

THE FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN
GERMANTOWN



**SPECIAL DATES
OF INTEREST:**

• **Wednesday**
July 1, 2015
Session
7:00 PM

• **Saturday**
July 11, 2015
Fruit Picking Trip
Mood's Farm

• **Monday**
July 20, 2015
Church Scholarship
Applications Due

• **Sunday**
July 26, 2015
Freedom School
Sunday
10:00 AM

• **Sunday**
August 2, 2015
Worship with
the Sacrament of
Holy Communion
10:00 AM

• **Thursday**
August 13, 2015
Freedom School
Closing Program
7:00 PM

WINDOWS

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 7

SUMMER 2015

From the Pastor

Dear Friends of FPC in Germantown:

We live in trying times for the church. It seems that our world is not interested in our message. Attendance is declining and congregations are aging. Where are our children and grandchildren? Why have many decided that the practice of Christian faith is not important in their busy lives? American religious history can give us renewed hope in challenging times. Sometimes we think that colonial America was overwhelmingly religious, but that picture is not accurate. A classic of Presbyterian history was written by Princeton professor Lefferts A. Loetscher, *A Brief History of Presbyterians*. He described the condition of the church in America in the 1720s in this way: "The portion of the population who were church members was far smaller than it is today (1958). In Virginia not more than one person in twenty was a member of a church. Even in Puritan New England, the percentage of church members was appallingly low. Grandchildren of the devout Puritan and Scotch-Irish settlers were often utterly godless." An event known as the First Great Awakening dramatically changed the religious landscape of the colonies. The area around Philadelphia and the father of the founding pastor of FPC in Germantown played a significant role in that decade-long time of religious awakening. With awakening came controversy, one of sufficient intensity that the Presbyterian Church was divided for several decades. But when the dust had settled and reunion accomplished, most would conclude that God had done an extraordinary thing in reviving the church.

One of the foundational principles of our Presbyterian belief is that: "Christ calls the Church into being, giving it all that is necessary for its mission in the world, for its sanctification, and for its service to God. Christ is present with the Church in both Spirit and Word. Christ alone rules, calls, teaches, and uses the Church as he wills." Sometimes it looks like our resources are running out. It feels like we have exhausted our creativity and our energy and there is little hope for the future. That is really not a bad place to be spiritually. At the point of being at the end of ourselves, we can experience the life-giving power God in new and creative ways. As Paul wrote to the Corinthians:

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, of the affliction we experienced in Asia; for we were so utterly, unbearably crushed that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death so that we would rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. (2 Corinthians 1:8-9)

Christ gives the church all that is necessary for its mission in the world. Times of challenge can promote spiritual health as we learn to rely, not on ourselves, but on God who gives life.

Your fellow servant in Christ,

Randy Bremer, Interim Pastor

Financial Report

2015 Pledge Goal

\$350,000

**Pledge to
May 31, 2015**

\$174,898

**Expenses as of
April 30, 2015**

Budget
\$362,912

Actual
\$348,631

Challenge Offering

May

Freedom School

raised

\$3,005

Community Grants

Center in the Park
\$2,500.00

**Germantown Avenue
Crisis Ministry**
\$2,750.00

Deadline

for the
September edition
of

WINDOWS

**Monday,
August 17**

July Challenge Offering: Nepal Earthquake Disaster



And after the earthquake . . . a sound of sheer silence.
Then there came a voice . . . that said, "What are you doing here?"

1 Kings 19:12-13

The scale of the disaster facing Nepal after the April 25 earthquake is becoming clearer. The quake and its aftershocks have left thousands of people dead and thousands more injured. Buildings have been reduced to rubble, and roads, bridges and communication systems have been severely damaged. Its effects have extended to India and other neighboring countries.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is providing emergency relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas through our partner ACT Alliance and its members, who are already on the ground. PDA will remain active throughout the entire recovery process, accompanying our partners in the area as they determine long-term program needs and providing financial support for rebuilding and resilience.

The needs are great. God's people are once again called to stand in the GAP. Your generous contributions will enable the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program to extend meaningful emergency relief to those affected by this natural disaster.

GIVE. ACT. PRAY.



