

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.

APRIL 20, 2011

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PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

TELLING IT LIKE IT IS

If you were in worship on April 10, you heard Noha Khoury tell the story of Cinderella during Children's Time. Her rendition went something like this: "Cinderella lived in a castle, went to a ball, met a prince, and lived happily ever after. The end." Of course the children weren't going to let her get away with that! They reminded her that there was more to the story, including the difficult circumstances in which Cinderella was forced to live. The story would not be complete, and its message could not be accurately conveyed, without remembering the not so nice parts as well.

That, of course, was a springboard for Noha to remind the children that in the season of Lent, it's easy for us gloss over the difficult parts of Jesus' life, and fast forward to Palm Sunday and Easter...the happy part, the "he lived happily ever after" part. We're just not up to listening to the painful portions.

Her point struck me squarely between the eyes. For I'm no different than most of you, I think. When Lent begins, I'm looking ahead to the end of the story. I know how it goes: palm branches and hosannas, empty tombs and new life. But the sections about betrayal, torture and crucifixion – the scenes we would most likely want to turn our head away from if this were a drama being played out on stage – are just too much.

Recently I've thought about why that is. Is it just because they violate our sense of decency? I don't think so. For me, at least, the thing which I have decided makes them so difficult for me to bear is that Jesus Christ went through all that over

that makes the season more palatable, doesn't it? It allows me to remain more emotionally distanced from the heart of the matter. Which I like, because it's not in my makeup to want to be indebted to someone at that level. And yet when I ponder what Christ went through for my forgiveness and reconciliation, I realize that I am indebted; there's no way around it.

In the book we've been using for our small group study this season, *24 Hours That Changed the World*, author Adam Hamilton tells the story of a young reservist in Iraq named Tammy Duckworth. Her helicopter was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, and she appeared to be mortally wounded. Her comrades, however, even though the enemy was upon them, were determined not to leave her. Miraculously, they were able to get to safety and Tammy survived. She has since become an Assistant Secretary in the Department of Veterans Affairs. When asked once how it felt to recall what her friends did for her, her response was this: "You have to get up every day and seek to live in such a way as to be worthy of that effort and sacrifice."

Well put. Well put. And her words could be our words, when we reflect on what Christ went through for us. So as we journey through the rest of this season, and beyond, let us do so mindful of the *whole* story, even those parts we may shy away from. May it change us in good ways, and allow us to rise ourselves each day, to live in such ways as to be worthy of that sacrifice.

*Faithfully,
Mike Drake*

STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING CLASS IN HOME STRETCH

The 2011 class of 16 Stephen Ministers has nearly completed training, with four sessions remaining before the class is commissioned during church services on May 8th.

Our trainees have worked extremely hard and their dedication is paying off according to the Stephen Leader team. The course has involved over 50 hours of pre-class reading assignments and in class lecture, discussion, and role-playing. According to Becky Tacca, Stephen Leader Training and Continuing Education Coordinator, "Our trainees have shown real growth in knowledge and skills."

"During the skill practicing, there has been real ministry going on as well," one trainee commented. "When you learn and discuss grief for example, you can't help but surface genuine issues from your own life. When this happens, we find ourselves ministering to each other. All of that will help us be better caregivers later on."

Rev Kenneth Haugk, founder of Stephen Ministries, relates that "as a pastor I worked tirelessly to making a positive impact on my congregation and community by providing pastoral care to all those experiencing divorce, grief, hospitalization, discouragement and other life difficulties.

Very quickly I found that the needs for care by far exceeded that which I alone could provide."

Our Stephen Leaders, Katie, Becky, Kathy, Michael and Bob, agree that the end of training classes and the commissioning services only mark "*the end of the beginning.*"

This is where you, the members of the congregation, come in. One Philadelphia church's first care receivers included a widower, a blind person, a young woman with cancer, a truck driver forced to retire early, and an inactive member struggling with faith issues.



If you find yourself, a family member, friend, co-worker or another member of our congregation, who is suffering or in pain and is in need of

strictly confidential, one-to-one Christian care, please contact Stephen Leader Referrals Coordinator Kathy Mammele at Kathy.Mammele@fpcallentown.org or (610) 395-3781, a pastor or a Stephen Leader.

