FIRST PRESS

April 2023

A publication of the
First Presbyterian Church of Haddon Heights

28 7th Avenue, Haddon Heights, NJ 08035
856.547.6139
www.fpchaddonheights.org
Rev. Eliza Cramer Jaremko, Pastor

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
-Psalm 46:1-3

Here, the Psalmist describes the way we walk with God every day: leaning on God's strength, taking refuge in God's arms, trusting God to get us through even the hardest times. This Lent, we've spent time walking through the darker, harder places in our lives, and exploring the ways God is "reframing" us in the midst of it.

We've walked with Jesus as he **resisted** temptation. We've come to Jesus the middle of the night with Nicodemus to learn how to be **reborn**. We've gone to the well with the Samaritan Woman, as Jesus teaches us to **resource** our lives. We've opened our eyes with the Man Born Blind as Jesus **reveals** himself in us. We've gone to places of brokenness with Lazarus, Martha, and Mary as Jesus **restores**.

As we approach Holy Week once more, we'll continue to **relent** to our God as we walk with Jesus once more down the Mount of Olives, to the Upper Room, to Golgotha, to the Tomb. Alongside the sorrow of these events, we also bring ourselves, our hopes, our firm believe that God is once again **reframing** the world for a new thing.

Join us this Holy Week!

On Palm Sunday (April 2), we'll wave our Palms and shout our Hosannas alongside our Chancel Choir, Covenant Ringers, Calvin Choir, and Cherubs! You are invited to a special coffee hour hosted by our Deacons in the parlor after worship.

On Maundy Thursday (April 6), we will **remember**, as we walk with Jesus from the Table to the Tomb. The 7pm service in our sanctuary will feature Communion, scripture, and hymns, and an anthem from our Chancel choir. With each scripture, the lights will dim, as we'll walk with Jesus into the darkness.

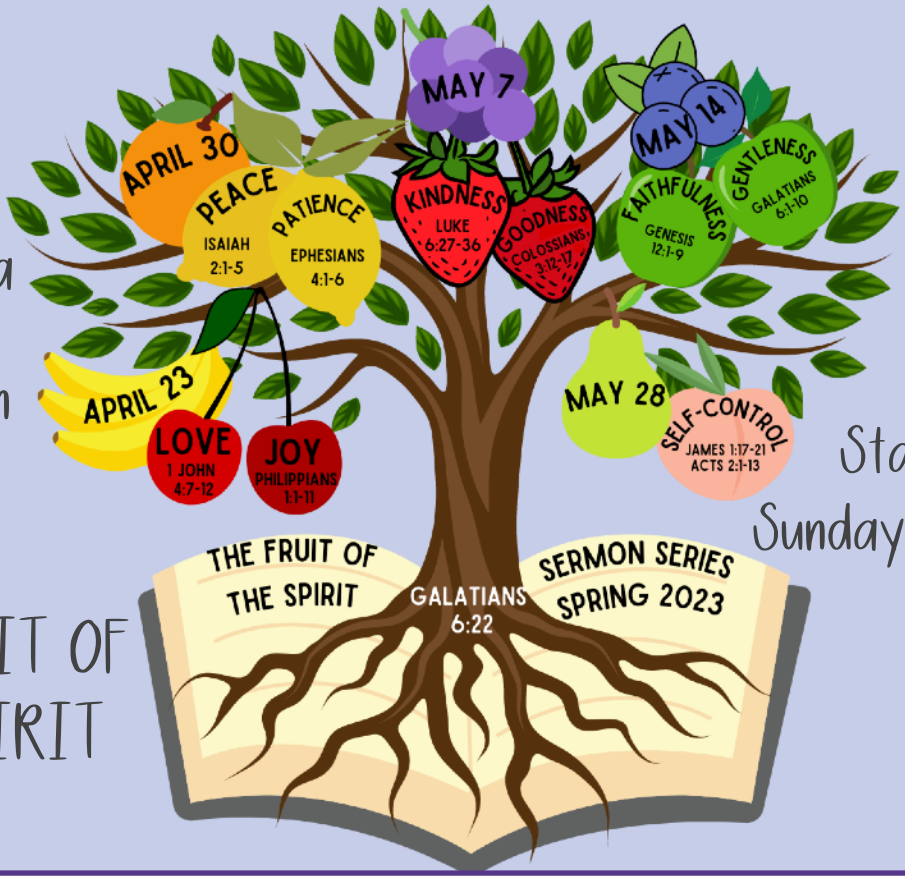
On Good Friday (April 7), we will **relinquish** ourselves to God as we join with our sister churches in Haddon Heights and Audubon for our Walk of Witness through Audubon at 11am. (Meet at Logan Memorial Presbyterian Church) .

