



The Friendly News

The First Presbyterian Church of Woodbury Heights
June 2015



Dear Friends,

The French phrase we translate as “I miss you” is “Tu Se Manques.” That literally means, “You are missing from me.”

I like that – a lot.

It expresses the meaning of being apart that we all have. You are missing from me means that someone who has been a part of my life is no longer there. Maybe he or she passed away or moved away; maybe his/her relationship with my life has come to some sort of conclusion. Maybe there are a hundred reasons why “you are missing from me.”

And every one of them hurts; every one of them leaves a space in our lives that will never be filled in the same way again.

And I wonder if God says the same thing to us (actually, I don’t wonder – I’m pretty sure He does). Because very often we are missing from God. Not just because we skipped church one Sunday or forgot to pray one night before we went to bed, but because, somehow, we got so involved in something other than Him.

We got so preoccupied with this thing, that thing or something else; we got so caught up in the pressures of daily life (that sometimes we create for ourselves) that the distance between us and the Lord who loves us boundlessly just sort of grew before we even knew what was happening.

It’s like an expression we have probably all heard (and we have it on a sampler in our bedroom): “If you don’t feel close to God, guess who moved?”

So, I’m going to lay down a challenge for all of us, especially during these summer months when the pace of church activities is a bit slower, and maybe we miss worship because we are away on vacation, and the call of the gulls at the beach rings in our ears: Do something every day – formal, informal, individual, corporate – to move a little closer to God.

I can’t imagine anything He would like to stop saying to us more than: “You are missing from me.”

In Christ, John



Get-well wishes go to all of our sick and shut-ins. Those hospitalized recently are: Blake Reim, Edith Dietz, Nancy Sharp, Kim DiNoia, and Rick Love (Joy and Dick’s son).

Welcome to the newest addition to our church family: Noah Alexander, son of Nick and Erin Zorio! And welcome to our newest members: Julia Gramm and Ada White.

Congratulations to Jeff Swanson and Kim McRae, who were married May 2.

Here’s a salute to our graduates: Leigh Anne Eachus (Clearview); Maddie Elliott (GCIT); Jake Mangano (West Deptford); Glenn Dawson, Kayleigh Fishwick, Hailey Rebyak and Jenna Rebyak (Rowan); Amy Reynolds (The College of New Jersey); and Matt Woodrow, who received his MBA from Northeastern University.

Thank You!

Dear Church Family,

It's hard to express how much we appreciate the love you shared with us during our farewell reception. We are excited to begin a new adventure but we also know that we won't be giving up the faith and friendship we've shared with you. You are all very special to us. Thanks to the Baby Boomers for your generous housewarming gift.



We hope you'll plan an excursion to the Warners' retreat soon!

Love, Bette and Rod

Prime Timers head to Cape May

The Prime Timers gathered in the church lounge on May 11 for lunch and their May meeting.

The table was beautifully arranged by Judy Milio; Ginny Naylor, Norm Bramble and Marian Baer provided beverages; and Bob Peterson made a quick trip for ice. Ada White prepared a delicious carrot cake, as well as a tray of cookies and assorted candies for us to enjoy.

After lunch, Paul Milio thanked our hosts and told two jokes. We then discussed our trip options and settled on a June 8 visit to Cape May Lighthouse. Wheelchairs will be available for those who require them. Members should bring their own lunch and beverage and gather at 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will carpool to Cape May.

All members should also mark their calendars for the picnic at Ada's home, which will be at noon on July 13. She will supply pulled-pork sandwiches, and we all should bring a dish to share.

Closer to the event, we will have directions in the Sunday bulletin.

Elder of the Month

Our Elder of the Month is John Pitchford, who has served several terms on Session, was a Deacon as well, sings in the choir, and was a member of our last PNC. Thank him for his service to the church.

Deacon of the Month

Our Deacon of the month is Jeff Brenner. He is in his second term, serves as the treasurer of the board and handled all the loan applications as a member of our Capital Campaign Committee. Thank him for his service to our church.

Sarah Circle to disband

Seven members of the Sarah Circle, our church's most senior women's group, met May 18 and discussed dissolving the group. Its membership has dwindled, and many of the women are challenged by health issues.

Winter weather makes it difficult for them to travel, and the demands of the day require more energy than when the membership was younger.

Member Janet Koehler said, "Our sisterhood is precious to us, and we intend to maintain our close friendships through attendance at church and our monthly Prime Timers meetings. Therefore, we made the decision that we will no longer meet formally as the Sarah Circle."

This decision led to a more serious discussion about where to contribute the circle's treasury. Members love the church choir and will support the choir spaghetti dinner and keep other future financial contributions personal.

