

*This week's news...*



September 23, 2021

Dear Friend,

### ***The Wizard of Menlo Park***

The first “chapter book” that I recall reading from cover to cover was a Scholastic paperback entitled, the story of Thomas Alva Edison, Inventor: The Wizard of Menlo Park. A couple of years ago, I found a copy online and bought it for fun. When read in elementary school, it was quite a hefty tome — in reality, it’s quite simplistic. The book, however, ignited a life-long fascination with Edison which included repeated visits to his Menlo Park laboratory in Greenfield Village near Detroit, MI.

Very much aware that I’ve landed in his home state, I assume that his legacy is well-known and celebrated — hopefully with more than a rest-stop on the NJ Turnpike!

Edison was famously not afraid of failure. In response to a question about his missteps, Edison once said, “I have not failed 10,000 times—I’ve successfully found 10,000 ways that will not work.” He was also a shameless self-promoter and knew the importance of “branding” long before the term was coined.

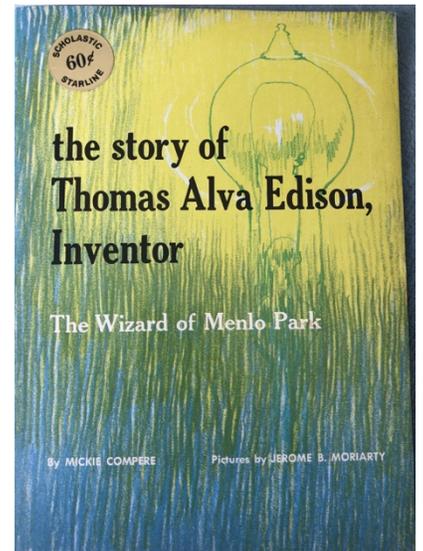
One additional bit of wisdom from Edison appeared on my daily calendar this morning:

**Many of life’s failures are experienced by people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up.**

Resilience and perseverance: Indispensable ingredients for a life of faith. Very little of lasting worth or value comes easily or void of stumbles and missteps. So much of humanity’s interaction with God reminds us that failure is never the last word and that God will sustain us through whatever life offers. I wonder what great work the Church (big “C,” not just ours) could have done if they just kept at it a little longer?

May we never forget God's company or love — and may that fuel our faith and fortitude!

Be well and God bless,



## BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS ON SEPTEMBER 26

Thank you for your donations! During worship on September 26, backpacks, work bags, briefcases, etc. will be blessed – in-person and online. Blessing of the Backpacks expresses gratitude for all who have donated school supplies and backpacks to Camden Community Center and St. Wilfrid's. It is also an expression of hope for the school/work/everyday year to come. As grown-ups and children alike carry briefcases, backpacks, purses, lunchboxes, diaper bags, laptops, etc. into the weeks to come, may they also carry the assurance that God (and their church community) cares for them.



## ALL THINGS SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH GROUP!

**This Week in Sunday School:** Virtual Lessons are back! This week we focused on the book of Mark for our older friends and Jesus Welcoming the Children in our younger classes. The main theme we focused on was "The Last Will Be First." In Mark's gospel, Jesus has some really interesting things to say about what it means to be great. What Jesus said surprised his disciples, who thought THEY were pretty great! Jesus said that to be great, you have to think first about what others need and help them. To be great, you have to be happy to come in last. Want to get on the mailing list for Sunday School lessons and activities? Please reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling at [gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org).



**Sunday School Registration Now Open!** We are looking for Sunday School to start in person in October. Please use the following link to fill out the online registration to make sure your child has a spot in class and so your child can receive virtual Sunday School lessons while we are still remote. We can't wait to be back in the classroom soon! Any questions, please contact Gabrielle Heimerling at [gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org).  
[SS 21-22 Registration Form](#)

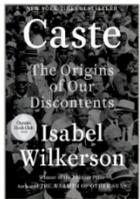
**Sunday School Volunteers Needed:** Please consider volunteering to be a Sunday School Teacher. Volunteers are needed to teach our young friends in grades PreK through 8th grade. All that's needed is a willingness to teach; we will provide the curriculum, teaching manuals, supplies and support. We promise it is a fun and rewarding experience. Please reach out to Gabrielle Heimerling at [gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org).

**Nursery Workers:** Looking to earn some extra cash? We are looking to staff our nursery as many of our wonderful nursery helpers headed off to college. 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).