Young boys in temporary shelter enjoy a meal provided by ACT



Carl is on the
right

August Challenge Offering: Athletes in Action

The August Challenge Offering is for **Athletes in Action**, a ministry of **Cru** (the new name for Campus Crusade for Christ).

AIA wants to help fulfill Christ's Great Commission; their goal is to reach the sportsmen for Christ and train them how to share their faith with others. Christ told his followers to go all over the world with the Good News. This means not only every country and people group, but every segment of society.

There is a special connection between AIA and our church. Carl and Noreen Dambman have devoted over 36 years to this cause in many countries. Carl's parents have a long connection with our church.

Here are a few highlights of their recent 2015 activities:

In April Carl and Noreen were in Myanmar (formerly named Burma) in SE Asia as part of a four month AIA project at The Gold Camp national sports training center as the best athletes were preparing for the SE Asian Games in Singapore.

In May they had four days in the Moscow region at a sport training center. They had 10 working groups focused on In Sport at the conference. Best attended were Sports Camps, Sport Clubs, Sports Academies, and Coaches and Physical Education Teachers. Carl had two elite athletes (both strong believers) in his small group. Both are from Ukraine and nearing the end of their careers, but want to use their platform for the Kingdom. Carl asks: **Please pray for them, for their sharing the gospel and also for disciples who are faithful and qualified to teach others.**

Travel plans for July and August include June 29-July 8 as Carl travels to Gwangju, South Korea for the World University Games; the first week in July he will be in Korea for the World University Games; July 11-22 Noreen and Carl travel to Ft. Collins, CO (CSU) for Campus Crusade and AIA Staff Conference; July 24-October 6 they travel to Stellenbosch, South Africa for the International Sports Leadership School (20 plus students for three months of training).

Carl writes that "We are grateful for the church's support of our ministry. I was in the Philly area for less than 20 hours recently. While there I shared a moment for missions at Bethany Evangelical Presbyterian Church and visited my high school wrestling coach and my Mom. I am praying for the church as you search for a new pastor. We appreciate Heidi's visits to Mom. "



Carl is third from right standing

Their work continues to need our prayers, resources and financial support. Our church and members have been very supportive to the Dambmans' ministry-- most recently by Challenge Offerings. **Please help to ensure that this important work continues with your generous contribution to the August Challenge Offering.**

Remembering Bea Gardner

Feisty, demanding, bite-worse-than-bark, acerbic--these were some of the words describing beloved Bea Gardner at her "Service of Witness to the Resurrection" held in the sanctuary on June 7. Bea died on May 23.

She, along with a twin sister Elizabeth, was born on August 27, 1921, in Philadelphia to Charles Montford Sheak and Elizabeth Lynn Welsh Sheak. When she was 23, she married Cpl. William F. ("Bill") Gardner at the Galveston Army Air Field in Galveston, Texas.

Beatrice Carson Sheak Gardner, of course known by generations of FPCG members and friends as Bea, was a proverbial pillar of this church. As the memorial program stated, the church would "remember her fondly as a dedicated choir member and the master of the church kitchen." Who can forget Bea's formidable presence in the kitchen, her commands that counters be cleaned in one certain way, dishwasher with just the right Bea-amount of detergent and temperature, the coffee urns drained, utensils secured in their places in drawers, cookies up to her standards. "That's not the way we do it," was a familiar refrain echoing from the kitchen. But no matter what ragged words might be uttered during preparation for and clean-up afterward, Bea never failed to call and thank everyone who helped in the slightest ways.

Next to her church and her kitchen, her greatest love and devotion was for the Phillies. For years, she shared season tickets with FPCG's most fanatical fans. Several years ago, when Jimmy Rollins, the then-Phillies MVP, attended Christmas Eve services at the church, Bea was brought to sit beside him. She is probably still talking about that.

That the Phillies played a game at the same time Bea's memorial service was held was cause for much amusement and remembrances. Jim Thompson, among those who shared tickets with Bea, was in attendance for the Phillies/Giants game, the home team winning (for Bea!) 6-4. Martha Drusedum, member and ticket-sharer with Bea and others, read Jim's tribute at the memorial service which concluded with "Take Me Out to the Ballgame."

