



# *The Friendly News*

## The First Presbyterian Church of Woodbury Heights Summer 2016



### *From the Pastor's Desk*

Dear Friends,

In last month's newsletter, I shared a tale of vehicular woe about my car. This month, it is a similar tale about Dottie's car.

You see, we were in Williamsburg, Va., on vacation. We had eaten dinner at one of the colonial taverns and then gone to the nearby outlet mall to pick up a few things.

We left the store just as it was closing at 9 p.m., got in the car, turned the ignition switch – and, yes, the car started fine.

But I couldn't get the car out of park. No matter what I did, the gearshift wouldn't budge.

Well, I prayed first – God is, after all, a great mechanic. Then I called AAA.

After talking to a couple of dispatchers, I received a text that a tow truck would arrive as soon as possible – which was not much over an hour.

The driver – Marty (an angel, just with no halo or wings) – hooked up the car (and if you have ever had a car towed, you know it should be in neutral, not park – but he knew how to handle that situation).

He towed us to a car-care center AAA has just a few miles away. We dropped off the car and the keys, then Marty drove us back to our hotel, which was, fortunately, only about 5 miles away.

That night I had visions of a full transmission job dancing in my head – and it was not a pretty dance!

But the next morning, I heard from the car care center – it was just a simple switch and the car would be done in three hours. An hour and a half later, I got a call that the car was done and the courtesy shuttle driver would pick me up in an hour. (He showed up at our hotel five minutes later!)

As we drove back to pick up the car, the driver told me that the mechanic who worked on the car used to work for a Honda dealer and knew what the problem was as soon as he was told what had happened. How's that for a bit of providence?

A relatively small bill was paid, I drove back to the hotel to pick up Dottie, and we were on our way by noontime.

Oh, and this week, we had a phone call from the car care center asking if we were satisfied with their work. They also said they had overcharged us and would be sending us a check for the difference!

Now, I will admit that having car trouble at 9 at night when you are miles from home is not the height of convenience. And it would have been nice if God had reached down and actually fixed that switch.

He didn't.

What He did do was help us through the whole situation, provide a tow truck, a car care center, a great mechanic and a very efficient courtesy shuttle driver – all of which made our experience slightly less unpleasant.

AND ... as we were thinking about this, Dottie and I both thought: What if the switch had gone when we stopped at the rest stop on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel (in pouring rain)? Or when we were on the North Carolina Ferry from Hatteras Island to

**See SHEDWICK on Page 2**

**July birthdays**

- 3 -- Erin Zorio
- 4 -- Lois Dirkin
- 4 – Debbie Gould
- 5 – Blake Reim
- 7 – Jeanne Tice
- 8 – Edgar Pizarro
- 8 – Margie Blair Thomas
- 9 -- Lois Gebeline
- 9 – Kayleigh Reim
- 10 – Annabelle Brenner
- 10 – Carol Martino
- 10 – Dave Taylor
- 11 – Richard Love
- 12 – Tyler Eachus
- 13 – Lauren Geserick
- 13 – Ken Kratzer
- 21 – Kyle Magee
- 25 – Chris Golding
- 25 – Nancy MacDermott
- 25 – Carl Seidelmann Jr.
- 25 – Hunter Seidelmann
- 26 – Janet Koehler
- 26 – Kelly Sammacicci
- 26 – Elizabeth Stainker
- 27 – Bill Reim
- 27 – Carol String
- 27 – Olivia Seidelmann
- 30 – Robert Urion
- 31 – Joan Chessman

**July anniversaries**

- 3 -- Charles and Karen Bagnell
- 18 – Bill and Nancy Sharp
- 19 – James and Debbie Gould
- 31 – Dave and Megan Geserick

**August birthdays**

- 1 – Andrew Long
- 2 -- Arnie Shannon
- 3 -- Jeanne Mangano
- 3 -- Dick Shaw
- 4 -- Sharon Lightcap
- 5 -- Jake Mangano
- 7 -- Marie Clyde
- 7 -- Kim DiNoia
- 11 – Terry Lott
- 12 – Peter Siciliano
- 12 – Erin Williamson
- 13 -- Nicolette Barajas
- 15 – Joe Martino Sr.
- 17 – Susan Shunk
- 17 – Kristen Ternowj
- 19 – Sue Reim
- 22 – Clay Cary
- 23 – Michele Elliott
- 24 – Barrie Dawson
- 26 – Mae Young
- 27 – Cassandra DeFinizio
- 31 – Dave Kershaw

**August anniversaries**

- 11 – Kelly and Nick Sammacicci
- 12 – Mike and Joyce Woodrow
- 20 – Jeff and Kristine Brenner
- 22 – David and Janet Koehler
- 28 – Mike and Anne Camilli



**Sorry if we missed your special day**

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

**SHEDWICK, from Page 1**

Ocracoke Island (the southernmost point in the Outer Banks)? What if it had happened on Ocracoke Island, where I didn't even see a gas station, much less a repair shop (and we had Brad's three boys with us there)? The fact is – we had been in numerous places that would have been much more inconvenient than the Williamsburg Outlet Mall!

