

tidings!

We are people who expect to learn from God's Word, expect to work as God's hands, expect to encounter God in all people, and expect to rejoice in God always.

JUNE 29, 2011

VOLUME 21, #13

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PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

A BIG THANK YOU!

British novelist Gladys Bronwyn Stern once quipped, “Silent gratitude isn’t much use to anyone.” I would be remiss if I didn’t voice the gratitude I feel for the overwhelming support and encouragement I have received upon the completion of my Doctor of Ministry degree. The cards, the emails, and the personal congratulations have blessed me in countless ways. The complete set of Barth’s *Church Dogmatics* (all fourteen volumes!) is now a permanent fixture on my bookshelf and the three stoles relieve me of having to constantly borrow stoles from Mike, Stephen, and Lindsay during ordinary time (green), Lent and Advent (purple). They appreciate the gift as well.

We are indeed part of a remarkable community. God continues to work and move through FPCA in ways that bless the church and bless the world. The Gospel is being proclaimed in word and deed; lives are being changed; and the Spirit is creating opportunities for all of us to engage in meaningful worship; relevant spiritual formation and discipleship; and mission to a world in need.

Even though we have hit the summer months in full stride, don’t forget that we still have a lot going on! **Summer on the Lawn (SOTL)** has jumped out to great start. All are invited to participate in this intergenerational fellowship and discipleship

gathering on **Wednesday nights** from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Classes for all ages are offered. It is a great way to connect with the community and deepen your faith during the summer months.

We will continue to worship at **8:45 and 10:30 a.m. (as well as 10:00 a.m./Arabic Language worship in the chapel—Moufid Khoury is preaching in July)** throughout the summer.

The preaching and text schedule for July is listed below:

July 3 — Preacher: Mike Drake
Matthew 11:16-19; 25-30
Romans 7:15-25a

July 10 — Preacher: Tony Sundermeier
Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

July 17 — Preacher: John Franke
Genesis 28:10-22

July 24 — Preacher: Stephen Emick
TBD

July 31 — Preacher: Tony Sundermeier
Matthew 14:13-21

See you in worship and the world,

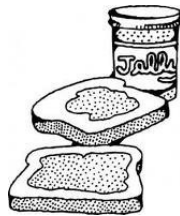
Tony

SUMMER ON THE LAWN

All members and friends of our church family are invited to join us all summer long on Wednesday evenings through August 24 for Summer on the Lawn from 6:30-8:00 p.m. We begin with dessert on the front lawn of the church, split into age groups (completed preschool-Kindergarten, 1st-3rd grade, Tweens: 4th & 5th grade, Middle School, High School, College, Adults) to explore ways the previous Sunday's scripture lesson and sermon connect with our lives, and regather as one group for a closing worship. Nursery care is available for children birth through three years old in Room 112. You are also welcome to pack your own picnic dinner and come early to enjoy it on the front lawn. Summer on the Lawn takes place rain or shine.

PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY

Please donate this food item for Food on the First, Sunday July 3 to benefit the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank.

**2011-2012 SPIRITUAL FORMATION LEADER****ORIENTATION KICK-OFF EVENT**

A Spiritual Formation Leader Orientation Kick-off Event will take place on Thursday, August 4 and Sunday, August 7, for all leaders in our 2011-2012 Spiritual Formation ministries. This includes Church School teachers, youth fellowship advisors, Youth Club leadership, and leaders of our various Bible study groups. Leaders need to attend one of these two sessions (they will be identical) to prepare as individuals and as members of a leadership team. Teams are encouraged to do their best to attend the same orientation session. The orientation kick-off will take place from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Child care will be provided if requested by the registration deadline. Please reply to Caley Oels in the church office (caley.oels@fpcallentown.org, 610-395-3781, Ext. 11) no later than July 31 to let us know which evening you will attend.

YOUTH SPIRIT CARDS

Look for Youth Spirit Cards for sale on the Front Lawn of the church at Lemonade in the Shade from 9:45 - 10:30 a.m. each Sunday. A variety of choices for gifts.

AUDITIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP BAND

As we continue to plan for the implementation of our Alternative Worship service which is set to begin September 11, 2011, we are inviting members and friends of FPCA to consider auditioning this July for The 10:10 Band. We are looking for **drummers, guitarists, keyboard players, vocalists, violin players, sound technicians, light technicians, and video board technicians.** If you have an interest in auditioning, please email Carol Kelly at carol.kelly@fpcallentown.org.

