

FIRST PRESS

MARCH 2022

A publication of the
First Presbyterian Church of Haddon Heights



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www.fpchaddonheights.org
Rev. Eliza Cramer Jaremko, Pastor

Our theme for the Lenten season of the year 2020 was “Wilderness.” It was with this exploration of bringing the wild-ness into our hearts that we began what became an exceedingly long season of COVID-tide. Now, two years later, we are emerging from that wilderness into a life and a world that looks different.

The scripture lessons set by the Revised Common Lectionary Year C (followed by most mainline denominations) are not about wilderness. This year’s scripture texts are instead filled with parables and promises of God’s abundant and expansive grace: Jesus as a mother hen, a prodigal son welcomed home, a fig tree nurtured with care, precious oil poured out in love, and stones shouting in praise. This year we are walking out of the wilderness to see a stream spilling out God’s love and grace. For we are “Full to the Brim” with God’s grace.

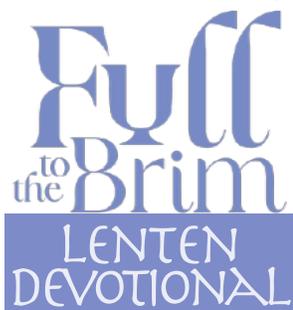
Join us this Lent as we allow ourselves to be filled up once more.

You can be filled up in several ways this Lenten Season.

DAILY DEVOTIONAL CARDS

(Pick up during in-person worship on Ash Wednesday or Sunday, March 6 — OR pick up on the table inside Sunday School doors)

- ❖ Everyone will receive a Chalice (a cup to be filled up) and a set of daily devotional cards.
- ❖ Each day from Ash Wednesday (3/2) until Easter Sunday (4/17), read the “Reminder for the Day” and pray over it. Turn the card over and write your prayer of gratitude.
- ❖ Place your card in the chalice
- ❖ Watch as your chalice fills up to the brim each day with prayer and gratitude.



WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS

- ❖ Each week’s bulletin will contain a weekly devotional booklet with scripture, poetry, and commentary on the week’s theme.

WORSHIP

- ❖ Worship with us during the Lenten Season (see pg. 2 for worship schedule).

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Eliza



From the Pastor’s Desk





Lenten Worship 2022

- March 2, Ash Wednesday:
With All That You Are,
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
- March 6: Even in the Desert: Luke 4:1-13
- March 13: Under God's Wing: Luke 13:31-35
- March 20: You Are Worthy: Luke 13:1-9
- March 27: Prodigal Grace: Luke 15:1-32
- April 3: Brazen Acts of Beauty: John 12:1-8
- April 10, Palm Sunday:
Even The Stones Cry Out:
Luke 19:28-30
- April 14, Maundy Thursday:
Take Off Your Shoes:
John 13:1-17, 31b-35
- April 17, Easter: An Expansive Life
Luke 24:1-12

A Sanctified Art (sanctifiedart.org)
Branding & Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman
Photography by Rev. Lise Gwyn Garrity



Join us for **WORSHIP**

IN-PERSON | FACEBOOK LIVE

Ash Wednesday † March 2 @7:00pm
 Palm Sunday † April 10 @10:00am
 Maundy Thursday † April 14 @7:00pm
 Good Friday, Prayer Walk † April 15 @11:00am
 Easter Sunday † April 17 @10:00am

LENT 2022



Flower Orders Due Sunday!

Don't forget to turn in your order for Easter tulips by **Sunday, March 6**. The cost for a dedication is \$8.00 per plant. The colors of the tulips will be a grower mix of various spring colors. Each tulip you order will be available for pickup after the Easter Sunday service, if you choose to take home your plant. The order form is attached to this email.



Getting Back to “Normal-ish”

We're excited to be returning to our COVID protocols which were in place prior to the Omicron surge (around December 2021).