On Easter Morning (April 9), we will **rejoice** in **resurrection** as we sing "Hallelujah" for our Risen Lord.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Eliza

From the Pastor's Desk

Join us for worship this spring as Pastor Eliza begins her new Sermon Series...



Starting Sunday, April 23

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

NOTES *from* SESSION

Congratulations to Pastor Eliza

The Session is very happy to share that Pastor Eliza has been accepted into a doctorate program at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. The Session fully supports Pastor Eliza in this endeavor which, due to logistical changes at the seminary, will begin in 2024. We look forward to having a Reverend Doctor in our midst in the near future.

CPC Update

Our first meeting around the Plan of Union went very well. While there are still items to be worked on (such as timing & membership rolls, etc.) there was a long and detailed discussion about items around CPC's building that their session and congregation would like to see moved to FPCHH. Their rich history is something we would like to help them retain as they look to move to our building. The Plan of Union will take this into consideration and we will begin to engage the Trustees as discussions move ahead.

At the same time, the CPC church building has now been listed for sale, with a caveat that their Kaleidoscope Kids Preschool be able to remain in the building until June of 2024. This program of CPC is both a mission for them and honors their former pastor, Rev. Kate Killebrew. As such, we will look to help them continue to support that mission through June of 2024 as applications have already been received for enrollment for the 2023/2024 class year.

We will also send the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey a joint update on where we are and to let them know that we will no longer need the facilitator they provided, as we have found an ability to discuss and move forward on our own.

Your continued prayers of support are very much appreciated.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

(as of 3/29/2023)

Offerings Received to-date: $77,000.00

Budgeted Expenses to-date: $63,000.00

Sunday School Roof Update

The Trustees have negotiated a settlement with our insurance carrier for the damage to the Sunday School Roof. Our claim is for $204,000. After working with the Carrier, we have settled on a claim of $180,000. They have already paid for the cleanup work that we had performed in January and the temporary patch of the roof.

The initial payment of $82,000 has been received by us and the deposit of $65,000 paid for the replacement work. The balance will be paid after the work is completed.

Currently we have started the repairs on the interior. The new roof will begin the week of April 3.

Missions Update

Thank You!

The Mission Committee asked for a lot from the congregation in March and you came through!

One Great Hour of Sharing offering,

donations of **canned fruits and vegetables**,

and **Easter Baskets** for the clients of Logan's food pantry.

What a blessing you all are!

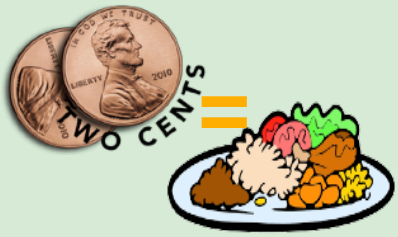
March Mission Opportunities

This month we are asking for just one item - **JUICE!**
Any size, any type is greatly appreciated by those in need.

Two Cents a Meal

We collected **$82 in March** which we used to purchase rice for Your Food Shelf.

Thank you for your continued generosity!



Next Collection: April 16th

A Note of Thanks

Dear Members
of First Presbyterian Church,

On behalf of St. Paul's Pantry I would like to thank you for your donation of soup and reusable bags. During the month of February we provided supplemental food to 250 families, which included 510 adults and 230 children.

Your contribution to this mission in our community is greatly appreciated.

Blessings to you,
Bonnie McElligot
Corresponding Secretary

Saint Paul's Food Pantry
832 Park Avenue Collingswood NJ 08108
856-240-7843

Christian Ed update

sunday school + bible study + nursery

Our New Redesigned "Quiet Room"

Parents and Caregivers: please check out the room next to the nursery. This is now designated as the "Quiet Room" and is open for use during worship and other church events. This room is perfect for anyone who has little ones that you need to take to a calm space for feeding, changing, or just a break. Thanks to Kathy Mullan and Christian Ed for creating this space for our parents and children.

