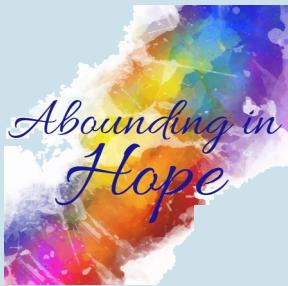


THE FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN
GERMANTOWN



**SPECIAL DATES
OF INTEREST:**

•Wednesday

September 2
Session
7:00 PM

•Monday

September 7
Labor Day
Church Closed

•Thursday

September 10
Gospel Choir
Rehearsals Begin
6:30 PM

•Sunday

September 13
Chancel Choir
8:45 AM
Worship
10:00 AM
Picnic/Barbecue
11:00 AM

•Thursday

September 17
Voices in Bronze
Bell Choir Rehearsals
Begin
7:45 PM

WINDOWS

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 8

SEPTEMBER 2015

From the Pastor

Dear Friends of FPC in Germantown:

September will see the completion of FPCG's Congregational Conversations. These have been based on topics suggested in the report presented to the Session by Rev. Paul Rhebergen. The information gained from these discussions will be utilized in the next phase of the journey towards calling this church's next Pastor. The next step is to prepare a Mission Study that will consider our congregation's history, articulate its core values and purpose, and identify its hopes and dreams for the future. This is intended to help formulate a clear expression of the congregation's mission and vision.

Rev. Stu Ritter, in a guide for churches doing their Mission Study, said "that if a Mission Study is intended to produce meaningful results and lead to possible changes in the life of the church, it should be led by people who are known, admired and respected by the congregation. If a Mission Study is expected to be faithful to the congregation's core values, purpose and historical roots, it should be led by people who are dedicated to the task, and willing to engage in appropriate training and preparation – equipping them to apply sound principles and methods."

Clearly this is an important task, and the selection, by the Session, of the people to do the study is an important first step. Please pray for your church and the Elders you have elected to lead it. May God grant us the discernment to hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

It is a joy to be...

Your fellow servant,

Randy Bremer

Financial Report

2015 Pledge Goal

\$350,000

Pledge to

June 30, 2015

\$199,137

Pledge to

July 31, 2015

\$223,818

Expenses as of

June 30, 2015

Budget

\$432,275

Actual

\$410,896

Expenses as of

July 31, 2015

Budget

\$491,872

Actual

\$491,304

Challenge Offering

June

FPCG Deacons
raised
\$531.00

July

Nepal Earthquake
Disaster
raised
\$562.00

Community Grants

Center in the Park
\$2,500.00

Germantown Avenue
Crisis Ministry
\$2,750.00



The Grace of Giving

As you may remember, we have continued the theme of our annual giving throughout the year: "Abounding in Hope," suggested by the passage in Romans 13:13. Paul, writing in both letters to the Corinthians, offers some of the most forceful and beautiful statements about giving. When he gathered about him the original apostles, they agreed to divide the mission field so that Paul would work with the gentiles and the apostles would work with the Jews.

1 Corinthians 16: 1-4

Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come. And when I arrive, I will send those whom you accredit by letter to carry your gift to Jerusalem. If it seems advisable that I should go also, they will accompany me.

2 Corinthians 8: 1-24

We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints—and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. ...

2 Corinthians 13: 5

Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

2 Corinthians 9: 7

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9: 8

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 13: 5

Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

—The Stewardship Committee

The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown's Financial Mission for 2014

This is the first of several articles detailing First Church's financial commitment to Outreach and Mission. Each month we as a congregation support various programs which benefit outside organizations. *Windows* shows the amount of funds that have been collected and distributed from monthly Challenge Offerings. Although this information is important, it only provides a snapshot of First Church's commitment to outreach and mission. Below is a summary in dollars of the 2014 Challenge Offering income.

2014 Challenge Offerings

Friends of Vernon Park	572
Keep a Child Alive	961
One Great Hour of Sharing	1,654
Heeding God's Call	310
Freedom School	2,299
Deacons	838
My Way	413
Campus Crusades for Christ	1,500
Meserete Kristos College	1,502
Presbyterian Peacemaking	382
Church World Service - Blankets	603
Presbyterian JOY Offering	<u>750</u>
Total	\$11,784

Each month the Outreach and Mission Committee designates a special organization or purpose for a special offering. You are asked to support this offering at your discretion. Funds collected through this offering are passed on to the organization or program based on the amount of money collected. These monies are outside the Church's budget, and are completely financed by the congregation's generosity. Look for future *Windows* articles detailing other funds that carry out First Church's commitment to Mission to both our local community and the larger community.

