

The Pipe Organ

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
New Vernon, New Jersey

VOL. 63 NO. 8

October 2014

Dear Friends,

I have a brief story to tell you of something that happened in my conversation with your Interim Pastor Search Committee.

We were near the end of our second interview (and this was on Skype, where one often sees only two of four people). I was answering questions for perhaps 30 or 40 minutes. The Committee then said, "Do you have any questions for us?"

And I asked, "Would you mind sharing how each of you came to the First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon?" I am always curious how people choose or end up at churches. Each of your committee members spent a few minutes telling their story. My second question was, "Did you know that about each other before this?" And there were some chuckles. Some things were known, but for the most part, the answer was no, not really.

If my memory serves me correctly, it was that day, or the next, that Jane Coyle called me on my cell (as I was driving through Atlanta) and asked if I would be your Interim Pastor.

I have no idea what other qualified candidates you had in your files. I had four other churches talking to me from different parts of the country. Maybe I was all you had left! But I doubt it. I think rather someone in your committee said something like, "Let's get that guy."

I do know from my side of it, after that second interview, I was thinking, "I want to go there."

There are all kinds of moments we get nudged one way or another, by life or by God. In this case, I don't believe it was my wow'ing you with my qualifications to be your Interim Pastor, or your impressing me with how wonderful your church is. I believe instead something happened between us in that brief time of

sharing: an experience of community. I know it did for me. And I think this is at the heart of what it means to be a church: people sharing their lives in the context of their faith. We learn and study and grow through worship, Bible study, theology, missions, and caring. But it is the connections we make with each other as people of faith that give us energy and inspiration to do all that. This is what I hope for in my time with you.

I look forward to being your Interim Pastor,

Robert Gamble

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FPCNV Staff

Dr. Robert Gamble,
Interim Pastor
Amanda Tsukamoto,
Minister of Music/Organist
Elena Bird Zolnick,
Minister of Music/Choir Dir.
Debbie Hennessey,
*Office Administrator and
Manager of Accounting*
Susan H. Fischer,
Director of Sunday School
Tony Rodriguez,
Custodian

Elders

Jane Coyle, Clerk of Session
Nancy Barrett
Tom Ewig
Bret Fischer
Caroline Ford
Kerra French
Brenda Myers
Meg Richardson
Katherine Sheeleigh
Jonathan Shelby
Tricia Tiensch
Keith Wood

Deacons

Lisa Chapman, Moderator
Robyn Brown
Erin Castner
Fenton Chaney
Andrea Di Ruggiero
Sandy Finlayson
Olin Friant
Susan Morris
Rachel Newburg
Judith Shelton
Olivia Shelton
Anne Thomas
Eileen Urban
Anne Waite

Thank you to our Coffee Hour Hosts**July**

Bill and Bernice Paton
The Brown Family
The Sheeleigh Family
Grant and Helen Parr

August

Ann Talcott
Rachel Newburg and Devin McGuire
Barbara Gill and Judith Shelton
Nancy Gockley
Andrea DiRuggiero

And Lisa Chapman for bringing delicious home-baked treats!



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 12th

On Sunday, October 12, you are invited to bring those special members of your family referred to as your pets from 11 am until noon for our long-standing tradition of blessing the animals.

Bring your dogs, cats, and birds and what-ever creatures, great or small, for an outdoor blessing.





September Session Highlights



The meeting began with Caroline Ford leading devotions.

Committee Highlights

Beginning on October 12, services will be held in Fellowship Hall while the necessary repairs are being made to the sanctuary.

Worship & Music: We have had an interesting array of visiting ministers from the middle of June until the end of September. Starting October 5, we eagerly anticipate the arrival of our new Interim Minister, Robert Gamble. We also have musical entertainment: Ming Xie's Piano Recital on September 28; An Evening of Opera on Friday, October 3 at 7pm. Min Kwon will be playing Carnegie Hall on Monday night October 6 at 7:30.

Finance: We are in sound shape financially. Our tenants had fallen on rough times, however, we are happy to report they are back on their feet. Through the kindness and patience of the church they were given a payment plan, which they have been able to adhere to and for which they are grateful. The parameters guiding the distribution of the educational fund, aka the HERB Fund, will be jointly reviewed by deacons and session.