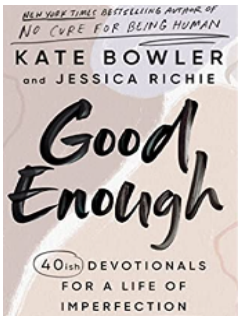
We are looking for a rocking chair or glider — in good condition — for use in the quiet room as well. Please contact Kathy Mullan or call the office if you or someone you know has one to donate. Thank you!

Our Christian Ed Committee and Sunday School teachers are hosting a special egg hunt for the kids during the Sunday School hour **this Sunday, April 2**. We hope you can come out at 9:30 AM for this fun event and stay to worship with us for Palm Sunday.

Sunday School for ALL Ages

Our Sunday School classes continue to meet — for ALL ages — at 9:30am on Sunday mornings. The younger children use the Whirl curriculum, and the teens and adult classes use the "Feasting on the Word" curriculum.

Additional SS Class for Adults



The "young-ish" adult Sunday School class, led by Pastor Eliza is reviewing the book, "Good Enough: 40ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection" by Kate Bowler. These reflections give us insight on how truth, beauty, and meaning can be discovered amid our chaotic lives.

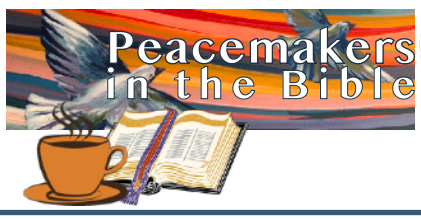
If you'd like additional information about any of these classes please contact the office.

Volunteers Needed!

As mentioned previously, the CE Coordinator role will no longer be a staffed position, and the duties will be distributed among committee members. This is such an important ministry for our children and youth and we need your help! If you are interested in joining the CE Committee, and/or serving in the nursery or as a Sunday School teacher, please contact Kathy Mullan at kathymullan@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Wednesday Adult Bible Study

Join our Wednesday Bible Study as they continue their lesson series, "Peacemakers in the Bible". They will look at the ways different figures in the Bible worked through peace (some in families, governments, church, & individual relationships). They meet on Wednesdays at 11:00 AM via zoom. All church members & friends are welcome!



Deacons' Yard Sale - April 29th

The Deacons will be participating in the annual Haddon Heights yard sale on Saturday, April 29, and are accepting your slightly used treasures.

IMPORTANT! Please place your items in room 2 along the left side wall (not in Room 1 or the crib/nursery room).

It is also important that you label the items with a sticky note that indicates it is for the yard sale. There are post-it notes in the room. Please keep in mind **we don't accept clothing, toiletries, electronics, bedding, or books.** Also understand items are sold at bargain prices so if you have something that is very valuable you may want to consider selling it yourself. Please reach out to one of the deacons if you have any questions.

Recognizing Our Graduates!

Is there someone special in your family that is graduating this year? Please send us their name, where they are graduating from, and what their future plans are (such as a college they're attending, employment, etc.), so we can celebrate their achievement in our May Newsletter!

You can send the information to Mary at mary.fpchh@gmail.com or call the office (856-547-6139) to pass along the details.

FPCHH Membership Class

Interested in joining the First Presbyterian Church Family? Come to an **informational meeting on April 30 after worship**. We'll meet in Pastor Eliza's study, learn the process for joining the church, and set up times for our new members' class to meet in 2023. If you can't make the meeting, contact Pastor Eliza at eliza.fpchh@gmail.com.

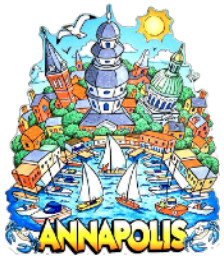
Chancel Flower Dedications

There are still two dates available to dedicate the chancel flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one: **August 6** and **October 29**. Dedications are $24/Sunday and checks can be made payable to FPCHH. Please contact Patti Pawling if you would like one of these dates.

Celebration on April 23rd!

On April 23, we will celebrate 14 people who have been members of First Pres and/or Barrington Presbyterian for 60 years or more. Please join in the celebration in the parlor following worship that day where we'll have photos and biographical information about these special members and you'll be able to congratulate them.

