



• Windows •

The newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown



Minister's Message

by Rev. Rebecca Segers

“Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!”

The foundation of my faith is the Resurrection. Christ is risen! – risen two thousand years ago and risen in us today. We joyfully proclaim these words on Easter Sunday morning, shouting God’s hope in Jesus anew each year.

This is Crazy Talk! Do you hear it? Resurrection! Death overcome, and new life begun. We are so used to the words we say and the sentiments they express, we don’t realize how utterly bonkers the reality is. Christians

express a belief in God that completely transforms everything and then go about our lives as though nothing has changed at all.

In a way, this is distinctively Presbyterian – or certainly mainline Protestant. We are comfortable with our faith and can acknowledge that our lives are changed because of that faith, at least internally, but are not comfortable sharing it – not verbally anyway. We, especially at First Presbyterian Church in Germantown, lead very active vibrant faith lives, breathing in God’s love through worship, and breathing out God’s love in service. But sharing that love in words, with our friends and neighbors, telling people about how our lives are better because of God in Jesus Christ with the help of the Holy Spirit? How our lives are inspired and vibrant and turned upside down with hope in a challenging world because of the Lord? That’s another story entirely. At least it often has been for me, and perhaps for you, too.

Recently, I arrived in the west parking lot of the church and was backing into the Pastor’s spot. I saw a woman I didn’t recognize get out of her car and head toward the back door, so I graciously put on the brake to allow her to pass. She peered into the car and curled her lip. Or at least that’s how I interpreted it. No smile. No wave. Doesn’t she know who I am? I’ve been here for a month, after all! My sense of self-importance puffed, and my ego began to take over. I started to make snap decisions about who she was and which group she belonged to. Luckily, the Holy Spirit intervened. “Maybe, Rebecca,” I thought, “You are one who didn’t smile or wave at her. Maybe it was the look on your face that didn’t welcome her in Christ.”

I am so grateful for the boundless grace of God’s acceptance and love in the face of my brokenness. “But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8) I don’t know about you, but sometimes I don’t accept or love others, much less be willing to die for them, despite the grace that God has offered to me.

I parked my car and entered the building. I thought I saw the woman on one of the upper balconies in Longstreth Auditorium and I cordially called out, “Good morning!” It wasn’t the woman I had encountered in the parking lot, but Martha from Commonwealth Youthchoirs; she returned my greeting and came bustling down the stairs to meet me. What had started out as a grumpy morning turned into a pleasant encounter.

If we truly believe in this good news story, this story of hope and grace and renewal and transformed lives, then it starts with us. With our checking our egos at the door and allowing Christ to work through us. To turn foolishness into wisdom, weakness into strength, despair into hope, death into life.

May we enter this Easter season as new creations, people transformed into ambassadors for Christ, sharing God’s love and our connection through First Presbyterian Church in Germantown, inviting all we meet into the joy we share!



WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN
US FOR OUR
EASTER FESTIVAL

Saturday, March 31
11am - 2pm



Featuring

Arts and crafts

Egg Dying

Sidewalk Chalking

Free Lunch

An interactive walk through
the Easter story

Annual Easter Egg Hunt led
by the Easter Bunny!

All ages welcome!

Free Will Offering

For more information call
215-843-8811





JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Sundays 10am-11am

Everyone is invited to worship, study, and enjoy friendships at The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown. There are service, outreach, and fellowship opportunities in abundance. In addition to weekly and monthly scheduled services and activities, visit our Special Events web pages for more information about other ways to participate.

To learn more, please e-mail
FPCG.Germantown@gmail.com
or call the church office at
215-843-8811.

Windows is a publication of The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown.

For questions regarding the information published here or to submit content, please contact the church office or email **fpcgWindows@gmail.com.**

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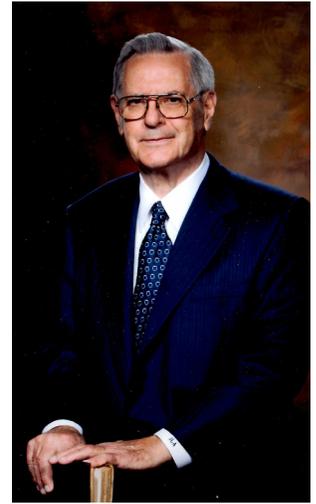
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REMEMBERING JACK ASHER ON HIS BIRTHDAY

Emily Harmar

We are profoundly grateful to the Asher family and to everyone at FPCG for helping us hold the first annual "Asher's Legacy - CY Remembers Jack" Concert on Jack's birthday. Jack loved FPCG, he loved choral music (especially choral music with organ accompaniment!), and he loved giving young people the opportunity to have transformative experiences through singing together. All proceeds from the event supported scholarships and during the concert, Commonwealth Youthchoirs renamed its scholarship fund, the Asher Scholarship Fund to perpetuate his legacy. We hope you will mark your calendars for next year's concert, which will be at FPCG on March 3, 2018.