Remembering Bea

Jim Thompson

We all know that Bea was the ultimate planner and fanatical about details. Then how could this marvelous person forget to instruct the church that her memorial service should NOT be scheduled on a Sunday afternoon WHEN THE PHILLIES ARE PLAYING AT HOME!



Bea in the kitchen at FPCG (where else?)

Photo by Peter Thompson

Remembering Bea

Continued

But perhaps she may have thought why worry – she'll be up there watching down to see her beloved Phillies play today. But I also know that if this is the case she will be focusing in to see who is sitting in her seats. And for that reason I will be there rather than at her service. I am sure she would agree with that choice. Even the deciding game of the 2008 World Series – a game split into two nights due to the rain – did not keep Bea away!

I have many wonderful anecdotes, memories and great times with Bea and the Philies. But one that I will always remember is that night in October, 2008 when the last half of the game to decide the World Series was decided. Needless to say Bea and I were there even though our seatmates from the first half of the game did not come back! But the real experience, burned into my memory, was what happened as the game concluded. After watching the on field celebrations and trophy award, Bea and I began to head for the gate. Everyone was euphoric, especially Bea. She was high fiving everyone. Then as we exited the park on the way to the subway the police were all lined up in their riot gear and Bea slapped 5 with all of them.



Bea & Jim at the NLDS in 2009

Photo by Marc Dinardo

Getting to the subway was no problem - I always had trouble keeping up with her. It was rather crowded and celebratory that evening but Bea just ducked down like a running back and wove her way through the crowd. We did get downstairs which was crowded as usual. When the local train arrived it filled up like a dry sponge taking on water. But when the people saw the little dynasty they parted just like the seas and Bea went right on through (needless to say I was right in her shadow). They even gave up a seat for her. But my concern was how we were going to get off as we only needed to go several stops. At the first stop NO ONE left the train. At the second stop only a few people got off and Bea was not that close to the door and me. So I mentioned to some in the crowd that she needed to get off at the next stop. As the train came to a stop the people crushed into

each other so she could get to the door and WE MADE IT OFF!

But what amazed me was how this woman, who could work up a snit about someone not bringing cookies to coffee hour, felt that this whole event was not unusual – what she felt was great happiness that the Philies were World Champs and not that we survived the aftermath. I am still amazed that we ever made it off that train.

Today I'll be in her seat, keeping an eye on the scoreboard as she always did, so I can tell everyone **DEUC-ES WILD** when the count is 2 balls, 2 strikes and 2 outs. That's my final tribute to a wonderful person – Bea.

Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry Space Dedicated, Volunteers Recognized

Eugene (“Gene”) Gardenhire and Wesley Reisse were among the Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry (GACM) volunteers recognized at the organization’s Open House on Thursday, June 4. The event, described as “Celebrating Neighbors Helping Neighbors,” was highlighted by the “Dedication of Space” for the new quarters for the ministry.

The two men, along with two others, Tom Davis and Al Pinter, were cited as unique volunteers who had given many years of dedicated service to the ministry. As the evening program noted: “In the face of retirement, they chose to remain active in service to Christ as they support the GACM Food Cupboard. Whether picking up bread, holiday decorations, delivering canned goods or serving as intake representatives each Thursday, their invaluable service is appreciated!” Gene has driven cars and the church van untold miles to gather goods; Wes, as the office intake man, has the longest tenure of any volunteer for the ministry.

During the program, a Ministry Video was shown which tells the story and mission of the GACM. Staff, volunteers and clients shared information and experiences, particularly underscoring that giving and giving back were earmarks of the eighteen-year ministry. Eileen A. Jones is the Executive Director.

At the end of the evening, the newly renovated space, now located in the Westside Room and adjacent area, was dedicated by the Rev. Randal Bremer.

Also acknowledged during the program was the Center for Urban Ministry, Nancy L. Muth Client Assistance Fund and the memorial gifts of the families of Linda M. Leube, Albert G. McClay, Jesse McClay, and Peter W. Hill, Sr. Special thanks were extended to Charles Bethea and Lois Nafziger who designated the GACM as the recipient of their recent wedding gifts.

