

# Glad Tidings

hearts open to christ - doors open to his world

First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield • May 2016



## MAY Highlights:

- May 1: Worship: Holy Communion  
Children's Cantata, Sanctuary, 4:00 pm  
Refugee Symposium, Sanctuary, 7:00 pm  
FMSC Meeting, Board Room 2R, 7:30 pm
- May 3 - 5: Preschool Flower Sale and Trunk Show
- May 5: National Day of Prayer Breakfast, 8:30am  
First Baptist Church
- May 10: PW Spring Luncheon, Tavistock, 12:30
- May 15: **Pentecost Sunday**  
Sunday School Teachers' Breakfast 8:30  
Last Sunday School Class until Sept. 2016
- May 19: Preschool 4 & 5's year end event, 6:00pm
- May 22: Closing Sunday School Worship at 9:30.

## Day of Pentecost

On the Day of Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending in a mighty rush of wind and flame to inspire the church's proclamation of Christ's rising and to empower its mission and ministry to the world. (See Acts 2:1-13; see also Joel 2:28-32.)

The notion of Easter as a season of 50 days ending at Pentecost is patterned after the ancient Jewish festival of seven weeks that extended from the beginning of the barley harvest (on the second day after the beginning of Passover) to the end of the wheat harvest at the Festival of Weeks or *Shavuot* (see Deuteronomy 16:9-12).

The Festival of Weeks later came to be called Pentecost ("50th day") by Greek speaking Jews. In Jewish tradition, Shavuot also marks the giving of the law to Moses at Sinai; this liturgical link may inform Paul's discussions of the law and the Spirit (see Romans 8, 2 Corinthians 3 and Galatians 3).





**Rev. Bill Getman**  
Senior Pastor

## Pastor's Notes

Dear Family of Faith Members,

I apologize for the overdue nature of this summary of the Town Hall meetings we held earlier this year. But since we are still working through the transitions explained at each of the three of them, the following information is still pertinent. Please know that what follows is not an exhaustive summation, but an attempt to report the highlights and the relevant questions that were posed.

### Background

Session began working in 2014 on a new vision statement, one simultaneously reflecting who we are as a church family and how we hope to grow. "Hearts Open to Christ – Doors Opening to the World" was the result of conversations with different age groups in the church, a retreat led by Dave Davis from Nassau Presbyterian Church in Princeton and many meetings of the Long Range Planning Committee and Session. Worship was identified as the central focus of our congregation, with Mission, Youth Ministry, Christian Education and Pastoral Care lifted up as our core ministries.

At the same time, the leadership in our church realized that the deaths of many long-time members were having a profound impact on our financial health. Over the previous three years we had lost approximately \$50,000 per year. While we continued to welcome new members, our giving was falling far short of our annual expenses.

The Elders of our church – members of the Session – were confronted by two contrasting realities: the need to strengthen our core ministries while having reduced income to dedicate toward them. The result was that every Session committee was required to reduce its anticipated expenses by 10% for 2016. *continued on pg. 3*

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## Parish Register

### Baptized

Tatum Daniel Boccia  
Son of Barbara Carroll and Jill Boccia  
April 10

### Married

Dick Webster and Deedy Roberts  
April 9

### Joined the Church Triumphant

Shirley G. Keown  
April 11

## Glad Tidings

Betsy Westermaier  
Editor  
[beewulf@mac.com](mailto:beewulf@mac.com)

### — Church Staff —

Rev. Bill Getman  
Senior Pastor

Rev. Rachel Rhodes  
Associate Pastor

Peter Leibensperger  
Music Director

Laura Colee  
Christian Education

Barbara Sewall  
Preschool Director

Ed Hess  
Director of Social Work

Ted Barr  
Organist

Nancy Ruth Wainwright  
Children's Choirs

Rebecca Wilhjem Lentine  
Youth Choir Accompanist

Elizabeth Olson  
Cherub and Carol Choirs  
Accompanist

Robert Joubert  
Conducting Assistant

Bud Miller  
Director of Grace Notes

Beth Thomas  
Financial Secretary

Linda Wilhjem  
Secretary

Betsy Baumhauer  
Secretary/Receptionist

Mike Richardson  
Custodian

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## Pastor's notes, continued

So, the most difficult work I have participated in during 35 years of ministry began last fall. All committees cut 10% from their budgets, with the deepest cuts coming in personnel – specifically in music and office staff.

