



The Friendly News

The First Presbyterian Church of Woodbury Heights
June 2016



Dear Friends,

Well, the good news is that my car passed inspection.

Of course, they didn't check my parking brake, which no longer works because the cable broke and the part has been discontinued.

They really didn't check my suspension either, which has a broken spring, and, you guessed it, the part has been discontinued.

I'm not surprised. The car is more than 16 years old, has just short of 170,000 miles on it, and Saturn, the manufacturer, has been out of business for several years.

Oh, and the brakes are slowly but surely wearing away. Oh well.

Now the service rep who gave me the bad news about the unavailability of replacement parts did tell me I could check out junkyards for spare parts.

Those of you who know how mechanically impaired I am can just imagine that scene!

But there is a spiritual lesson to this sad tale of vehicular woe.

God always has in stock whatever we need to get through the day. He never says when we pray for peace, for strength, for comfort, for whatever it is we are praying for: "Sorry, the part is no longer available."

The problem we have sometimes is that too often, instead of turning to God, we go looking through the junkyards of life, hoping

to find just what we need to keep us on the road and keep us from having to go to God; having to humble ourselves before Him; having to just trust Him.

But I'm pretty sure that even if we found something to approximate our need in life's junkyards, well, it won't last long. It will break down, rust out, crack in half. And we'll be searching in the junkyards again.

When, all the while, God's parts department is fully stocked, always open, and you never have to wait for it to come from the warehouse.

Why don't we look to God first? We don't, certainly not as often as we should.

Before you break down, check with God. No part has ever been discontinued!

In Christ, John



Important date: A meeting of the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Woodbury Heights is called for Sunday, June 5, after the 11 a.m. worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to approve the revised by-laws and transact any other business that comes before the congregation.

Get well wishes are sent to Ed Elder, Dorothy Johnson, Jim Golding, Lois Cooper, Paul Milio, Nancy Sharp, Bill Packer Sr., Debbie Bowerman and Dick Love.

Our sympathy is extended to Craig and Jeanne Mangano, and Erik and Jake, on the death of Craig's brother, Daryl.

Thanks to all of our Sunday School teachers for a wonderful and meaningful year!

June Birthdays

- 2 -- Natalea Zorio
- 5 -- Sophie Lynch
- 5 – Doug Sharp
- 6 -- Noah Davis
- 6 -- Joseph Martino III
- 6 -- Lori Taylor
- 10 -- Grace Antosky
- 11 -- Joy Love
- 11 -- Anthony Urion
- 13 – Nick Sammacicci
- 16 -- Diane Belcher
- 16 -- Diane Kuehnafel
- 18 -- Brad Lynch
- 19 -- Barbara Kratzer
- 20 -- Justin Blaum
- 20 -- Danielle Guerra
- 20 -- Cameron Guerra
- 22 -- Gary J. Keedy III
- 24 -- Dominic Guerra
- 24 -- Nicholas A. Zorio
- 26 -- Beth Jones Sheehan
- 26 -- Liz Swanson
- 30 -- Andrew Reynolds
- 30 – Carl Seidelmann

June Anniversaries

- 7 -- William and Nancy Zane
- 13 -- John and Kathy Pedicone
- 19 -- Phil and Carol String
- 24 -- Dick and Barbara Daugherty
- 24 -- Terry and Kris Lott
- 29 -- John and Dottie Shedwick
- 29 -- Dave and Lori Taylor



Congratulations to all of our graduates

Congratulations to our graduates: Rachel Eachus, from Clearview High School; Eric Williamson, from Deptford High School; Carter Bagnell, from Rowan University; Jamie Cary, from West Chester University; and Patrick Schoen, from Washington College.

Don't forget the time change for worship

A reminder: We will begin our summer worship schedule on June 19 (Fathers' Day) with worship at 10 a.m. Our summer worship services will remain at 10 through September 4. We will resume our 11 a.m. worship services on September 11.

Sorry if we missed your special day

If you celebrate your birthday or anniversary in June and you don't see your name on our list, please send your information to whpresby@comcast.net or call the church office at (856) 845-0139 so we can include you in the future.