One thing we learned quite well -- and I have learned it before, but sometimes forget -- God's timing is perfect. I may not like it; I may even rail against it (I have at times). But when we trust Him, we can look back and say: Well, yes, if it had to happen, that was the best time for it to happen.

God is the great shepherd who will always provide for His sheep, and when we put Him first, even in the most inconvenient and terrible situations, we will all find a solution because all situations are in His hands.

Trust and obey, as the hymn goes. For there is no other way!

In Christ, John

**A note from the Shedwicks**

Dottie and I would both like to express our thanks for the wonderful celebration of the 40th anniversary of my ordination.

I laughed, I cried, but most of all I felt my heart warmed and my soul filled by all the good words and feelings that you shared.

Thank you to everyone who made it possible, and thank you to everyone who shares in our ministry together.

And special thanks go to Karen Bagnell, Barbara Daugherty and Janet Koehler who coordinated the celebration!

In Christ, John



**Enjoy your summer! The Deacons do not meet in July and August, but we are always in service to you, visiting and providing assistance where needed. Call the church office if you need us!**

**Drivers needed:** A mass email was sent to ask for drivers for a Presbyterian “uber” group. At times, some of our members need assistance getting to doctor’s appointments ... please contact the church office, Rev. Shedwick or Joyce Woodrow if you wish to be a “stand-by” driver on a list we can turn to if the need arises. Many Deacons cannot always be available, so we are asking for help.

**News:**

- **Graduate Sunday** (June 12) was very enjoyable for five grads and their families. The Deacons provided gifts and cards for the graduates as well as a luncheon for them and their immediate families. Each family was given a plant and balloons.
- **Communion:** The next communion is Aug. 21, which is still a 10 a.m. service.
- **Youth Deacon:** Sydney Sheehan is almost finished with her one-year term as a Youth Deacon ... thank you, Syd!! Please contact Rev. Shedwick if you know of another youth who is able to fill this position in the fall.
- **Blood Drive:** Mark your calendars: The date is Oct. 11, 2016, from 2 to 7 p.m.
- **Greeting cards:** Ada White has sent 47 greeting cards in June to members for birthdays, anniversaries, illnesses as well as sympathy and special-members’ cards. Graduation cards were given to our five grads.
- **Food collection** for June was 43 items, giving us 475 for the year. Thank you!!
- **Food items for August:** Mac & cheese, tuna and any meal in a can; for September: canned juice, tea, coffee, crackers. Of course these are only suggestions – all non-perishable food is welcomed!
- **Visitations:** Deacons made 42 visits in June.

**Upcoming events:**

- Aug. 21:** Communion; summer refreshments after service provided by the Deacons (10 a.m. service)
- Seeds of Hope** will be collecting water and backpack items for the fall. More info will be shared later.
- Sept. 11** – Rally Day for Sunday School; return to 11 a.m. service for all.
- Sept. 18** – Mission Sunday, coffee hour after service

**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.
- **Prayer requests:** Rev. Shedwick initiates prayer requests and informs Joyce Woodrow to send mass emails and Kathy Pedicone to make phone calls to folks who do not have email. If you are not getting a call or an email, please inform the church office.

**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*



# AUGUST 2016

“While the Earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.”

**Genesis 8:22**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Prime Timers go to theater in Lancaster, Pa., Leave 9:15 am	4	5	6
7 Worship, 10 a.m.	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Worship, 10 a.m.	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Worship, 10 a.m. Communion	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Worship, 10 a.m.	29	30 Volunteer at Cathedral Kitchen, 2:45 p.m.	31			

## Get ready: Sunday School opens Sept. 11 with Rally Day

It's hard to believe that Sunday School starts up again next month. We are excited about the coming year because we will be doing new things in the classrooms and some service projects.