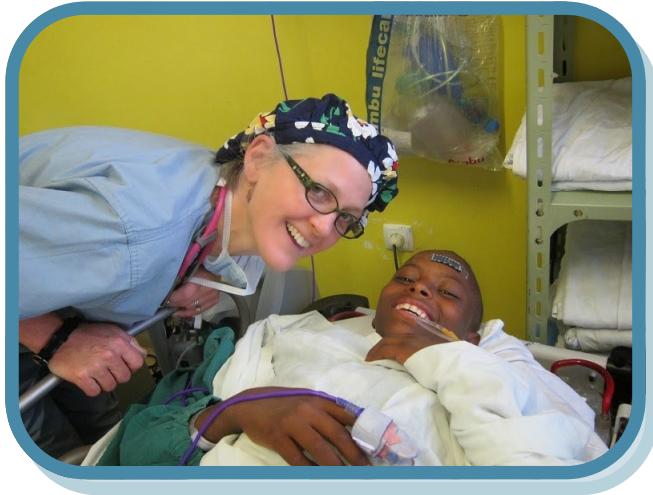


Church Picnic/Barbeque

The annual FPCG barbecue sponsored by the Congregational Development and Fellowship Committee (CDFC) will take place, rain or shine, after worship on Sunday, September 13. Members and friends of First Church are invited to contribute a side-salad or another choice, fruit, and/or dessert item, ready for serving at this event. The Christian Education Committee will again provide the fun activities. Please see Bob Seed, Chair of CDFC, or any member of the Committee for help.



September Challenge Offering



The September Challenge Offering will support our own Dr. Elizabeth Drum's next mission trip to Ethiopia with Healing the Children. Dr. Drum is a pediatric anesthesiologist and travels with Healing the Children, Greater Philadelphia which is a surgical mission organization that makes two yearly trips to Ethiopia focusing on Ear-Nose and Throat issues. Ethiopia is a country in Eastern Sub-Saharan Africa with a population of approximately ninety-five million people.

Dr. Drum states "We care for primarily pediatric patients who have no other access to our special expertise."

There are fewer than twenty anesthesiologists in Ethiopia, none with pediatric training and only about a dozen ENT surgeons, none who have pediatric training. Our trips focus on caring for patients, and teaching local Ethiopian ENT surgeons and anesthesia providers. We also routinely bring audiologists with us and perform hearing evaluations, provide hearing aids and education about hearing loss."

The physician team members pay their own way on these mission trips and use vacation time to travel. They raise money to provide for travel expenses for other team members (nurses, audiologists, residents) and also to cover the costs of supplies and equipment. The team members partner with Cure Ethiopia a hospital in Ethiopia and part of Cure International which is a Christian non-profit organization based in Lemoyne, Pennsylvania.

Please give generously to this important mission and in support of Dr. Drum who has traveled to Ethiopia twelve times since 2009 and is scheduled to return just after Thanksgiving.

FPCG

Church Office Hours

**Tuesday—Friday
10:00 AM—4:00 PM**

To schedule a meeting or event contact

**Joan Harris
215-843-8811, ext. 12**

Deadline

for announcements
In the
Sunday
Worship Bulletin
Noon on
Wednesdays

Deadline

for the
October edition
of
WINDOWS
Monday,
September 14

Send All

Articles and
announcements for
Publication
To
David Daugherty
at
FPCG.Germantown@gmail.com

From the Session

A fresh wind blew on a hot summer evening. There was a concert in Vernon Park. Freedom School scholars were returning from a long day trip. Keystone choir members were arriving for their first fall practice. Eileen Jones was wearily closing down the Crisis Ministry after a particularly long day. Our building was pulsating with activity – literally. The Session members drew the drapes in the Jennings Room and turned up the air conditioning. You are right; the Session usually takes off in August, but this year Reverend Randy called a special meeting.

The congregational conversations were continuing but not finished. Administration and Finance was reminding everyone that it was time to start the budget process. Session members observed that it would be difficult to do a budget while we as a congregation are still trying to decide the future direction of the church. How much should we cut, where should we cut, the membership is dwindling, how can we do a budget? Since our biggest expense is personnel, should we cut staff? Maybe we should pare back the mission and outreach budget; maybe we could save a few dollars there. What about our music program? Could we cut that back? The building, what a money hungry monster it is!