Bus Trip to Annapolis



The CAP (Capital Awareness Project) Team is sponsoring a bus trip to Annapolis on Saturday, **September 30th** and you are all invited. For $150, the trip includes a roundtrip bus trip, a 90-minute narrated cruise to the Thomas Point Lighthouse, a catered box lunch to eat onboard the boat, a 1-hour guided bus tour of Annapolis with a step-on guide and free time in Annapolis. Full payment for the trip is due by June 30th.

So, invite your friends and family to come along as we need a minimum of 30 people in order for the trip to run. A sign-up sheet will be in the parlor by Easter.

Men's Breakfast Club

All First Pres men, and their friends and neighbors, are invited to the monthly Men's Breakfast gathering!

We meet on the last Wednesday of the month at 9:00am in the church parlor. We eat, laugh, tell stories, reminisce, and try to tackle one thought-provoking question or idea at each gathering.

A $5 donation covers the cost of the meal and also goes toward an annual charitable donation.

The best part? We share in a growing camaraderie and genuine appreciation for each other as we "travel this road" together.

Our next meeting will be on April 26 at 9:00am in the Parlor. Please contact Rick Clark (856-906-6602 or richardclark73@gmail.com) with any questions and to let him know if you're coming ("Phyllis, the event planner" needs to know the number of attendees!).

We look forward to seeing you there! Come and join in the fun.

The men and friends of First Pres gather around for a delicious breakfast at their March 29 gathering.

Thanks to Phyllis Bozek for the lovely Easter-themed decorations, as well as the breakfast!

Friendship Circle

The Friendship Circle continues to meet this spring to share refreshments and a lesson. Their next meeting is on April 18 in the church parlor at 9:30 AM. The lesson will be "Striving Together" led by Polly Mitchell, and Sharon Cole will be hosting. All women are welcome.

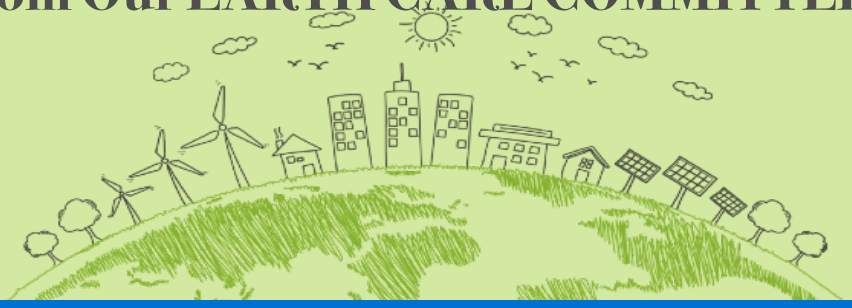
June Covered Dish Dinner

We are planning a special Covered Dish Dinner for **June 13 at 6:30pm** with the program being travelogues from Doug and Lois's trip to New Zealand, and Rick and Leslie's trip to Africa and South America. We hope you can make it!

Are You Puzzled About Where the Puzzles Went?

After displaying all of the donated puzzles on a table in the Parlor for 3 weeks, the Puzzle Exchange is now back in Room 2. There are dozens of puzzles available and you can feel free to chose any you wish— you don't need to leave a puzzle in order to take one! Soon Room 2 will be full of donations for the Deacon's Yard Sale, so check out the puzzles now while you can still get in the door.

From Our EARTH CARE COMMITTEE...



Earth Care Re-Certification

by Marci Spiegle for the Earth Care Committee

The Earth Care Committee is pleased to announce that our church has been re-certified as an Earth Care Congregation for the 6th time. Our original application was submitted in February, 2017 and we have re-applied, and been accepted, each year thereafter. Our 2023 submission can be found on the church website.

Important Days for Our Earth in April...

by Nancy Wilk for the Earth Care Committee

In April, we, as an Earth Care Congregation, can celebrate two important days Earth Day, April 22, and Arbor Day, April 28.

Earth Day

The first Earth Day was celebrated in 1970. This year's theme is Invest In Our Planet. Please go online to www.earthday.org to find ways to participate.