Chris Scott, FPCG member of GACM volunteer, perhaps best sums up the volunteer experiences and mission of the Crisis Ministry with the poem he wrote and read to the audience:

The Gift of Giving

Its story is old, the plot worn and the pages too,
But we read this book, anyway, over and again:

No one has ever become poor by giving
At least that’s what Anne Frank said.
Robert Ingersoll stated we raise by lifting others
Exhausted, frustrated, tired and underappreciated yes,
But there is a gift in giving.

“I hate you.” “You are the best.”
“I wanna talk to Ms. Eileen.”
“I wish more people were like you.”
The emotion changes with every person.
Not the client but within us
While our hearts become impregnated
by the previous disappointment
So why do we give?

We're better for it...we're wounded for it
Because someone gave to us...because no one gave to us
It has changed us...giving could have changed us.
This is why we give

With open minds and open heart
If we give a little, believe it or not, we'll get a lot,
It's the warmth of your heart that others see;
It's that same warmth that'll warm the soul.

Giving is, first and every time, hand to hand,
Mine to yours, yours to mine.
What you did not have, and I gave you
What I had to give—together, we made.

Its story is old, the plot worn and the pages too,
But we read this book, anyway, over and again:

The reason that we give is because someone gave to us.

What Is Right, Not what Is Left

Have you noticed the colorful logo which introduces the “Special Dates of Interest” column on the first page of each issue of *WINDOWS*? Do you remember what it says? Do you recall what the reference is? Why it’s there?

In June, a single sentence on the signboard outside a Roman Catholic church in Whitemarsh Township read “Give God what is right, not what is left.” Now, that sign could be interpreted in several ways—linguistically or politically, even—but the way we view it is theologically as we recall the Scriptural reference of “Abounding in Hope,” the theme for our stewardship year, adopted as encouragement for our giving: “Now may the God of hope fill you with all the joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (*Romans* 15:13). Giving *is* the right thing to do, the giving back to God because God has given so much to us. And certainly this church—our church—gives and gives and gives. We give because so doing is another expression of our faith, our belief.

Elsewhere in this summer issue of *WINDOWS* you will read of illustrations of the joy of giving—by volunteers of their time and skills at the Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry and by Bea Gardner and the caring for and sharing of one’s gifts, skills, talents—and yes, time. It means giving and gladly giving. And with that surely comes something of the peace Paul writes about in *Romans*.

On the second page of this issue, you will see the monthly “Financial Report” dealing with our pledge goal for this year of \$350,000, what has been budgeted and what has been spent thus far. Additionally the return on the latest Challenge Offering is shown. These finances are also about a divine trust, a managing of the monetary gifts you are sharing.

Through such giving and trusting, we abound in hope and are more and more open to the power of the Holy Spirit.

—The Stewardship Committee

Congratulations to Our Graduates

Please congratulate and pray for these members and friends of the church in their academic achievements.

High School Diploma

Matthew Reisse graduated in June from Cheltenham High School. He will be attending Indiana University of Pennsylvania in the fall.

Deshaye Carter graduated in June from Carver High School and will be attending Drexel University in the fall.

Nasir Kinard graduated in June from Martin Luther King High School. He plans to attend the Community College of Philadelphia in the winter.

Bachelor’s Degree

Melvin Brown graduated in June from Pierce College with a B.S. in Computer Science.

Did we miss you or your loved ones graduation? Please feel free to get information to Christian Heyer-Rivera or David Daugherty for our next *WINDOWS* publication in September.

Young Adult Ministry Conference

Recently Mandy Adams and Christian Heyer-Rivera attended the Northeast Association of Presbyterian Church Educators Young Adult Ministry Conference. The keynote speaker was Rodger Nishioka and the theme was "What are young adults seeking and how do we respond?"

Dr. Nishioka serves as the Benton Family Professor of Christian Education at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA. His major research interest is congregational ministry with youth and young adults. He recently completed a major research study of mostly Presbyterian young adults, persons in their 20s and 30s, who are no longer in congregations. The vast majority of these young adults were baptized and confirmed in Presbyterian congregations, yet they are no longer involved in any church. They identify with the phrase "spiritual just not religious" since most say they believe in God but just do not find anything that the church has to say of relevance to them.

