

THE FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH IN  
GERMANTOWN

SPECIAL DATES  
OF  
INTEREST:

•Sunday

June 2

Bread and Cup  
4:00 PM

•Wednesday

June 5

Session  
7:00 PM

•Sunday

June 9

Deacons' Day  
Reception of new  
members  
10:00 AM

Deacons' Brunch  
11:30 AM

•Sunday

June 16

Father's Day  
Worship Celebrating  
The Gifts of Men  
10:00 AM

• Congregational  
Conversations

June 13 7:00 PM

June 19 7:00 PM

June 21 7:00 PM  
(Youth)

June 23 12:00 PM

June 25 7:00 PM

June 30 12:00 PM

# WINDOWS

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2013

## From The Pastor

Dear Friends,

A couple of months ago the Church of Jesus Christ on earth lost a giant of our faith, but the Heavenly Church of Jesus Christ gained a new member. Gordon Cosby, minister and founder of Church of the Savior in Washington D. C., died at the age of 95. I had the opportunity to sit with Gordon on three different occasions and when you sat with him and listened to him speak, you felt though you were listening to Jesus. Others in our congregation have had the opportunity to sit in a room with Gordon as well when they attended one of the *City of God* conferences in Washington D. C. You couldn't have such an experience without coming away moved and filled with a message. Usually his message contained a warning that you should be careful not to lose the "essence of the Christian faith." The "essence" for him was about taking on the very nature of Jesus. I have never met a person who could do that more than Gordon Cosby.

The Church of the Savior is unique. It is not a church as we think of it but one made up of multiple small congregations that all have ministries. One web page lists 39 independent minis-

tries still functioning that were begun out of the Church of the Savior. This church reflected Gordon and his commitment to living like Christ. One person wrote: "Something about Gordon's passion, his willingness to take risks, his determination to do something rather than nothing about the wrongs of our society, his always wanting to figure out how to do it more effectively and in more Christ-like ways, his doggedness to get past symptoms to the heart of the matter – all this inspired others to step out and give themselves wholeheartedly to the passion calling them."

The ministries associated with Gordon and the Church of the Savior include Columbia Road Health Services which is a street clinic serving the Latino community. Across the street is Christ House, a medical facility for the homeless. Christ has inspired Joseph's House for men with AIDS, which in turn gave birth to Miriam's House, for women and children with AIDS. There is also Kairos House for people who come from Christ House and are ready for independent living. In addition there are ministries like Jubilee Housing which provides apartments for low-

income people by purchasing and renovating apartment buildings. Jubilee Jobs is a training and job placement service. The Sitar Center for the Arts, one of the newest ministries, provides arts enrichment for community children and their families. The list goes on and on with ministries that serve the community.

Some have said that Gordon Cosby and the Church of the Savior have had a greater impact on the Protestant church in America over the past 50 years than any other institution or movement. In a time when Christians tend to be categorized as evangelical or progressive, conservative or liberal, neither Gordon nor the Church of the Savior, could easily be given any of those labels. He was a passionate follower of Jesus, and his church mirrored that. Gordon Cosby was focused on Jesus and sought to live deeply in Christ. May we all learn from Gordon Cosby!

See you in Church!

*Nancy*

## Congregational Conversations



During the month of June, six different opportunities will be provided for the congregation to participate in group conversations on First Church being a community of

faith. These conversations will be facilitated by the consultant working with our congregation, the Reverend Paul Rhebergen, and will each last approximately two hours. One of the discussions will be exclu-

sively for our youth.

All members of the congregation are encouraged to sign up for one of the conversations during coffee hour on June 2nd, 9th, or 16th. Watch for additional information in the Sunday bulletins.

## Deacons' Day

Make sure to respond to your deacon's invitation to attend Deacons' Day on June 9. The worship service will celebrate FPCG's deacons, our leaders in the ministry of compassion. Each deacon will then host the members on their care list during the brunch that follows. It's the perfect time to share how the church can better support you, or say "thank you" for the support you and your family may have already received because of the deacons of First Church. There's a \$5 suggested donation for the brunch.