The children of the church bring great pride and happiness to the circle, which believes the Sunday School needs its support. So, the group decided to give our Sunday School a check for \$250.

June Birthdays

6/02 Natalea Zorio
6/06 Noah Davis
6/06 Joseph Martino III
6/06 Lori Taylor
6/08 Fran Lambert
6/11 Joy Love
6/16 Diane Belcher
6/16 Diane Kuehnafel
6/17 Cheri Ritter
6/17 Robert Sharp, Jr.
6/18 Brad Lynch
6/19 Barbara Kratzer
6/20 Justin Blaum
6/20 Danielle Becker Guerra
6/20 Cameron Victor Guerra
6/21 Brad Shedwick
6/22 Gary J. Keedy III
6/24 Dominic Guerra
6/24 Nicholas A. Zorio
6/26 Beth Jones Sheehan
6/26 Liz Swanson
6/30 Andrew Reynolds



June Anniversaries

6/07 William and Nancy Zane
6/07 Rod and Bette Warner
6/13 John/Kathy Pedicone
6/19 Phil and Carol String
6/24 Dick/Barbara Daugherty
6/24 Terry and Kris Lott
6/28 Chuck/Mary Kay
Reynolds
6/29 John/Dottie Shedwick
6/29 Dave and Lori Taylor

Happy Anniversary



Mission Committee report

Our church's Mission Committee wants to thank **Sue Golding** for organizing the **CROP walk** this year. Her work included attending planning meetings, recruiting walkers from our church and gathering donations. We had 19 walkers/runners, and we have collected \$1,100 with several envelopes still outstanding.

The Pitman Presbyterian Church will again host homeless families in the **Family Promise** program. Our church will provide meals and helpers on June 23-24 at the Pitman church. The new coordinator there is Greg Golden. **Barbara Daugherty**, who coordinates Family Promise for us, will provide details soon and ask for help from church members. Please support this effort.

Our **Mission Project** for June and July will be to support **Covenant House** by purchasing gift cards from Kmart and Payless Shoes. Donors should place them in a container in the Narthex. The cards will be given to Covenant House representative Jennifer Williams, who will visit our church Aug. 2 and discuss her agency's work.

The gift cards will be given to needy young people so they can buy the shoes and clothes they need for job interviews and training. When members of our committee met Jennifer at the Rites of Passage House in Atlantic City, it was evident how helpful Covenant House is in turning around these young lives. The objective is to help them acquire the skills they need to provide better lives for themselves.

We need three more volunteers to go to **Cathedral Kitchen** on Friday, June 26. If you are interested, call the church office at (856) 845-0139 or see **Kay Pierson**. The Cathedral Kitchen Café is now open, and we will provide details when we know more.

DEACONS CORNER: Next meeting – 6:30 p.m., June 23, annex



The Deacons have been busy as usual! Our meetings are usually later than newsletter deadlines, so we are including some “older” news.

News from the April 28th meeting:

- **Deacons visited 68 members in April.**
- **Food Bank:** Sadly, only 14 food items were collected in April (395 for 2015). Every April these food donations are very low -- possibly because everyone donates to our BBQ.
- **Cards, cards, cards:** Twenty-six greeting cards were sent in April. Please update your email and snail mail addresses and share birth and anniversary dates with us if you haven't already done so. Give them to Liz Billings, Kayleigh Fishwick or Carrie Flynn (church administrative assistant).

Current News:

- **The Sunshine Luncheon** was a huge success as 17 members attended and ate a delicious meal prepared and served by the deacons
- **Mother's Day carnations** were given out to our mothers and daughters. Thanks to Cassandra DeFinizio for making this happen.
- **Father's Day** is the first day of summer, June 21, and a special gift will be given to our fathers after the 10 a.m. worship. Remember, services for the summer start at 10 a.m.
- **Food items for June:** Potatoes (boxed or canned), rice, pasta and spaghetti sauce. These are only suggestions. All non-perishables are welcomed.
- **The Graduate Luncheon** was held May 31 after worship for graduates and their immediate families. The graduates received gifts and potted plants. Congratulations to high school grads Leigh Anne Eachus, Maddie Elliott and Jake Mangano. Our new college graduates are Kayleigh Fishwick, Glenn Dawson, Hailey Rebyak, Jenna Rebyak and Amy Reynolds. Matthew Woodrow earned his MBA from Northeastern U.

Upcoming Events:

June 14: Session-sponsored Strawberry Festival

June 21: Father's Day (10 a.m. worship)

August 16: Communion

The Deacons do not meet in July and August, but we are still here for you!