Dr. Nishioka said young adults are seeking three things -- 1. quality, authentic relationships; 2. ethical vitality and integrity; 3. theological vitality and integrity. The young adults he talks about are between 18 and 28 years of age -- the so called "Millennials." How does a congregation reach them? Dr. Nishioka had some suggestions -- 1. building relationships is key; 2. intentional, consistent, immediate communication (Facebook, Twitter, texting); 3. meeting outside the church is often more attractive.

Mandy said the experience was very "spiritual." Young adults have an "urgency to be part of something real." Her hope is to share what she learned at the conference to help First Church reach out to our young adults and make church life more meaningful to them.

The Ten Commandments of Worship (Found In an Old English Church)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Thou shalt not come to worship late
Nor for the Amen refuse to wait. | 6. The offering plate thou shalt not fear,
But give thy uttermost with cheer. |
| 2. When speaks the organ's sweet refrain
The noisy tongue thou shalt refrain. | 7. Thou shalt the minister give heed,
Nor blame him when thou art disagreed. |
| 3. But when the hymns are sounded out,
Thou shalt lift thy voice and shout. | 8. Unto thy neighbor thou shalt bend,
And if a stranger, make a friend. |
| 4. And when the anthem thou shalt hear
Thy sticky voice thou shalt not clear. | 9. Thou shalt in every way be compassionate,
kind, considerate, and of tender mind. |
| 5. The endmost seat thou shalt leave free
For more must share the pew with thee. | 10. And so, by all thy spirit's grace
Thou shalt show God within this place. |

Christian Education & Youth Notes

Wildwood NJ Trip for Middle & High School Students

3 Days/2 Nights

From Thursday, July 30 – Saturday, August 1 our middle/high school youth group members will have the opportunity to attend an annual event called **A Closer Walk** (<http://www.moreyspiers.com/plan/event/a-closer-walk>). The trip will include worship Friday on the beach and play on both Friday and Saturday at Morey's Pier amusement and water park. We will sleep at FPCG on Thursday night and in a hotel in Wildwood on Friday night. The cost is \$130 a person. If you are interested in being a part of this trip, please contact Christian Heyer-Rivera at 267-972-5662 for more information. Registration and money for the trip must be in by Monday, July 13.

FPCG Youth To Attend Camp Kirkwood

There are seven young people from our congregation planning to attend the **Joy of Creation Camp** at Camp Kirkwood from August 16-22. Please begin to pray for Mimi Ohemeng, Emanuel Heyer-Rivera, Joshua Overton, Zaria Cuffee, Madison Lundy, Daniel Ohemeng, and Abrianna Kendrick. Since attending camp is expensive, please be on the look-out for and participate in fundraising efforts to help make this incredible experience affordable!

Summer Class Schedule

Sunday School classes for nursery, elementary school age children and confirmation classes will continue throughout the summer. There will be no class for confirmation on July 5 and August 30.

Disciples Basketball

Our church's 15-year-old and younger and 19-year-old and younger basketball teams, the Disciples will play games through August in a summer-league at the Ardmore Avenue Community Center. This is an exciting ministry of relationship building for these young men. Your support with prayers and attendance at the games helps make this program a more dynamic experience. Please see the church's website and *Window on the Week* calendar in your Sunday worship bulletin for a game schedule for both of these teams.

Church Scholarship Applications

Our congregation's scholarship applications are now available in the church office. If you'd like an application emailed to you as an attachment, please contact David Daugherty or Christian Heyer-Rivera by email with the request. The scholarship is open to all members and friends of the church who are involved in FPCG programs and are enrolled in post-secondary educational degree programs. The application deadline is July 20, 2015, so please don't delay applying for this scholarship that could help with your education. David Daugherty's email: FPCG.Germantown@gmail.com

The Social Corner

Fruit Picking Trip

Every summer our congregation takes to the fields of Pennsylvania and New Jersey to pick strawberries, peaches, raspberries, blueberries, blackberries, and apples together. On Saturday July 11 we will travel to Mood's Farm in NJ to pick blueberries (and whatever other fruit might be in season) and attend their blueberry festival. Transportation is available at a nominal cost, but minibus space is limited. Call or text Christian Heyer-Rivera at 267-972-5662 to reserve a spot or get more details.