Arbor Day

The first official Arbor Day was in April of 1872 in Nebraska and you can read how to celebrate at www.arborday.org.

(One of our members recently gave her daughter a tree for her birthday! What a great idea!)

Mission Teens *Update*

Robert is in the Mission Teens program at our Grace Mission Bible Training Center in Paragould, AR. There are two other centers in Arkansas where methamphetamine is a huge problem.

Testimony... Robert

My name is Robert Hunter Lee. I am 28 years old, and am from Toronto, AR. I have one son, but I haven't really been a part of his life. My early years were rough because I dealt with a lot of anger and depression that I hid very well. I have faced many trials and tribulations in my life that did not help at all. Around 2010, I had a major surgery on my left kidney. This operation led me down a long, hard road of opiate addiction, and eventually to prison in 2016.

When I got home, I got married and had a son. Life was great, but only for a moment. Depression slowly crept back in because I felt like I was missing something. This depression led me to a failed marriage; I lost my wife and my son. As if that wasn't enough, not long after my divorce, I lost my uncle, who was also my very best friend.

At this point, I hated life and everyone in it. Eventually, the drugs stopped working. Beaten down, depressed, damaged, and hurt beyond all repair, I didn't want to live anymore. That's when my employer, who is a Christian man, told me about the Grace Mission Bible Training Center. He told me that I had "been running from God long enough."

Colossians 1:17 says, "He is before all things, and by Him all things hold together." I lived too much of my life doing things my way and never put God before anything, so my entire life fell apart. I am learning to put God first, and things are getting better and better, little by little! God broke the chain of addiction and depression, and all thanks to Him, I now know that I have purpose in my life! It is so awesome living for Him, and I can't wait to lead others to Him! Due to the people He placed in my path, and the circumstances of life that He pulled me out of, I know that beyond a shadow of a doubt Jesus is the answer to everything!

For more information about Mission Teens and the lives they change, contact Pat Masi or go to https://www.missionteens.com/.

IHOC UPDATE

INTERFAITH HOMELESS OUTREACH COUNCIL

2022 Year-in-Review

The Covid pandemic continued to present challenges for IHOC in 2022 but despite those challenges we were still able to make a difference for clients both past and present. We were able to provide housing and case management for six men at our Transitional House in Cherry Hill. During their stay with us our Case Manager, Sonya Jacobs, worked with the men to obtain the documents needed to apply for services and housing. Of the six men, one moved into permanent housing, one moved into a rehab program and three are still living in the house.

Last year our Housing Search Committee led by Craig Bickel found a property which we believe would be a wonderful addition to our Transitional Housing Program. We have made an offer on the property and are in negotiations with the owner. In February, IHOC held our 16th Annual Mall Walk.

IHOC was able to continue our Adopt A Box and Pack A Sack programs. In April the Adopt A Box team lead by Rhoda Wus was able to collect and distribute approximately 900 complete boxes and bags of personal care items as well as numerous extra and sample sized items to several facilities and shelters in Camden.

In August under the direction of Alex DeFlavis we collected and distributed approximately 400 backpacks full of school supplies to facilities and schools in Camden and the surrounding areas.

As I review the past year, I continue to be encouraged by the many ways IHOC was able to continue to help people in need despite the challenges presented by the pandemic. I am confident that we will also be able to meet and overcome any challenges that may be presented to us in 2023.