Our Approved Activities:

- ➔Entry through side and SS doors
- ➔Full Choir (4 singers in the chancel)
- ➔Congregational singing encouraged
- ➔In-person Children's Sunday School
- ➔No worship registration needed
- ➔Fellowship in the parlor after worship
- ➔In-person meetings and gatherings in the building (with masks)

For in-person worship, **KN95 masks are still required** (available for you to pick up at the entrance) and we ask that you continue to self-distance. Thanks for your patience as we continue to adjust to the pandemic.

Ash Wednesday - March 2

Join us in-person, or from your homes on Facebook, for our Ash Wednesday worship service on March 2 at 7:00PM. Ashes will be imposed on those attending in person (with precautions in place). We encourage those viewing from home to have an item with which to impose the ashes on themselves (dirt, charcoal, eye shadow, etc.).

The Ash Wednesday devotional booklets and Lent prayer cards will be available at this service.



Annual Financial Meeting, March 6

The Annual Congregational Financial Meeting will be this Sunday, March 6, following the worship service. The meeting will be in-person in the sanctuary, and presented via Zoom for those who are worshipping at home to participate. The Annual Financial Reports were distributed via email and copies are available in the sanctuary as well. If you need a copy of the report, please contact the office.

SAVE THE DATE





COMMITTEE REPORTS

SESSION REPORT



Updated Worship & Building Protocols

Session voted last month to return to “pre-Omicron” protocols for in-person worship and meetings.

This change enables the return of:

- Children’s Sunday School
- Chancel Choir performances
- Congregational singing
- Both entrances open on Sundays
- No worship registration needed
- Meetings/gatherings in the building

Bridging the Gap:

In-Person & Virtual Worship

Session is discussing potential add-ons to our virtual equipment to help bridge worship for both those in attendance and those worshipping from home. If you have ideas you’d like to share, please contact our Clerk of Session, Diane Gallagher, at dgal18@msn.com and let her know!

We are still in the brainstorming phase, so we would love to know your thoughts.

Music Director Update

Our personnel committee has begun meeting with applicants for the Director of Music position. We’ll keep you updated as the evaluation process progresses and when we have more news.

Missions Report



God’s Work
Our Hands

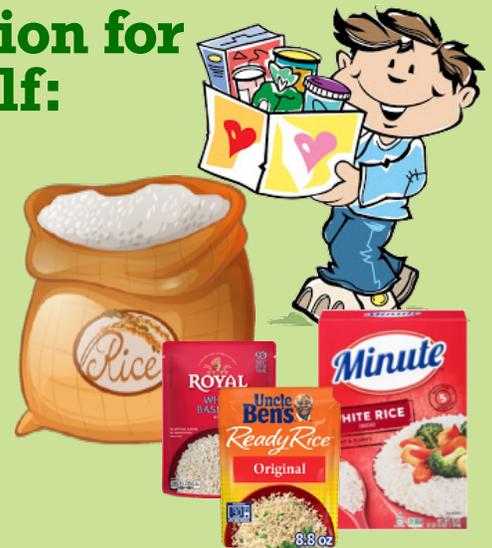
Thank YOU!!



Wow, the mission table was really full this past month with the generous contributions of toothpaste... as well as the staples that our congregation graciously supplies each month! The Mission Committee is so grateful that you have responded to the needs of Your Food Shelf and the people they serve.

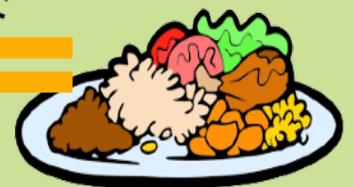
March Collection for Your Food Shelf: RICE!

We recently asked Bonnie White what food item people most request and she said **RICE**. Thus, we are designating RICE as our targeted donation during the month of March. However, as always, we are appreciative of all donations and know that whatever you donate will be put to good use.



February TWO CENTS a Meal

Thank you all for your generosity over the past few months. Our next **2 Cents a Meal** collection is scheduled for **Sunday, March 13th** - keep saving those coins!



Your Per Capita Contribution Makes the Difference!