Congregational Life: There will be a luncheon after church on October 5 to welcome the Gambles. The annual Harvest Celebration will be held at Aimee Bloom's house on October 19 at 3pm. The Christmas Dinner will be December 7, details to follow. Small group gatherings are being scheduled for the Gambles to afford them the opportunity to meet church members in a more intimate environment.

Cemetery: The cemetery grounds were landscaped over the summer; unsightly shrubs, branches and other items placed or planted at the gravesites were removed. The Memorial Garden is in need of repair; there is a large crack in the back wall, made worse by our harsh winter. A new sign, listing the rules of the cemetery, is on order. The website will list updated costs for all cemetery related services.

Youth Education: The Ministry Architects met with the vision team and various church members. During the meeting, a mission statement, core values and present and future goals for our youth group were outlined. We will hopefully have an interim Sunday School teacher by the new year, in the meantime Katherine Anne Newburg has agreed to help with the program. The youth need a space to meet, on site options are being considered.

Adult Education: Dennis Corcoran gave a very informative presentation on Pope Francis. Barbara Coe will present on the emotional approach to Christianity, at the end of October. In November, Greg Porraro, will speak on the benefits of environmentally conscious housing.

Administration & Communication: Debbie Hennessey developed a new pcnv.org website over the summer using *Sharefaith's* award-winning church website editor. *Sharefaith* provides a cost-effective solution to our growing technological needs on a *WordPress* based platform. It is also simple enough for a novice user while still allowing more advanced users to use html code for customization.

Buildings & Grounds: Phil Van Kirk will be the point person for all issues related to the brick manse and the pastor's manse. Don Vellekamp will oversee the repairs to the sanctuary.

Stewardship: *Crossroads 500!* is the name of this year's stewardship campaign and it is in full swing. Please send in your pledge cards promptly.

Membership: Ann Talcott and Patty Wood have been sending out birthday cards to church members. Distribution of welcome bags for new Harding residents has been discontinued due to low impact and impracticality.

Nominating: It's nominating season once again. We have several openings for Elders, Deacons and other Committees, if you are interested in being a part of this very important mission please contact the church office or Jane Coyle.

Communion will be served on Sunday, October 5. The next meeting of session will be on Tuesday, October 21. Reverend Halldorson adjourned the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Coyle, Clerk of Session

Welcome Luncheon for Dr. Robert & Yulia Gamble

Hosted by the Congregational Life Committee



Sunday, October 5

11:15 am

Fellowship Hall

Please join us.

Harvest Celebration

**Sunday
October 19
3-5 pm**

Hosted by the Congregational Life Committee

At Aimee Bloom's Barn

German food, desserts, and beverages.

Please join us for a festive afternoon of fun
with your Church Family.



**The Congregational Life Committee
Invites you to attend**

The 2014 Christmas Dinner

Sunday, December 7

6:00 pm

In Fellowship Hall

We will celebrate the Advent Season once again with a congregational celebration in Fellowship Hall.

We welcome all members, new or seasoned, who would like to join the Congregational Life Committee. This group enhances the life of our congregation with numerous events during the year.

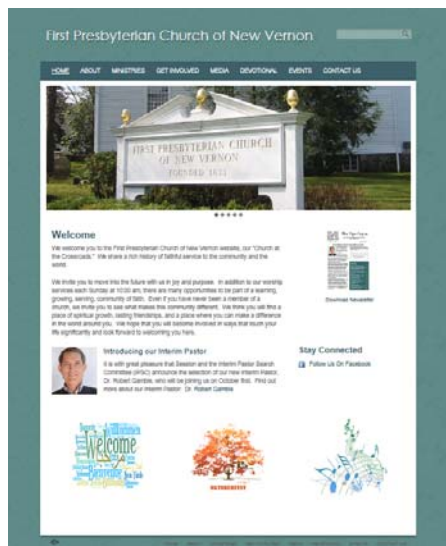
Meg Richardson will be coordinating the luncheon this year.