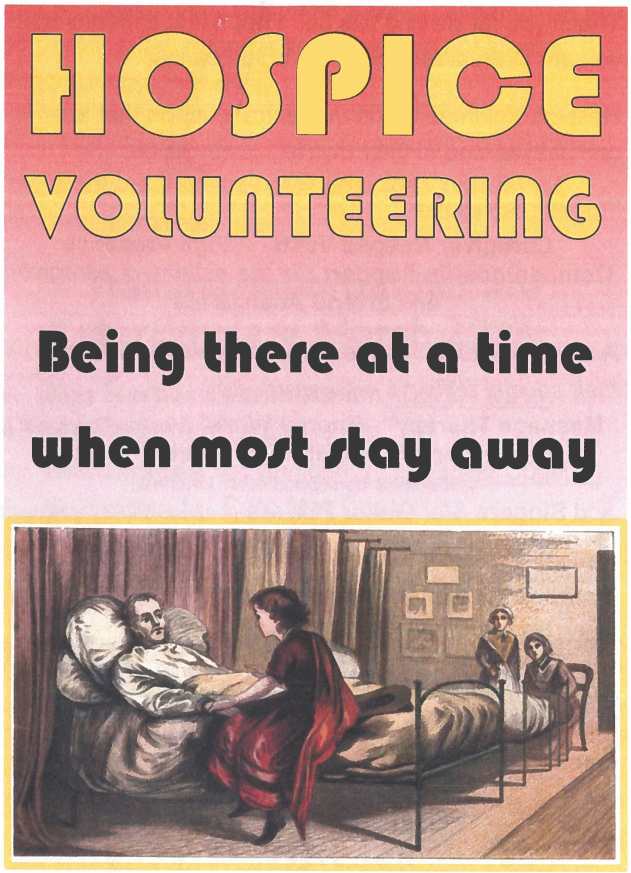
Hospice Volunteering

Be there at a time when most stay away.

Redeemer Health Home Care & Hospice is seeking **Hospice Volunteers** in Camden County (as well as many other NJ counties).
This could be the perfect opportunity for you if you're desiring an enriching way to help others. Explore your interest in this spiritually rewarding activity by requesting an **Introductory Packet;** contact Volunteer Coordinator, Spiro Ballas, at 609-815-3573, or sballas@holyredeemer.com for more information.

Hospice Volunteer training will start late March 2023 in the Hamilton, Runnemede, and Vineland offices. Each program will be limited to about eight people.

Request an Introductory Packet to get more info, and to help you explore this special way of giving back.



Volunteer Chaplain Aides

Volunteer Chaplains Needed at Virtua

Volunteer Chaplain Aides are needed throughout the Virtua Health System in Burlington and Camden Counties. There are openings for trained lay visitors every day of the week. Following a training and orientation process, an Aide may donate two to four hours each week to visit patients, offering them compassion and spiritual comfort.

To find out if volunteering is for you, please call or email for an informational package with details of the training and the process to become a volunteer at any of our facilities. The orientation class is Monday, May 8 & Monday, May 15 from 8am-5pm.

For more information about volunteering at Virtua Burlington, Virtua Marlton, Virtua Mt. Holly, and Virtual Voorhees, please contact Chaplain Marge McGinley at 609-914-6365 or email mmcginley@virtua.org.

Spring Concert at St. Mary's

St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Haddon Heights is hosting an **Instrumental and Choral Concert on Sunday, April 16 at 3:30pm**, featuring the Jubilee Bell Ringers. Join them in praising and thanking God through music, for the great things he has done. St. Mary's is located at 18 White Horse Pike in Haddon Heights.

More information can be found on their Facebook page here: https://www.facebook.com/stmaryshh.

Supermarket Gift Card Program

Our supermarket gift card program supporting IHOC isn't just for the holidays... it continues all year round!

Are you a regular shopper at Acme or ShopRite? Or are you looking for a way to show your appreciation for someone special or help someone in need? Think about purchasing a Shop Rite or Acme gift card. IHOC has gift cards in $25 and $50 denominations, and receives 5% of all gift card purchases. It's an easy way to support IHOC, and doesn't cost you anything extra. Please contact Cheryl Hauske (856-546-6101) if you are interested. Thank you!

Stay tuned for photos from the Youth Group's painting event at The Artist Academy in HH on Friday, March 31.

OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, April 10, in observance of Easter Monday.

Notes of Thanks from Staff and Friends

Dear Marci,

Thank you so much for bringing us the flowers, and also all the church family. They look very nice on my table; makes it feel like spring. Thank all the members for us.

Wishing you all a happy Easter.

Love,
Dot and Frank Lampe

Many heartfelt thanks to the anonymous person(s) who left the lovely floral tile on my desk a couple of weeks ago. It was so thoughtful and it brightened my day — and continues to each morning when I arrive at work.

Thank you so much for thinking of me. (I would love to know who it was!)

With much gratitude,
Mary Johnson

Pastor Eliza will be away for vacation from Monday, April 10 — Sunday, April 16

If you need assistance, please call the office at 856-547-6139, or contact Diane Gallagher, Clerk of Session.