### Questions Raised During Town Hall Meetings

- How will we maintain our vital ministries with fewer resources and staff?  
We will depend more on volunteers than we have in the past and the continuing staff will assume some additional responsibilities. Also, part-time staff members will be hired to fulfill revamped full-time positions.
- How will we supplement income no longer raised through traditional church giving?  
A development team is already working to apply for grants. Periodic fundraisers, like our recent bowling event, will be planned to augment Sunday giving and encourage fellowship among members of all ages. And potential rentals of church facilities will also be considered.
- Will we consider selling the Wezner House or Lighthouse?  
While both houses have become important in our outreach in the community, providing transitional housing for friends in need, we are evaluating the overall value of these properties in light of our church's present situation. A member and local real estate agent is providing thorough market analyses for Session's consideration.
- How could we as a church lay off long-time, dedicated staff members?  
If you were to ask any member of Session who participated in the decisions reached last fall, those involving valued staff members were most agonizing and debated. The reality is that nearly 65% of our annual budget is dedicated to personnel. While many other cuts were made, the only way to begin to approach a balanced budget was by reducing staff. The question which guided these painful decisions was, "How do we most faithfully fulfill our core areas of ministry with the resources we have available to us?"

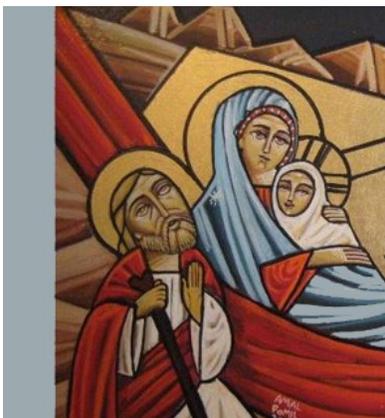
A personal comment or two.

I have already witnessed many church members stepping up – financially, as well as through the dedication of time and skills. I trust that this giving will grow as we work together to be more creative in our ministries and missions. I have also had the privilege of working with continuing staff members who are demonstrating a deepened commitment to serve our church family together.

We are not finished with this transitional work – far from it. But we have made significant progress and I am confident that God's spirit will guide us to new places in our ministries and missions here at First Presbyterian Church.

Please know how grateful I am for each member of our community of faith and how much I appreciate the work we are doing together to serve Christ today and in the future.

In his peace,  
Bill



## Parenthood in the Bible

### Three Week Adult Education Series

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Sunday April 17, 24, and May 1  
9:30-10:30am in Room 304



# MUSIC MINISTRY

## Worship Participation Schedule

Cherub Choir	5/1/16	4:00pm
Carol Choir	5/1/16	4:00pm
Chapel Choir	5/1/16	4:00pm
Moore Bells	5/8/16	11:00am
Thomas Sherrerd Choir	5/15/16	11:00am

**Peter Leibensperger**  
**Music Director**

### Children’s Cantata: *The Troubabble of Zerubbabel*

This year’s Children’s Cantata will be held on May 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00pm. The children will arrive at 3:00pm in the choir room to warm up and prepare their hearts and minds. We invite you to bring your friends and family to support our children as they tell Zerubbabel’s story through song!

### A HUGE THANK YOU!!!

As is the case every year, it is impossible to imagine all of the inner workings of the music ministry here at the church without all of the music staff, choir members, choir parents, supporters, and friends. Since I’ve been a part of this program, I’ve discovered that it is much more than an organization, it is a caring family in which each member has found a place and a role. Our love of God, our appreciation of music, and our personal testimonies to how music can create community and mend souls are what binds us. I am so grateful to each one of you for giving of yourselves to make this possible. My personal highlights of this year have included debating the design of the choir room walls with the Chapel Choir (about 12 times), playing guess-that-chord with Alleluia Bells, hearing the Thomas Sherrerd Choir share countless stories, joys, and concerns, watching Craig Melendes become more animated than I’ve ever seen him in Kirk Ringers as I entrusted him with the baton that Ken Carter left here, trying to maintain my composure as the Moore Bells members did everything in their power to make me blush, and growing as a community of faith with the Chancel Choir as we made music every week. My sincere thanks to everyone who showed love to me and to all of those around them this season!

## Presbyterian Women’s Spring Gathering

All women are invited to join us at our spring luncheon on May 10, 2016 at 12:30 pm at Tavistock Country Club. Our speaker will be Brenda Hallahan, CEO of “Kids Alley.” Please contact Pat Woodland at 856-354-8485 for more information.

Haddonfield Presbyterian Women received a bequest from Esther Gray, a former active member of PW. It was her desire to improve the lives of deserving women through education.

PW committed \$2500 per year to support a deserving female student at Urban Promise for at least the next 4 years, with the potential to continue support for post secondary education/training. A freshmen student has been chosen to receive this scholarship. We look forward to developing a relationship with this student.

