

Glad Tidings

hearts open to christ - doors open to his world

First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield • September 2015

Rally Day • September 13

A wonderful time of the year! After a record-breaking (Lily's Lemonade), life-changing (Mission Trip '15), new friend making (VBS) summer, First Presbyterian is ready to embark on another "new year."

Worship returns to the Chapel (8:15) and the Sanctuary (11:00) on the 13th, while the 9:30 hour is devoted to an all-Church breakfast/information gathering/sign-up opportunity—RALLY DAY!!—in Fellowship Hall. Our 9:30 worship will return to the Sanctuary on September 20, which is also the first day of regular Sunday School classes.

Rally Day is a great opportunity to meet church staff as well as active members of our many church mission and fellowship programs. You can sign your children up for Sunday School and choirs. You can learn more about adult study groups. You can get a free breakfast and coffee! Come be part of the happy multitude!



2015-2016 Christian Education Calendar

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| September 13 | Rally Day! All Church Breakfast and Sunday School Registration
9:30-10:30 AM |
| September 19 | Teacher breakfast and orientation
(8-11 AM) |
| September 20 | First day of Sunday School |
| October 18 | Third Grade Bible Sunday,
11 AM Worship |
| November 29 | Advent Festival, PM,
Fellowship Hall |
| December 27 | Happy New Year!
No Sunday School |
| January 24 | Confirmation Class meets with
Session |
| January 31 | Confirmation Class Leads Worship
(8:15, 9:30 and 11 AM) |
| February 14 | Third Grade Communion class
begins |
| March 6 | Third Grade Communion Sunday |



Photos by Joseph Routon



Pastor's Notes

Dear Family of Faith Members,

If you leave our church building by way of either of the two sets of doors in the education building, you will see the beautifully lettered mission statement adopted by our Session: "Hearts Open to Christ —Doors Opening to His World." The words are appropriately placed as a reminder that as we leave church we carry Christ with us into his world.

Rev. Bill Getman
Senior Pastor

Worship in this new church year will focus on the two parts of our mission statement. From September through December we will reflect on how we are called to keep our hearts open to a deepening relationship with Christ. And then from January through the spring we will examine how we most faithfully fulfill the call to carry the gospel beyond the church and welcome friends into our community of faith.

Each Monday Rachel or I will send by way of email a summary of the previous day's message or a particular quote that captures our time of reflection together. Music, education opportunities and other activities will be planned to nurture our growth as a family of faith in Christ's name and as Christ's witnesses.

Please give us feedback, and offer your ideas and suggestions. But most importantly, share in this season in the life of our church, as we seek to have open hearts and doors. And thank you for being part of a community of faith open to new ways to love and serve God.

In Christ's peace,

Bill

Glad Tidings

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POSTMASTER Please send address changes to First Presbyterian Church, 20 Kings Highway E., Haddonfield, NJ 08033.

David Rhody Retires

After more than five decades of faithful service to our church family, David Rhody has decided to retire as our Chapel organist.

Plans are being made for a time in the fall to honor David and celebrate his wonderful ministry of music in our midst.

Ted Barr will be expanding his responsibilities and joining us at the 8:15 service in the Chapel.



Rachel Rhodes
Associate Pastor

YOUTH MINISTRY

There are some big changes happening in Youth Group this year! A time change, new t-shirts, and a kick-off you won't want to miss! Come check us out on Rally Day (Sunday, September 13th) for all the details!

And don't forget to FOLLOW us on Instagram & Twitter! @FPCH_youth

** If you would like to receive regular updates about Youth Group events, please send your name and e-mail address to Rachel Rhodes at rrhodes@haddonfieldpres.org

PW THANK OFFERING

The Thank Offering has long been a tradition of Presbyterian Women. In 1888 members were asked to give a gift in addition to their regular contribution as a "thank offering to the Lord." Members were encouraged to express their gratitude by "giving as they are blessed." A day for prayer and thanksgiving, usually in the fall, was set aside to receive the special offering.

The Thank Offering continues to be an important part of PW giving. Each year domestic and international projects are selected by the Creative Ministries Offering Committee to help meet crucial needs. Projects must meet certain criteria and must be consistent with the concerns and policies of the church. The purpose must meet basic human needs and provide aid directly related to the people served. At least forty percent of the Thank Offering funds go to health related projects

This year twenty-two of the thirty-two project grants will go to ministries in our country including four in Pennsylvania. In Newton, Pennsylvania, funds will be used to install a furnace and renovate a transitional residence for those leaving homeless shelters. We are grateful to be a part of this worthy project.



