

THE FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN
GERMANTOWN

SPECIAL DATES
OF
INTEREST:

•Wednesday
October 2
Session
7:00 PM

•Sunday
October 6

World Communion
Worship
10:00 AM
Bread and Cup
4:00 PM

•Saturday
October 12
Cherry Crest
Adventure Farm
Trip
9:30 AM

•Saturday
October 19
Yard Sale
9:00 AM

•Thursday
October 24
City of God
Conference
10:30 AM

•Sunday
October 27
IHN
Moves In

WINDOWS

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 9

OCTOBER 2013

From The Pastor

Dear Friends,

The devotion I shared with elders at the September Session meeting focused on 1st Corinthians 13:4-7:

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

We often hear these verses spoken at weddings as the newlyweds are instructed on how they should act as they build and grow their relationship together. However, these words are not just for married couples, but they were originally written by the apostle Paul to the church in Corinth instructing the readers on how they are to interact with one another.

To help our church elders appreciate the importance of Paul's teaching, I had them do an exercise where they read the passage out loud, but instead of saying "love," they were to say their own names. I invite you to try this as well. Read the following out loud and wherever there is a blank line say your name:

___ is patient; ___ is kind; ___ is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. ___ does not insist on her/his own way; ___ is not irritable or resentful; ___ does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ___ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

How did that feel? Which characteristic of love did you find most difficult for you? It takes a great deal of effort on our part to love in the fashion that Paul lays out for us, but

according to Paul, as he ends this chapter in his first letter to the church in Corinth love is the most important part of being a follower of Jesus Christ. He writes: *Faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.*

Surely faith and trust in Jesus Christ are very important as we live as his disciples. The hope we are to have in the promises of God for us is something we need to always hold on to. Yes, Paul tells us that these are very important, but the greatest is love. We are taught to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." May we be more loving in our living!

See you in church!

Nancy

October Challenge Offering

Challenge Offering

August
supporting
Athletes in Action
raised \$ 1,500.00

Community Outreach October

Breakthrough of
Greater Philadelphia
\$2,250.00

Center in the Park
\$2,500.00



GIVE the gift of PEACE.

Support the Peacemaking Offering with a generous and loving gift today

Presbyterian Peacemaking Offering is our Challenge Offering recipient for the month of October. Without a doubt, our world is in need of peace. On our streets and in our communities, within our households and in our relationships, within groups and between factions, among nations and

within the whole global community, we need peace. Stark reminders of our need for peace confront us every day, calling us to act and inviting us to engage in the work and witness of peacemaking. The Presbyterian Peacemaking Offering provides a concrete way for all of us to contribute to the work of peace-

making. A portion of the offering goes to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), a portion goes to the Presbytery of Philadelphia and a portion remains here at The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown. "Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways." (2 Thessalonians 3:16)



Bread and Cup



Sunday, October 6

4:00 PM

Welcome to Jesse Jacobs our Building Superintendent! Mr. Jacobs comes to our church with over twenty-four years experience and a comprehensive background in building management and building systems operations.

“You know I’ve only been here a few months,” he said, “but really I feel I’ve been at The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown almost forever!”

In just a short period of time, Jesse has begun to tackle a number of repair and cleaning projects and we hope you take notice! He and his team JR and Whaley are working diligently to provide all who enter our church with a welcoming and comfortable environment.

—The Property Committee

Our Beautiful Church Gardens

For those of you that park in the west lot and enter the rear door, you are missing a wonderful opportunity to see how beautiful the church gardens and plantings along Chelton Avenue and the office walkway have been transformed.

For those of you who park in the other lot or in the street, make sure you take in both planting areas along the front of the church as well. You undoubtedly have seen the transformation of the gardens on either side of the office entrance walkway.

How does this happen? Do magical elves come in at night and do this? Well, maybe. Our church has been blessed over many years by members who feel called to tend for these gardens. Just as flowers come and go, these members have moved on and new ones replace them. Currently Ann Reisse and Disk Liberty have been providing many hours of labor and care to this task.