Church members can attend Kershaw installation ceremony

Dave Kershaw will be installed as the moderator of the West Jersey Presbytery when it meets at our church June 28.

We will need refreshments to offer to the Presbyters that evening.



You will be hearing more about that as the date approaches.

We also want you to know that members of our congregation are welcome to observe the portion of the meeting when Dave is installed.

This is the first time one of our members has been elected to that important position.

When the meeting agenda is prepared later in June, we will let everyone know what time that installation will take place.

Help needed for new nursery

As we look ahead to September, when Sunday School starts again, we want to offer our Sunday School teachers and others the option to put their small children in nursery.

This nursery would be for infants and toddlers up to 2 years of age, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

We will need two people present at all times and possibly more, depending on how many children attend. You do not have to have a child in Sunday School to help.

Anyone who volunteers must consent to a background check as required by Presbytery. You will be reimbursed by the church for costs.

Interested people should see Bonnie Dawson or Jeanne Mangano.



Congratulations graduates! Graduate Sunday is June 12. The Deacons will honor our graduates with gifts and a luncheon (graduates and family only). We will honor high school graduates Rachel Eachus and Eric Williamson; and college grads Carter Bagnell, Jamie Cary and Patrick Schoen.

News:

- **Sunshine luncheon:** It was held at noon Wednesday, May 4, in the church lounge. Ten “seasoned singles” attended and enjoyed a delicious meal prepared and served by Deacons.
- **Communion:** There were 123 served communions on May 15 and 12 more served at church members’ homes by Rev. Shedwick.
- **Blood drive:** Our church opened Fellowship Hall for a blood drive on May 19. The ARC’s original venue cancelled on them, so we were happy to host it. Thanks to those Deacons who helped close up afterward. There were 22 units of blood collected. Summer is coming: Please give blood during this critical time when the supply is low and blood is badly needed.
- **Greeting cards:** Ada White sent 44 greeting cards in May to members for birthdays, anniversaries, get well, sympathy and other occasions. Invitations were sent to five families for graduation Sunday.
- **Food collection:** We collected 99 items in May and have 432 for the year. Thank you!!
- **Food items for May:** Potatoes (boxed or canned), rice, pasta and spaghetti sauce are suggested. All nonperishable foods are welcomed.
- **Visitations:** Deacons made 52 visits in May.

Upcoming Events:

June 4 – Dinner to celebrate Rev. Shedwick’s 40th year of ordination

June 12 – Graduate Sunday

June 19 – Father’s Day -- Deacons will provide a gift for fathers

June 28 – West Jersey Presbytery Meeting -- (Dave Kershaw will be installed as moderator and two young people from our church, Madison Kratzer and Anthony Urion, will be commissioned with many other teens that will attend the Youth Triennium

General Information:

- **Pew etiquette:** There has been an increase in litter in the pews and hymnals after the worship service. Please recycle paper in the basket in the Narthex. GREEN PAPER is for little doodlers ... and please take your scribbles with you.

Ongoing events/programs:

- **Photo directories** are in the pew racks. Enjoy them but don’t remove them.
- **Being green:** Help recycle Sunday bulletins by placing them in the basket in the Narthex after worship.
- **Children’s items:** Reusable doodle pads, toys and books for service are available in the Narthex.
- **Gift cards** for the ShopRite and Acme food markets. See Joyce Woodrow to buy them.
- **Food collection:** Thank you for helping us to continue this ministry!

Please continue placing your donations in the green offering envelopes!
And most importantly: Please inform us of anyone needing assistance or a visit.

God Bless - In Christ’s service, your Board of Deacons:

Steve Antosky, Liz Billings, Cassandra DeFinizio, Steve Elliott, Nancy MacDermott, Judy Milio, John Pedicone, Kayleigh Reim, Andrew Reynolds, Margaret Schneeman, Peg Schoen, Dottie Shedwick, Sydney Sheehan, Ada White, Joe Williamson and Joyce Woodrow, moderator

**HAPPY
FATHER'S
Day!**

**JUNE
2016**

“As a father shows
compassion to his
children, so
the Lord shows
compassion to those
who fear him.”