NEW GOSPEL CHOIR IN THE FALL

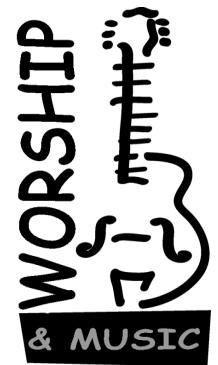
Open to High School through Adult ages.

Will rehearse two Sundays per month from 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. beginning in September.

This choir will be singing at the 8:45 a.m. Traditional worship service once a month.

If interested or for more information, please contact Laura Rabenold at

[610-395-3781, Ext. 17; email at \[laura.rabenold@fpcallentown.org\]\(mailto:laura.rabenold@fpcallentown.org\)](tel:610-395-3781).



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___ I am interested in joining the NEW GOSPEL CHOIR beginning in September.

___ I would like some more information about the NEW GOSPEL CHOIR; please call or email me.

___ I would like to sing in the NEW GOSPEL CHOIR, but would be interested in an introductory group session in reading choral music before I try it.

NAME _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

VOICE PART: SOPRANO ALTO TENOR BASS

If you are interested, please **place this Sign-up Sheet in the Offering Plate or return it to the Church office.**

If you have ever sung Gospel Music or Spirituals, you are strongly encouraged to join this new choir! Thank you!

STAFF ROSTER AND CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME	POSITION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Rev. Dr. Tony Sundermeier	Pastor/Head of Staff	tony.sundermeier@fpcallentown.org
Rev. Dr. Michael Drake	Associate Pastor for Organizational Leadership	mike.drake@fpcallentown.org
Rev. Stephen Emick	Associate Pastor for Spiritual Formation	stephen.emick@fpcallentown.org
Dr. John Franke	Theologian in Residence	john.franke@fpcallentown.org
Moufid Khoury	Commissioned Lay Pastor; Arabic Ministry	moufid.khoury@fpcallentown.org
Gloria Snyder	Director of Music Administration; Director of Children's and Handbell Choirs; Organist	gloria.snyder@fpcallentown.org
Laura Rabenold	Director of Chancel, Youth, Gospel and Cantate Domino Choirs	laura.rabenold@fpcallentown.org
Adam Tavolaro	Director of Alternative Worship	adam.tavolaro@fpcallentown.org
Matt Wehr	Associate Organist	matt2209@ptd.net
Christopher Cocca	Director of Mission	christopher.cocca@fpcallentown.org
Kathy Mammele	Director of Pastoral Care	kathy.mammele@fpcallentown.org
Rev. Lindsay Harren-Lewis	Director of Family and Younger Children's Ministry	lindsay.harren-lewis@fpcallentown.org
Noha Khoury	Director of Tween and Middle School Ministry	noha.khoury@fpcallentown.org
Allyssa Miller	Director of High School, College, and Young Adult Ministry	allyssa.miller@fpcallentown.org
Barbara Culp	Director of Weekday Preschool	fpcps@enter.net
Diana Wampole	Property Manager	diana.wampole@fpcallentown.org
Josie Buss	Financial Administrator	josie.buss@fpcallentown.org
Carol Kelly	Pastoral and Membership Support Specialist	carol.kelly@fpcallentown.org
Keri Miller	Office Support Specialist	keri.miller@fpcallentown.org
Caley Oels	Program Support Specialist	caley.oels@fpcallentown.org
Scott MacKenzie	Custodian	610-395-3781
Agim Shaqiri	Custodian	610-395-3781
Orlando Cruz	Custodian	610-395-3781
Nelson Jasmin	Custodian	610-395-3781

OUR PCUSA MISSIONARY FOR BURMA IS VISITING OUR CHURCH

Please welcome our PCUSA Missionary for Burma, Amy Galetzka, on the evening of Wednesday, July 13th at our church! She will be accompanied by her boss, Dave Eubank, head of the Free Burma Rangers. They are taking a road trip across America. Also, Myra Dahgaypaw, a Burmese Activist, visiting from Washington DC, will participate in the discussion. There will be an ice cream social followed by a panel discussion. Ice cream social is at 6:30 p.m., panel discussion is at 7:15 p.m. More details to follow. Please plan to attend this fun and meaningful evening.

LEHIGH VALLEY EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

Networking for Life Ministry presents "Future Shock: Employment Outlook for the Lehigh Valley" with speaker Bob Wendt, Director of Research, Lehigh Valley Workforce Investment Board. Monday, July 11, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.; First Presbyterian Church—Parlor, 2344 Center St, Bethlehem, PA 18017. Registration: 6:30 pm-7:00 pm. Networking time: 8:00 pm to 9:00 p.m. Pre registration required. Contact Bill Gruenewald at wgruenewal@aol.com or (610) 217-2524.