Dick has coordinated the plantings in the front of the church along with the plot near the west parking lot drive. Ann had focused on the office walkway plantings and has resurrected this to be a very inviting entranceway to our church.

Around the sign in the front of the primary room invasive growths, including poison ivy, had taken over. Thanks to Jesse Jacobs, our new Facilities Superintendent, the clearing of that area was arranged as a community service project. Until spring, this part will be mulched and tended to insure that the invasive growth has been eliminated; look for something new in the spring.

In addition to taking time to look at these areas, take the opportunity to thank Ann and Dick for their efforts as well.

—The Property Committee

Dinners For Eight

If you want to get to know other members of our congregation and share a good meal, this is just the opportunity for you. We are going to start Dinners for Eight again and have them the third weekend of every month. Dinners for Eight are held at someone's home on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday (Sunday could be brunch). Each person attending contributes to the meal, from the main course to a side dish, salad, dessert, bread or beverage. If you are interested in hosting a dinner at your home or would like to be a guest, please let Susan Mills Farrington know by email, smfarrington@verizon.net or call 215-882-2792. In October the dates will be the 18th through the 20th, and in November the dates will be the 15th through 17th.



PRISM



Does racism exist in The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown? Before you answer the question, think about it? I'm not asking if it's as blatant as "whites only pews" or "blacks only entrances," but are people in the congregation treated differently because of their race? This was a question that was asked during one of our PRISM meetings this past Spring. After a thought provoking first year in 2012, over one dozen members and friends of The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown returned to the group eager to continue the ongoing discussion about race. PRISM's mission is to insure that Christian principles and insights are used as we:

1. Understand racism and its manifestations in everyday life
2. Apply this knowledge to specific situations inside and outside our lives at The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown.
3. Equip ourselves to recognize and challenge racism and develop multicultural diversity in our church and community.

PRISM just completed our first quarter that consisted of a four session discussion using *Sojourner's* "Christian and Racial Justice" guide. Each month, the group was given three articles to read and a list of questions we would answer, with regards to the articles, during our next session. As we move forward, we will utilize multiple resources, including guest facilitators, to guide discussions as we dive into racism in the media, politics, and even entertainment. Is it an easy conversation? No, but I believe, with a multi-cultured congregation, the conversation is necessary. James Baldwin said, "Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed unless it is faced." By continuing to have this discussion and deep rooting ourselves in the same love and understanding that Christ has called us to have, the flame that is racism can be extinguished.



Apple Picking-Sunday, October 6

Come, join us on Sunday, October 6 for a fun time of apple picking at Barnard's Orchard in Kenneth Square. We will meet at the church at 1:30 PM and will leave at 2:00 PM sharp. We will pick, have dinner together (bring money or a packed meal) and then return to the church by 6:30 PM.

If you need a ride, please contact Christian Heyer-Rivera at 267-972-5662. Transportation for the first fourteen people on the minibus will be \$5 per person. Any additional persons after the first fourteen will need to pay \$15 per person as we will need to acquire an additional vehicle and driver.

This will be our last fruit picking trip until next spring, so please join us!

2013 Church Scholarship Fund Awards



The General Scholarship Fund is a designated part of the General Purpose Fund of the church endowment. "Designated" means that these funds were donated to our church with a specific identified usage - to support scholarships for people affiliated with our church. This program has been in existence for more than forty years with awards being made each year from the earnings generated that year by the fund. This year, \$5950 was available for awards. Traditionally, the awards are for college level studies.

Each year, in the May time frame, information about the program is printed in the church bulletin, *Windows* and other communication venues. Applications are due near the end of May and the awards are determined and made during the summer.

This program is facilitated by the Scholarship Committee, an ad hoc committee established by the Session. The current committee members are Earl Ball (Chair), Linda Leube, Klaas Hoekema-Boerman and Deborah Thompson.

