a.m. In-person and Online Worship with Communion
- Sept. 6 – Labor Day: Church office closed

*Note: As your committee or group makes plans for the fall for in-person or online meetings or events, please let the church office know so we can include them on the calendar. Updates are always welcome, as are announcements, photos, blurbs, and articles to include in the newsletter. Thank you!*