We wish you could have all been with us as the evening evolved. We started the meeting with a time of prayer. Not just the usual “Lord be with us as we....” Randy encouraged us to pray what was on our hearts and not to be afraid of silence. We poured our hearts out to the Lord and asked for guidance and wisdom and direction for our church here in Germantown. The music in Vernon Park thundered on, but we barely noticed.

The conversation went something like this... the loss of people is probably more threatening to this congregation than a dwindling endowment... The trend across the country is that our young people and older people alike find little relevance in religion and church to their daily lives... We need a religious awakening in America... this is our hope that it can happen...we need a fresh wind of the spirit... we cannot engineer this... It is left to us to be faithful...cutting staff to sustain the endowment would hasten the demise of the church... It is easy to look at our problems and despair...we need to do the best we can with what we have been given... How can we impact our community... how can we touch lives at the point of greatest need... It is time to turn a corner... We need to become a magnet to draw people in...we need to help those around us find meaning in life... we want to invite our friends and our community to join us in this mission. NO LONGER WILL WE FOCUS ON THE NEGATIVE AND SAY, “OH WOE.” We will turn the corner. We will invite the fresh wind of the spirit to blow through our congregation and bring us new life. We will work together to find meaning and purpose and to share it with our community. We will pull together. We will move forward. We will use our resources carefully and thoughtfully to carry out God’s plan for Germantown. God has given us tremendous resources in people -- David, Eileen, Christian, Kevin, Randy, Jesse, Heidi -- and in our aging building. We will continue the work of our forefathers (and mothers) but with a new vitality of purpose.

CCDA Conference November 11–14, 2015

Would you like to learn more about God's heart for our city? Are you looking for tangible ways to be involved in the transformation of our neighborhood? Do you need to be renewed, inspired, and equipped? Then the Christian Community Development Association (CCDA) is for you! The Annual CCDA conference is being held this year in Memphis, Tennessee. We'd like to get a small group of people together from First Pres to attend this year's conference. Interested? Talk to Leah Hood or Christian Heyer-Rivera.

Good For The Soul

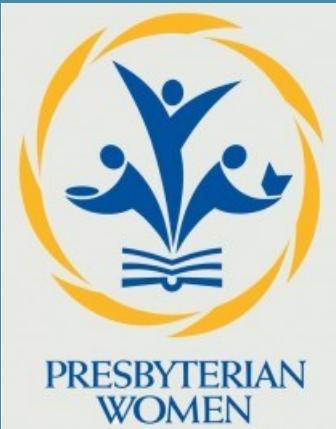
Last week I took my children to a restaurant. My six-year-old son asked if he could say grace. As we bowed our heads he said, "God is good, God is great. Thank you for the food, and I would even thank you more if Mom gets us ice cream for dessert. And Liberty and justice for all! Amen!"

Along with the laughter from the other customers nearby, I heard a woman remark, "That's what's wrong with this country. Kids today don't even know how to pray. Asking God for ice cream! Why, I never!" Hearing this, my son burst into tears and asked me, "Did I do it wrong? Is God mad at me?"

As I held him and assured him that he had done a terrific job and God was certainly not mad at him, an elderly gentleman approached the table. He winked at my son and said, "I happen to know that God thought that was a great prayer. "Really?" my son asked. "Cross my heart," the man replied. Then in a theatrical whisper he added (indicating the woman whose remark had started this whole thing), "Too bad she never asks God for ice cream. A little ice cream is good for the soul sometimes."

Naturally, I bought my kids ice cream at the end of the meal. My son stared at his for a moment and then did something I will remember the rest of my life. He picked up his sundae and without a word, walked over and placed it in front of the woman. With a big smile he told her, "Here, this is for you. Ice cream is good for the soul sometimes; and my soul is good already."

—(Blog) Giving." Board of Wisdom. You-Know-Who. ID#91143

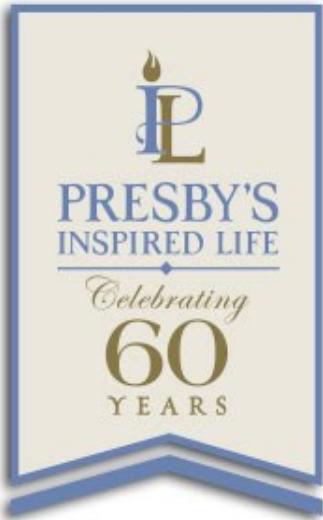


Women: Become A Rachel

Inspired by the late Ann Williams, the Rachel Circle of the Women's Association has revived the group by reorganizing. At a recent meeting, the following were elected to office: Deborah Robinson as Moderator; Gloria Patterson, Vice Moderator; Madeleine Valentine, Secretary and Mary Lundy, Treasurer. The officers were installed this summer by the Moderator of the Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Philadelphia Janet W. Brown.