***Come and enjoy the spirit of the
Christmas Season with each other.***



**Dr. Robert
Gamble
will be
preaching
on Sunday
October 5**





New pcnv.org Website

Over the summer, Caroline Ford, the Admin/Communications Chair and the Session gave Debbie Hennessey the go-ahead to set-up the Church's website, pcnv.org, on a WordPress based church website editor created by ShareFaith (a Ministry Media Resource for churches and faith communities). The site is still being developed, but it is scheduled to launch the first week in October.

On the Home Page, in addition to the navigation bar on the top of the page, you will find a quick link to *The Pipe Organ* page where you can download the current edition, as well as issues

from the past three years. There is also a link to our Facebook page and image links to events that are coming soon at the bottom of the page. If you mouse over the images, you will see the name of the event pop up.

We will also be uploading Dr. Gamble's sermons in the weeks to come and there will be a weekly or monthly blog by Dr. Gamble under Devotions (found on the top Navigation bar).

Most Committees have submitted information about their mission and activities. Please take a few minutes to read what they have to say. In addition, on the Office Administration page you will be able to download Usher Instructions, Coffee Hour Instructions, Payment /Reimbursement Vouchers, Use of Building Applications, as well as forms for Baptisms, Weddings, New Members, and Consent Forms for using Pictures on the website. Our goal is to make the website helpful to you and if you have suggestions for what would make it better for you, please email Debbie Hennessey at officeadmin@pcnv.org and let her know. Also found on the Administration page are the office staff bios with a brief job description. On the Music and Worship pages there are bios for Amanda and Elena, our Music staff.

There are a few ways to find out about events and scheduled activities on the website. Dates, times, and event names can be found on the Calendar page. Date, times, event names and a brief description can be found on the Events page. Many of the events on the Events page have links to more information in the description of the event. Also, many Committees have their own page. On them, links can be found in sidebars on the left side of the page if a committee has special activities or has submitted more in-depth information. An example of this is the Adult Education page where you will find links for Bible Studies, Movie Night, the Book Club, and scheduled Sunday events.

There is also a search feature at the top right corner of each page. Type in a key word and click on the image of the magnifying glass and it will take you to all incidents of that key word on the website. It is our hope that you will find the website useful and that it will be a tool that helps promote our churches' growth in the years to come.

PHOTO PERMISSION SLIP

From time to time we take pictures during church activities. We would like your permission to use these pictures on our website, in the Pipe Organ and/or on our bulletin board. Pictures would be selected to highlight activities during our church events. We will never reference you or your child by name or provide any specific information regarding you or your children. The pictures will only be used by The First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon to show the ways that our faith community enjoys fellowship and has fun in the setting of our church activities.

Please take a moment to let us know your preferences regarding our use of your photos and photos of your children:

_____ YES. I grant permission to use photos of myself on First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon's website, in The Pipe Organ, and/or on the bulletin board.

_____ YES. I grant permission to use photos of my child/children on First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon's website, in The Pipe Organ, and/or on the bulletin board.

-OR-

_____ NO. Please do NOT take or use any photos of us for this purpose.

Your Name(s), and Your Child(ren)'s Name(s) (PLEASE PRINT):

Parent/Guardian's Name (PLEASE PRINT):

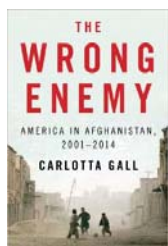
Parent/Guardian's Signature:

Date: _____

For questions or concerns about this form, please feel free to contact us at 973-538-8394.

FPCNV Book Club

October Book Selection & Schedule



***The Wrong Enemy* by Carlotta Gall**

Ms. Gall has reported from Afghanistan and Pakistan for almost the entire duration of the American invasion and occupation, beginning shortly after 9/11. She knows just how much this war has cost the Afghan people, and how much damage can be traced to Pakistan and its duplicitous government and intelligence forces. Now that American troops are withdrawing, it is time to tell the full history of how we have been fighting the wrong enemy, in the wrong country.