## June - Challenge Offering FPCG Deacons

The June Challenge Offering supports the work of the deacons of FPCG. The deacons are our congregation's leaders in the ministry of caring and compassion to our members. Together, they deliver flowers and bulletins weekly to our sick and shut-in members, provide van transportation for worship and special

services, and oversee the greeters who are the first face of hospitality worship attendees see. Through the coordination of parish visitor Heidi Mercado Littles and Reverend Kevin Porter, each deacon has primary responsibility for communicating with several families of the church in order to provide pastoral care in times

of celebration, crisis and/or need. Your generous contributions will enable the deacons to respond to members' needs in challenging financial situations and extend meaningful gestures of support and hospitality to members and neighbors alike.

## Financial Reports

FPCG Finances through  
April 2013

Inc. \$265,752.00  
Exp. \$339,057.00  
Net -\$73,305.00

### April

*Challenge Offering*  
supporting  
Heeding God's Call  
raised \$577.00

### June Community Outreach

Why Not Prosper  
\$1,000.00

Breakthrough of  
Greater Philadelphia  
\$2,250.00

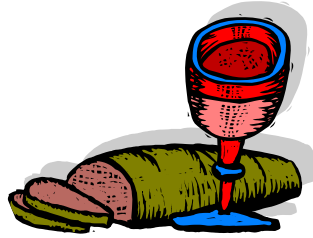
Deadline for the  
Summer (July & August)  
edition of

## WINDOWS

Friday, June 14, 2013

Email your articles to  
FPCG.Germantown@gmail.com

## Gospel Choir at Bread and Cup



FPCG's own Gospel Choir will be the headliners of the June 2 Bread and Cup Coffeehouse from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. If you've ever wanted to hear them in concert,

here's your chance! Also, although the choir may need no introduction to those of us who've been blessed by their contribution to our worship, this is a wonderful opportunity to introduce them to your friends and neighbors who may worship elsewhere, or those who don't have a church home. In addition

to the gospel choir, we'll have our time of open microphone for others to share their performing arts gifts, and a hospitality table to receive your culinary arts gifts. This is the last Bread and Cup until the fall, so bring a friend or make a new one at Bread and Cup!

## Summer Adult Education Series

Is there anything unique about the way Presbyterians view the Bible? If so, why do we believe what we believe? What do Presbyterians believe anyway? Beginning June 16 at 11:30, you can explore these and other questions with Reverend Porter as he launches a seven-week series *Theology for Presbyterians*. The first week will be a brief overview of the Presbyterian Church—its history, governance, and core beliefs. The following six weeks will focus on the theology of the Presbyterian Church using “Being Re-

formed: Faith Seeking Understanding,” an adult Christian education curriculum especially designed for Presbyterians.

The study is designed to engage “head, heart, and hands” as it seeks to stretch our minds, stir our emotions, and call us to action in ways that enrich our faith. The topics of each week will be:

June 16

*What it means to be Presbyterian*

June 23

*The Bible for Presbyterians*

June 30

*God for Presbyterians*

July 7

*Jesus Christ for Presbyterians*

July 14

*The Holy Spirit for Presbyterians*

July 21

*The Church for Presbyterians*

July 28

*The Future for Presbyterians*

Please contact Reverend Porter if you would like to attend or if you have questions. Then plan on bringing your second cup from coffee hour with you to the air-conditioned Jennings Room for this summer series.

## SUMMER CHOIR

Beginning Sunday, June 9, 2013, Summer Choir will begin. The music will be quite a bit easier for the Summer months. Come and join us when you can. Rehearsals begin at 8:45 AM each Sunday to prepare the music for that day.



For more information, contact David Daugherty at the church 215-843-8811, Ex. 21.

## PRESBYTERIAN NIGHT

at the



PRESBYTERY of PHILADELPHIA

The Philadelphia Presbytery invites you to a night at the *please touch museum* on Thursday, June 20, 6:00 – 9:00 PM.