Stephen Ministry at First Presbyterian Church Allentown is now "open for business."



"FOOD ON THE FIRST" DRIVE IS SUNDAY, MAY 1

Macaroni and Cheese is the requested food item. The Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank is the recipient of your generous donations and is very grateful for the continued support of its very important mission.

DIRECTORY PORTRAIT DATES STILL AVAILABLE

We have had an outstanding response to our church's photo directory. Our original dates for portrait photography have been filled. New dates have been added if you have yet to schedule an hour to have your free portrait taken.

Remaining Portrait Photography Dates are:

May 18, 19, 20 and 21 (Wednesday-Saturday),
May 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28 (Tuesday-Saturday).

Go to the church website at www.fpcallentown.org and click on "Directory Portrait Sign-up" link under "News Highlights" to book your appointment, or call the church office at 610-395-3781. Our hope is to complete all photography by the end of May. Book now for the best selection of dates and times! **Please be on time for your photo session.**

COLLEGE OF ELDERS GATHERING

All currently serving Session members and folks who have been ordained as an Elder in the PCUSA (whether here at FPCA or another church) are invited to attend a gathering on April 23, 2011, 8:30-10:00 a.m. in Chapel. The topic of conversation will be Ordination Standards in the PCUSA and the Future of our Denomination.

NEW MEMBERS DINNER TO BE HELD

There will be a potluck dinner welcoming First Presbyterian Church Allentown members that joined in 2010. The dinner will be held in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, April 30 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. RSVP to jennyhenderson@gmail.com with the number of members of your family who are attending and the dish you would like to bring, e.g., salad, side dish, entree or dessert. Drinks will be provided. Please use the Fellowship Hall entrance in the back of the church.

MEN'S MORNING RETREAT

All men are invited to join in on this half-day men's retreat with a full-breakfast and great conversation about "Finding Balance in Faith and Life." Tony Sundermeier and Mike Loomis will be facilitating this retreat on Saturday, April 30, 2011, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. To sign-up, call the church office (Caley Oels) 610-395-3781 or email Caley at caley.oels@fpcallentown.org.

FIVE WISHES PRESENTATION: END OF LIFE ISSUES

Rev. Anne Huey will be leading a presentation on *Five Wishes*, Saturday, May 21, 2011, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This presentation is appropriate for all faith communities and gives everyone an opportunity to use the resources and meanings of their faith and spirituality as they come to dealing with end of life issues.

Five Wishes is the first living will that talks about your personal, emotional and spiritual needs as well as your medical wishes. It lets you choose the person you want to make



Five Wishes lets you say exactly how you wish to be treated if you should become seriously ill. The *Five Wishes* booklet was written with the help of the American Bar Association's Commission on Law and Aging and national leading experts on end of life care. It is easy to use. Come and find out just how easy. Rev. Huey has led this workshop many times for different churches and groups. Everyone will receive a *Five Wishes* booklet. Bring your questions and join us for this informative presentation and discussion.

The Five Wishes presentation will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, 3231 Tilghman Street, Allentown, PA 18104 in Room #115, right outside the Presbytery office. Please RSVP to the Lehigh Presbytery office (610-391-9020, office@lehighpresbytery.org) and let us know you will be there. This way we will have enough booklets for everyone.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2011

VBS will take place June 27th - July 1st. Find registration forms at www.fpcallentown.org, the Welcome Centers, or call 610-395-3781. Submit forms by June 5 to Caley Oels at Caley.Oels@fpcallentown.org or to the church office. For questions or an interest in volunteering, please contact Jennifer Boyer (484-538-6048) or Jen-boyer@hotmail.com.

EASTER DAY: HELP NEEDED IN NURSERY

We are looking for Safe Sanctuary-trained volunteers to help in the nursery during these times:

8:15 - 9:45 a.m., 9:45 - 10:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m. - noon.

Please contact Lindsay Harren-Lewis at 610-395-3781, ext. 15 for questions or to sign up.