**Youth Group:** Smashing opening to Youth Group 21-22 Last week! It was so fun seeing so many old friends and meeting new ones. It's going to be a great year! We are planning to meet again this Sunday (9/26) from 5pm-6pm outside in the courtyard for snacks and fun. Hoping to go over the calendar for the year and then play a game. Capture the flag, Anyone? See you Sunday! Any questions concerning Youth Group please contact Gabrielle Heimerling at [gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org).





## CONVERSATION ON RACE MEETS NEXT ON SEPTEMBER 26

The Conversation on Race will hold its discussion on the book, *Caste*, by Isabel Wilkerson, on September 26 after worship in the choir room. All Cherry Hill high school students were assigned this as summer reading - let's join them and find out why! Questions? Email Becky Bryan: [rebeccabryan@me.com](mailto:rebeccabryan@me.com).

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## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY NEXT WEEK, OCTOBER 3

The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be collected. The offering supports Presbyterian missions around the world and locally. FPCH's portion of the offering goes to REHAB Project, Pakistan/Shakila Rani (through Asian Christian Ministries). The REHAB Project is a peacemaking ministry, serving women who are unjustly treated in their social setting or families. It provides refuge, counseling and referrals to victims of domestic violence.

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## PASTOR NIKKI'S INSTALLATION – AT LAST!

You are cordially invited to the Installation of the Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante at First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield, NJ, on Sunday, October 17, 2021, at 3:00 in the afternoon. Speakers will be the Rev. Dr. Douglas D. Gerdts, the Rev. Dr. Debby Brincivalli, who serves as the Executive Presbyterian of the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey, and the Rev. Dr. William D. Hess II who will be delivering the sermon for the afternoon. Rev. 'Bill' Hess served as the Senior Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in West Chester, PA, for 27 years, and has served as a transitional pastor throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Bill currently serves as the summer pastor for Christ Union Chapel in Branchville, NJ.

*Immediately following the service, everyone is invited to an open house and celebration at the church manse, directly adjacent to the sanctuary.*

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## FALL PROGRAMS:

- Porch Bible Study will meet on **Tuesdays, September 28** and October 12 to study 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.
- Pastor Nikki's Bible Study is underway on Zoom with a discussion of the Letter to the Hebrews.
- Doug's Tuesday Morning Bible Study (8 a.m. via Zoom) is ongoing—and you can join at any time. The text for the coming week is *Mark 10:2-16*.
- Pastor Nikki's Book Study on Richard Rohr meets for one more Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m., Zoom link.

**STEPHEN MINISTRY INTEREST MEETING** – Nikki is holding a Stephen Ministry interest meeting on **Wednesday, October 13th** at 6:30 in person. Room to be announced.

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**BE A HERO, VOLUNTEER WITH INTERFAITH CAREGIVERS** – Join Interfaith Caregivers and volunteer to help your neighbors who are seniors or living with disabilities? We make it easy to volunteer:

- Volunteer when you have time
- Use our online system to find assignments that fit your schedule
- Give a ride, shop for groceries, call someone to chat, you decide what you are comfortable doing
- We have covid safety protocols in place to keep everyone safe.

It is not every day you get the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others. Contact us today so we can tell you all about it. Decide for yourself if we're a good fit, absolutely no pressure. Contact Suzan at [suzand@ifchaddons.org](mailto:suzand@ifchaddons.org) or 856-354-0298.

## THANK YOU:

**The Red Cross sent Travis the following note:** *We are so thankful to have you as a partner (especially during the pandemic) and I hope the drive turned out to be as you anticipated. If you have any feedback please let me know. Additionally, please extend our gratitude to any others who helped with recruitment, signups, facilities, or donating blood. Over the course of the drive, we had 26 donors register, 2 deferrals, and 3 Power Red donations. In total we collected **26** units of blood! Collections from this drive will be able to provide for up to **78** hospital patients! Well done, Travis, Mark and donors!*

**A lovely thank you for the September 11 bell-ringing event:**

Thanks so much to the members of the First Presbyterian Church of Haddamfield for giving our town such a beautiful, dignified ceremony in memory of those people lost to all of us on September 11, 2001. Thanks too for giving my husband and me a way to participate and to make special mention of our nephew, Richard Cronow. Taking part in the beautiful observance gave both of us a warm feeling of being

part of a community that remembered and honored the victims of that terrible day. And special thanks to Betsy Westerman and the team of readers and ringers who made it such a solemn and meaningful event.