Every year, we ask our congregation members to please contribute their per capita cost to help meet our church's budget. (As a reminder, per capita is the per-member cost charged by our presbytery to cover its expenses – you can find

a detailed explanation on the "Per Capita Apportionment" envelope in you pledge envelope box.) In 2022 the cost will be \$38.75 per member, same as last year.

In the past you have been wonderful and generous in donating your per capita shares. Many of you gave enough to cover others as well. Thank you! We hope that you will do so again this year. Please donate by using the envelope provided in your pledge envelope box and either bring it or mail it to church. Or, fill out the brief form below and include it with your payment.

We appreciate your help!!
Leslie Clark, Stewardship Chair

2022 PER CAPITA CONTRIBUTION

NAME: _____

ENVELOPE #: _____ (IF KNOWN)

NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN FAMILY: _____

(X \$38.75/MEMBER)

= \$ _____

"Per capita provides the wherewithal for the ecclesiastical democracy of the priesthood of all believers to run smoothly. It fuels the machinery of doing church the Presbyterian way, which is quite different from independent congregational and bishop-based systems. It can also be embraced as one way in which we work toward building a beloved community."

*-Rev. Dr. Timothy Hart-Andersen,
Westminster Presbyterian Church, MN*

Teens Preparing for Confirmation

Four of our teens have started confirmation classes with Pastor Eliza in preparation for Confirmation on Sunday, June 12 during worship.



Classes are held every Sunday from 4:00-5:00 PM (except for the first Sunday of the month). Please keep our participating teens in your prayers as they deepen and explore their faith and their walk with Christ: Sean Diven, Erin Gallagher, Lila Mahaffy, and Daniel Mullan.

BIG GOD
BIG QUESTIONS

CONFIRMATION FOR A GROWING FAITH

March Friendship Circle

The Friendship Circle will meet **Tuesday, March 15, at 9:30am** in the church parlor.

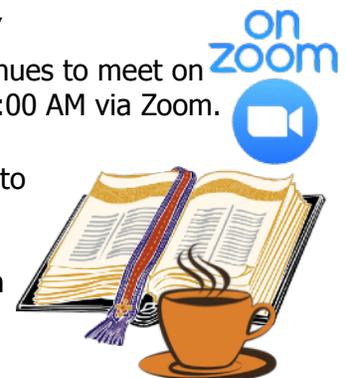


Please join us for refreshments and a time to catch up. Our lesson will be presented by Carole Leadbeater with time for discussion before our monthly business meeting. Ladies, we would love for you to join us.

Adult Bible Study

The Adult Bible Study continues to meet on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 AM via Zoom.

In our new study of Ecclesiastes, we're diving into the deep questions of life, death, and everything in-between. We hope you can join us for virtual fellowship and a lively discussion.



Easter Blessings for All Ages

Due to changes in their clientele, Your Food Shelf does not need Easter baskets this year. The Mission Committee is aware, however, that many of you delight in creating a fun basket at Easter and we are, therefore, offering you this special option again this year:

EASTER BASKETS FOR ADULTS!

As you may be aware, our friends at Logan Memorial operate a food pantry and have continued during the pandemic to supply food to those in need by appointment only. They are interested in getting Easter baskets that could be given to any adults who make an appointment for food during the weeks leading up to Easter. If you would like to create a basket for them to distribute, we invite you to do so.

DETAILS:

Container: Choose any type of container: basket, bucket, bowl, etc. — and add your items.

Basket Items:

Suggestions include candy (it is an Easter basket, after all), socks, coffee/tea mug, a gift card of \$10 or less, toiletries, notepads, hand sanitizer, or anything else you can think of.

Wrap + Label: We ask that you wrap the container and its contents in a plastic bag and label it male or female if the contents are gender specific.



Deadline + Location:

Baskets can be dropped off at the church on or before Sunday, March 27th or by calling Marci Spiegle to arrange a pickup of your goodie-laden basket. Thanks for your participation in this unique opportunity.