Gall combines searing personal accounts of battles and betrayals with moving portraits of the ordinary Afghans who endured a terrible war of more than a decade. Her firsthand accounts of Taliban warlords, Pakistani intelligence thugs, American generals, Afghani politicians, and the many innocents who were caught up in this long war are riveting. Her evidence that Pakistan fueled the Taliban and protected Osama bin Laden is revelatory. This is a sweeping account of a war brought by well-intentioned American leaders against an enemy they barely understood, and could not truly engage.—Book description from Amazon.com

Book Club Meeting Dates & Book Selections

Where: Library **When:** 7:30 pm

OCT 14	<i>The Wrong Enemy</i> by Carlotta Gall
NOV 11	<i>Flash Boys: A Wall Street Revolt</i> by Michael Lewis
DEC TBA	Café Beethoven or Soho 33
JAN 13	<i>The Secret History</i> by Donna Tartt
FEB 10	<i>In the Shadow of the Banyan</i> by Vaddey Ratner
MAR 10	<i>Life After Life</i> by Kate Atkinson
APR 14	<i>The Power of Habit</i> by Charles Duhigg
MAY 12	<i>The Light Between Oceans</i> by M.L. Stedman
JUN 9	<i>The Secret Life of Bletchly Park: The WWII Codebreaking Centre and the Men and Women Who Worked There</i> by Sinclair McKay



HUNGER WALK 2014

When: Sunday, October 19, 2013

Registration: 1:00 pm

Starting time: 1:30 pm

Refreshments & Music: 2:30 pm

Where: Community Soup Kitchen—Church of the Redeemer, 36 South St, Morristown (on the side of the church)

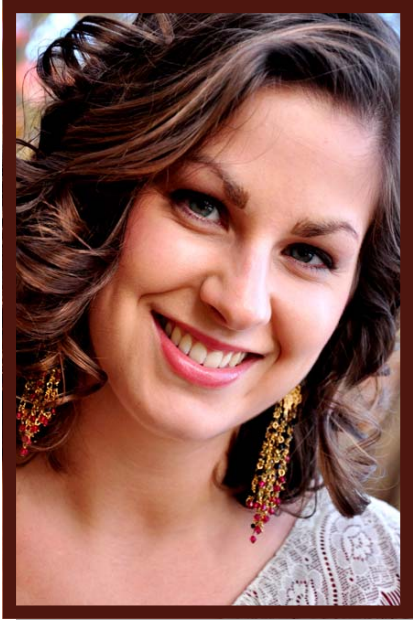
How: Ask your friends, relatives, co-workers, and neighbors to make a donation in honor of your efforts (you may also sponsor yourself).

Why: To raise funds for the Soup Kitchen and increase understanding about the problems of hunger and homelessness in our community. Walkers assume the identity of a composite Soup Kitchen guest and track their story through cards handed out during the walk. Although the characters in the story cards are fictional, the problems they face are real.

To register online go to: www.cskmorristown.org



An Evening of Opera



Elena Teresa Bird, soprano

**Friday, October 3
7:30 pm**

Fellowship Hall

Admission is Free

Elena will be presenting An Evening of Opera with young, emerging New York City artists. Seasoned and rookie opera enthusiasts will enjoy this evening's selection of opera, art song, and musical theater, with works by Rossini, Mozart, Rachmaninoff, and Copland. All are welcome.



**John-Andrew Fernandez
baritone**



**Timothy Bostwick
baritone**



**Benjamin Krumreig
tenor**

Also presenting **Emily Way, soprano, Ann Louise Glasser, mezzo-soprano, & Lois Buesser, piano**

Youth Ministry Calendar 2014-2015

Sun, Oct 5	Madison HS Marching Band Tournament (G. Claytor, N French, K Travers)
Sun, Oct 19	Community Soup Kitchen Hunger Walk
Thu, Nov 6:	Mission Weekend Activity TBD
Fri, Nov 7:	Mission Weekend Activity TBD
Sat, Nov 8:	Mission Weekend Activity TBD
Sun, Dec 14	Christmas is for Children Shop/wrap
Sat, Jan 31	Souper Bowl Pregame
Sun, Feb 1	Souper Bowl Sunday
Sun, Feb 8	Valentine's Day Care Packages
Sun, Mar 8	Bernards High Musical 2pm (N Fischer)
Sun, Mar 29	Easter Egg Stuffing
Sat, Jun 6	Car Wash
Sun, Jun 7	High School Graduate Recognition
Sat, Jun 13	Car Wash rain date

Stewardship Campaign for 2014-2015

"Crossroads 500!"