FPCG's Mark DiNardo Lead Engineer on Weather Satellite Project

First Presbyterian's Marc DiNardo, spacecraft and mechanical engineer, has been instrumental to the development of two weather satellites—the GOES-R (GOES-East) weather satellite was successfully launched from Cape Canaveral November 19, 2016. Read about the second satellite—GOES-S—below.



Germantown Friends School (March 1, 2018)

Head of School Dana Weeks is at Cape Canaveral right now with School Committee member Marc DiNardo '80, watching the launch of the GOES-S weather satellite. Marc is the Chief Mechanical Systems Engineer at Stinger Ghaffarian Technologies (SGT), and he led the mechanical design of the satellite. GOES-S is NASA/NOAA's second weather satellite, which will help track wildfires, cyclones, fog, and storms that threaten the western US. When GOES-S takes up its final orbit, it will be renamed GOES-West, and will combine forces with GOES-East to provide a full picture of the weather over the United States.

In this picture, Dana and Marc are as close as they can be—just 5 miles away. Countdown is on to launch.

Marc is a GFS "lifer" and the son of Thomas DiNardo '54. He attended MIT, where he earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Aeronautics and Astronautics. As an aerospace engineer, Marc has played a critical role in the design, assembly and launch of many spacecrafts, including the Terra climate research satellite, the Hubble Space Telescope, and other environmental spacecrafts for NASA, and is currently working on the next generation of weather satellites for NASA/NOAA.

Marc has been generous with his time at GFS, encouraging student interest in science and engineering. He will be the 2018 Science Night Speaker at assembly on Wednesday, April 18!



The launch was streamed live here:

space.com/39838-goes-s-weather-satellite-launch-webcast.html



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

PLEDGES		EXPENSES	
Budgeted	To Date	Budgeted	To Date
\$ 747,797	\$ 70,281	\$ 747,797	\$ 141,012

We are at the beginning of our 2018 year. Pledges and expenses are in line for a two-month period. Of course, as we progress through the year our expenses will increase as our activities increase.

The Administration and Finance Committee monitors income and expenses monthly. We are currently involved in reviewing how we account for income and expenses with an outside consultant. This will not change our programs; but may impact how we report income and expenses. Last year our outside auditors suggested we make some changes in our accounting system, we are now in the process of implementing these changes.

Your financial support is appreciated and enables us to continue our many programs and commitments.

REVISED 2018 BUDGET

Session approved the revised 2018 budget at its March meeting. This budget is balanced with income and expense of \$747,797 each.

Something New... THE PRAISE AND EVANGELISM TEAM!

Ted Walkenhorst

The church's Evangelism Committee has a new name and an expanded mission. At the suggestion of Rev. Segers, the purpose of this work area has been expanded and redefined. As Rev. Segers has explained, welcoming visitors to FPCG involves more than a warm greeting following worship on Sunday mornings. It should also include taking creative steps to show visitors and the community at large who we are and what we believe. Ideas Rev. Segers has suggested include a prayer wall and/or new banners in front of the church, seasonal decorating in the sanctuary and creative enhancing of the public spaces in the building.

At the same time, this work area has been renamed a "team" rather than a committee to acknowledge its new focus. To join the team means you may only become involved for a specific project or a limited number of the team's Bible studies and brainstorming sessions. The team began its new mission with three Bible study gatherings after church the last three Sundays in March.

Please prayerfully consider joining the new Praise and Evangelism Team.

Look for announcements in the bulletin for info about the next meeting or contact:

Pastor Segers
rsegers@fpcgermantown.org

or

Ted Walkenhorst
tedwalkenhorst@yahoo.com
or cell: **267-808-1896**



April 7, 2018 | 11:30am - 1:30pm

"Foundation of Presbyterian Policy and Councils of the Church"
Oxford Presbyterian Church

The Oxford Presbyterian Church is hosting a workshop-seminar on the "Foundation of Presbyterian Policy and Councils of the Church" on Saturday, April 7th from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. The leaders are Rev. Kevin Porter and the Rev. Ken Ross, who is currently moderating the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. The focus is on being equipped and knowledgeable in leading our communities forward.