Gift of the Heart Kits

Our Friendship Circle and Mission Committee are sponsoring a collection during April to fill Hygiene Kits which will be sent to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). You may choose to purchase any (new) individual items from the list below, or you can fill a complete **one gallon plastic bag** as a full "kit." Please place your donation in the bin on Green Street during the month of April.



These "Gift of the Heart" kits are sponsored by the PDA and Church World Service, and provide a great project for youth and families who want a tangible way to be involved.

Hygiene Kits

The following items should be included in each kit:

- (1) hand towel (approximately 16" x 28", no fingertip or bath towels)
- (1) washcloth
- (1) wide-tooth comb (remove from package)
- (1) nail clipper (UPDATE: nail clippers with metal files or emery boards attached are now accepted; please remove from packaging)
- (1) bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)
- (1) toothbrush (in original packaging)
- (10) Band-Aids® or other adhesive bandage strips



****Please do not add toothpaste** to the Hygiene Kit. Toothpaste which has an extended expiration date will be added to international Hygiene Kit shipments just prior to shipment.

Make sure to seal all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure.



Regarding processing fees: shipping of kits to their final destination is expensive. Costs include renting space on trucks, boats and planes, paying for gas, for insurance of each shipment and for other delivery fees. They request donors help cover a small portion of this cost by adding a \$2 donation per kit.



Road Work Ahead!!

We received information from American Water Company that they will be replacing 2,700 feet of aging 4" and 6" cast iron water main that was installed in the 1900s with new 6" and 8" ductile iron main. Per American Water, "the pipeline project will improve water service reliability and increase water flows for household use and firefighting."

Please note the location and timeline provided by American Water so you can determine if you will be affected and (hopefully) plan ahead.

Where:

- North Park Avenue (from Green Street to Station Avenue)
- Station Avenue (from North Park Avenue to West Atlantic Avenue)

When:

- Work will begin on or about January 10 and is expected to be completed by mid-May, weather permitting.



- Work hours will be from 7am to 4pm Monday through Friday. Final street restorations will be completed in the summer of 2022.



We Did It!... "En-CAN-to"-Style

Thank you everyone for another amazing **Souper Bowl** event!! I know Julietta and the rest of the Madrigal family would be very proud of how many people we were able to help this year. Our goal for this year was a combined total of 500 units between cans of soup collected and money donated to our PayPal link. I am happy to announce we collected 169 cans and raised \$483.32 for a combined total of 652.32 units!!! I can't thank you enough for the support you've given this year.

Just like the Family Madrigal sings in Encanto, it takes "All of You" to make each year a successful Souper Bowl event. I can't wait for next year!!!



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, so you can help IHOC while giving a gift that everyone can use. IHOC now 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!



From the Earth Care Committee SHOPPING with EARTH CARE in Mind

By Polly Mitchell, Earth Care Committee Member

Today's mindful shopper has to keep so many things in mind, if he/she values earth care and green initiatives. Most of us have reusable bags in our cars for trips to the grocery store. Often, we look at the packaging in an attempt to avoid plastic, excessive packaging or any materials we may not be able to reuse or recycle.

But what else should we look for when shopping? We can look for stores that help us to be "green!"

One such store is **The Refill Market** in Haddon Township.

Refill Products

The store name does not say it all, but the store does have dozens of products that you can buy as refills. The owner sells containers, but you are encouraged to bring in your own empty containers to buy dish detergent, laundry detergent, shampoo, vinegar, furniture polish, hair gel, body wash, hand lotion and more.



Alternative Products

You can also buy reusable items that serve as alternatives to such throw-away products as paper towels, sponges, make-up remover pads and cling wrap.



Recycling



The store also offers some recycling opportunities that go above and beyond the usual. So, for example, you can recycle the bag your bread came in, the liner bag from your cereal, ice cube

bags, dry cleaning plastic sheets and more. In a second recycling station, you can recycle Brita® water filters, razors, writing utensils and oral care items.