The Rachel Circle is the only group remaining out of several such groups at First Germantown. According to Bert Aiken, who has been a Rachel for at least twenty-five years, the women have a long history in supporting missions, both home and foreign; just recently the members contributed \$1000 to ongoing mission work. Over the years, First Church Circles have made untold numbers of quilts, blankets, hats, and scarves. For nursing homes, they have made special towels which cover the whole front of a patient's body.

All the women of the church are invited to participate in the Rachel Circle. Meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at 11:00 am at the church. For more information, please contact any of the ladies mentioned in this article.



Presby's Inspired Life

The smile conveyed relief, gratitude and warmth—it said it all, or at least all that needed to be said. Mike was coming home to his new apartment in one of Presby's Inspired Life affordable housing communities. A few days ago, Mike learned he was next in line for an apartment; just yesterday he learned that through the generosity of one of the charitable funds administered by Presby, he was getting a couch, a bed, a kitchen table and chairs as well as some lamps. Mike was coming home.

Presby's Inspired Life exists to provide a “home” for those in need. For sixty years now, Presby has extended warmth and welcome to older adults of all economic backgrounds, sheltering them in safe, secure environments. *Providing exceptional living experiences for older adults* is the mission of Presby, and day in and day out the staff and leadership seek to do just that for the nearly three thousand people who call a Presby community “home.”

Presby's Inspired Life currently consists of thirty-three communities within Philadelphia and the surrounding counties. A total of twenty-nine of these communities are Affordable Housing while four are Market Rate communities. Of those in the affordable housing seventy-three percent of residents receive an annual income that is at or below the poverty level. Were it not for Presby, many of these older adults would perhaps be living in circumstances that would be much less desirable.

The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown (FPCG) has traditionally had a collaborative relationship with Presby, providing charitable gift support annually and ongoing volunteerism to support the more than ninety-five residents of Interfaith House in Germantown. FPCG has been supportive of Presby's mission for many years and in many ways. One of FPCG's members has been particularly influential in guiding the direction of Presby as it grows and develops. Mr. Bill Young, Jr. has provided leadership at Presby for twenty-one years, as a Board Chair and a dedicated Board Member, sharing his expertise in many ways during that time while being a loyal benefactor and supportive presence.

In recent weeks, individuals from Presby were invited to join the FPCG faith community. Regina Heilman -Toth, Presby's Director of Faith-Based Outreach shared about the ministry of Presby's Inspired Life, notably, volunteer opportunities * which include one-on-one relating to residents as well as assisting with life enriching activities, just to name a few. And Marina Hacking, Presby's Executive Director of Rosemont and Broomall, gave a talk on interacting and communicating with persons suffering from dementia to assist deacons in their ministry.

And so this strong collaboration continues. It is collaboration in ministry, born of shared faith, which, with God's blessing, continues to provide a “home” and a smile for those older adults in need.

*In addition to the gift of treasure, Presby values and appreciates the gift of time. To learn more about the ministry of Presby's Inspired Life or its volunteer outreach initiatives, please contact:

Regina Heilman-Toth
Director of Faith-Based Outreach
610-260-1102
regina.heilman-toth@presbysinspiredlife.org

Profile: Dick Liberty

Worcester, Massachusetts; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Dallas, Texas; San Francisco, California—these are some of the defining compass points in the life, past and present, of First Presbyterian member Dick Liberty.

He was born *Dick* Liberty, not Richard, in Worcester, Mass., where he was the middle child of three. After the requisite 12 years of pre-college education, he graduated from Lowell State College, now the University of Massachusetts Lowell, with a degree in music history and literature. Coming to Philadelphia, Dick continued his music education at Temple University where he was awarded an M. A. in Vocal Performance; his career aspirations to teach music and voice in college were redirected, however, when he took a position with the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). That detour has lasted 36 years. As the Manager of the Assistance Program, Dick oversees customer service, dues receivable and data entry. “Assistance” in the title refers to the aid given to church workers with urgent financial needs, to retired church workers with financial and housing needs and to pastors with vocational leadership needs. Monies are given, for example, for emergency life situations, seminary debts, sabbaticals, and adoptions.