Pastor Don Painter from Logan Memorial Presbyterian (856-547-5571) will also be available for pastoral emergencies.

April Birthdays

Dave Masi.....1st
Paul Frantz 3rd
Shirley Renshaw.....4th
Jackie Robinson 4th
Caranne Van Fossen.....4th
Dorothy Lampe 5th
Patti Pawling 5th
Chris Thomas.....5th
Leslie Clark 6th
Donna Joss.....7th
Lauren Decorte 8th
Norman Van Fossen.....12th
Ella Thomas 13th
Friede Turner.....15th
Bradley Kent 18th
Laura Masi 20th
Cathy Zobel 22nd
John Duca 25th
Sally Burrough 25th
Marci Spiegle.....28th
Thomas Whitman.....28th
Mabel Hellwig.....28th
Kennedy Robinson 29th

April Anniversaries

Bill & Sue Hawco 5th
Alice & Don Borden 7th
Dennis & Melanie Diven 16th
Bill & Sue Burrough 24th
Dan & Kathy Mullan 25th

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Covenant Ringers 6:45–7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30–8:45pm		1 No Fooling! Spring Lawn Cleanup! 9:00AM
Worship @ 10:30AM 2 Palm Sunday Kids Choirs-9AM Sunday School - All ages-9:30AM Deacons' Brunch after Worship	3	4 National School Librarian Day	5 Adult Bible Study 11AM	6 Chancel Choir 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship 7PM	7 Good Friday Walk of Witness 11AM	8 Holy Saturday
Worship@ 10:30AM 9 Easter Sunday	10 National Siblings Day	11	12 Adult Bible Study 11AM	13 Covenant Ringers 6:45–7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30–8:45pm	14	15 National Laundry Day
Pastor Eliza on Vacation: April 10 — April 16						
Worship@ 10:30AM 16 Sunday School - All ages-9:30AM 2 Cents a Meal Deacons' Mtg after Worship Vacation (cont.)	17	18 Friendship Circle 9:30am in the Parlor	19 Adult Bible Study 11AM Session Meeting 7:00PM	20 Newsletter Articles Due for May! Covenant Ringers 6:45–7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30–8:45pm	21	22 National Jelly Bean Day
Worship@ 10:30AM 23 Kids Choirs-9AM Sunday School - All ages-9:30AM	24	25 National Telephone Day	26 Men's Breakfast 9:00am in the Parlor Adult Bible Study 11AM	27	28 National Superhero Day	29 Deacons' Yard Sale (TownWide)
Worship@ 10:30AM 30 Kids Choirs-9AM Sunday School - All ages-9:30AM						

Fellowship hour

Sundays after Worship in the Parlor!

STAY CONNECTED

Sunday Worship Service

Our Sunday Worship services are streamed on Facebook Live every week at 10:00am.
https://www.facebook.com/fpchaddonheights

LIVE
Facebook Live

Online JOYS and Concerns of FPC

Join our Facebook Group called Online JOYS and CONCERNS of First Presbyterian Church to interact with your fellow church members, request prayers, or announce joyful praise. Use this URL to find the page and request to join the group:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/232637437886538/

You can use the same Zoom link, Meeting ID, & password to join any of our Zoom meetings.

Copy and paste this URL in your browser:
https://zoom.us/j/9949015275?pwd=OGt4SGZvUnhvdjlPUUFkRVZPZ1k4UT09
Meeting ID: 994 901 5275
Password: FPCHH

zoom DIGITAL FELLOWSHIP

2022-23 Directory Updates

Don't forget to contact the office to update your contact information!

In order to respect the privacy of our members and friends personal information, we'll be including FPCHH directory updates in the ***body of the email*** that distributes our newsletter, rather than in the newsletter itself.

(Our monthly newsletter is posted in public areas such as on our website and on Facebook.)

Pick up a new **2022-23 Church Directory** in the church office, or call the office if you are unable to come to the building.

My Church App *by ChurchSpring*

- ✓ View upcoming events
- ✓ Listen to a past sermon
- ✓ Submit your online giving

FIND IT ON... App Store Google Play

Enter *First Presbyterian Church of Haddon Heights* in the search box to connect to our church.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Haddon Heights, NJ 08035-1234
www.fpchaddonheights.org

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