I know there are other stores like this in Philadelphia and North Jersey, but I hope and believe more will spring up over time.



I'd like to suggest that we work together to find stores that will support our efforts to protect our planet.

If you discover a store that falls into this category, let me know, and I will keep a running list. Periodically, I will include that list in the church newsletter. THANK YOU!



Annual Adopt-a-Box Collection

Do you have a few extra shoeboxes just taking up space? Why not fill them with personal care items for **IHOC's Annual Adopt-a-Box** program?!!

IHOC is collecting personal care items for men, women and children in shelters and others in need.

If you would like to help, please place your items in a shoe box (or plastic one-gallon storage bag) and label the box/bag with "Man," "Woman" or "Child," as appropriate. IHOC will be collecting these items **through Friday, April 1, 2022.**

Suggestions and items requested by the shelters:

- Soap
- Washcloth
- Deodorant
- Razors
- Shampoo
- Socks
- Feminine Products
- Comb / Brush
- Toothbrush / Toothpaste



When you have completed your collection, email info@ihocsj.org or contact Rhoda at 856-952-2367 to arrange for a drop-off or pickup. Reach out to IHOC at info@ihocsj.org if you need more information.



Stay tuned for an update on the 2022 MallWalk, which was held on Sunday, February 27 at Voorhees Town Center.

MallWalk Update



Mission Teens Update

A transformational story from an "older" teen

Hi, my name is Joey Allen and I am 51 years old. What am I doing at a Mission Teens center you ask? Let me tell you: I had a great family growing up as the youngest of three in Rockwood, TN. I was doing well in school until my dad lost his job when I was 15 and we had to sell our house and move to another town. I became rebellious, especially after a football injury, and my grades went down. When I was 17 I took my first ever drink and loved it - it made the depression inside me seem to go away. Also that year I met my first wife. Neither one of us knew what love was, and our son Matt was the only good thing that came out of that marriage which ended when I was 23. I started drinking really heavily then, caught two DUIs, and ended up in jail in 1993. Two years after getting out I met my second wife and married her two weeks later! Somehow we stayed together for 10 ½ years before she left me and I totally lost it and ended up in prison.



When I got out I tried to fix my life. I found the Mission Teens Bible Training Center in Crossville TN, where I completed the 8-10 month residential program and made a commitment to stay on for staff training. I left before that commitment was done and – you guessed it – got married for the third time. In 2016 a fire hit our house in Gatlinburg. We lost everything, and our marriage went downhill from there. Finally, I tried to kill myself with several fifths and cases of beer plus a handful of blood pressure pills, but God had other plans! Homeless, broken, with no hope, I cried out to God for help and re-entered the Crossville mission. This time I did something different: I took a long look at myself and I learned how to truly forgive myself and others. I have been back in the mission now for over 20 months, recently transferring from TN to the Hillsboro OH mission to serve on staff here. I am very thankful that Mission Teens was there for me when I needed to go through the program again, this time with a whole new attitude! God still has a lot of work to do in me, but I feel so blessed to be giving back the love of Christ that was so freely given to me, and be able to help younger versions of myself to not throw away so many years like I did. My favorite scripture is Psalm 37:4, "Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart."

To learn more visit www.missionteens.com or contact Pat Masi, Mission Teens Board Member and **50-year supporter!**



Some News...

from the Paganos

From their February Newsletter:

There is great joy when we strive to serve Him and sometimes, we DO see fruit in lives and response to the Holy Spirit's prompting, as we saw in the annual "Couples Fellowship" last week. Three couples manifested their desire to have the Lord in control of their marriages and families.



The Pagano Family

About the Paganos...

Alberto & JoAnn Pagano are a missionary family, with church plants in Blackwood and Vineland. When Barrington Presbyterian Church closed, we took on a few of their mission projects, including the financial support of the Paganos and their ministry.