In his managerial position with the larger church, Dick had the opportunity a few years ago to attend a conference in Dallas, Texas. On the shuttle to the airport at the end of the meetings, he noticed a woman wearing an ID badge which included the words “Philadelphia Presbytery.” Striking up a conversation with her, Dick discovered that she was the pastor of a church in Germantown. Yes, the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown and, yes, the Rev. Nancy Muth. When he told her that he just might be looking for a church, she invited him to First Germantown: “I hope you will come and try us; however, you may want to go to other churches, too.” Dick Liberty came shortly thereafter—and has never left.

But his spiritual path here has been a varied one. Reared a Methodist, in early adulthood, he found no affiliation with a church for a decade and a half or more. Because he worked for an agency of the church, he felt connected with it that way, yet the need of spiritual direction was gnawing at him. He didn’t find it at Tenth Presbyterian where he attended for a time. It was a “good teaching church” and he liked singing in the choir. He even helped start Stephen ACTS, “Active Compassion Through Services,” a group devoted to assisting the homeless. Personally, though, at a time when his own life struggles were looming large, the ministry and congregation of the church were not at all helpful to Dick.

For three years after that, he was a paid bass soloist in a church in an Upper Darby Methodist church; every four weeks, he sang a solo. Yet, in that capacity, he felt no binding connection to the faith. Then he met a nun who had a master’s degree in “spiritual direction” from Creighton University where part of the curriculum was to act as a mentor to someone in need of understanding about the religious life. One of the requirements of a course was to take people on a retreat (near Shillington, Pennsylvania) where silence was the chief order; only one 45-minute period during the day might people talk to one another and then largely about their reading assignments. Dick said, “The greatest benefit for my spiritual direction was my best taste of what God’s unconditional love is really like.”

“It’s all about talking with God and listening for answers,” he said. “Prayer has to happen with you, not just in the pew or kneeling by your bed. God doesn’t care where you are. God just wants you to talk with God.” So, encouraged by the experience he had with the nun and the retreat, Dick decided to look for a church again. That was about the time he met Rev. Muth in Dallas and “found” First Church.

—Continued on page 9

Profile: Dick Liberty - continued

What does he like most of all about the church? It's the emphasis on social justice and the way that plays out in, for example, the Crisis Center, the basketball team, Bread and Cup. FPCG provides for the needs of the community and gives viable opportunities "in a loving, neighborly way." Racially, economically and socially, it reflects Philadelphia. Looking at the church in another way, Dick said that while being bound by tradition does have its benefits, perhaps we need to be open to other ways of thinking as we move forward.

Dick Liberty and Worcester, Philadelphia and Dallas, but what about San Francisco? It's a symbol of the distance that Dick will travel to attend an opera: his real love. This month he will fly to the west coast to hear Verdi's *Luisa Miller* starring soprano Leah Crocetto and baritone Michael Fabiano. Ask Mr. Liberty *any* question about *any* opera, particularly those by Mozart, and he will probably be able to answer it--and in all-encompassing detail. His opera interests include attending the "Live in HD" performances of the Metropolitan Opera to which he goes with fellow Presbyterians Joe Leube, Pam Ball, Herb Valentine and Barbara Chaapel.

Another abiding interest of Dick's is gardening, and the proof of that is his leadership along with Ann Reese and others in maintaining (i. e., planting, weeding, trimming, dead-heading) gardens in front of the church. Presently, those spots are showcases for Chelten Avenue. "I'm not a tree and bush person, not vegetables either, but I love to grow flowering things," he said. Handling those "flowering things" translates to Dick's service as a deacon in overseeing the delivery of each Sunday's pulpit flowers to ailing members of the congregation.

As for his continuing musical interests, Dick has sung in the choir and is a member of the bell choir. Additionally, he has served on the communications committee, ushered and hosted coffee hour. All musical and spiritual things considered then, it is quite evident that Germantown and First Church are yet another defining compass point for Dick Liberty as indeed he is for the church.

—Sam Whyte



Leadership Training Series For Church Officers

The Presbytery of Philadelphia not only longs to birth new leadership and equip our existing pastors, but also to encourage and empower our ruling elders, deacons, and trustees serving our nearly 130 congregations. As a part of the Ministry and Leadership Incubator, Presbytery will host various gatherings of church officers to nurture their sense of call and steward their gifts and ideas as they embody the Good News of Jesus Christ in their congregations and communities.