Come see what is happening at the *please touch museum* at its new location in

Fairmount Park.

This event is open to all ages. Take the kids or see for yourself how much fun they have been having without you!

Tickets are an unbelievable \$12.50 which includes free

parking, a \$5.00 food voucher and unlimited carousel rides.

For more information visit the Presbytery's website at [www.presbyterianPTMnight.eventbrite.com](http://www.presbyterianPTMnight.eventbrite.com) or see Dani Howard at coffee hour.

## An Afternoon at the Theater



Join the Congregational Development and Fellowship Committee for a day in Lancaster, Saturday, October 12, for a performance of the musical *Noah* at the Sight & Sound Theatre. *Noah* begins

at 1:00PM and will be followed by dinner (family style or buffet) at a location to be announced later. Tickets are limited! Make your reservation now with a \$10.00 per ticket deposit. Ticket price

es: Adults - \$85.00, Teens - \$55.00, Children - \$40.00. Transportation will be provided. **Ticket sales end Sunday, June 22.** See Dani Howard at coffee hour or email her at [danihoward@verizon.net](mailto:danihoward@verizon.net) for more information.





## Happy Birthday

### Coming This Fall Men's Breakfast

The Christian Education Committee wants to sponsor a breakfast for the men of First Church this fall, but we need a core group of men to help with planning the theme, the speaker and the menu. If you are interested, please let Christian Heyer-Rivera know. (267-972-5662 or christianhey-er@yahoo.com)

## June

- |    |                       |    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 3  | <i>Clotilde Sekpe</i> | 22 | <i>Kit Clever</i>     |
| 4  | <i>John Roberts</i>   | 25 | <i>Dave Wolford</i>   |
| 10 | <i>Gail Hill</i>      | 26 | <i>Bette Young</i>    |
| 13 | <i>Mary Smith</i>     | 27 | <i>Jason Williams</i> |
| 14 | <i>Norma Kilson</i>   | 30 | <i>Arnez Andrews</i>  |
| 19 | <i>Robert Swenson</i> |    | <i>Ian Burton</i>     |

## Property and Personnel Update

The Property and Personnel Committees have selected a final candidate for the Facilities Manager to replace Terry Boyer following his retirement. Reference checks, a physical examination and police background

checks are being completed prior to the June meeting of the Session.

Our part time sexton, Harold Whaley, will be returning to his position from successful surgery. Illya Pasture and Valient Solomon are serving as sextons

on a part time basis.

On May 13<sup>th</sup> Harry Watkins was released of his responsibilities as a sexton for cause. In order to protect the privacy rights of Mr. Watkins, we are unable to discuss the details of this matter.

## Presbyterian Youth Triennium (PYT) Updates

### Mother's Day Fundraiser:

With the generous help of many FPCG members, our PYT participants were able to raise over \$575 toward their registration fees. We want to thank everyone who supported our trip in this way. We hope that you and the women you love enjoyed both the flowers and the sweets!

Two New PYT Par-

ticipants: As you will recall, Kristina Ohemeng, Matthew Reisse, and Lunden Lewis have signed up to go to the PYT this summer. We are happy to announce that two new participants will be joining us as well on our trip this July. Annie and Marie Clare Kamsi, two sisters who are close friends of the Ohe-

meng family, will be attending the PYT through our congregation. We welcome them and celebrate that we are now bringing a total of five young people to experience this exciting opportunity for faith development. Please pray for all our participants and those who will lead this Triennium.

—Christian Heyer-Rivera



## STORMY WEATHER

June marks the beginning of the thunderstorm season in parts of the United States and the beginning of hurricane season in the North Atlantic. This month's column focuses on books featuring nature's mighty storms and their accoutrements—thunder, lightning, wind, and rain.

The titles listed are for  
Grades K-5.