YOUTH MINISTRY

SERVING UP ICE CREAM TREATS FOR 6TH - 12TH GRADERS

Sunday, April 24th is the registration deadline for the Youth Ice Cream Tour. As the Youth Choir is away on tour in Richmond, VA, we'll remember them as we indulge in some delicious frozen treats and sooth our throats!



Ice Cream Tour

This event is open to all 6th -12th graders not attending Choir Tour and their friends and will take place on Sunday, May 1 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Flyers with details are available in all Church School Classrooms and at the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Allyssa Miller or Noha Khoury at the church office.

SUMMER PROGRAM AND MISSION WORK FOR CAMP BRAINERD

> 1ST - 5TH GRADERS

On Sunday May 1st, the Church School classes of the 1st through 5th grades will have a camp fire in the sanctuary! Jen Henshue, the Director of Camping Ministry at Camp Brainerd, will be here to help children learn more about the Summer Camping program. Parents are also invited to join us, and there will be a time for you talk more in depth with Jen about the program. We invite you to the sanctuary at 10 a.m. for this exciting and informational conversation! If you have any questions, please contact Lindsay Harren-Lewis at 610-395-3781, ext. 15 for more details

> 6TH - 12TH GRADERS

All 6th-12th graders are invited to join us for a morning of service and mission. We'll meet at the church office entrance at 7:30am on Saturday, May 7, and travel to Lehigh Presbytery's Camp Brainerd. Once there, we'll work together in getting the camp ready for summer. After working, we'll enjoy lunch and fellowship together. Registration forms with all the details are available in Church School classrooms and on-line. Hurry! You must register for this event by Sunday, May 1.

DON'T FORGET: PICK UP YOUR YOUTH SPIRIT CARDS

Please continue to help support our Summer Youth Ministry Program. Buy gift cards for sale on Sundays in the hallway outside Fellowship Hall from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. Choose cards from Giant, Weis/King grocery stores, Barnes & Noble, Kohl's and Macy's.

A VIP TRIP OFFERED TO LEARN, SERVE AND RETURN HOME BLESSED

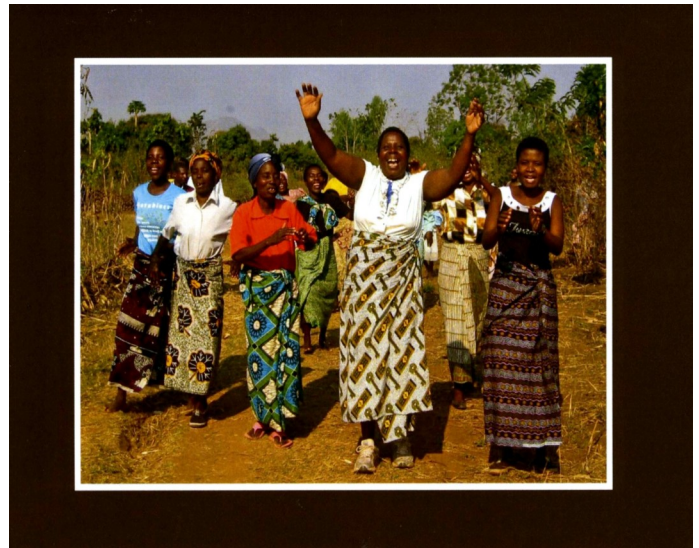
Villages In Partnership (VIP), a mission program developed by First Presbyterian church in Allentown, N.J. to serve the needs of villages in Africa, is offering opportunities to attend a 'Friendship Trip' August 5 - 14 or August 19 - 28 this summer.

Hosting groups no larger than 6 - 10 participants, VIP tailors trips around the interests and skills of individual team members in conjunction with the needs of the villages. Small teams offer intimacy as we process what we are experiencing as well as providing easy maneuvering over rough terrain.

VIP works directly with the villagers to address their needs. With support from VIP, the villagers perform the work. In one village, water was the primary concern. A villager donated land for a well and the people dug the well themselves - by hand. VIP trained the villagers to operate and maintain the well. In another village, education was a primary need. A plantation owner donated the land while the villagers made bricks by hand from the land to build their school.

VIP offers "Friendship Trips" to develop relationships with the people in the villages of Malawi, not offering hand-outs, but a "hand up."