In the fall of 2015, the Presbytery of Philadelphia will host an eight-week Leadership Training Series for our church officers and led by our Stated Clerk and Executive Presbyter. Meeting once a week with leaders from around our four regions, church officers will engage in conversations that pertain to vocation, biblical models of leadership, essentials of the Christian faith, brief historical overview, theology of the table, and common temptations that face church leaders.

The workshop will be held on Thursdays—September 10-November 12—from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Presbytery Office, 905 East Gowen Street.

Early Fire Routs 1000 Members Here

On January 4, 1906, on page one of the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, First Germantown was the subject of was the subject of an article, the headline of which read "Fire Menaced Two Church Buildings With Destruction." The sub-heads included "Insane Woman Ignited Decorations on the Catholic Altar as an Act of Duty" and "Germantown Edifice Was Badly Damaged."

The first part of the article dealt with St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Fifth and Girard, and a fire set by "the act of a demented woman who was inspired wholly by reverence for her church" and her anger at artificial greens having been placed on the altar. After the woman was apprehended and taken to a police station, she was admitted as a mental patient at Philadelphia Hospital. There was no damage to the church.

The second portion of the article was headed "Pastor Prevented Panic."

"Coolness on the part of Rev. Charles Erdman, who was speaking from the pulpit of the church, alone prevented a serious panic in the First Presbyterian Church of, [sic] Germantown, when smoke was noticed issuing from the Sunday school room.

"For a second uneasiness was apparent among the congregation, especially the feminine portion, but the calmness with which the preacher advised that there was no danger and directed them to proceed quietly from the threatened structure subdued every indication of panic.

"Not only that, but Dr. Erdman seemed to instill some of his own cool courage into the congregation, for while a number of men saw to it that the women were safely escorted from the church, others ran into the Sunday school room where the flames were raging and rescued books and other property. Rev. James Potts, the assistant pastor, was among the first of the men to engage in this work, and he succeeded in saving many valuable records.

Church Was Crowded

"About a month ago, Mr. Erdman resigned the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church to become one of the professors in the Theological Department of Princeton University. During the vacancy in the pulpit, however, he has watched over the affairs of the church.

"Last night he was delivering a sermon and the church was filled by a large congregation, there being nearly a thousands person present. The opening hymn was finished without incident, and then Dr. Erdman ascended the pulpit and began his sermon.

"Hardly had he commenced when smoke was noticed issuing from between the sashes which separated the church room from the Sunday school.

"While the clergyman was directing the dismissal of the congregation, Policemen McFarland and Everman turned on an alarm and then helped the exit of the people.

"The firemen responded promptly and after an hour's stubborn fight put out the blaze, succeeding in confining it to the Sunday school room. This room was burned out and occasioned a loss of about \$2000. A portion of the church room was damaged by smoke and water.

"The church was built seventy years ago and later an extension was made in the rooms of the Sunday school. Deep sashes separated the church and the Sunday school.

"As far as can be learned a defective flue was responsible for the fire."



Animals from the Land(s) Down Under

The animals of Australia and New Zealand are unique and can be found nowhere else on earth except perhaps in zoos. From kangaroos, bandicoots and koalas (all marsupials) to emus, kiwis and Kakapos (birds that cannot fly) to echidnas (also called spiny anteaters) and Tasmanian devils (not the cartoon character), many of these animals are endangered and survive in some of the harshest conditions on earth. Read and discover the unique animals of Australia and New Zealand in their natural habitats. Titles are for grades pre-K-5. Asterisks mark higher readability titles.

Happy Reading!
Deborah Thompson

Children's Book Spot

Allgor, Marie. *Endangered Animals of Australia*. Powerkids Press, 2011.

Arnold, Caroline. *Australian Animals*. HarperCollins, 2000.

Arnold, Caroline. *A Koala's World*. Picture Window Books, 2008.

Arnold, Caroline. *A Wombat's World*. Picture Window Books, 2008.

Berkes, Marianne. *Over in Australia: Amazing Animals Down Under*.

Illustrated by Jill Dubin. Dawn Publications, 2011.

Collard, Sneed B., III. *A Platypus, Probably*. Charlesbridge, 2005.

Clarke, Ginger J. *Platypus!*

Illustrated by Paul Mirocha. Random House, 2004.

Gunson, Dave. *The Big Book of New Zealand Wildlife*.

New Holland, 2011.

Kras, Sara Louise. *Koalas*. Capstone Press, 2009.