LETTER FROM AMY GALETZKA, OUR PCUSA MISSIONARY FOR BURMA

Dear Friends at First Presbyterian Church Allentown,

Thank you so much for the support you have given to me and to Burma! It was really an amazing time that I was able to spend with you and the members of your church from Burma this year. Thank you for that generous gift!

As an organization, FBR has 55 full time relief teams working with the internally displaced people of Burma. We have 25 volunteers helping as support staff for the relief teams. I was able to participate in the administration and teaching during two relief teams training --- for our western teams and a multi-ethnic training in northern Karen State.

My job continues to be full time, but I am becoming the person who makes the schedule for the staff coordinator position (moving from me being full time coordinator to it being a rotating position between full time FBR staff). I'll create the job description and the schedule and when I'm in Chiang Mai, will be the primary coordinator. My full time title will be Finance Director, including donor liaison and some awareness and advocacy duties.

Personally, I am so thankful to have celebrated my first wedding anniversary in Thailand in July.

In addition to the purchase of the plane ticket to visit you, from January 2010 through December 2010, I have received the following donations from First Presbyterian Church Allentown including gifts of over \$900 for volleyballs and soccer balls to give the children of Burma, \$700 from the Burmese Potluck Dinner and \$100 from the Chin Burmese Community.

I hope and pray that your 2011 has started off really well! I am looking forward to seeing you all again this summer.

God Bless you!
Amy Galetzka

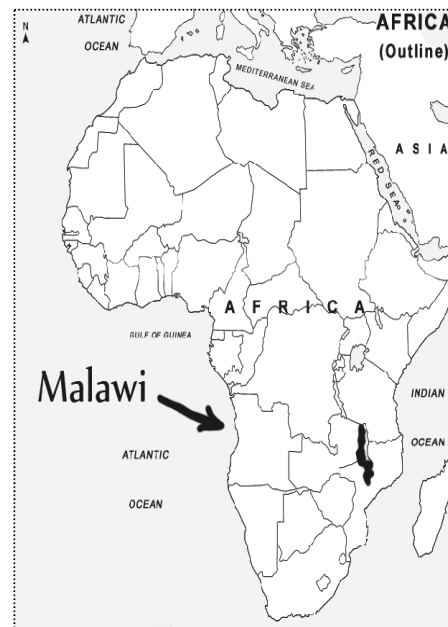


EXPLORING MALAWI

As an exploratory team prepares to leave FPC for Malawi to discern the Holy Spirit's calling, we seek to learn more about the country and our brothers and sisters who live there.

Can you imagine living in a country where the life expectancy at birth is only 51.7 years? How would that change your family? Consider how many of your loved ones would be living? Fortunately for us, we are blessed to live in the United States where the life expectancy is far greater; but what about the people of Malawi, where **a long life is 51.7 years?** According to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency's World Factbook, Malawi's 15,879,252 population estimate takes "into account the effects of **excess mortality** due to AIDS; this can result in lower life expectancy, higher infant mortality, higher death rates..." In addition, the agency states there is a "**very high**" degree of risk of infectious diseases, including hepatitis A, typhoid fever, malaria and plague.

*Jesus commanded us to love our neighbors... including those neighbors who live in a country in Africa named, Malawi. Please support the exploratory team with your prayers. Donations to defray the cost of the trip and to purchase medical and school supplies would be greatly appreciated. **Checks may be made payable to: First Presbyterian Church, memo: Malawi.***



A SPECIAL SUDSY THANK YOU!

This year's Annual Youth Car Wash raised \$631 and we would like to thank all the youth and adults who helped to wash and vacuum cars and the supporters who provided the vehicles! A tithe (10%) will be donated to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Fund.



YOUNG ADULT RETREAT TO THE SEA!

This year, 16 young adults will participate in our first annual Young Adult Retreat to the Sea from Friday, July 8 - Saturday, July 9. Please keep the group in your prayers as they travel to Ocean Grove, NJ for a weekend of rejuvenation, fellowship and study. Registered participants should remember to check their email for important updates and reminders.

HIGH SCHOOL BEACH RETREAT DEADLINE

All completed 9th-12th graders are invited to register for this year's High School Beach Retreat that is taking place from Friday, July 22 – Sunday, July 24. Registration includes a signed Parent Permission Form, a completed 2010-2011 Youth Ministry Medical Form and the \$75 fee. Confidential financial assistance is available. The registration deadline is Sunday, July 3. Please speak to Allyssa Miller (ext. 40; allyssa.miller@fpcallentown.org) if you have any questions.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

SUMMER SPIRITUAL FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

ALL AGES

Summer on the Lawn

Wednesdays: July 6 - August 24, 6:30-8:00pm Front Lawn

CHILDREN

Story Time with Ms. Lindsay!