The application is the key criteria used for evaluation and determination of selection for awards. Therefore thorough submissions and timely responses are essential for consideration and selection. For 2013, the committee is pleased to announce eight applicants have been selected for awards:

STUDENT	SCHOOL
1. Lamar Benton	Community College of Philadelphia
2. Melvin Brown	Pierce College
3. Corey Edwards-Fuller	Lincoln University
4. Shanise Gladden	Philadelphia University
5. Ryan Iles	Eastern University
6. Antonio Littles	West Chester University
7. Juliet Ranger	University of Phoenix
8. Victoria Solomon	Community College of Philadelphia

Please encourage these scholars in their academic work.

Elementary School Youth Group

On the first Friday of September, six adults and twelve children gathered for youth group. We played games, we ate food, and we encouraged each other in our faith in Jesus Christ as we reflected upon how God has made us all unique with differing talents. When we place our lives and talents in the hands of God, God will use us to bring glory to Christ, for our talents can bless and benefit others as well as bring joy to our own lives.

Join us next month as we build each other up and rejoice that God has given us one other.



Cherry Crest Farm Trip ***Saturday, October 19***

Calling all pre-K, elementary and middle school students along with their families and loved ones. We are again heading out to spend the day at Cherry Crest Adventure Farm in Lancaster County. We'll spend the day jumping on giant trampolines, slinging tennis balls, riding pedal cars, listening to singing chickens, petting farm animals and more. Adults pay \$5 while children 3 years and older pay \$15. Transportation is available for an additional \$5. Lunch and dinner can be brought or bought; it's up to everyone to provide their own food. This is always a great day together so, plan to be there! Meet at church at 9:30 AM and we'll return by 7:00 PM. Contact Christian Heyer-Rivera at 267-972-5662 for more information.

SUMMER TRIPPING AND PICKING

This summer was filled with entertaining and meaningful trips: trips that introduced us to new friends and reconnected us with familiar ones as well. Throughout the summer many members of our congregation joined us as we took advantage of the fruit the warm weather brings. Among blueberries, blackberries and peaches, our trips to the fields of New Jersey proved to be a sweet time filled with relaxing conversations, small harvests of the good fruit of God's earth, and deepening relationships that continue to bind us together in lasting and meaningful friendships. If you've never joined us, consider it in the future. There really is nothing like looking over your shoulder as you pick fruit, to then see a few of the children of our church hunting and choosing ripe fruit together, and then turning around again to find that they've smeared it all over their faces and hands. They often eat more than they pick. Oops!

Our camping trip to Hickory Run State Park has become a tradition for many of us, and every year more and more friends join us. This year twenty-one people joined us as we shared meals, slept under the stars, played, prayed, and worshiped together. Our campers included many members of the church, as well as new friends who continue to bless us with their presence and love at more and more of our church activities.

Finally, our summer trip to the Ocean City, New Jersey, proved to be a wonderful way to close out the summer. Thirty-five people traveled with us to the shore to soak up the sun, ride and fight the waves, swim in the salty sea, build and destroy sand castles, eat from the boardwalk, and laugh as we shared stories with and about one another throughout the day.

We thank God for all the ways we were able to connect with one another over the summer and for all those who made it a point to share in these trips. We also invite everyone to consider upcoming trips and opportunities to deepen our relationships through shared events and activities together.

—Christian Heyer-Rivera



A Haunting Evening at the Bates

Our senior high youth group will be taking a trip to The Bates Motel and Haunted Hayride in Glenn Mills, Pa., on October 18. Cost is \$40 and includes transportation, combo tickets to all three attractions and dinner together. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy this startling experience and hear how we really don't have anything to fear when we place our trust in Jesus Christ! Contact Christian Heyer-Rivera at 267-972-5662 for more information.