In addition, Haddonfield PW has given \$2500 to Kiva to provide loans to deserving female applicants. Kiva is a non-profit organization with a mission to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty. Kiva’s work is made possible through an extensive network of microfinance organizations around the world. We have chosen one woman each from Pakistan, Lebanon, the Philippines and Cambodia to receive these loans.



## Third Council of Churches Symposium Scheduled

Our first two Sunday evening symposiums featured our Islamic friend, Dr. Rafi Habib. Our next gathering, scheduled for Sunday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m. (following the Children’s Musical) will host friends from Camden County’s Catholic Charities, individuals who have settled here in recent years as refugees from African and Middle Eastern countries. Please join us for first-hand accounts of journeys to a new life in the United States.



**Laura Colee**  
Director of Christian  
Education

## Christian Education

### VBS Volunteers Needed!!

Vacation Bible School is coming up June 20-24<sup>th</sup> and WE NEED YOUR HELP! If you are interested in helping us make VBS fantastic this year, please contact me, at [lcolee@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:lcolee@haddonfieldpres.org) or sign up in the Parlor!

### VBS REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED

All 75 of our VBS Registration spots are now filled. To get on the VBS **waiting list**, please email me at [lcolee@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:lcolee@haddonfieldpres.org)

### UPCOMING SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

- **Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>** — All Sunday School classes attend class as usual. No First Sunday of the Month Service this month.
- **Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>** — Sunday School Teacher's Breakfast (8:45am) and Last Sunday School Class of the school year.
- **Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>** — Closing Worship — All Sunday School classes meet in the Sanctuary to help lead the closing worship service!

On **Sunday, May 22**, the children of the **Sunday School** will celebrate the end of this 2015-2016 Sunday School year with a closing worship service at 9:30am. The oldest Sunday School classes (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) will help lead worship this day. After worship students will be dismissed for a special treat outside near the playground.

### THANKS 2015-16 SUNDAY SCHOOL TEAM!

This church is blessed with many faithful, thoughtful and talented people who give of their time and many talents to the educational ministry of our faith family. We are grateful for their dedication and constant service.

#### Many thanks to:

**Baptism Class** - Joyce Stout  
**Cradle Roll** – Barbara Field  
**Nursery** – Dotti Peatman, Tori Joubert, Kiara VanderKuip  
**3 & 4 Year Olds** – Kim Hall, Bryn McCullough, Elyse Yerapathruni  
**Kindergarten** – Chuck, Jayne and Jayne Grabowski  
**Grade 1** – Gabrielle Heimerling, Wendy Preihs, Megan Zeigler, Amy Poliero  
**Grade 2** – Aaron Boucher, Allysa Gatti, Tina Edmonston, Grace Elgart

**Grade 3 & 4** – Laura Poliero, Kelly Shirley, Kim Kipers, Trish Adkins

**Grade 3 Communion** – Anne Walters, Maria Watson

**Grades 5 & 6** – Denise and Steve Tucker

**Grades 7 & 8** – Michele Taffet, Jeff VanderKuip, Lee Federline

**Grade 9 Confirmation** – Lee Federline, Lindsay Harris, Holly Robins, Laura Colee

**Adult Faith Formation** – Dan Colombi, Deb Nussbaum, David Stedman, Judy Grantham, Kelly Shirley, Dick Ringenwald, Laura Colee, Laura Poliero, Nancy Ruth Wainwright, Nadia VanderKuip, Becky Bryan, and Lisa and Pete Hurd.

**Sunday School Superintendent** – Olivia Plunkett

**Support** – Betsy Baumhauer and Mike Richardson

In addition, thank you to the many wonderful people who substituted for leaders throughout the year. We are grateful for your service!

### LEAD SUNDAY SCHOOL NEXT YEAR!

We'd love to have you bring your thoughtfulness, your passions, and your creativity to the Sunday School program next school year. If you wish to be a part of the educational team please contact me at [lcolee@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:lcolee@haddonfieldpres.org).

### Summer Adult Education

Mark your calendars for the following **Summer Gatherings!** We will be gathering for a time of fellowship, food, and conversation. We'd love to have you join us on the following days:

- **Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>** at 6:00pm for a cookout at the **VanderKuip House/Manse**
- **Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00pm for a gathering at **Pete and Lisa Hurd's house**
- **Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30pm for a gathering at **Deb Nussbaum's house**

**HELP NEEDED FOR VBS EGYPT**

Help support Vacation Bible School (June 20-24, 2016)

Volunteer:	Donate:
-Shepherds	-Animal Crackers
-Station Leaders	-Goldfish
-Decorators	-Popcorn
-Registration-ers	-Pretzels