Mondays: July 11, 25, August 8, 22 10:00am Playground at church

Playground Visits, Hikes, and More with Ms. Lindsay!

What Works For You?

TWEENS

Tween Night

Thursdays: July 28, August 18, Room 115, 6:30-8:30pm

YOUTH

Middle School Workcamp

Monday - Wednesday: July 25-27, Poconos

Mission Morning

Mondays: July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 8, 8:30am-1:00pm(High Schoolers)

Tuesdays: July 5, 12, 26, August 2, 9, 8:30am-1:00pm (Middle Schoolers)

High School Beach Retreat

Friday - Sunday: July 22-24, Ocean Grove, NJ

YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adult Retreat to the Sea

Friday - Saturday: July 8-9, Ocean Grove, NJ

ADULTS

The Thoughtful Christian

Sundays: July 3- August 28, 9:45-10:30am, Room 115

Men's Discipleship Group

Wednesdays, 6:45 - 8:00 am, Room 115

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays, 7:30 pm, Witherspoon Room

Thursday Bible Study

Thursdays, 7:00 pm, Room 124

Men's Breakfast Fellowship

Every other Saturday, 7:30- 9:00 am, Room 115

More information and flyers for these opportunities are available at the church office (610-395-3781) and on the church's website: www.fpcallentown.org



IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY (Parish #)

(as of 12:00 p.m. Tuesday)

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS are with those who have been hospitalized recently. So that we might keep each other in prayer, it is the custom of this congregation to publish hospitalizations unless requested not to do so. *At Luther Crest H.C.C.:* Mari (McDowell) Stammerjohn (#19), Freddie Frederick (#19).

If you'd like to send cards or letters to those in the hospital, please contact Kathy Mammele, Director of Pastoral Care (610-395-3781 Ext. 39).

HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL: Robert (Bob) Martin (#3), Doris McKinley (#22), Edith Nebhut (#33).

MILESTONES: Congratulations to Niels and Enid Nielson (#32) on their 50th wedding anniversary on June 24; Mrs. Lois Rich turning 100 on June 28; Marge and Richard Pitts married 55 years on June 30.

UNITED IN MARRIAGE: Amanda Deal and Paul Mack (#34) on June 18.

BIRTH: Congratulations to Tara, David and Madison Roseman on the birth of Macie Brooke, daughter of Tara and David, sister of Madison on May 11.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Sherry and Larry Deal (#24) on the marriage of their daughter, Amanda Deal to Paul Mack on June 18.

SYMPATHY OF THE PASTORS AND CONGREGATION:

Bill and Esther Hutchings (#11), Sandy Hutchings (#12), Robert Fulminante, Megan and Brittany Hutchings (#12), and Samantha Fulimante (#11) on the death of Donna Kraus, daughter of Bill and Esther and sister of Sandy on June 15; Anita & Jeff Krause (#3) and Dori and Kevin Kiska (#8) on the death of Gertie Freed, sister-in-law of Anita and Dori on June 15.

STAFF PRAYER LIST

On July 5, 2011 the staff will pray for the following members of our church family who comprise a PORTION of Parish #22. Coordinator is Betty Jo Richards.

Arthur and Jessie Hall; Gene and Sharon Hardenberg; Jon, Jodee, Paige and Tanner Hardenberg; Donna, Jay and Erik Henry; Brad, Katie, Dylan and Emma Jeanes; Jack and Cathi Krimmel; George and Carol Landes; Ernie, Jill, Ryan and Alyssa Long; Patty, James, Chelsea and Olivia MacDonald; Meredith, John, Mikayla and Colin McGarr.

On July 12, 2011 the staff will pray for the following members of our church family who comprise a PORTION of Parish #22. Coordinator is Betty Jo Richards.

Bob and Doris McKinley; Liane, Stephen, Abbigael and Ethaen Meli; Bill and Kitty Miller; Kelly and Kresh Nemet; Bruce, Karen and Lauren Nicholson; Chris Nicholson; Rebecca and Scott Rhodes; Ed and Betty Jo Richards; Scott, Karen, Janelle, David and Garrett Richards.

