



Glad Tidings

First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield, NJ

January 2009



Reflect on this central panel from the Tiffany window in our sanctuary, read the passage

Thoughts for the New Year

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast according to the custom. After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ...When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. His mother said to him, "...your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

—Luke 2:41-52 NIV



Pastor's Notes

Dear Family of Faith Members,

During the next few issues of Glad Tidings I will be providing information about my approaching sabbatical. I hope you will feel free to ask me questions if I do not communicate clearly about the plans I have made for my time away.

Rev. Bill Getman
Senior Pastor

I am scheduled to begin my sabbatical on Monday, April 13, the day after Easter. I will be away from the church until Monday, August 17. As the term implies, I will be

engaged in an extended sabbath or period of rest. It will include some travel with Sue to England and Scotland, time at the shore, trips to visit our grandson in Florida, reading (focused on prayer and spiritual direction), a few house projects and lots of naps!

A growing number of organizations which study the long-term health of pastors (e.g. the Alban Institute and the Lilly Foundation) encourage the taking of sabbaticals every 7 or 8 years. This will be my first one in 28 years and, I trust, will help to prepare me for our continued ministry together.

While I'm gone Jeremy Sanderson will be acting Head of Staff and Joe Routon will expand his ministry as Pastoral Assistant. Plans are being made for ways in which the Elders can deepen their service to our congregation and several members will be asked to assist Jeremy in the preaching and leadership of worship. I will detail these plans in the February issue.

I am looking forward to the time of renewal and reflection, and am very grateful to the Personnel Committee, Session and congregation for having approved my sabbatical. I believe it will be good for all of us!

In Christ's peace,
Bill

We Welcome Two New Staff Members

Please extend a warm welcome to our two new staff members, both beginning their ministries on January 1! Donna Cashman, a long-time member of the church and Confirmation Class leader for the last 8 years, joins us as our new Director of Christian Education.

Jodi Nieman, who has shared her wonderful gifts of music with us in a variety of settings since she joined our church several years ago, will be the accompanist for the Chapel and Thomas Sherrerd Choirs.



Donna Cashman



Jodi Nieman

We look forward to the rich resources Donna and Jodi will bring to our family of faith.

Glad Tidings

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Choral/Pastoral Assistant

Joyce Ann Routon
Organist

David Rhody
Chapel Organist

Rebecca Wilhjem Lentine
9:30 Pianist

Nancy Ruth Wainwright
Children's Choirs

Jodi Nieman
Youth Choir Accompanist

Alice Wilhjem
Children's Choir Accompanist

Carol Tatem
Financial Secretary

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Betsy Baumhauer
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Mike Richardson
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David Rhody: A Man for All Seasons (including Baseball)

by Joe Routon

Our Assistant Organist David Rhody certainly is a man of varied interests – who else has season tickets to the Metropolitan Opera and the Phillies? A fifty-year member of First Presbyterian, and son of former Associate Pastor Fred Rhody, David began his organ studies with Helen Collins Carrell, our organist in the Bryant Kirkland and Jim McKeever years, and still studies regularly with her! Helen, now in her 76th year, is currently organist at Trinity Methodist Church in Merchantville and active in the local music world.

Besides playing every Sunday for our 8:30 Chapel service and all of our weddings and funerals for the past fifteen years, David has been our regular summer organ substitute for over forty years. But music was not his chosen profession. After majoring in Greek and Latin at the College of Wooster and Villanova University, David began teaching Latin in Moorestown High School, enjoying a successful career from which he retired, after 35 years, in 2001. Along the way he also graduated from Rutgers Law School and occasionally finds time to practice law. He also regularly attends performances of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Pennsylvania Ballet and Penn basketball games.



One of the greatest joys of his teaching career was leading eighteen student tours of Italy – several hundred Moorestown High students visited Rome, Florence, Pompeii and Venice with David as guide. After retiring from teaching David has enjoyed several more visits to Italy, including meeting good friends David and Peggy Stedman for dinner *al fresco* by the Pantheon. Recently he has enjoyed traveling to watch the Phillies play in Clearwater, Chicago, St. Louis, Pittsburgh and Miami. In fact, he is such a diehard Phillies fan that he flew to Tampa for game one of the World Series without a ticket to the game (he managed to find one on eBay). He was at Citizens Bank Park for games four and five (both parts) and the victory celebration after the parade.

Since retirement David has been employed part-time by Fairleigh Dickinson University as a field supervisor of student teachers, including several in Haddonfield schools. He also tutors Latin extensively for local students and will soon teach Latin again as a long-term substitute in Moorestown High School. And he also enjoys weekly Italian conversation lessons with Cherry Hill teacher Seta Demurjian. He is active in the American Guild of Organists, serving the local chapter as webmaster and newsletter publisher, and the five-state region as director of professional concerns.

So, don't be surprised if he doesn't linger after 8:30 services – there are only so many hours in the day!

Youth Ministry News



Rev. Jeremy Sanderson
Associate Pastor

Youth Corner...

Eryn and I want to send a big THANK YOU out to all of you for a great 2008! It was you -- the parents, the chaperones, the volunteer drivers and cooks, and especially you the students who brought your good attitudes and inquisitive minds and made it a great youth group year. God has blessed us in amazing ways, and I suspect 2009 will bring even more positive momentum to our youth program. I hope you plan on experiencing that with us.

Speaking of which... January/February youth group calendars will be coming out early in the New Year. In the meantime, mark your calendars now for January 11th-- our first regular gathering of the year, and 8th-12th graders -- mark your calendars for Friday January 16th-- the first lock-in of the year!! (6th-7th graders never fear--your own lock-in is coming soon!).



Eryn Fredrick
Seminarian/
Youth Assistant

Grace and Peace,
Jeremy

Christian Education



Donna Cashman

After January 1, this email address (dce@haddonfieldpres.org) will still be used for First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield's Director of Christian Education business, but the new Director of Christian Education will be Donna Cashman. Just keep using this email address, and expect a reply from Donna!

Should you need to get in touch with Sarah Sanderson for *personal* email, please use sarahls@bluebottle.com beginning now.

Also, please note the following upcoming important Christian Education dates:

December 24 - Join us for the family service at 4:00 in the Sanctuary, the contemplative 7:30 service in the chapel, or the traditional 10:00 service in the Sanctuary. No childcare for any service. Children of all ages are welcome to any of the services, especially at 4:00!

December 28 - No 9:30 service; 11:00 service ONLY. No Sunday School or Children's Church, but there will be childcare.

January 4 - All usual Sunday School, Children's Church, and childcare options resume!

Thanks and Merry Christmas!

Preschool Purchases Amenities



The Preschool purchased two new benches for the entrance of our building. Seated is Esther Gray waiting for her ride following the PW Christmas Luncheon. The new benches don't snag dresses or inflict splinters and allow more room for traffic in and out of the building.

A new cigarette deposit will be located at the corner of the building. Smokers agree to be 20 feet from the door so smoke does not come into the building. Twelve new tables will arrive for Fellowship Hall use in a few weeks.

New playground signs have been put on the three fenced sides of the playground to prohibit vandalism of the playground area. Church members, remember, this is your playground -- please help the preschool keep it in good repair. These purchases are made available by the fundraising of the Preschool.