Psalm 103:13

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Church honors Rev. Shedwick 6 p.m. Fellowship Hall
5 Worship, 11 a.m.; congregational meeting	6	7 Esther Circle dinner, 6 p.m., Gia Nina restaurant	8	9	10	11 Men's group, 8:30 a.m.
12 Worship, 11 a.m.; graduates honored	13 Prime Timers meet, noon	14	15 Mission meets, 6:30 p.m. Session meets, 7 p.m.	16	17	18
19 FATHER'S DAY Worship, 10 a.m.	20	21 Deacons meet, 6:30 p.m.	22	23	24	25
26 Worship, 10 a.m.	27	28 WJ Presbytery; Dave Kershaw installation, 7 p.m.	29	30		

Church members come through for Family Promise

Many thanks to the people who helped with Family Promise on May 31 and June 1. The volunteers were Charles Bagnell, Kathy Pedicone, Mary Kay Reynolds, Andrew Reynolds, Richard Daugherty and Barbara Daugherty.

We will again be helping on Wednesday and Thursday, July 27 and 28, and in the fall on Tuesday, Oct. 4, and Wednesday, Oct. 5.

Currently there are four families in Family Promise -- four adults and nine children. Please pray for them as they seek places to live.

Great news: Family Promise was awarded Nonprofit Organization of the Year through the Gloucester County Chamber of Commerce. The awards dinner is at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 14, at Auletto Caterers in Deptford. If you would like to attend the ceremony, please call Family Promise at (856) 243-5971.

Family Promise facts: In the past 14 months, 12 families graduated from the Family Promise program. That means they successfully found employment, found a place to live and saved enough money for a security deposit and first month's rent. There are 900 people in Gloucester Co. who volunteer their time to help Family Promise.

We contribute \$2,130 to help combat hunger

On May 1, our church participated in the Greater Woodbury CROP Walk. Forty walkers, including 12 from our church, braved the cool, rainy weather. Our church raised \$2,130. Many thanks to all who participated!

Five volunteers helped out at Cathedral Kitchen on April 29. Our next scheduled date is Thursday, June 30. Please contact Mary Kay Reynolds if you can volunteer.

Our church helped Family Promise at the Pitman Presbyterian Church on May 31 and June 1.

This mission has helped many families get back on their feet and is a very rewarding experience for the volunteers who help out. For more information please contact Barbara Daugherty.

Our summer project will be donating cases of water for the Seeds of Hope Ministries in Camden. This will help the homeless survive the long, hot summer.



Thanks to men for super supper

On Wednesday May 11, the men of our church prepared and served another sumptuous ham dinner to the ladies attending our annual Mother's Day event.

About 55 women and a few men attended the dinner, including our friends from the Mount Zion Wesley church. After dinner, we adjourned to the sanctuary to hear our guest speaker portray the life story of C.J. Walker.

It was truly an inspirational story of rags to riches, hard work and perseverance to build a successful business in the early 1900s.

A big thank you to all the men who helped with the dinner and made the evening an enjoyable event.



Sunday School puts final touch on a fulfilling year

Our Sunday school year has concluded, and it has been a great year. Our teachers and helpers did an outstanding job.

Our Senior High youth group did a wonderful job conducting the worship service on May 15, which was both Pentecost and Youth Sunday. It was a fitting end to a Sunday School year that began with our children learning about the bread of life and how the Communion bread is made.

During Advent, they learned about the Jesse tree, which is used to tell the story of the Bible from Creation to the Christmas story.

We had a love-fest for Valentine's Day, and the children sang a song about Jesus' love and made bookmarks for the members of our church. During Lent they learned about the elements of the Resurrection and made a craft.

The students in nursery through 7th grade presented an end-of-year skit in which they told of what they learned during the year.

We are looking forward to another great year in 2016-17, which will begin Sept. 11 with Rally Day. We plan to be working with a new curriculum and changing the classroom-grade setup. We also expect to do some service projects. Look for more details on that in August.

Our Sunday School is for children of nursery age (3 years old) through the seventh grade. The Youth Group is for students in the eighth to 12th grades.