The cost per participant is \$1,400 (not including airfare) covering all ground costs for transportation in Malawi, accommodations, all meals and a two day/one night safari.



Join us on a friendship trip to Malawi in Africa!

There is an opportunity for people wanting to extend the trip one week to go on another planned safari trip at an additional cost.

Our International Mission team is inviting people to participate. If you would like additional information, please contact Marlene Merz: mnmerz@rcn.com or call 610-391-1159.

"If you think you're too small to make a difference, you never spent a night with a mosquito." African proverb

THE ROMA PEOPLE: REJECTED, FEARED, TORTURED, MURDERED

The Peace, Justice and Missionary Committee is proud to announce that they have selected Nadia Ayoub as a special interest missionary. Nadia, a candidate for ordination as a minister of Word and Sacrament, recently started working with the Reformed Church in Carpath, Ukraine, to develop and implement church-related early childhood education programs for Roma children. Seeking to steadily improve the self-esteem and status of the Roma community within the larger Ukrainian society, Nadia observed, "There are so many needs - clean water, school supplies, not to forget medicine and food."

Living primarily in Eastern Europe, the Roma are more commonly known as Gypsies, (though not all Gypsies are Roma). Originally a nomadic people, they were feared as thieves and baby-stealers, and laws were enacted against them. In 1885, the United States even barred their immigration. The Nazis exterminated roughly 600,000 Roma.

Today, many Roma are settled in the Carpath section of the Ukraine. Traditionally part of Hungary, this region is isolated by the Carpath Mountains which separate it from the rest of the Ukraine. Roma students learn in their native language until fourth grade, and then the law mandates schooling in Ukrainian. Most Roma students drop out after this fourth grade education. These persecuted, poor and generally uneducated people need special concern. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) sent Nadia Ayoub.

Our Presbytery's Worldwide Ministry Care Team and partnerships with The Hungarian Reformed Church have influenced First Presbyterian's interest in this region.

ADULT EDUCATION

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 AM

ADULT SEMINAR:

Fellowship Hall

April 24: *"Easter Message - The Resurrection"* presented by John Franke.

May 1: *"Tilling and Keeping - Caring for God's Creation and the Environment"* presented by The Creation Committee.

May 8: *"Jonah"* presented by Tony Sundermeier.

BIBLE DISCOVERY: WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

Room 124/Thrygve Meeker

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE BIBLE CLASS

Room 115/ Becky Ensley

EXPLORING THE NEW TESTAMENT

Room 217/ Mike Loomis

We are journeying through the Book of Acts, and learning how the early church grew through the actions of the apostles and the Holy Spirit. If you've been meaning to read the Bible and could benefit from the insight and encouragement of others to keep you on track, this is the class for you. Newcomers are welcome!

PRESBY PERK: CONVERSATIONS ABOUT BEING CHRISTIAN

Commons/ Pam Weiss

Join us Sunday mornings in the Commons for Coffee House style discussions. Pam Weiss leads us in looking at issues that directly affect how we understand ourselves as Christians, especially as they relate to how we live our daily lives.

TREXLER BIBLE CLASS

Witherspoon Room/ Tom Ritter

WEEKDAY CLASSES

RETIRED PERSONS BIBLE STUDY: *THE PARABLES OF JESUS*

Chapel

Wednesdays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

All are welcome – retired, semi-retired, or not retired at all!

May 4 through June 15: a study on Amos. May 8, Tony Sundermeier and George Landes.

WEDNESDAY MEN'S DISCIPLESHIP GROUP – 6:45 a.m.

Commons /Tony Sundermeier

WEDNESDAY MEN'S BIBLE STUDY – 7:30 p.m.

Witherspoon Room/ Mike Loomis

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY – 7:00 p.m.

Room 124/ Curtis and Darlis Fouts

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – Fridays 9:15 to 11:30 a.m.

Room 115/ Marijo Taylor, Pam Weiss

SATURDAY MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP – Every other Saturday, 7:30- 9:00 a.m.

Room 217

Please call Mike Loomis (610-398-1366) for further details.