Whosoever Gospel Mission

Sharing God's Love Since 1892



The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown for many decades has supported our neighbor, The Whosoever Gospel Mission whose purpose is to provide shelter, food, clothing, education, counseling rehabilitation and other assistance to homeless and/or needy men, women and children in the Philadelphia Metropolitan Area. The Mission is having their annual banquet at the Williamson Banquet Center in Horsham on Saturday, November 2, 2013, at 6:00PM. There are many churches represented and attendance exceeds 100. FPCG hasn't had a table for several years, so Wayne Swift would like to get a FPCG table together this year. Contact him at wayneswift2001@yahoo.com or call 610-279-6944 for a reservation and an enjoyable evening out.



October

1	Gayl Henze	10	Charlene Hardy
2	Grace Morage	11	Brenda Meline
3	Jamal Smith	12	Carmen Bethea
4	William Young	15	Albert McClay
4	Tatiana Davis	16	Anna Reiman
	Xavier Ryan	17	Ernest Freeman
6	Dorothy Johnson	18	Peter Erskine
	Henry Valentine		Autumn Watson
7	Richard Mercer	22	Gloria Patterson
8	Dani Howard	25	Marc DiNardo
9	Kai Jeanine Burton		Montreall Hayward
	Duane Horne	26	Nora Joy
	Faith Lewis	28	Malik Washington



Being a Scientist is fun!

As anyone who has ever entered a science fair, had an experiment go awry in the kitchen or basement, dissected a frog or fish, or simply created a volcano with baking soda and vinegar can tell you, science is fun! This month's column focuses on scientists from astronomers to zoologists who have turned their childhood fascination with and love of science into their vocations. There are over twenty-five beautifully photographed titles in the Houghton Mifflin series; below are just a few. Although the titles are written for grades 5-9, advanced readers of all ages can discover the fun of science.

Happy Reading!
Deborah Thompson



Franklin

Children's Book Spot



Newton

- Burns, Loree Griffin. *Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam and the Science of Ocean Motion*. Houghton Mifflin, 2007.
- Collard, Sneed B. *The Prairie Builders: Reconstructing America's Lost Grass lands*. Houghton Mifflin, 2005.
- Frydenberg, Kay. *Wild Horse Scientists*. Houghton Mifflin, 2012
- Heos, Bridgette. *Stronger than Steel: Spider Silk DNA and the Quest for Better Bulletproof Vests, Sutures and Parachute Rope*. Photographs by Andy Comins. Houghton Mifflin, 2013.
- Hodgkins, Fran. *The Whale Scientists: Solving the Mystery of Whale Strandings*. Houghton Mifflin, 2007.
- Jackson, Donna M. *The Bug Scientists*. Houghton Mifflin, 2002.
- Jackson, Donna M. *Extreme Scientists: Exploring Nature's Mysteries from Perilous Places*. Houghton Mifflin, 2009.
- Jackson, Ellen. *Mysterious Universe: Supernovae, Dark Energy, and Black Holes*. Photographs by Nic Bishop. Houghton Mifflin, 2008.
- Lourie, Peter. *The Polar Bear Scientists*. Houghton Mifflin, 2012.
- Mallory, Peter. *Diving to a Deep-Sea Volcano*. Houghton Mifflin, 2006.
- Montgomery, Sy. *Quest for the Tree Kangaroo: An Expedition to the Cloud Forests of New Guinea*. Photographs by Nic Bishop. Houghton Mifflin, 2006.
- Montgomery, Sy. *Saving the Ghost of the Mountain: An Expedition among the Snow Leopards in Mongolia*. Photographs by Nic Bishop. Houghton Mifflin, 2009.
- Montgomery, Sy. *The Snake Scientist*. Photographs by Nic Bishop. Houghton Mifflin, 2001.
- Montgomery, Sy. *The Tarantula Scientist*. Photographs by Nic Bishop. Houghton Mifflin, 2004.
- O'Connell, Caitlin E. & Donna M. Jackson. *The Elephant Scientist*. Photographs by Caitlin O'Connell & Timothy Rodwell. Houghton Mifflin, 2011
- Rusch, Elizabeth. *The Mighty Mars Rovers: The Incredible Adventures of Spirit and Opportunity*. Houghton Mifflin, 2012
- Turner, Pamela S. *The Frog Scientist*. Photographs by Tom Uhlman. Houghton Mifflin, 2009.
- Turner, Pamela S. *Gorilla Doctors: Saving Endangered Great Apes*. Houghton Mifflin, 2005.