**Happy Reading!**  
**Deborah Thompson**

# Children's Book Spot

- Bodden, Valerie. *Hurricanes*. Creative Education, 2012.
- Branley, Franklyn M. *Down Comes the Rain*.  
Illustrated by James Graham Hale. HarperCollins, 1997.
- Branley, Franklyn M. *Flash, Crash, Rumble and Roll*.  
Illustrated by True Kelly. HarperCollins, 1999.
- Branley, Franklyn M. *Hurricane Watch*.  
Illustrated by Giulio Maestro. Harper Trophy, 1987.
- Branley, Franklyn M. *Tornado Alert*.  
Illustrated by Giulio Maestro. HarperCollins, 1990.
- Carson, Mary Kay. *Inside Hurricanes*. Sterling, 2010.
- Carson, Mary Kay. *Inside Tornadoes*. Sterling, 2011.
- Carson, Mary Kay. *Inside Weather*. Sterling, 2010.
- Cole, Joanna. *The Magic School Bus Inside a Hurricane*.  
Illustrated by Bruce Degen. Scholastic, 1995.
- Dorros, Arthur. *Feel the Wind*. HarperCollins, 1990.
- Fradin, Judith & Dennis. *Tornado! The Story behind These Twisting, Turning, Spinning, and Spiraling Storms*. National Geographic, 2011.
- Fradin, Judith & Dennis. *Witness to Disaster: Hurricanes*.  
National Geographic, 2007.
- Gibbons, Gail. *Hurricanes*. Holiday House, 2009.
- Gibbons, Gail. *Tornadoes*. Holiday House, 2010.
- Gibbons, Gail. *Weather Forecasting*. Aladdin Books, 1993.
- Kramer, Stephen P. *Lightning*. Illustrated by Warren Faidley.  
First Avenue Books, 1992.
- Lauber, Patricia. *Hurricanes: Earth's Mightiest Storms*. Scholastic, 1996.
- McMillan, Bruce. *The Weather Sky*. FSG, 1991.
- Mogil, H. Michael & Barbara G. Levine. *Extreme Weather*.  
Simon & Schuster, 2011.
- Sherman, Josepha. *Splish! Splash! A Book about Rain*.  
Picture Window Books, 2006.
- Simon, Seymour. *Hurricanes*. HarperCollins, 2003.
- Simon, Seymour. *Lightning*. Morrow, 1997.
- Simon, Seymour. *Storms*. Morrow, 1990.
- Simon, Seymour. *Tornadoes*. Morrow, 1999.
- Simon, Seymour. *Weather*. Morrow, 1993.
- Stewart, Melissa. *Inside Lightning*. Sterling, 2011.
- Thomas, Rick. *Eye of the Storm: A Book about Hurricanes*.  
Illustrated by Denise Shea. Picture Window Books, 2006.
- Thomas, Rick. *Rumble, Boom: A Book about Thunderstorms*.  
Illustrated by Denise Shea. Picture Window Books, 2006.

# June 2013

**1 Saturday**

8:15 am Keystone State Boychoir  
 9:30 am Congregational Development & Fellowship  
 10:00 am Open Gym

**2 Sunday**

8:45 am Summer Choir  
 9:40 am Power of Prayer-Westside Room  
 10:00 am Worship Service  
 11:10 am Children's Choir  
 11:30 am New Members' Lunch  
 11:30 am Confirmation Class  
 11:30 am Sunday School  
 11:30 am Adult Bible Study  
 11:30 am Gospel Choir  
 1:15 pm Basketball  
 4:00 pm Bread and Cup

**3 Monday**

**4 Tuesday**

9:30 am Classic Towns

**5 Wednesday**

4:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir  
 6:30 pm Line Dancing  
 7:00 pm Session

**6 Thursday**

6:00 pm Gospel Choir  
 7:30 pm Voices-in-Bronze

**7 Friday**

12:00 pm Gaudenzia House Banquet  
 2:30 pm Drop-in-Center  
 6:30 pm Elementary School Youth Group

**8 Saturday**

8:15 am Keystone State Boychoir  
 10:00 am Open Gym

**9 Sunday**

**Deacons' Day**

8:45 am Summer Choir  
 9:00 am Session Meeting  
 9:40 am Power of Prayer-Westside Room  
 10:00 am Worship Service  
 10:00 am Reception of New Members  
 11:10 am Children's Choir  
 11:30 am Deacons' Brunch  
 11:30 am Confirmation Class  
 11:30 am Sunday School  
 11:30 am Adult Bible Study  
 1:15 pm Basketball