Sept 11th will be remembered during Rally Day as we honor our heroes such as firemen, policemen and soldiers. We invite all children, from 3 years old up to high school seniors and their parents to come to the Sunday School area at 9:30 a.m. that day to learn about our plans for the year.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with setting up a nursery during the Sunday School hour of 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. We also could use some teachers and helpers. Please contact Bonnie Dawson or Jeanne Mangano with any questions.

# Two Youth Group members board bus to Triennium



*"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"*

**Matthew 28:19**

The Presbyterian Youth Triennium has officially kicked off, and two of our youth-group members are representing our church -- Anthony Urion and Madison Kratzer.

The buses left the Deptford Mall parking lot at 5:30 a.m. Monday, July 18, and arrived at Purdue University later that evening.

The theme of this year's Triennium is "GO," with topics of "GO and see," "GO and do likewise," "Teach me the way I should GO," "Let My People GO" and finally "The great GO-Mission."

Please keep our youth members in your prayers as they venture through Triennium. May the Lord bless them and open their minds and hearts to THE message.

As always, our Youth Group leaders are continuously grateful for the outpouring of support and words of encouragement toward our young people.



## Our mission news: Plan to help Aug. 30 at Cathedral Kitchen

Our next scheduled date to help out at Cathedral Kitchen is Tuesday, Aug. 30.

Please contact Mary Kay Reynolds if you would like to volunteer.

We are asking for a couple of different summertime donations, if you can help out.

One is cases of water for Seeds of Hope Ministries in Camden.

The other is backpacks filled with school supplies for needy children.

We are hoping to arrange a field trip in the summer to a place called Mary's Place by the Sea. It's a mission that supports women with cancer.

Finally, Rev. Shedwick is planning a Mission Fair on Mission Sunday, Sept. 18.



**Dave Kershaw of our church (center) was installed as moderator of the West Jersey Presbytery during the June 28 meeting in Woodbury Heights.**

## Dave Kershaw thanks church family

Thank you to the entire church family and all the members of the congregation who worked to provide for a successful meeting of the West Jersey Presbytery.

Our church was well-represented, and the entire congregation should be proud of the organization, presentation and attendance.

**Sincerely, Dave Kershaw**

**Can you help?** Janet Koehler of our History Committee would like to have a photo of the new display case at the time it was first shown in the Narthex. Contact Janet if you have one.

## Prime Timers to see 'Samson' Aug. 3 in Lancaster

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace."

So began the unison prayer said by the 20 Prime Timers who had gathered for their July meeting at the Olive Garden restaurant in Deptford.

The group wished a happy retirement to Ollie Lambert and welcomed him and his wife, Fran, to this band of merry senior citizens. All reports were read and approved.

There will be no August meeting as the group will hit the road for a trip to Lancaster, Pa., to see "Samson" at the Sight & Sound Theatre on Aug. 3.

Members will meet at 9:15 a.m. in the church parking lot to car-pool to Lancaster County. All will enjoy lunch at the Dutch Way Family Restaurant in Gap, Pa., before the show. The luncheon will cost \$14.51, which includes tax, tip and beverage.

The annual picnic will be at Red Bank Battlefield at noon Monday, Sept. 12.

The July meeting ended and all left remembering the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi: "O, divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love..."



Get well wishes are sent out to Ed Elder, Jim Golding, Lois Cooper, Dick Love, Bill Sharp, Denise Pitchford, Joyce Elliott, Kay Pierson, Walt Pierson, and Debbie Bowerman (Michele Elliott's aunt).

Thanks to all who helped out when the Presbytery of West Jersey met here June 28.



Our Prime Timers group enjoys lunch at the Olive Garden restaurant in Deptford.

## Esther Circle invites all women to attend meetings

All women of the church are invited to attend our Esther Circle meetings, at 7 to 9 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month from September to June. Meetings are in a member's home or the church annex. During the meeting, we have a time of fellowship and refreshments, a brief business meeting, prayer and Bible study.

Esther circle is a diverse group of women of all ages who are sisters in Christ. We come together to worship and serve the Lord, to enrich our lives through Bible study, to support each other through prayer, and to participate in the missions of the church.



Our Bible study for this year will be on "The Fruits of the Spirit," based on Galatians 5: 22-23. Each month, using a Bible study guide written by Hazel Offner, we will examine one virtue and study how that virtue is presented through scripture and how it applies to our daily lives. This month, we will study the virtue of Joy, led by Bonnie Dawson. Come prepared for this lesson by reading Luke 24: 33-53. The Bible study schedule for the year is as follows: Sept. – Joy; Oct. – Peace; Nov. – Patience; Dec. – No study; Jan. – Kindness; Feb. – Goodness; March – Faithfulness; April – Gentleness; May – Self-control.