Kelly, Susan & Deborah Lee Rose. *Jimmy the Joey: The True Story of an Amazing Koala Rescue*. National Geographic Kids, 2013.

Markle, Sandra. *Finding Home*.

Illustrated by Alan Marks. Charlesbridge, 2010.

Markle, Sandra. *Hip-Pocket Papa*.

Illustrated by Alan Marks. Charlesbridge, 2010.

Meinking, Mary. *Dingoes*. Bearport Publishing, 2014.

Montgomery, Sy. *Kakapo Rescue: Saving the World's Strangest Parrot*.

Photographs by Nic Bishop. Houghton Mifflin, 2010.*

Oliver, Narelle. *Sand Swimmers: The Secret Life of Australia's Desert Wilderness*. Candlewick, 2015.

Portman, Michael. *Tasmanian Devils in Danger (Animals at Risk)*.

Gareth Stevens, 2011.

Rismiller, Peggy. *Echidna: Australia's Enigma*. Universe Books, 1999.

Saxby, Claire. *Big Red Kangaroo*.

Illustrated by Graham Byrne. Candlewick, 2015.

Saxby, Claire. *Emu*.

Illustrated by Graham Byrne. Candlewick, 2015.*

Sill, Cathryn P. *About Marsupials: A Guide for Children*.

Illustrated by John Sill. Peachtree, 2006.

Sirota, Lyn A. *Bandicoots*. Capstone Press, 2010.

Wignell, Edel. *Bilby: Secrets of an Australian Marsupial*.

Illustrated by Mark Jackson. Candlewick, 2015.

Who Was Sarah B. W. McLean?

Whenever the first note of the organ is sounded in any worship service or musical program at the church, some members of the congregation may immediately think of Sarah B. W. McLean whose great generosity has provided that instrument for us. As the memorial tablet for the organ states. "Offered on January 28, 1917, by Mrs. William L. McLean (member 1873-1921) in memory of members of her family: William G. Warden; Sarah Wells Bushnell (wife of William G. Warden); Anne Warden Bonnell; Mary Warden Harkness; and Lt. Warden McLean.

Whenever some folks think of Sarah B. W. McLean, they remember her likeness which can be seen along with other Germantown women of prominence on the large mural painted on the north side of the Women's Y at 5820 Germantown Avenue. It was Mrs. McLean whose generosity built the "Y" between 1912-1916. Stipulations in her will concerning the "Y" resulted in First Church's receiving funds when the local organization failed to be affiliated with the national one.

Further, when Mrs. McLean died in 1921, she bequeathed the sum of \$50,000 to the church for the maintenance of the organ. In 2014 (the last calculation), that amount would be approximately \$600, 641.75. Other of the philanthropist's bequests included \$100,000 to the then Germantown Dispensary and Hospital and \$100,000 to Princeton University in memory of her son, Warden McLean, Class of 1912, who was killed in an accident in Tennessee on June 29, 1917, during WWI.

Before her marriage to William Lippard McLean in 1879, she was Sarah Burd Warden, born in Pittsburgh on May 4, 1863; she died on her 58th birthday in 1921. Mr. McLean had extensive experience in Pennsylvania newspapers before he acquired the *Philadelphia Bulletin* in 1895. Mrs. McLean was involved in many civic organizations in Philadelphia and Germantown.

The Social Corner

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 September date for Dinners for Eight is Saturday, September 26.

Happy Birthday September

1	<i>Erika Littles</i>	11	<i>Late-ta Darby-Smith</i>	19	<i>Sol Williams</i>
	<i>Wayne Swift</i>	12	<i>Frances Smith</i>	21	<i>Lisa Panetta</i>
2	<i>D'Wayne Robinson</i>	14	<i>Jade Bass</i>	24	<i>Debra Gary</i>
4	<i>Roger Miller</i>		<i>Ann Reisse</i>	25	<i>Brian Harris</i>
6	<i>Marlene Simmons</i>	15	<i>Joyce Singer</i>		<i>Melissa Miller</i>
7	<i>Ruth Cato</i>		<i>Rosemary Williams</i>		<i>Bernice Roundtree</i>
8	<i>Robert Cato</i>	16	<i>Polly Montaigne</i>	27	<i>Lisa Martin</i>
9	<i>Don Carlin</i>	18	<i>Martin Lagunsad</i>	29	<i>Jayne Dambman</i>
10	<i>Howard Tyrrell</i>	19	<i>Filomena Santos</i>		