The Crossroads 500! Stewardship campaign is off to a great start. The pledge cards were mailed to all church members at the end of September and we are pleased to see many have been received in the Church Office already. As a reminder, we are asking all donors to consider raising their pledge from last year by 2% or more and we will easily meet our goal of \$5000,000. For those who have not yet pledged, please get your pledge card in by mid-November. Stewardship is such an important part of our Christian faith and all congregants should deeply consider what they can give. May God bless our church.

Let your light so shine before man, that they may see your good works and glorify your father which is in heaven. Matthew 5:16

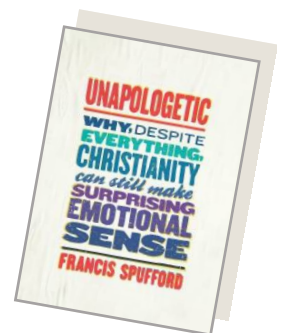
Jonathan Shelby, Stewardship Chair

Adult Education Book Discussion

Unapologetic by Francis Spufford

October 26 after worship

Fellowship Hall Library



The subtitle of this sassy little book that looks into the state of Christianity in today's world says it all: Why, Despite Everything, Christianity Can Still Make Surprising Emotional Sense.

This topic will inspire timely discussion as we assess our status "between pastors" at New Vernon Presbyterian Church.

The book is a fast read, and I hope some of you will want to have your own copy. We will make copies available for purchase in the Church Library after October 7 when the book is released in paperback. Come to discuss this overview of the life of the church and how we experience it at the Crossroads.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Resumes on Wednesday, October 15

Minute Man Restaurant

7:30-8:30 am

Dr. Robert Gamble will continue the tradition of the Men's Breakfast on Wednesday, October 15 at 7:30 am. It will gain meet at the Minute Man Restaurant at 990 Mt Kemble Avenue.

Robert is looking forward to this first meeting and hopes that as many of our men as possible will be able to make it.



New Member Classes

We will soon be holding new member classes now that our Interim Pastor, Dr. Robert Gamble, has arrived.

Please let us know if you would like to be included in the next class.

Contact Debbie Hennessey
at
973-538-8394
Or
officeadmin@pcnv.org

Toner Cartridge Recycling

We are still collecting empty ink cartridges to recycle at Staples. We receive credit for each cartridge, and they help defray the cost of running the Church Office, and recycling is good for our planet, as well.

There is a box on the landing at the top of the stairs in Fellowship Hall where you may drop cartridges. Thank you for all of your donations. Every one is a help in keeping our costs lower and our planet greener.

Thank You

To our Dear Friends in New Vernon,

First of all, we want to say "Thank You" again for the wonderful send off you gave us when we left New Vernon. The party at Basking Ridge County Club was so nice and very much appreciated. The gifts for both of us from the Congregation, the Session, and the Deacons were so thoughtful. We used part of your very generous monetary gift to finish purchasing the appliances we needed for the house and we will use the remainder for our adventures.

The past three months have been a whirlwind of activity. Ten days after moving, we traveled to Disney World with three little grandsons and two daughters for a week in Florida. On August 26th we learned that grandchild # 9 is due next spring. We are thrilled that Alexander will have a brother or sister. We flew to London on the 27th, where we were met by Rachel Diaper, one of our "rescues" from Southampton. If you recall, we rescued and hosted four young people who were stranded in Newark when all flights across the north Atlantic were cancelled, thanks to the Icelandic volcano in 2010. Ironically, another volcano in Iceland this summer very nearly impacted our trip to Alec and Rachel's wedding. We had a wonderful time and a long awaited reunion with the "Fab Four"!