In December, we will have our annual Christmas party at Sherry Outten's home and in June, we will have our annual year-end dinner. The upcoming meeting will be at 7 p.m. Sept. 6 at the home of Barbara Daugherty. Please RSVP to Barbara if you plan to join us. Her phone number and address are in the church directory.

# New Narthex display honors those who serve and protect

The new display in our Narthex Memorial Cabinet pays tribute to those who serve and protect.

Featured are artifacts that illustrate the service of Paul Mayhew and Buddy Powell, two members from our church who died while serving in the military.

There are also photos of current members serving in the military, the dedication of our Military Wall in Fellowship Hall, and the Prayer Squares we send to those in the service.

One section is a commemoration of The Twin Towers' destruction. Our church will be having a special service on the evening of Sept. 11.

The right side of the cabinet honors the music and musicians in our church history.

It shows the contributions so many have made to create a sacred addition to our worship service. Featured are our choir leaders, bell and choral choirs, and guest musicians.

There are also photos and programs from church music festivals and past Follies.

**The heartache of war:** "Unutterable grief came to our congregation..."

Thus began the announcement of the death of Paul Mayhew, the son of founders John and Henrietta Mayhew. Paul was a beloved Sunday School teacher and leader of the Christian Endeavor young people's group during the early years of our church.

When the U.S. entered World War I, Paul enlisted. He died shortly after completing his basic training. Our community and congregation were so saddened that there was an outpouring of sympathy and support extended to the Mayhew family.

Our Session created a formal resolution that was entered into the minutes.



Our church experienced extreme grief once again when another of our young men was killed during the Vietnam War.

Buddy Powell died a hero and was awarded the Bronze Medal for his valor.

The community grieved with our congregation and honored him with a large and impressive memorial in Oak Valley, where the family lived and he had grown up.

## History commission adds 2 members, finishes 8<sup>th</sup> project

The History Preservation Committee proudly announces the inclusion of two new members.

Elisha Elliott has stepped forward to assist us with Memorial Cabinet displays and improvements to the storage areas in the Annex. Her husband, Dave, recently made improvements to the bookcase area in the Annex. We sincerely thank him.

Liz Billings has been responsible for taking and arranging many of the pictures seen each Sunday on the old hymn board. Our members always appreciate this visual display of current events in our church life.

More help is needed!

This committee has been meeting since the pre-anniversary celebration to preserve and update our church records. Carol McDaniel has led the effort to update the church register. Denise Pitchford has been transferring the memorial records, kept by Sue Golding, to a formal Memorial Book. Janet Koehler has been wielding her pen and writing historical articles. We have just finished our eighth display!

Photos, memories and items from past years that are discovered in members' personal collections are reminders of the past that enrich our present fellowship and worship, so member contributions are vital.

# Joyce Woodrow chosen Woman of the Year



## By Janet Koehler

The Executive Board of the Women's Association, having read all nominations received for this year's Woman of the Year award, unanimously approved Joyce Woodrow to be so honored.

Diane Belcher wrote a beautiful nomination, which she read to the congregation the Sunday of the announcement. The following are excerpts from her speech:

"A familiar song to all Christians is – "They Will Know We are Christians By Our Love." That song popped into my head this weekend when Joyce Woodrow got up to make another chicken BBQ announcement.

Joyce literally epitomizes the definition of the song.

"We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord!" Who has more Spirit for a job as monumental as chairperson for the chicken BBQ than Joyce Woodrow? – That big smile asking for volunteers.

"We will work with each other, we will work side by side!" Who has encouraged that philosophy for the 22 years she has been leading our congregation in this church's largest fundraiser, the chicken BBQ? Again my answer is Joyce Woodrow

"We'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride!" As a Deacon, besides overseeing the decorating of the church every Christmas (for more years than I can remember) she collects the names of those families in need at Thanksgiving and Christmas who will then receive holiday assistance.

She is also the secretary for the Esther Circle, which may not be as big as the previous jobs listed but it is still a job that takes time and effort and is very much appreciated. And let's not forget her participation in our music ministry by playing in the bell choir. She's almost like that Action News van ... everywhere God wants her to be.

There may be other jobs that Joyce has taken on as a member of this church for which she has not been recognized or of which I am not aware. No matter the calling – Joyce is always there to answer God, and always with a smile and always with passion. We definitely know she is a Christian by her LOVE of God, her family and her church.

For these reasons I hope you will consider her for Woman of the Year."