Sincerely,  
Nila Cronow

**And to Jane Nestory for her beautiful bulletin board in the choir room!**



## 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 available for private requests sent directly to the pastors*

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## ST. WILFRID'S OPEN DOOR CLINIC

**112 bags of food** were given out Saturday. This week marks the **79th straight week** that the Open Door Clinic at St. Wilfrid's has distributed food during the pandemic; **7,412 total. Over 185,300 pounds** of food and dry goods, distributed by the all-volunteer, everything-donated, nobody-gets-paid Open Door Clinic at St. Wilfrid's. Thank you all for your generous collections and contributions.

- **There is Foodbank pick-up on Friday October 8.** If you can help or would like to know more, please get in touch with Rose Guthrie: [intrepidrose@gmail.com](mailto:intrepidrose@gmail.com).
- **Matching Grant 2021:** October will be the only time we solicit contributions to the Open Door Clinic so we can take advantage of the offer of matching grants. To date, we have matching grants, one for the first two thousand dollars, and then another matching grant for the second two thousand. Hold your donation until October when it will double. More information to come in following weeks.
- **Needs:** We always need baby wipes. Because we are serving more of the homeless community, we need tuna and chicken in pouches or zip top cans, and fruit or applesauce in the individual serving containers, and bags of dried beans. We always need plastic grocery bags from Shoprite or Wegman's, paper grocery bags to line the plastic bags, and newspaper bags (to hold hygiene products). Donations may be dropped off weekdays in the bin on the steps of the Patco side of Grace Episcopal Church and on Sundays at FPC on the table outside Fellowship Hall or after church on the cart outside the office door on the Masonic Temple side of church
- **Coats:** Please keep in mind the winter need of coats, jackets, hats and gloves and mittens to our patrons. We gave out more coats than we could count last year, we estimate that it was more than 500. It seemed as if we clothed the entire neighborhood, and patrons kept coming without coats. After Thanksgiving, we will be collecting. Buy a new coat or jacket and donate your old ones (unless the zippers don't work!).
- **Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwiches:** Along with the food bags and hygiene products-we give away approximately 300 PBnJ sandwiches to our clients. 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>
- **If you have any questions** or think you could help by volunteering or making sandwiches or helping with yard work, call Jill Mascena 856-428-7342 and leave a message. OR check the website. [opendoorcliniccamden.org](http://opendoorcliniccamden.org)

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## CHOIRS ARE BACK!

Our newest Cherub Choir members sing the name song to the animals on the wall murals:

"Prairie dog, prairie dog, you're a child of God.  
God loves you. Yes, it's true. You're a child of God."  
("You're A Child of God," by Mark Burrows)



## THANK YOU FOR PAYING YOUR 2021 PER CAPITA!

We've made progress. Here is an updated list of those who have paid their Per Capita amounts. (It's not too late. Send your \$37 dollars to the church or to <https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/Give>.) Thank you!