October 2013

1 Tuesday

9:30 am Classic Towns
4:00 pm NA Meeting
6:00 pm Line Dancing

2 Wednesday

4:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir
7:00 pm Session

3 Thursday

6:00 pm Gospel Choir
7:45 pm Voices in Bronze

4 Friday

2:30 pm Drop-in-Center
6:30 pm Elementary School Youth Group

5 Saturday

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

6 Sunday

World Communion
8:45 am Chancel 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
11:30 am Chancel Choir
12:30 pm Gospel Choir
12:45 pm Basketball
4:00 pm Bread and Cup

7 Monday

8 Tuesday

4:00 pm NA Meeting
6:00 pm Line Dancing

9 Wednesday

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

10 Thursday

6:00 pm Gospel Choir
7:45 pm Voices in Bronze

11 Friday

2:30 pm Drop-in-Center
6:30 pm Middle School Youth Group

12 Saturday

8:15 am Keystone State Boychoir
9:30 am Cherry Crest Adventure
Farm Trip
10:00 am Open Gym

13 Sunday

8:45 am Chancel 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
11:30 am Chancel Choir
12:30 pm Gospel Choir
12:45 pm Basketball

14 Monday

Columbus Day
Church Closed

15 Tuesday

8:00 am Deadline—November
edition of WINDOWS
4:00 pm NA Meeting
6:00 pm Line Dancing

16 Wednesday

4:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir
6:30 pm Basketball
7:00 pm Property Committee

17 Thursday

6:00 pm Gospel Choir
6:00 pm Administration and
Finance Committee
7:45 pm Voices in Bronze

18 Friday

8:00 am Germantown Special
Services District
2:30 pm Drop-in-Center
6:30 pm High School Youth Group

19 Saturday

9:00 am Yard Sale
10:00 am Open Gym

20 Sunday

8:45 am Chancel 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
11:30 am Chancel Choir
12:30 pm Gospel Choir
12:45 pm Basketball

21 Monday

6:30 pm PRISM

22 Tuesday

4:00 pm NA Meeting
6:00 pm Line Dancing

23 Wednesday

4:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir
6:30 pm Mission and Outreach
Committee
6:30 pm Basketball

24 Thursday

10:30 am City of God Conference
6:00 pm Gospel Choir
7:00 pm Germantown Community
Connection
7:45 pm Voices in Bronze

25 Friday

8:30 am City of God Conference
2:30 pm Drop-in-Center

26 Saturday

8:15 am Keystone State Boychoir
8:30 am City of God Conference
9:00 am Reader's Choice
10:00 am Open Gym

27 Sunday

IHN moves in
8:45 am Chancel 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
11:30 am Chancel Choir
12:30 pm Gospel Choir
12:45 pm Basketball

28 Monday

IHN

29 Tuesday

IHN
4:00 pm NA Meeting
6:00 pm Line Dancing

30 Wednesday

IHN
4:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir
6:30 pm Basketball

31 Thursday

IHN - Halloween
6:00 pm Gospel Choir
7:45 pm Voices in Bronze

GERMANTOWN FLEA MARKET



Saturday, October 19th

9:00 AM—3:00 PM

Rain or Shine



The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown
Parking Lot at 35 West Chelten Avenue
Between Greene Street and Germantown Avenue
Vendors wanted. \$15.00 per space

Please call 215-247-9612 for details

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



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