An Invitation from Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women invite all women of our church to join in the group's activities as the new season begins in September. Presbyterian Women is the national organization of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

The fourfold purpose of PW states that members nurture their faith through prayer and Bible studies, support the church's mission worldwide, work for justice and peace, and build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom.

Our PW is made up of four Circles which meet monthly (two in the morning, one in the afternoon and one in the evening) for fellowship, Bible

studies, and community service. Volunteers give their time and talents to the Women's Jail Ministry, to the Presbyterian Coffee Project and to the yearly Strawberry Festival. Other activities include sewing, filling, and distributing cloth bags which contain personal grooming items for children of migrant workers, sewing clothing and knitting for worthy groups, leading worship on Women's Sunday, and donating to local and global projects.

A highlight of the monthly Circle meetings is the *PW/Horizons* Bible study. The study selected this year, *Come to the Waters*, focuses on the role water has played in the Biblical stories, from creation in Genesis to the River of Life in Revelation. Among other things, we will discuss the symbolism of water and the connection between water and the spirit.

To learn more about our Presbyterian Women, contact our Membership Chair, Carol Carty at 856-858-6442. Carol will be happy to answer your questions, suggest a Circle which will

fit your needs, or help you to organize a new Circle.

Come to the PW table on Rally Day (September 13) to talk with members of PW and to see some of our activities displayed at that time. If you cannot fit another meeting into your busy schedule, please consider becoming a supporting member.

Circle leaders will also be available to answer any questions you may have: Circle 1, Sue Smith (546-8482) and Esther Gauntt (429-2616); Circle 2, Vetti Thomas (429-4688); Circle 3, Neva Bosch (869-3070); Circle 4 Joan Walden (429-0658) and Maggie Sell (609-922-3627).

Circles 1,2 and 3 will have their first meeting of the new season on September 15; Circle 4 will start their season on October 12 at 7:45 in the evening.

Presbyterian Women invite you to expand your horizons. Join in the fellowship and camaraderie which comes with PW membership.



Peter Leibensperger
Music Director

MUSIC MINISTRY

On behalf of First Presbyterian Church, I'd like to welcome you and your family to another season of worshipping God through making music. Regardless of your age and musical background, you can be sure that there is a place for you in one of our many musical ensembles. Newcomers are most welcome, and no audition is necessary. Simply contact me at 610-301-2776 with any questions regarding your or your child's participation. Please see the schedule below to find the beginning dates and times so that you will make that all-important first rehearsal. (The schedule listed in August's Glad Tidings had a few mistakes and omissions in it.)

2015-2016 Choir Rehearsal Schedule

<u>CHOIR</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Cherub	4 and 5 year olds	Wed., 9/16; 3:45-4:25	2RDreamcatchers
Carol	Grades 1-2	Wed., 9/16; 4:30-5:15	2RDreamcatchers
Chapel	Grades 3-6	Wed., 9/16; 3:45-4:30	Choir Room
Alleluia Bells	Grades 4-6	Wed., 9/16; 4:30-5:15	Handbell Room
Whitechapel Bells	Grades 7-8	Wed., 9/16; 5:30-6:15	Handbell Room
Thomas Sherrerd Memorial Choir	Grades 7-12	Wed., 9/16; 6:45-7:30	Choir Room
Kirk Ringers	Grades 9-12	Wed., 9/16; 7:30-8:30	Handbell Room
Moore Bells	Adults	Thurs., 9/17; 6:30-7:30	Handbell Room
Chancel Choir	Adults	Thurs., 9/17; 7:30-9:30	Choir Room

Chancel Choir Retreat!

On September 12th, the Chancel Choir will kick off their season in the (air-conditioned) choir room at the Lutheran Church (204 Wayne Avenue). Please arrive no later than 9:50am so that we can begin our activities at 10am. We will end our retreat before 3pm. I will send out an email to get a headcount and recruit people to bring food soon, so please be on the look out!

We need choir parents for the fall!

Although most parents find the job to be a relatively easy and enjoyable one, I can tell you personally that Choir Parents are a huge part of what makes our dynamic music program possible here at First Pres. Any adult interested in assisting us as a choir parent for one of the children choirs is invited to contact me, Peter Leibensperger, at 610-301-2776.

Rally Day on September 13th!

Please swing by the Music Table on Rally day to meet Nancy Ruth Wainwright and me to get more information regarding the music program here at First Presbyterian Church, and to fill out an enrollment form for your child.