We continue with 2 Sunday meetings - in our Vineland and Blackwood church plants. In both meetings there are children to whom we seek to teach and reach for Christ. Mid-week bible studies in Blackwood continue, with the ladies meeting in 2 different locations hoping to give opportunity for more to attend.

We thank you for your constant financial support and your prayers on our behalf. Please know how humbled and grateful we are.

Blessings, Alberto and JoAnn

Notes of THANKS from Our STAFF

Dear Church Family,

Thank you First Presbyterian Church Family for your generous Christmas gift!

I so enjoy serving as your Music Director and feel blessed to be a part of this community.

Prayers and blessings to you all!

Peace,
Karen



Sylvia has moved!
Please check the body of the Newsletter email for her new address and phone number.



March Birthdays

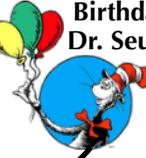
Nicholas Muni	6 th		
Kelly Evans	8 th		
Tim Wood	8 th		
Hari Bharadwaj	9 th		
Vicki Clarke	10 th		
Frank Knoll.....	10 th	William Reeves.....21 st	
Erin Gallagher	11 th	Joanne Erwin	22 nd
Amelia Muni	11 th	Karen Reeves	22 nd
Suzanne Lange	12 th	Jane Truax	22 nd
Catherine Elko	14 th	Emilee Van Fossen	22 nd
Amanda Hauske	15 th	Dennis Diven	25 th
Allie Borden	17 th	Susannah Jaremko	28 th
Hollei Chae Johnson	18 th	Dottie Rheinbold	29 th
Louis DeShantz.....	20 th	Melissa Hellwig	30 th
		Thomas Van Fossen	31 st

March Anniversaries

Larissa and Tom Whitman28th

March



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Peanut Butter Lover's Day 	2 Ash Wednesday Service @ 7PM & on Facebook 	3 Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss! 	4	5
6 Worship @ 10:00AM & Facebook Annual Financial Meeting: after Worship 	7 New Member Class 10:00 AM (Pastor's Study) Monday Night Prayer 7:00PM	8	9 Adult Bible Study 11:00AM Session Meeting 7:00PM	10	11	12 Girl Scout Day 
13 Worship @ 10:00AM & Facebook Confirmation Class 4-5 PM (Youth Room) 2 Cents a Meal 	14 New Member Class 10:00 AM (Pastor's Study) Monday Night Prayer 7:00PM	15 Friendship Circle 9:30AM	16 Adult Bible Study 11:00AM	17 Happy St. Patrick's Day! 	18	19 National Corn Dog Day 
20 Worship @ 10:00AM & on Facebook Confirmation Class 4-5 PM (Youth Room) First Day of Spring!	21 Monday Night Prayer 7:00PM  Articles Due <i>First Press April</i>	22	23 Adult Bible Study 11:00AM	24	25	26 National Spinach Day 
27 Worship @ 10:00AM & on Facebook Confirmation Class 4-5 PM (Youth Room)	28 Monday Night Prayer 7:00PM	29	30 Adult Bible Study 11:00AM	31		

Fellowship hour

Sundays after Worship in the Parlor

Masks required for ages 2 and older.



Monday Night Prayer Group



Be joyful in Hope faithful in Prayer

Mondays @ 7:00 pm

(Virtual until the church building is open again; otherwise in the Pastor's Study)

Contact Laurel Musto for more info @ 856-729-5793



STAY CONNECTED

Sunday Worship Service

Our Sunday Worship services are streamed on Facebook Live every week at 10:00am.



<https://www.facebook.com/fpchaddonheights>

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/>

2021-22 Directory Updates



Don't forget to contact the office to update your personal contact info!

In order to respect the privacy of our members and friends personal information, we'll be including FPCCH 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.)

A new 2022-23 Church Directory will be distributed in September.

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=OGt4SGZvUnhvdjI1PUUUFkRVZPZ1k4UT09>

Meeting ID: 994 901 5275
Password: FPCHH





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