Lend: Blankets, Baskets, Egypt decor

**Sign Up in the Parlor to Help VBS!**

## Preschool News



**Barbara Sewall**  
Preschool Director

**"It's May!"**  
**"Flowers are the hieroglyphics of angels"**

—Lydia M. Child

**Flower Sale – May 3 – 5, Come shop in the Courtyard, 9:15 – 3 pm for the best flowers for your yard or as gifts.**

**"Stella & Dot Trunk Jewelry Sale" – May 3, Tues. – Courtyard, Come shop in the Courtyard. 10 am – 2:30 pm while you smell the flowers.**

**Mother's Day Week, May 2 – 6, Each child shares with their Mom during this class time.**

**Class picnics for Nursery School, May 17 – 20**

**4 & 5's Year End Celebration, May 19, AM/PM classes come at 6 pm, Sanctuary**

**Last Class day for school year 2015 – 2016, is May 20**

**SummerSchool:** May 31 Tuesday to June 17, Friday.  
Hours are 9:30 – noon.

Classes are for those children "going into 2 ½ Classes to going into Kindergarten in the school year of 2016 – 2017. Please come to the office for information, or call – 429-0609.

Celebrate Memorial Day with this thought:

**If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.**

**Mother Theresa**



# Mission Opportunities

“Doors Open to His World”

## Last Call for YAV

What is YAV? The Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program is a ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) that sends young adults ages 19-30 into a year of service at one of over 20 partner sites in the United States and around the world. June 1, 2016 is the application deadline for this program year. To apply online or request more information please contact Emily Miller at [emily.miller@pcusa.org](mailto:emily.miller@pcusa.org) or 800-728-7228x5300. Check out the website at [youngadultvolunteers.org](http://youngadultvolunteers.org). Follow “yavprogram” on social media.

## Pentecost Celebrates Gifts of the Spirit

On Pentecost Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, as we come to the end of the Easter season and the beginning of spring, we celebrate the wonderful gifts God has planted within us. The joys of love, music, creativity, nature’s beauty, quiet times and so much more feed our souls. The mission committee encourages everyone to ‘count their blessings’ as we seek ways to help children and youth discover their own gifts and God’s everlasting love. One way is to support PCUSA programs for children and youth through the special offering we will receive on Pentecost. Forty-percent of the donations will go to Kids Alley to provide safe, faith based activities and educational support to children from Camden.

## Items for Migrant Workers Needed

In June 100 hygiene bags will be distributed to the migrant children in Hamonton. Regular sizes of shampoo and deodorant are needed to complete the bags. All donations are greatly appreciated. Leave items in the church office marked “Migrant Children.” Any questions, please contact Neva Bosch: 856-869-3070; email [bosch1136@verizon.net](mailto:bosch1136@verizon.net).

## National Day of Prayer Breakfast

The conversation about the refugee crisis will continue on Thursday, May 5, at the Council of Churches annual National Day of Prayer Breakfast. Gather with others at 8:30 am at the First Baptist Church to hear Dr. Brenda Halliburton-Williams, Director of Christian Ministries to Immigrants and Refugees for the American Baptist Church. Tickets are \$10, and are available in our church office.

# PER CAPITA PAYMENT DUE

This special offering is used to collect the dues our church is required to pay for each communicant member on our rolls. The amount, \$37.00 per member (not per household) is the total obligation our congregation must meet for the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Haddonfield Council of Churches. Please multiply the above amount by the number of confirmed members in your household to calculate your obligation. This offering insures that your regular pledge dollars will be used for other work and programs in our church.

## COME CELEBRATE THE SUCCESS OF THE FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN PACKING EVENT

If you participated on April 8 and 9 by packing meals, greeting, registration, set-up/cleanup or through fundraising or financial support, you know how exciting and satisfying the event was. Here’s an opportunity to keep the momentum going. A meeting to brainstorm how the Haddonfield Council of Churches can move forward in its support of FMSC will be held on Sunday, May 1, 7:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. We will be announcing final tallies of food packed and financial donations collected so far. Hope to see you on May 1 in the Back Board Room on 2R.

## SENIOR MINISTRY

### “An American Journey”

September 6-8, 2016

This is our fall trip to Western Pennsylvania. We’ll tour two Frank Lloyd Wright houses, Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob, enjoy a show, visit Quecreek Mine Rescue site, and, lastly, visit the Flight 93 National Memorial Site.

The cost of \$435. double, includes two nights, two breakfasts, two dinners, one lunch. Deadline for reservations is July 15th. Call Betsy B in the church office for more information.



“Everybody needs  
beauty as well as  
bread, places to play  
in and pray in, where  
nature may heal and  
give strength to body  
and soul.”

—John Muir