The tree planted by running water is a symbol of the community of faith. The living water is offered by Christ, and the church is a conduit through which the waters flow. Many different ways of study bring these living waters to us...worship, small groups, lecture, personal devotions, reflection with friends, etc. The more ways we receive the living waters, the more likely we will be able to hear and respond to God's word to us today.



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), Janet Arnold (#19); *At Lehigh Center:* Helen Potts (#10), Robert Shurts (#24); *At Commonwealth Health Rehab Center, Fairfax, VA:* Edith Nebhut (#33).

HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL: Russ Smart (#9), Ralph Longworth (#8), Leslie Nichols (#11), Matt Kane, Bill Somers (#8), Ed Kopecke (#24), Sharon Sechrist (#10), Brooke Fulford (#3), Leslie Toth.

BIRTH: Congratulations to Roberta Barber (#21) on the birth of her granddaughter, Elizabeth Ann Bowen, on April 12. Parents are daughter and son-in-law, Jennifer and Matthew Bowen, brother is Jonathan; Elaine and Ed Martin (#32) on the birth of their grandson, Michael Edward Martin on April 14. Parents are son and daughter-in-law, Matthew and Megan Martin.

BAPTIZED IN THE COVENANT: Maxwell Wilson Marcon, son of Genevieve (Wilson) and Jody Marcon, grandparents are Ruth and Charles Marcon (#4), great-grandmother is Florence Howard (#23); Robert Brian and Katelyn Jennifer Cutler, son and daughter of Liz (Loomis) and R. Brian Cutler (#25), grandparents are Michael and Gwen Loomis (#11); Evan Andrew Schwartz, son of Jessica (Rae) and Justin Schwartz, grandparents are Dr. Jon and Kristine Schwartz (#32).

UNITED IN MARRIAGE: Congratulations to Louise and Stephen Voorhees (#22) on the marriage of their son, Peter Voorhees, to Lisa Tobelmann on April 9; Wendi and Gary Powell (#19) on the marriage of their daughter Katie to Justin Dithmer on April 2.

MILESTONES: Alex and Dianne Ceschin (#7) celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on April 14.

SYMPATHY OF THE PASTORS AND CONGREGATION TO: Jane Shoemaker and David and Taylor Aretz (#2) on the death of Fannie Shoemaker, mother of Jane and grandmother of Taylor on April 11; Louise and Stephen Voorhees and family (#22) on the death of Stephen J. Toth III, brother of Louise on April 6.

THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT: Fannie Shoemaker (#12) on April 11.

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).

STAFF PRAYER LIST

On April 26, 2011 the staff will pray for the following members of our church family who comprise a PORTION of Parish #19. Coordinators are Connie and Bob Bear. Susan Snyder; Jen, Eric, Shelby and Katie Staib; Linda, John and Marcie Stambaugh; Mari Stammerjohn; Gwen Steele; Janice, Gregory, Madison and Brandon Stout; Alexa, Chris, Ava and Kayla Sweeney

On May 3, 2011 the staff will pray for the following members of our church family who comprise a PORTION of Parish #19. Coordinators are Connie and Bob Bear. Dottie Tielmann; Peg Trego; Katie, Henry and Austin Trevino; Gary and Sharon Ward; Andy White; Bill, Jane and Kelsey White; Steven, Jennifer, Alex, Tucker and Liam Wilson



GREEN PUBLICATIONS: *Tidings* is available online! If you'd like to receive e-mail notification when *Tidings* is available on the church website, (typically earlier than people receive the print edition by mail), please contact the church office to have your name added to our online *Tidings* list. Call 610-395-3781 or send an e-mail to office@fpcallentown.org.

Sunday, April 24

Easter Sunday

- 7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise—Communion
- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Arabic Worship Service
Church School (All Ages)
- 10:30 a.m. All Church School Classes
Dismissed
- 11:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, April 25

Easter Monday

Building Offices Closed

Tuesday, April 26

- 8:30 a.m. Aerobic Dance Class
- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
- 9:15 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 4:00 p.m. Lehigh Presbytery Meeting
- 5:30 p.m. ESL Class
Tuesday Night Together
- 6:00 p.m. Third Sunday Band
- 7:30 p.m. Tuesday Night Together
The Book Lover's Group