Sunday, July 3

Communion Sunday

- 8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Lemonade in the Shade
- 10:00 a.m. Arabic Language Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

Monday, July 4

Building & Offices Closed

Tuesday, July 5

- 8:30 a.m. Middle School Mission Morning
- 9:15 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. Shawl Knitting Ministry Group
- 6:30 p.m. DBSA Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 6

- 6:45 a.m. Men’s Discipleship Group
- 10:30 a.m. Autumn Gospel Group
- 6:00 p.m. Middle School Workcamp Team & Parent’s Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Summer on the Lawn
- 7:00 p.m. DBSA
- 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Men’s Bible Study

Thursday, July 7

- 10:30 a.m. Summer on the Lawn Planning Team
- 11:30 a.m. Spiritual Formation Staff
- 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon
Caron Parent Support
- 7:30 p.m. Mission Committee
- 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

Friday, July 8

- 8:30 a.m. Middle School Tubing Trip Begins
- 1:00 p.m. Young Adult Retreat to the Sea

Saturday, July 9

- All Day Young Adult Retreat to the Sea
- 7:30 a.m. Saturday Men’s Group
- 10:00 a.m. Shawl Knitting Ministry Group
- 11:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil for Peace

Sunday, July 10

Baptism Sunday

- 8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Lemonade in the Shade
- 9:45 a.m. Baptism Class
- 10:00 a.m. Arabic Language Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

Monday, July 11

- 8:30 a.m. High School Mission Morning
- 10:00 a.m. Story Time with Miss Lindsay
- 5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Monday Night Serenity (Al-Anon)
- 7:30 p.m. Peace & Justice Prayer Vigil

Tuesday, July 12

- 8:30 a.m. Middle School Mission Morning
- 9:15 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 5:30 p.m. Planned Giving Committee
- 6:45 p.m. Wee Worship Discernment Team
- 7:00 p.m. Trustee Finance Committee Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee

Wednesday, July 13

- 6:45 a.m. Men’s Discipleship Group
- 10:30 a.m. Autumn Gospel Group
- 12:00 p.m. Lehigh Co. Mental Retardation
- 3:00 p.m. CACLV
- 5:30 p.m. Safety Committee Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Summer on the Lawn
Missionary from Burma
- 7:00 p.m. DBSA
- 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Men’s Bible Study
Refugee Steering Committee

Thursday, July 14

- 10:30 a.m. Summer on the Lawn Planning Team
- 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon
Caron Parent Support
Multicultural Task Force
Arabic Women’s Bible Study
Communications Committee
Stephen Ministry
- 7:30 p.m. Local Mission Team
- 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

Sunday, July 17

- 8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Lemonade in the Shade
- 10:00 a.m. Arabic Language Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

JULY 13: SPECIAL ISSUE OF TIDINGS

The next edition of Tidings will be devoted to the new Sunday morning schedule that premieres in September.

The next regular edition will be published on 7/27/11. Articles must be received in the office by 9:00 a.m. on 7/20/11 for inclusion in this issue. Articles will be reprinted, space permitting, and at the discretion of the editor, condensed for their second printing.

Questions? Contact the church office at 610-395-3781.



tidings!

THIS SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

July 3, 2011

Communion

8:45 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. services

Rev. Michael Drake

Sermon: "Childish or Childlike?"

Scripture: Romans 7:15-25a;

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Music: Nicole O'Connell, soprano

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

July 10, 2011

8:45 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. services

Rev. Tony Sundermeier

Sermon: "Community Soil"

Scripture: Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

Music: Shannon Ott, soprano;
Elaine Martin, flute

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS

Ushers – July 3

8:45 a.m. - Robert Bungerz, Captain; Sherry Deal, Joe Fortenbaugh, Lisa Gilchrist, Denise & Alan Jennings, Larry & Marion Oxley, Jane & Paul Slick.

10:30 a.m. - Chuck Hess, Captain; Bob & Carole Chisdak, Kelly, Kyle, Peggy & Taylor Gonoude, Ashley, Chad, Kelly & Lauren Hess, Jill Krum, Margaret Leinweber, Kathleen Logan, Marge Parker, Sonya & Todd Siegfried, Bill White.

Ushers – July 10

8:45 a.m. - Bob Davenport, Captain; Ed & Georgia Baldrige, Jane Davenport, Art DeVries, Bill Eves, Anita & Jeff Krause, John McClellan, Christine McNamara-Smith, Chuck Phillips, Gerry Reynolds, Barbara & Dan Richards.

10:30 a.m. - Sarah Moussa, Captain; Youth Usher Team.

Office Volunteers

July 3: JoAnn Campbell (8:00); Volunteer Needed (10:00)

June 10: Judi Kramer (8:00); Volunteer Needed (10:00)

Dial-A-Ride Volunteers

July 3: John Fry & June Gordon

July 10: John Lovis & Jim Joseph

Audio Room Volunteers

July 3: Martin Heimann (8:45); Bill Richards (10:30)

July 10: Nelson Rabenold (8:45); Mark Simmons (10:30)