September 2015

1 Tuesday	GACM – Closed 1:00 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting 9:30 am Classic Towns	13 Sunday	8:45 am Chancel Choir 10:00 am Worship Service 11:30 am Picnic/Barbecue	23 Wednesday	3:00 pm Staff Meeting 4:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir 6:30 pm Mission and Outreach Committee
2 Wednesday	GACM – Closed 3:00 pm Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Session	14 Monday		24 Thursday	6:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir 6:30 pm Gospel Choir
3 Thursday	GACM – Closed	15 Tuesday	1:00 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting	25 Friday	3:30 pm Drop-in-Center 5:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble 6:30 pm Middle/High School Youth Group
4 Friday	GACM – Closed 6:30 pm Elementary School Youth Group	16 Wednesday	3:00 pm Staff Meeting 4:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir 7:00 pm Property Committee 7:00 pm Communication & Evangelism Committee	26 Saturday	8:00 am Keystone State Boychoir 9:00 am Readers' Choice 10:00 am Open Gym 1:00 pm Organ Practice—David Daugherty Dinners for Eight
5 Saturday	GACM – Closed 9:30 am Congregational Development & Fellowship Committee 10:00 am Open Gym 10:00 am Organ Practice—David Daugherty	17 Thursday	6:00 pm Administration & Finance Committee 6:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir Rehearsal + New Member Open House 6:30 pm Gospel Choir	27 Sunday	Celebration Sunday 8:45 am Chancel Choir 10:00 am Worship Service 11:30 am Sunday School & Confirmation 11:30 am Adult Education—Rev. Bremer Mark 11:30 am Chancel Choir
6 Sunday	GACM – Closed 8:45 am Chancel Choir 10:00 am Worship Service 11:30 am Sunday School & Confirmation 11:30 am Adult Education 11:30 am Chancel Choir	18 Friday	3:30 pm Drop-in-Center 5:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble 5:00 pm Camping Trip Departs	28 Monday	
7 Monday	Labor Day Church Closed	19 Saturday	8:00 am Keystone State Boychoir Rehearsals + New Member Open House 9:00 am Congregational Conversation 10:00 am Open Gym 1:00 pm Organ Practice—David Daugherty	29 Tuesday	1:00 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting
8 Tuesday	GACM – Closed 1:00 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting	20 Sunday	8:45 am Chancel Choir 10:00 am Worship Service 11:30 am Sunday School 11:30 am Adult Education 11:30 am Chancel Choir 5:00 pm Camping Trip Returns	30 Wednesday	3:00 pm Staff Meeting 4:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir
9 Wednesday	GACM – Closed 3:00 pm Staff Meeting 5:30 pm GACM Board Meeting 6:30 pm Christian Education Committee	21 Monday			
10 Thursday	GACM – Closed 6:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir 6:30 pm Gospel Choir	22 Tuesday	1:00 pm CY Choirs Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Worship and Music Committee 6:30 pm Building Usage Meeting		
11 Friday	GACM – Closed 3:30 pm Drop-in-Center 5:00 pm Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble 6:30 pm Elementary School Youth Group				
12 Saturday	Keystone State Boychoir 8:00 am Open Gym 10:00 am Organ Practice—David Daugherty				

Music Notes

The Chancel Choir will resume Sunday, September 6 with a warm-up rehearsal at 8:45 AM in the choir loft. Rehearsals after worship will also begin on September 6 from 11:30 AM—12:45 PM.

The Gospel Choir sings once a month for worship and is under the direction of Sara Carter-Blanford. Rehearsals will resume Thursday, September 10, from 6:30 PM—7:30 PM in the choir loft.

Voices-in-Bronze handbell choir will resume rehearsals Thursday, September 17 from 7:45 PM—9:00 PM.

Messiah 2015: This year's Messiah concert will be held on Sunday, December 6 at 3:00 PM. The production will be a chamber-style performance based on Georg Friedrich Händel's original 1742 Dublin premiere. Chorus rehearsals will begin Tuesday, November 10 from 7:00—9:00 PM. Watch for additional articles about this unique performance in future editions of WINDOWS.

New choir members are always welcome.

If you like to sing or have an interest in bell ringing come out to a rehearsal and give it a try.
For more information call David Daugherty at 215-843-8811, extension 11.



35 West Chelten Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 1144

Phone: 215-843-8811
Fax: 888-333-5032
E-mail: FPCG.Germantown@gmail.com



We're on the web
www.fpcgermantown.org