Trip To The Shore

Please join us on July 25 as we head to the shore to beat the summer heat. We'll be leaving the church in the morning and spend the entire day. Participants are expected to provide for their own meals, so bring a cooler or enough money to buy lunch, dinner, and snacks. Transportation is available at a nominal cost, but minibus space is limited. Call or text Christian Heyer-Rivera at 267-972-5662 to get more details and join in the fun.

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. Dinners for Eight are held at someone's home on a Saturday. 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 smfarrington77@gmail.com or call 215-882-2792. The July date for Dinners for Eight is Saturday, July 25, 2015.

Happy Birthday July

2	<i>Sara Sekpe</i>	13	<i>Rossie Gardenhire</i>	28	<i>Gloria Bethea</i>
3	<i>Samuel Whyte</i>	14	<i>Charles Betha</i>	29	<i>Michael Brooks</i>
5	<i>Christopher Hunsicker</i>	18	<i>Arlene Grace</i>		<i>Kenny Gibbs</i>
6	<i>Marney Hague</i>		<i>Cynthia Thomas</i>	30	<i>Stuart Ditzen</i>
7	<i>Veda Gibbs</i>	19	<i>Peter Smith</i>		<i>William Oldach</i>
8	<i>Deloris Adams</i>	21	<i>Dorie Harper</i>	31	<i>Linda Swift</i>
12	<i>Sherry Archer</i>	25	<i>Myrtle Jackson</i>		

Happy Birthday August

4	<i>Leah Hood</i>	18	<i>Kathleen Adams</i>	29	<i>Ann Stauffer</i>
8	<i>Dick Liberty</i>	19	<i>Lois Nafziger-Bethea</i>	30	<i>Zack Hasse</i>
	<i>Lois VanEerden</i>	20	<i>Johari Smith</i>	31	<i>Viola Donaldson</i>
10	<i>Sunny Gerber</i>	24	<i>Helen Brown</i>		<i>Khalil Overton</i>
11	<i>Charon Chase</i>		<i>Martha Drusedum</i>		<i>Shawdee Rolle</i>
	<i>Delores Solomon</i>	26	<i>Kristopher Payne</i>		
12	<i>Siena Williams</i>	27	<i>Aleisha Gibbs</i>		
14	<i>Joseph Leube</i>	29	<i>William Lewis</i>		



On the Beach and Under the Sea

Many of us will go the beach (or shore) at least once this summer. We swim, build sand castles and collect shells among other activities. The sand on which we place our towels and the sea in which we swim are teeming with life—including sharks, dolphins, and coral reefs. These books are about what we see and don't see (no puns intended) on the beach and below the surface of the sea. The titles span grades K-6.