Wednesday, April 27

- 6:45 a.m. Men's Discipleship Group
- 9:00 a.m. Sewing & Quilting
Weekday Preschool
Literary Council
- 9:15 a.m. Parents' Morning Co-op
- 9:30 a.m. Belles
- 10:00 a.m. Craft Group
- 10:30 a.m. Autumn Gospel Group
- 5:30 p.m. Yoga Class
- 6:30 p.m. Brownie Girl Scouts #6232
Daisy G.S. Troop #6027
Girl Scout Ceremony
- 6:45 p.m. Session
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
DBSA
- 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Men's Bible Study

Thursday, April 28

- 8:30 a.m. Aerobic Dance Class
- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
- 12:30 p.m. Spiritual Formation Staff
- 3:30 p.m. Spring Blood Drive
- 5:00 p.m. 36th Youth Choir Tour Begins
- 5:30 p.m. ESL Class
- 6:30 p.m. Daisy #6051
Brownie G.S. Troop #6214
- 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training
Thursday Bible Study
Arabic Women's Bible Study
Boy Scout Troop #107
Al-Anon
- 7:30 p.m. Adult Handbells
- 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

Friday, April 29

- All Day 36th Youth Choir Tour
- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
- 9:15 a.m. Women's Bible Study
- 7:30 p.m. Speak Easy Singles Dance

Saturday, April 30

- 7:30 a.m. Saturday Men's Group
- 8:00 a.m. Men's One Day Retreat
- 6:00 p.m. Recent New Member Dinner

Sunday, May 1

Communion Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Camp Brainerd Presentation
Baptism Class
Arabic Worship Service
Church School (All Ages)
- 10:00 a.m. Inquirers Meet with Session
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 6:00 p.m. 36th Youth Choir Tour Returns

Monday, May 2

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
Literary Council
- 11:30 a.m. Weekday Preschool Lunch
Bunch
- 6:30 p.m. Jr. Girl Scout #611
Peace and Justice Committee
- 7:00 p.m. Family to Family
Monday Night Serenity
(Al-Anon)
- 7:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

Tuesday, May 3

- 8:30 a.m. Aerobic Dance Class
- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
ESL Class
- 9:15 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. Shawl Knitting
- 5:30 p.m. Tuesday Night Together
ESL Class
- 6:00 p.m. Third Sunday Band
- 6:30 p.m. DBSA Board Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. PFLAG
Safe Sanctuaries Committee
Because I Love You
- 7:30 p.m. Tuesday Night Together

Wednesday, May 4

- 6:45 a.m. Men's Discipleship Group
- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
Sewing & Quilting
Literary Council
- 9:15 a.m. Parents' Morning Co-op
- 9:30 a.m. Belles
- 10:00 a.m. Craft Group
- 10:30 a.m. Autumn Gospel Group
- 4:00 p.m. Worship Planning Team
- 5:30 p.m. Yoga Class
- 6:30 p.m. Daisy G.S. Troop #6973
Brownie G.S. Troop #6232
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
DBSA
Youth Ministry Committee
- 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Men's Bible Study

Thursday, May 5

- All Day Church Photo Directory
- 8:30 a.m. Aerobic Dance Class
- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool
- 12:30 p.m. Spiritual Formation Staff
- 5:30 p.m. ESL Class
- 6:30 p.m. Brownie G.S. Troop #6214
Handbells
- 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training
Boy Scout Troop #107
Al-Anon
Thursday Bible Study
- 7:30 p.m. Mission Committee
Adult Handbells
- 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous

Friday, May 6

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday Preschool Fun Day
- 9:15 a.m. Women's Bible Study
- 6:00 p.m. Bridge Group

Saturday, May 7

- 8:30 a.m. Session Minute Reading
Stephen Ministry

Sunday, May 8

Baptism Sunday

Mother's Day

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Arabic Worship Service
Church School (All Ages)
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
New Stephen Ministers Reception