We also checked one item off our bucket list. From Southampton, we continued on to Normandy where we visited Utah and Omaha Beaches, the American Cemetery and Pointe du Hoc, where so many Rangers lost their lives. In addition, we visited some beautiful cathedrals, quaint villages and stayed in a 500 year old converted farm house near Valognes. It was a perfect location for everything we wanted to see and do. After returning home on September 8th, we were ready to plan our next adventure!

Now that the boxes are unpacked and the house is settled, we have time to re-learn the Harrisburg area, meet our new neighbors and connect with old friends. Rick's credentials have been transferred to Carlisle Presbytery and he is now on the preaching supply list. We are also "church shopping" and hopefully will find a congregation soon where we will feel comfortable and welcome.

We will always fondly remember our years in New Vernon and all of the friends we made during that time. Our guest room is ready. We would love to see you if you are just passing through or want to make a special visit. You will always be welcomed at our front door.

God Bless You and Keep You in His care.

Sincerely, Pastor Rick and Prudy



Friday, October 10, 2014
6:00-10:00 pm

BEER! WURST! MUSIC!



OCTOBER MOVIE NIGHT



October 15
7:00 pm
Chaney's' Home

BECKET



When King Henry II (Peter O'Toole) names his former drinking partner Thomas Becket (Richard Burton) the new Archbishop of Canterbury, he counts on his friend's unbending loyalty.

OCTOBER 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Bible Study 9-10 am Choir 7:30 pm	3 AA Meeting noon An Evening of Opera 7:30 pm	4
5 World Communion Sunday Youth—Madison Band Competition Welcome Luncheon In Fellowship Hall Immediately following Worship	6 Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am	7 Book Club 7:30	8	9 Bible Study 9-10 am Choir 7:30 pm	10 AA Meeting noon Oktoberfest At Kemmerer Library 6-10 pm	11
12 Blessing of the Animals	13 Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR COLUMBUS DAY	14 Book Club 7:30 pm	15	16 No Bible Study New Vernon Garden Club 9 am Choir 7:30 pm	17 AA Meeting noon	18
19 Soup Kitchen's Hunger Walk 1pm Harvest Celebration 3pm at Aimee Bloom's barn	20 Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am Finance Com. Mtg. 7:00 pm	21 Session Mtg. 6:30 pm	22	23 Bible Study 9-10 am Choir 7:30 pm	24 AA Meeting noon	25
26 Adult Ed Unapologetic Book Discussion 11:15 am	27 Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am	28	29 Adult Ed 5-6 pm	30 Bible Study 9-10 am Choir 7:30 pm	31 AA Meeting noon	

OCTOBER 2014 Worship

Sunday, October 5

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Communion Sunday
Preacher: Dr. Robert Gamble
Liturgist: Ann Talcott
Sermon: TBA
Text:
TBA

Sunday, October 12

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preacher: Dr. Robert Gamble
Liturgist: David Mitchell
Sermon: TBA
Text:
TBA

Sunday, October 19

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preacher: Dr. Robert Gamble
Liturgist: Mindo Swartz
Sermon: TBA
Text:
TBA

Sunday, October 26

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preacher: Dr. Robert Gamble
Liturgist: Eileen Urban
Sermon: TBA
Text:
TBA

Dr. Robert Gamble

Our Interim Pastor, Dr. Robert Gamble, will be in the pulpit this month.

The Pipe Organ

First Presbyterian Church
2 Lee's Hill Road, PO Box 218
New Vernon, NJ 07976-0218

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF NEW VERNON

WELCOMES
DR. ROBERT & YULIA
GAMBLE

Highlights This Month

Friday, October 3

An Evening of Opera

Sunday, October 5

World Communion Sunday
Dr. Robert Gamble is preaching
Welcome Luncheon for Robert

Saturday, October 18

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 19

CSK Hunger Walk
Oktoberfest

Sunday, October 26

Adult Ed: *Unapologetic* Book Discussion

E-mail Addresses

The Church Office is still collecting and correcting e-mail addresses from our members. If you would like to be included in various e-mail mailings, please e-mail the office at Office@pcnv.org or call 973-538-8394.

CHURCH OFFICE

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