Please contact Rev. Segers if you are interested in attending. A Book of Order is needed, so if you do not have one, please advise, so we can also assure there is one waiting for you upon your arrival.

THRIVE!

THRIVE is an adult education program sponsored by the Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry(GACM) whose mission is to help Northwest Philadelphia residents take the steps needed to move towards self-sufficiency. The program consists of nine modules and at least one required coaching session culminating in a certificate of completion at the graduation ceremony. The modules consist of three sessions entitled "All About Me" which help participants identify their strengths and weaknesses, help with decision making and setting priorities, two sessions entitled Computer Know How, two sessions entitled Health and Wellness and two sessions entitled Finance 101.

The third THRIVE program began March 21, 2018. All classes, except the computer sessions, meet at the church from 8:30-12:00. The computer sessions will be held at Enon Tabernacle Church on Cheltenham Ave. from 10-12. Breakfast and lunch are included.

THRIVE SCHEDULE

All About Me (Part 1) March 21 & 28	Health and Wellness April 11&12	Computer Know-How April 25 &26	Finance 101 May 23 &30	All About Me (Part 2) & Graduation June 6
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Birthdays



Wish these members a happy birthday next time you see them!

April

- 2 Todd Gasper
- 3 Peter Ahn
- 3 Amelia Harris
- 3 Clyde Harris
- 4 Linda Farlow
- 5 Pernell Jackson
- 9 Robert Seed
- 10 Dolores Shanks
- 11 Vera Harrison
- 13 Denise Cowie
- 15 Elisa Heyer-Rivera
- 16 Estalene Artis
- 20 Fay Tomlinson
- 25 Mandy Adams
- 25 Jason Greene
- 28 Peggy Jane Garrett
- 30 Valient Solomon

Items for next *Windows* due April 13. Submit to **fpcgwindows@gmail.com**.

Please submit all festival/church event announcements **one month** in advance.

The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown



The mission of the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown is to reflect the loving presence of Christ in Germantown as we serve others faithfully, worship God joyfully, and share life together in a diverse and generous community.

IHN
APRIL 8-MAY 6, 2018

Sign up during Coffee Hour or contact Delores Solomon or Eileen Jones.



CARL DAMBMAN RECOUNTS HIS 2018 WINTER OLYMPICS MINISTRY

*Greetings from Seattle
March 2018*

I had a wonderful three-week trip to Korea to attend the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympic Games. This was my 18th Olympics, my 7th Winter Olympics. I usually have official Volunteer accreditation as a chaplain for the Christian Olympians in the Multi Faith Center (MFC) of the Olympic Village (OV). However, the Local Organizing Committee decided to not provide any accreditations for International Christian Chaplains. I had good conversations with Olympians from Kazakhstan, Moldova, Ukraine, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia. Speaking Russian with an American accent opens many opportunities to share why I speak their language and why I lived in Moscow. God opened some amazing times of encouraging athletes, praying for them, sharing scripture, presenting them with a Bible in their language, and exchanging contact information for future communication. Hundreds of Christian athletes returned home this past week. Most of them will have opportunities to share about their Olympics and share their faith story. Your prayers are needed. I had a wonderful time in Korea, your prayers helped open doors and hearts, and kept me healthy.

Thanks, Carl

APRIL CHALLENGE OFFERING—ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



Please join with Presbyterians everywhere in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural and human-caused disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

One Great Hour of Sharing is the single largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

We share—with women who once trafficked for domestic labor and now own their own cooperative businesses. **This is church.**

We share—with people through land rights training and improvements to farming methods. **This is church.**

We share—with those whose lives have been adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events, staying for the long term. **This is church.**

The church is happening right now, all around us—because we share Christ's love. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

CHURCH HOLIDAYS 2018

Monday, January 1, 2018

New Years Day

Monday, January 15, 2018

Martin Luther King Day

Monday, May 28, 2018

Memorial Day

Wednesday, July 4, 2018

Independence Day

Monday, September 3, 2018

Labor Day

Thursday, November 22, 2018

Thanksgiving Day

Tuesday, December 25, 2018

Christmas Day



FROM THE CHOIR LOFT

F. Anthony Thurman, Music Director

SPRING CONCERT

Sunday, March 18 | 4pm

The Germantown Oratorio Choir presented a transformative Brahms Festival Concert on Sunday, March 18. More than 140 people attended the spring concert, which included the Alto Rhapsody and A German Requiem. Nearly 100 viewers enjoyed the concert via Internet livestream.



The concert video can be found online at
www.fpcgermantown.org/Brahms-2018.