SENIOR MINISTRY

Harps for Healing

Join us on Wednesday, September 9 at 1:00 pm in the Sanctuary for a beautiful program by Madeleine Doherty's *Harps for Healing* sponsored by the Senior Ministry. Ms. Doherty is from Ireland and travels the East Coast promoting her program. Come experience the healing sound of the harp and Madeleine's unique combination of voice, harp and folklore.

"Inspire" at the American Music Theatre

Now's the time to sign up for this wonderful show where music will fire up the imagination with the power to uplift, enchant and inspire. Wednesday, October 7. Cost is \$85 which includes lunch at Hershey Farm Restaurant.

Medicare Program - October 21, 1 PM in the Parlor.

Celisse Lundy from Senior Insurance Resources will once again help you explore the different insurance options for those on Medicare.

A Slice of Brooklyn Pizza Bus Tour

is a 4.5 hours audio/visual bus tour that explores the food, history, landmarks and famous movie locations in Brooklyn with two stops for Pizza and Soda. The date is November 7, and the cost is \$110.

Parish Register

Joined the Church
 Triumphant

Thelma R. Hall
 August 6

Christian Education



Our Summer Worship Schedule continues through Sunday, September 6, with worship at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The nursery and Children's Church will be available.

**SAVE THE DATE
for RALLY DAY —
Sunday, September
13th at 9:30 a.m.!**

Sunday School Registration and an All-Church Breakfast will be held at 9:30AM in Fellowship Hall. Tables set up around the room will showcase our many mission, fellowship and educational opportunities.

NINTH GRADERS: Confirmation Class participants and their parents will register in Fellowship Hall on Rally Day, Sept. 13, and then meet with teachers Lee Federline, Laura Colee, and pastor Bill Getman at 10AM in the manse for orientation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

If you are feeling called to become more involved in our church community, please consider serving as a Sunday School Teacher. We especially need teachers to lead 2nd and 4th grade classes. If you are interested in finding out more about teaching Sunday School, please email me at lcolee@haddonfieldpres.org

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS – Sunday, September 27th – 9:30 and 11

We invite all students and teachers to bring backpacks, briefcases and school bags to our 9:30 and 11AM Blessing of the Backpacks services on Sunday, September 27th. We will pray for students and teachers as they begin their school years.

PW Fall Gathering Oct. 17

The Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Woman will be held in Trinity Church, Cherry Hill. Maggie Lewis of the New York Presbytery will speak about her experiences as a representative to the Women's Global Exchange trip in the Caribbean last year.

Preschool News



Barbara Sewall
Preschool Director

**Every blade of grass has its angel that bends
over it and whispers,**

“Grow... Grow...Grow.”

Talmud

Pretending a beginning

Pretending an ending

Pretending a stretching

Pretending a blending

Pretending a flowering

Pretending a surprise

Pretending a coping

Pretending a disguise

Pretending - a trying the world on for size!

Jean Warren

September 11th is Visitation Day for those children and parents enrolled for the year 2015- 2016. Check your class visiting times as listed in your mailings.

There are still some class openings available for the coming year. Spread the word, tell your neighbors, call the Preschool Office, 856-429-0609.

- First week of school is September 14 – 18.
- Body Works / Step Exercise Classes, sponsored by the Preschool begins September 14th, Fellowship Hall, 9:15 am. Babysitting is available. Stop by the Preschool Office for information or call Sue Heindel, 428-6641.
- **2016 – 2017 Preschool Registrations for church members during the months of August & September.**
- **45th Anniversary of Nursery School**

Sept. 27 PRESCHOOL SUNDAY – “Blessing of the Back Packs”
Children, bring your backpacks ; adults, bring your brief cases, iPads, or pocket calendars. These items will receive special prayers for your year ahead.

Minute for Mission

Remember to bring your food donations for St. Wilfrid's and New Visions. Any non-perishable food items are constantly needed. Suggested items include: pasta, pasta sauce, applesauce, peanut butter, canned tuna, beans (both

canned and dried), rice, soup, and macaroni and cheese.

Also remember that the Women's Prison Ministry is collecting 2016 calendars as well as note paper and greeting cards. Contributions may be left in the mission closet.

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PERIODICAL

Interfaith Caregivers' Holiday House Tour Will Include Our Sanctuary

Advent Season will be especially “special” this year as we welcome the community to visit our Sanctuary during the IFC Tour on Thursday, Dec. 10. If you would like to help defray the cost of freshening and upgrading our Advent decorations, please send your contribution to the church office with a memo “for Advent decor.” More information on the event will be in the Oct. *Glad Tidings*. Thank you.



Photo by Joseph Routon