**10 Monday**

**11 Tuesday**

**12 Wednesday**

4:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir  
 6:30 pm Line Dancing  
 6:30 pm Christian Education Committee  
 6:30 pm GACM Board Meeting

**13 Thursday**

7:00 pm Congregational Conversations

**14 Friday**

2:30 pm Drop-in-Center

**15 Saturday**

8:15 am Keystone State Boychoir  
 10:00 am Open Gym

**16 Sunday**

8:45 am Summer Choir  
 9:40 am Power of Prayer-Westside Room  
 10:00 am Worship Service  
 11:10 am Children's Choir  
 11:30 am Confirmation Class  
 11:30 am Sunday School  
 11:30 am Adult Bible Study  
 1:15 pm Basketball

**Gifts of Men Sunday**

**17 Monday**

**18 Tuesday**

**19 Wednesday**

4:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir  
 6:30 pm Line Dancing  
 7:00 pm Congregational Conversations  
 7:00 pm Property Committee

**20 Thursday**

6:00 pm Administration and Finance Committee  
 7:30 pm Voices-in-Bronze

**21 Friday**

2:30 pm Drop-in-Center  
 6:30 pm Middle School Youth Group  
 7:00 pm Congregational Conversations-Youth

**22 Saturday**

10:00 am Open Gym

**23 Sunday**

8:45 am Summer Choir  
 9:40 am Power of Prayer-Westside Room  
 10:00a m Worship Service  
 11:10 am Children's Choir  
 11:30 am Confirmation Class  
 11:30 am Sunday School  
 11:30 am Adult Bible Study  
 12:00 pm Congregational Conversation  
 1:15 pm Basketball

**24 Monday**

8:00 am Freedom School  
 7:00 pm Evangelism Committee

**25 Tuesday**

8:00 am Freedom School  
 7:00 pm Congregational Conversations

**26 Wednesday**

8:00 am Freedom School  
 6:00 pm Mission and Outreach Committee  
 6:30 pm Line Dancing

**27 Thursday**

8:00 am Freedom School  
 7:00 pm Germantown Community Connection

**28 Friday**

8:00 am Freedom School  
 2:30 pm Drop-in-Center  
 6:30 pm High School Youth Group  
 7:00 pm Leadership Retreat

**29 Saturday**

9:00 am Leadership Retreat  
 9:00 am Reader's Choice  
 10:00 am Open Gym

**30 Sunday**

**Celebration Sunday**

8:45 am Summer Choir  
 9:40 am Power of Prayer-Westside Room  
 10:00a m Worship Service  
 11:10 am Children's Choir  
 11:30 am Confirmation Class  
 11:30 am Sunday School  
 11:30 am Adult Bible Study  
 12:00 pm Congregational Conversation  
 1:15 pm Basketball

# Summer Events

## Young Adults and Families:

Watch for weekly announcements in our worship bulletin for upcoming events for Young Adults and Families throughout the summer. A young men's fellowship time of appetizers at a local restaurant and a card playing night are in the works, as well as our summer fruit picking trips for all ages, camping, beach trips, and other fun events all designed to bring us together to share our lives and encourage each other in our faith.

## 18U Summer Basketball League

Our church will be sponsoring a summer basketball team with a league at the Ardmore Avenue Community Center in Ardmore, PA. The season begins Monday, June 17. If you know any young person (15-18 years old) interested in participating, please have him call Christian Heyer-Rivera at 267-972-5662 or email [christianaheyer@yahoo.com](mailto:christianaheyer@yahoo.com) to obtain a permission slip and registration forms.

For all our faithful fans, please show your support to our young people by attending the games. Look for our game schedule in the weekly worship bulletin announcements. Please pray for the relationships our coaches and members will build with our players, the competition, and those who run the league.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



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