NEW MUSIC FILLS THE AIR

Music Director F. Anthony Thurman has composed a new set music for the Lord's Supper. The Sanctus, Memorial Acclamation, and Great Amen were composed "in honor of the Rev. Rebecca Segers, pastor, and all my good friends at The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown" and were sung for the first time in worship on the First Sunday in Lent.

Jesse Padgett, baritone section leader in the Chancel Choir, has composed a new anthem, "I Have Seen the Lord," for our combined Chancel and Gospel Choirs. It will be premiered on Easter Sunday. The anthem tells the story of the resurrection beginning with the three women at the tomb. It is scored for piano, organ, brass, and percussion accompaniment.

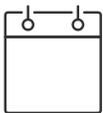
EASTER MUSIC

Sunday, April 1 | 10:45am

Come early on Easter Sunday to enjoy an extended prelude by brass and percussion students from the Curtis Institute of Music.



Notice of Annual Congregational Meeting



May 6, 2018 | After 10am Service
Annual Congregational Meeting
FPCG

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Religious Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown, in the County of Philadelphia, will be held on Sunday, May 6, 2018, immediately following the 10 AM Service of Worship. The purpose of this meeting is to:

- Hear the report of the Nominating Committee and to vote on said report. Nominees for the offices of Elder and Deacon, and for the 2019 Nominating Committee will be presented.
- Receive Reports from the staff, committees, and organizations in the Church.
- Formally present to the congregation the financial report for the Corporation for 2017

It is tax season!

Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry (GACM) is offering tax preparation services for taxpayers earning less than \$65,000.

Volunteers are available on Wednesday mornings at the GACM.

CHILDREN'S BOOK SPOT

Fly, Eagles, Fly!

by Deborah Thompson



Sorry Eagles fans, this month's column is not about the reigning Super Bowl Champions, instead it's about birds of prey. Birds of prey or raptors encompass a range of species from eagles (bald and otherwise) and hawks to vultures and owls. These powerful birds have talons, have broad wingspans, and hooked, sharp-tipped beaks. Among many of these predators, the females are larger and more powerful than the males, but scientists still don't know why this is so. Asterisks mark titles for advanced or older readers.

Arnosky, Jim. *All About Owls*. Scholastic, 1995.

Arnosky, Jim. *Thunderbirds: Nature's Flying Predators*. Sterling Books, 2011. *

Burnie, David. *DK Eyewitness Books: Eagles & Birds of Prey*. DK Children's Books, 2016. *

Dunphy, Madeleine. *The Peregrine's Journey: A Story of Migration*. Illustrated by Kristin Kest. Web of Life Books, 2008.

Erickson, Laura. *Hawk Ridge: Minnesota's Birds of Prey*. Illustrated by Betsy Bowen, University of Minnesota Press, 2012. *

Erickson, Laura. *Twelve Owls*. Illustrated by Betsy Bowen. University of Minnesota Press, 2011. *

George, Jean Craighead. *The Eagles Are Back*. Illustrated by Wendell Minor, Dial, 2013.

Gibbons, Gail. *Owls*. Holiday House, 2006.

Hill, Melissa. *Peregrine Falcons (Birds of Prey)*. Capstone, 2015.

Hill, Melissa. *Red-Tailed Hawks (Birds of Prey)*. Capstone, 2015.

Hill, Melissa. *Turkey Vultures (Birds of Prey)*. Capstone, 2015.

Hoena, Blake. *National Geographic Kids Everything Birds of Prey: Swoop in for Seriously Fierce Photos and Amazing Info*. National Geographic, 2015.

Mason, Adrienne. *Owls*. Illustrated by Nancy Gray Ogle. Kids Can Press, 2004.

Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. *The Bald Eagle Returns*. Photographs by William Muñoz. Clarion, 2000. *

Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. *The Call of the Osprey*. Photographs by William Muñoz. Harcourt Houghton Mifflin, 2015. *

Raven, Margot Theis. *Challenger: America's Favorite Eagle*. Illustrated by Gijsbert van Frankenhuyzen. Sleeping Bear Press, 2005.

Sayre, April Pulley. *Vulture View*. Illustrations by Steve Jenkins. Henry Holt, 2007.

Schulman, Janet. *Pale Male: Citizen Hawk of New York City*. Illustrated by Meilo So. Knopf, 2008.

Sill, Cathryn P. *About Raptors: A Guide for Children*. Illustrated by John Sill. Peachtree Publishers, 2010.

Waxman, Laura. *California Condors: Wide-Winged Soaring Birds*. Lerner, 2016. *



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