Ongoing events/programs:

- * **New photo directories** are in the pew racks. Enjoy them but don't remove them.
- * **Hospitality bags**
- * **Being Green:** Recycling Sunday bulletins
- * **Children's items:** Reusable doodle pads, toys and books for service
- * **Gift cards** for the ShopRite and Acme Food Markets
- * **Food collection**

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:**

Liz Billings, Jeff Brenner, Clay Cary, Cassandra DeFinizio, Kim DiNoia, Steve Elliott, Kayleigh Fishwick, Connie Harley, Judy Milio, John Pedicone, Andrew Reynolds, Margaret Schneeman, Dottie Shedwick, Joe Williamson, Joyce Woodrow, moderator

Presenting
A Choral Festival
Worship Service



Sunday, June 14, 2015 at 11 a.m.

Celebrating highlights from our musical season and featuring the Sanctuary Choir with vocal, violin and oboe soloists in music of faith, hope, praise and God's great glory.

*This is our final 11 a.m. service of the season.
10 a.m. worship begins June 21st thru September 6th.*

Summer Music

You've got 12 weeks and 12 opportunities, so we're calling on all talented musicians in the church to consider presenting special music during the summer months. If you sing, ring or play an instrument, we need your help. In the past, we have had soloists, small vocal ensembles, duets, quartets and any other types of "ets" you can think of. We've had flutists, bell players, trumpeters, clarinet players, pianists, saxophonists – you name it, we've had it -- and we have immensely enjoyed all the music presented. So, dig out your music, start vocalizing, make some new reeds, exercise that embouchure or that bell-ringing wrist and call music minister Quint Lerch at 235-8780 to schedule a date to present your gift of music to the congregation and to God's glory.

HAPPY FATHER'S Day!

JUNE 2015

“Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers.”

Proverbs 17:6

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Esther Circle dinner, 6 p.m., Gia Nina's	3 Capital Committee meeting, 7 p.m.	4 Choir practice. 7:30 p.m.	5	6
7 Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m.	8 Prime Timers' trip, 10:30 a.m., church	9	10	11 Choir practice, 7:30 p.m.	12	13 Men's Group, Piston Diner, 8:30 a.m.
14 Sunday school, final program, 9:30 a.m. Worship, choir festival 11 a.m. Strawberry festival, 12:15 p.m.	15	16	17 Mission meets, 6:30 p.m. Session meets, 7 p.m.	18	19	20
21 FATHER'S DAY Worship and tie contest, 10 a.m.	22	23 Deacons meet, 7 p.m.	24	25	26	27
28 Worship, 10 a.m.	29	30				



JULY 2015

**“This is what the
Lord God showed me:
behold, a basket of
summer fruit.”**

Amos 8:1

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
5 Worship, 10 a.m.	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Worship, 10 a.m.	13 Prime Timers' picnic, noon	14	15 Sunday school summer games, 7 p.m.	16	17	18
19 Worship, 10 a.m.	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Worship, 10 a.m.	27	28	29	30	31	

Narthex display to show how women have responded to our church's needs

By Janet Koehler

During the summer, there will be a historical display of artifacts honoring the work of The Ladies Aid Society, the Presbyterian Women's Association and various women in our congregation.

It is an interesting assortment of items generously lent to us by our friends. We hope you will take the time to visit the Narthex and examine the many pieces of our past that will be exhibited.

Through the years, the women of this church have initiated or supported the missions of our faith.

At a meeting held at Mrs. William Green's home on Tuesday evening, Feb 27, 1900, the Ladies of the Union Church of Woodbury Heights formed themselves into an aid society to help the church financially and the congregation socially.

Dues were 10 cents per month per member, with an additional 5 cents for non-attendance. The members were Mrs. Mayhew, Mrs Lloyd, Mrs. Avis, Mrs. Tage, Mrs. Pancoast, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Kirkbride, Miss Irene Tage and Miss Alice Gillingham.

To raise funds for the financial support of the church, the ladies collected pennies for every rainy Sunday during one year and sold subscriptions to "*Modern Priscilla*" magazine as well as flowers and baked goods.

Shortly after the group formed, the Session minutes noted, "As the church now had a deficit of \$3.01, the Ladies Aid Society presented the church with \$46. It was accepted with thanks."

Sometime during the 1930s or 1940s, the Ladies Aid Society became the Presbyterian Women's Association. In all these years, the women have sewn, cooked, cleaned, visited, spoken, sung, rung, taught, played, served, shopped, entertained, written, typed, walked, phoned, planted, painted, mowed, raked and prayed.

In more modern times the major fundraisers have been cookbooks, the chicken barbecue and the Victorian tea party.

Presbyterian women have always worked to meet the needs of this church. They did it back in 1910 and they are doing so in 2015.

With God's blessing, they will continue to help fulfill the needs of our church.