The Sunday School is always looking for helpers, and adults don't have to have a Sunday School-aged child to volunteer.





Last of our series

Stories from the Old Testament in stained glass

This story concludes our series on church windows. These windows face the courtyard side of the church and are the artistic representation of stories from the Old Testament.

THE CREATION

"It is He that has made us and not we ourselves. In the beginning, God."

All things start with Him, called into being by His own words. And the lands and the seas were separated from each other. And the sun, moon and stars were placed in the sky. And vegetation of all kinds grew on the earth. And life, animal and human, appeared.

THE EXODUS

"I have seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt."

God's will has always been for the freedom and fulfillment of His people. As He led the Hebrew slaves into the Promised Land, so He leads us into hope and peace. He spoke of His plans to Moses in a burning bush. He had the Angel of Death pass over the homes that had been marked with the lamb's blood.

He opened the waters of the Red Sea so that the Hebrews might pass. He destroyed their enemies, in Jericho and other cities, so that the land might be theirs.

THE PROPHETS

"And I heard the voice of the Lord saying: Whom shall I send?"

God called men and women into His service, to speak His word and bring His truth to the people of Israel. Some were unsure or reluctant, but God's spirit so filled them that they could do nothing other than obey. Elijah: After a long and fruitful ministering, he was taken up to Heaven in a chariot of fire.

Isaiah's sinful human tongue was purified for God's service by an angel who touched him with a burning coal.

Jeremiah was punished, imprisoned and even stoned by those who resented his message of God's judgment. Ezekiel had visions of God's house, both of the way it should be, and of the way the sins of His people had defiled it.

Daniel, for his faith in God, was thrown into a den of lions but came out untouched.

Chapel of Four Chaplains inspires our Prime Timers

On May 9, 13 members of our Prime Timers carpooled to the Philadelphia Navy Yard for a tour of the Chapel of Four Chaplains.

The chapel is small but filled with many interesting artifacts.

The focus concerns the bravery of the four chaplains who surrendered their life jackets to others when their troop ship, the USAT Dorchester, was torpedoed off the coast of Greenland in 1943.

However, this historic building, as noted in the brochure, now "celebrates acts of selfless service and interfaith cooperation across the nation and the world by recognizing ordinary people who do extraordinary things."

Some of what we saw were tributes to the chaplains who served at Ground Zero on 9/11; all WW II veterans, those 92,000 American service people who remain MIA; and the two young women, Choi Hey-jung and Park Ji-Young, who sacrificed their lives to save so many students aboard the MV Sewol ferry in Korea.

We found this visit inspiring and humbling. Janet Koehler will collect the name, rank and branch of service of any family member who served in WW II and has died.

The Chapel maintains a state-by-state listing of them in a Book of Remembrance that is displayed on the altar and open for visitors to read.



Our church in history: From January 27, 1916:

The First Presbyterian Church last Wednesday evening completed plans for obtaining a large pipe organ, probably for the Easter services. Dr. Little has been so enthusiastic over the matter that the church has been more than gratified with the success of his work.

The same evening, the subject of a manse was brought before the Ladies' Aid and the Trustees of the church. Through the generosity of Mrs. J. Mayhew, the purchase of a manse was made so easy that at once the property was turned over to the church and we feel as though our church has much to be grateful for. The property is situated on Elm Avenue, opposite Mrs. Mayhew's home.

Mr. and Mrs. Bell were accepted on Sunday as members of the church.

The Brotherhood will give an entertainment in the lecture room of the church on Thursday evening. We have heard rumors of peanuts and popcorn, but from the smiles on the faces of the men, we can be assured of a good evening's enjoyment.

On February 6, the Trustees of the church will give an oyster and chicken salad supper from 6 to 8 p.m. Admission is 35 cents. The men plan to prepare the dinner so we ladies can sit back and enjoy the repast with ease. We hope, however, they will receive the patronage of everyone in the community. Come see for yourself that men can really cook. Some hope for the suffragettes!

The Y.M.C.A. orchestra of Philadelphia will entertain us on February 25. Mr. Weiss has secured several first-class vocal soloists and we are sure Woodbury Heights has a musical treat in store.