Lloyd & Chrissy Adams	Tamara Fisicaro	Matthew Mackowsky
Shirley Aharon	Matthew Foote & Rebeca Silva	Dana Manochi
Dorothy Alff	De Foote	Haley Manochi
Betsy Anderson	Fran Friedrich	Peg & Glenn Manochi
Sally Ashton	Barbara Gallagher	Gisbert & Bonnie Manskopf
Ed Balderstone	Linda Garver	Anthony & Jill Mascena
Kristina Bean	Doug Gerdts	Scott & Jennie McElhone
Abby Bell	Judy Grantham & Quintin Lerch	Leona McFadden & Santo
Charles & Bonnie Bell	James & Marjorie Groeling	Miserendino
Emily Bell	Ian & Rosemarie Guthrie	Brian & Lorelei McGlade
Charles & Joan Bergdoll	Robert & Joanne Hall	Ciera McGlade
Zachary Bissinger	Gabrielle Heimerling	Delaney McGlade
Clair & Judy Blank	Edward & Linda Hess	"T" McGurrin
Nicholas Bollinger	Jim & Sharon Hoobler	Liam McGurrin
Robyn Bollinger	Katelyn Hoobler	Herbert & Joan Miller
Neva Bosch	Meredith Hoobler	Emma Miserendino
Rita Brown	Sarah Hoobler	Evan Miserendino
Sarah Brown	Shirley Hough	Alan Mkitarian
William & Gerilyn Carr	Emily Hurd	Amanda Morgan
Judy Carrigan	Paul Hurd	Robert & Joanne Morris
Priscilla Carrington	Peter & Lisa Hurd	Robert & Patricia Myles
Carol Carty	Marianne & Bill Hutchinson	Paul & Debra Nussbaum
Heather Chamberlin	Connor Jackson	Sally O'Brien
Lydia Cipriani	Erik Jackson & Susan Bunnell-	Lauris & Liz Olson
Dan & Tish Colombi	Jackson	Margaret O'Neil
Jane Connor	Kaelynn Jackson	Linda & Gene O'Neill
Mary Beth Creamer	Aidan Kamp	Mark Oswald
Corey Crumley	Chloe Kamp	Nikki Passante
Lauren Crumley	Connor Kamp	Julia Piotrowski
Madeline Crumley	Taylor & Amy Kamp	Michelle & Gregory Piotrowski
John & Lindsay Cunningham	Will Kamp	Thomas Piotrowski
Drew Dark	Sylvia Keay	S. Stephen & Jill Platt
Kathryn Dark	Keith & Lesley Kirsch	Warren & Isabel Pross
Margot Dark	Mark & Lorna Klimas	John Reisner
Rachel Davis	Rich Kouhoupt	Tom & Molly Revell
Bonnie Dewey	Amelia Lamb	Gerry Rice
Charlotte Dewey	Andy Lamb	John Richardson
Constance Dewey	Rachel Lamb	Allan & Ginny Ritchie
Maisy Dewey	Thomas & Melinda Lamb	Finnley Ritter
John & Virginia Dowd	Lauren Larosa	Matt & Megan Ritter
Lisa Edmonston	Bob & Janet Lehman	Judie Rose
Owen & Tina Edmonston	Carrie Lehman	Larry Rugen
Philip Edmonston	Matt Lehman	Theo Rugen
Vani Elgart	Wendy Lehman	Jean Russell
Lee Federline	John Mackowsky	Benjamin Schroeter
John & Joan Fiorella	Margaret & Richard Mackowsky	Christopher Schroeter

Martin Schroeter  
Meg Schroeter  
Michael Schroeter  
Jeremy and Lindsey Scott  
Sally & Warren Seddon  
Maggie Sell  
David & Barbara Sewall  
Janet Sharke  
Janet Shoemaker  
Christine Sikora  
Gregory Sikora  
Joseph & Judith Sikora  
Charlotte Skeggs  
Susan & David Smith  
George & Peggy Spellmeyer  
Max Spencer

Eugene & Jeanne Spinelli  
Robert St. Marie  
Alan & Amy Stedman  
David Stedman  
Patrick Stedman  
Kelly Stout  
Roger Stout  
Michelle Taffet  
Samuel Taffet  
Cheryl & Dustin Tarditi  
Diane Thorne  
Bob Timms  
Beth Tourtellotte  
Bev Trotter  
Paul Urian  
John & Denise Wackes

Nancy Ruth Wainwright  
Katherine Warner  
Margaret Warner  
Thomas Warner & Anne Vial  
James & Donna Wasik  
Liz Wasik  
Robert & Ann Wells  
Betsy Westermaier  
Barry Wilhjelm  
Jennifer Willams  
Polly Williams-Fischler  
Elaine Winder  
Richard & Patricia Woodland  
William & Robin Wright  
Caroline Yount

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## **WEEKLY CALENDAR**



Sept. 23 – 4 p.m. Communications Committee  
Sept. 23 – 6:30 p.m. Nikki's Bible Study  
Sept. 23 – 6:30 p.m. Moore Bells  
Sept. 23 – 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir  
Sept. 26 – 10 a.m. In-person and Online Worship; Blessing of Backpacks  
Sept. 26 – 11 a.m. Conversation on Race  
Sept. 26 – 5 p.m. Youth Group  
Sept. 28 – 8 a.m. Doug's Bible Study  
Sept. 28 – 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting  
Sept. 28 – 7 p.m. Deacons Meeting  
Sept. 28 – 7 p.m. Porch Bible Study  
Sept. 29 – 3:45-8:15 p.m. Children's and Youth Choir rehearsals w/ spaghetti dinner  
Sept. 29 – 7:30 p.m. Richard Rohr book study  
Sept. 30 – 6:30 p.m. Nikki's Bible Study  
Sept. 30 – 6:30 p.m. Moore Bells  
Sept. 30 – 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir  
Oct. 3 – 10 a.m. In-person and Online Worship – World Communion Sunday  
Oct. 3 – 5 p.m. Youth Group