Happy Reading!
Deborah Thompson

Children's Book Spot

- Arnosky, Jim. *Beachcombing: Exploring the Seashore*. Dutton, 2004.
- Arnosky, Jim. *Parrotfish and Sunken Ships: Exploring a Tropical Reef*. Collins, 2007.
- Berkes, Marianne. *Seashells by the Seashore*.
Illustrated by Robert Noreika. Dawn Publishers, 2002.
- Carle, Eric. *A House for a Hermit Crab*. Simon Spotlight (reissue), 2014.
- Chin, Jason. *Coral Reefs*. Roaring Brook, 2011.
- Davies, Nicola. *Dolphin Baby!*
Illustrated by Brita Granstrom. Candlewick, 2012.
- Heller, Ruth. *How to Hide an Octopus and Other Sea Creatures*.
Grosset & Dunlap, 1992.
- Jenkins, Steve. *Down, Down, Down: A Journey to the Bottom of the Sea*.
Houghton Mifflin, 2009.
- Johnson, Rebecca L. *A Journey into the Deep: Discovering New Ocean Creatures*.
Illustrations by Phyllis V. Saroff. Millbrook, 2010.
- Lee, Suzy. *Wave*. Chronicle Books, 2008.
- Mallory, Kenneth. *Diving to a Deep-Sea Volcano*. (Scientists in the Field).
Houghton Mifflin, 2006.
- Mallory, Kenneth. *Swimming with Hammerhead Sharks*. (Scientists in the Field).
Houghton Mifflin, 2001.
- Roy, Katherine. *Neighborhood Sharks: Hunting With the Great Whites of California's Farallon Islands*. Roaring Brook, 2014.
- Schnell, Lisa Kahn. *High Tide for Horseshoe Crabs*.
Illustrated by Alan Marks. Charlesbridge, 2015.
- Simon, Seymour. *Coral Reefs*. Harper, 2013.
- Swinburne, Stephen R. *Sea Turtle Scientist*. (Scientists in the Field).
Houghton Mifflin, 2014.
- Tibbits, Christine K. *Seashells, Crabs and Sea Stars: Take-Along Guide*.
Illustrated by Linda Garrow. Cooper Square, 1999.
- Turner, Pamela S. *The Dolphins of Shark Bay*. Photographs by Scott Tuason.
Houghton Mifflin, 2013.
- Turner, Pamela S. *Project Seahorse*. Photographs by Scott Tuason.
Houghton Mifflin, 2010.
- Webb, Sophie. *Far From Shore: Chronicles of an Open Ocean Voyage*.
Houghton Mifflin, 2011.
- Wiesner, David. *Flotsam*. Clarion, 2006.

July 2015

1 Wednesday

7:30 am Freedom School
11:00 am Memorial Service-Mable Richardson
3:00 pm Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Session

2 Thursday

7:30 am Freedom School

3 Friday

Independence Day Observed
Church Closed

4 Saturday

Independence Day
Church Closed

5 Sunday

9:00 am Summer Choir
10:00 am Worship Service
11:30 am Sunday School & Confirmation

6 Monday

7:30 am Freedom School
6:30 PM Disciples Basketball Game-Ardmore

7 Tuesday

7:30 am Freedom School
9:30 am Classic Towns

8 Wednesday

7:30 am Freedom School
3:00 pm Staff Meeting
4:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir
5:30 pm GACM Board Meeting
6:30 pm Christian Education Meeting

9 Thursday

7:30 am Freedom School

10 Friday

7:30 am Freedom School
3:30 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Elementary School Youth Group

11 Saturday

9:30 am Congregational Development
10:00 am Fruit Picking Trip—Mood's Farm
2:00 pm Organ Practice—David Daugherty

12 Sunday

8:45 am Summer Choir
10:00 am Worship Service
11:30 am Sunday School & Confirmation
11:30 am Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

13 Monday

7:30 am Freedom School

14 Tuesday

7:30 am Freedom School
6:30 PM Disciples Basketball Game-Ardmore

15 Wednesday

7:30 am Freedom School
3:00 pm Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Property Committee

16 Thursday

7:30 am Freedom School
6:00 pm Administration & Finance Committee

17 Friday

7:30 am Freedom School
3:30 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting
6:30pm Middle School Youth Group

18 Saturday

10:00 am Open Gym
2:00 pm Organ Practice—David Daugherty

19 Sunday

8:45 am Summer Choir
10:00 am Worship Service
11:30 am Sunday School & Confirmation
11:30 am Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

20 Monday

7:30 am Freedom School
6:00 pm Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

21 Tuesday

7:30 am Freedom School
6:30pm Worship and Music Committee

22 Wednesday

7:30 am Freedom School
3:00 pm Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Mission and Outreach
Committee

23 Thursday

7:30 am Freedom School

24 Friday

7:30 am Freedom School
3:30 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting
6:30pm High School Youth Group

25 Saturday

8:30 am Trip to the Jersey Shore
9:00 am Readers' Choice
Dinners for Eight

26 Sunday

Freedom School—Celebration Sunday
10:00 am Worship Service
11:30 am Sunday School
11:30 am Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

27 Monday

7:30 am Freedom School
6:00 pm Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

28 Tuesday

7:30 am Freedom School

29 Wednesday

7:30 am Freedom School
3:00 pm Staff Meeting

30 Thursday

7:30 am Freedom School
9:00 pm Youth Trip—A Closer Walk Event

31 Friday

Youth Trip—A Closer Walk Event
7:30 am Freedom School
3:30 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting

August 2015

1 Saturday

9:30 am Congregational Development & Fellowship Committee
2:00 pm Organ Practice—Daugherty
9:00 pm Youth Trip—A Closer Walk—Returns

2 Sunday

10:00 am Worship Service—Communion
11:30 am Sunday School & Confirmation
11:30 am Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

3 Monday

7:30 am Freedom School
6:00 pm Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

4 Tuesday

7:30 am Freedom School
9:30 am Classic Towns

5 Wednesday

7:30 am Freedom School
3:00 pm Staff Meeting

6 Thursday

7:30 am Freedom School

7 Friday

7:30 am Freedom School
3:30 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Elementary School Youth Group

8 Saturday

10:00 am Open Gym
2:00 pm Organ Practice—David Daugherty

9 Sunday

10:00 am Worship Service
11:30 am Sunday School & Confirmation
11:30 am Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

10 Monday

7:30 am Freedom School
6:00 pm Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

11 Tuesday

7:30 am Freedom School

12 Wednesday

7:30 am Freedom School
3:00 pm Staff Meeting
5:30 pm GACM Board Meeting
6:30 PM Christian Education Committee

13 Thursday

7:30 am Freedom School
7:00 pm Freedom School Closing Program

14 Friday

7:30 am Freedom School
3:30 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Middle School Youth Group

15 Saturday

10:00 am Open Gym
2:00 pm Organ Practice—David Daugherty

16 Sunday

Youth Depart for Camp Kirkwood
10:00 am Worship Service
11:30 am Sunday School & Confirmation
11:30 am Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

17 Monday

GACM—Closed
Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

18 Tuesday

GACM—Closed

19 Wednesday

GACM—Closed
3:00 pm Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Property Committee

20 Thursday

GACM—Closed
6:00 pm Administration & Finance Committee

21 Friday

GACM—Closed
3:30 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting
6:30 pm High School Youth Group

22 Saturday

10:00 am Open Gym
2:00 pm Organ Practice—David Daugherty

23 Sunday

10:00 am Worship Service
11:30 am Sunday School
11:30 am Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

24 Monday

6:00 pm GACM—Closed
Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

25 Tuesday

6:30 pm GACM—Closed
Worship and Music Committee

26 Wednesday

GACM—Closed
3:00 pm Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Mission and Outreach Committee

27 Thursday

GACM—Closed

28 Friday

GACM—Closed
3:30 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting
6:30 pm High School Youth Group

29 Saturday

9:00 am Readers' Choice
10:00 am Open Gym
2:00 pm Organ Practice—David Daugherty
Dinners for Eight

30 Sunday

Celebration Sunday
10:00 am Worship Service
11:30 am Sunday School & Confirmation
11:30 am Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

31 Monday

6:00 pm GACM—Closed
Adult Education:
Revelation—Reverend Bremer

A Prayer for the Emmanuel AME Church from Presbytery of Philadelphia Leadership

God of Peace, we once again are unsettled and bewildered, crying out on behalf of those whose lives have been unjustly taken by others blinded by racism and hardened to difference.

We grieve and lament yet another time, no longer surprised by the hatred and ignorance that has become our oppressive norm.

We are wearied by generations of perceived progress slowed in an instant by tragedy and terror.

We are angered by the bigotry that corrodes the conscience of our citizens and breeds in our communities.

We echo the timeless plea, "How Long?," as we wait and hope and dare to anticipate deliverance from troubling violence that surrounds us on all sides.

Faithful God, draw near. Draw near to the family and friends of the nine who died as they worshipped, prayed, and studied your Word. Draw near to the congregation and community who grieve the loss of their pastor, civic leaders, and beloved residents. Draw near to those we know as enemies, transform their hearts and minds too often twisted around hatred and violence. Draw near to all of us burdened by rage. Lead us to be agents of change and advocates of renewal.

Along the way, listen to our laments, be with us in our angst, and assure us that death does not have the last word. All the more, hasten the day when violence and injustice are no more.

In the name of the Crucified and Resurrected Christ, Amen.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



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