THIS SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

April 24, 2011

Easter Sunday

Easter Sunrise service - Communion

7:00 a.m. - Chapel

Rev. Stephen Emick

Sermon: *Christ the Victor*

Scripture: Mark 16:1-6

Music: Gloria Snyder

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. services

Rev. Tony Sundermeier

Sermon: *Resurrection and the End of
Critical Distance*

Scripture: Jeremiah 31:1-6; Matthew 28:1-10

Music at 8:30: Chancel, Cantate Domino,
& Youth Choirs, Choristers, Orchestra

Music at 11:00: Chancel, Cantate Domino,
Youth & Westminster Choirs, Orchestra

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

May 1, 2011

Communion Sunday

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. services

Rev. Tony Sundermeier

Sermon: *The Mission of God*

Scripture: John 20:19-31

Music at 8:30: Marilyn D'Agostino

Music at 11:00: Marilyn D'Agostino

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS

Ushers – April 24

8:30 a.m. - *Mark Hoffman, Captain*; Chris & Dave Dunbar; Jim & John Harper; Susan Keller; Annaliese McArthur; Bob McCurley; Chris, Duane & Shannan Ott; Mike Smith; Frank Toto; Joe Toto; Judy Venezie-Gagliardi; Jake Weaver; James Weiss.

11:00 a.m. - *Tom Wasser, Captain*; George & Sharon Baker; Mary Freund; Bob & Lauren Jones; Dottie Leigh; John & Lois Lovis; Akweley Massaquoi; Bob & Millie Miller; Bill & Jane Townsend; Andy Weiss.

Ushers – May 1

8:30 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; Brian Smith; Amy Steigerwalt; Helene Thompson.

11:00 a.m. - *Tom Meyers, Captain*; Doug Griffith; Dave & Susan Haight; Susan Heller; Joe Lentz; Sandy Miller; Heidi Muller-Zuzzolo; Linda Seek; Laura Schantz; Mary Ann & Rich Snyder; John & Lynn Towler; John, Melissa, John Jr. & Elizabeth Waring; Bill & Jane White.

Office Volunteers

April 24: Tess Jones (8:00); Judy Rainey (10:00)

May 1: *Volunteer Needed* (8:00); *Volunteer Needed* (10:00)

Dial-A-Ride Volunteers

April 24: *Drivers Needed*

May 1: *Drivers Needed*

Audio Room Volunteers

April 24: Martin Heimann (8:30); Bill Richards (11:00)

SPECIAL INSERT: OFFICER NOMINATIONS

2011 NOMINATION OF MEMBERS FOR CHURCH OFFICERS

The Congregational Nominating Committee is searching for individuals (including youth who are confirmed members of our congregation) with the skills and spiritual gifts needed for service as Elders, Deacons, Trustees, and members of next year's Congregational Nominating Committee.

Nominees should be willing to give significant amounts of time in service and leadership, representing a wide spectrum of ages, backgrounds, interests, and previous service.

Description of the offices:

- **Elders** are the spiritual leaders of the congregation and serve on the session, the church's governing body. The term of office is three years.
- **Deacons** extend ministry to those in need, the sick, the friendless, and those in distress. The term of office is three years.
- **Trustees** perform the corporate duties of the church; overseeing the management of the building and grounds and investment of funds. The term of office is three years
- **At-large members of the Congregational Nominating Committee** present a slate of potential officers to the congregation in the Fall. The commitment involves approximately 4 meetings starting in April and May and continuing through October. The term is one year.

It is not necessary to secure the permission of another member before submitting their name for a given office. If you feel called to serve, you are encouraged to submit your own name.

Although we are not able to nominate every person whose name is submitted, we will carefully and prayerfully consider each recommendation. It will be helpful if you can give us some information about the person you are naming so that we can make informed decisions.

Church Officer Nomination Form

Name of Nominee: _____ Telephone: _____

Nominating for the following church office (choose one or more as appropriate):

- Elder Deacon Trustee Member, Nominating Committee

Using the space below or on additional paper as needed, tell us about your candidate (faith commitment, spiritual gifts, interests, talents, church activities, previous experience, commitments to attendance at worship and other qualities:

Deadline for nominations is Sunday, May 15th

Please submit your completed form to the church office or place it in the offering plate at worship.

The 2011 Nominating Committee – Tom Myers, Chairperson (610-366-0585) teek@rcn.com

Additional forms are available in the Welcome Centers and Church Office.