

# The Pipe Organ

### THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH New Vernon, NJ

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September 2015

## **ROBERT'S REFLECTIONS**

In the latter years of his life while in prison, Paul wrote, "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." *Philippians* 4:8

Oliver Sacks, the preeminent physician and author died Sunday, August 30th. He was 82 years old. He had recently learned he was terminally ill and wrote this in the New York Times, Sunday Review:

"Over the last few days, I have been able to see my life as from a great altitude, as a sort of landscape, and with a deepening sense of the connection of all its parts. This does not mean I am finished with life. On the contrary, I feel **intensely alive**, and I want and hope in the time that remains to **deepen my friendships**, to say farewell to those I love, to write more, to travel if I have the strength, to **achieve new levels of understanding and insight**. This will involve audacity, clarity and plain speaking; trying to straighten my accounts with the world. But there will be time, too, for some fun (and even some silliness, as well)."

In an essay, "The Joy of Old Age, (No Kidding)," written just before he turned 80, Sacks says he almost died at age 41. He broke his leg mountaineering alone and had to lever himself down.

"In the long hours that followed, I was assailed by memories, both good and bad. Most were in a mode of gratitude — gratitude for what I had been given by others, gratitude, too, that I had been able to give something back." Awakenings" (Sacks's bestseller)

had been published the previous year."

In that same essay, he wrote, "I feel glad to be alive — 'I'm glad I'm not dead!' sometimes bursts out of me when the weather is perfect. (This is in contrast to a story I heard from a friend who, walking with Samuel Beckett in Paris on a perfect spring morning, said to him, "Doesn't a day like this make you glad to be alive?" to which Beckett answered, "I wouldn't go as far as that.")"

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#### **FPCNV Staff**

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Amanda Tsukamoto, Minister of
Music/Organist
Elena Bird Zolnick, Minister of
Music/Choir Director
Debbie Hennessey,
Office Administrator and
Manager of Accounting
Katherine Ann Newburg, Interim
Director of Sunday School
Tony Rodriguez, Custodian

#### **Elders**

Jane Coyle, Clerk of Session
Todd Claytor
Carol Conger-Vellekamp
Caroline Ford
Kerra French
Meg Richardson
Katherine Sheeleigh
Jonathan Shelby
Tricia Tiensch
Phil Van Kirk
Keith Wood

#### **Deacons**

Lisa Chapman, Moderator
Aimee Bloom
Robyn Brown
Janet Bruns
Erin Castner
Fenton Chaney
Andrea Di Ruggiero
Sandy Finlayson
Olin Friant
Barbara Gill
Susan Morris
Judith Shelton
Olivia Shelton
Eileen Urban

#### Continued from p 1

Sacks often speaks of his shyness, yet in his essay, "My Own Life," Sacks wrote, "I cannot say (nor would anyone who knows me say) that I am a man of mild dispositions. On the contrary, I am a man of vehement disposition, with violent enthusiasms, and extreme immoderation in all my passions."

Age and mortality have a way of realigning priorities. The apostle Paul knew that; Oliver Sacks knows it also. Now and then we need a reminder of what is most important in our lives. Churches need that reminder as well.

In spite of liturgical calendars that mark Advent as the beginning of the church year, we all know it's the end of summer vacations that we start again. With the leaves falling at the end of that cycle, we begin a new one.

This is when we think again of what is important in our faith, our church, our relationship, our ministry to this community and beyond. Your mission study process is nearly finished, soon you will elect a Pastor Nominating Committee to put what's important into a document that pastors will read to learn just what kind of church is the First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon.

So finally, brothers and sisters, be intensely alive, deepen friendships, have the audacity and clarity to speak the plain truth; when assailed by memories, live in gratitude; be people of enthusiasm and passion, achieve new levels of understanding and insight. If anything is excellent and praiseworthy, think about such things and the God of peace be with you.

Robert Gamble

## Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 11

On Sunday, October 4, you are invited to bring those special members of your family referred to as your pets for our traditional blessing of the animals. Please bring your dogs, cats, and birds and whatever creatures, great or small, for a blessing that will take place at the beginning of the Worship Service.





#### JUNE SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



The following highlights are from the June 16, 2015 Session Meeting.

The meeting began with Meg Richards leading devotions.

#### Committee Highlights

Youth Education: The Committee is in search of a part-time youth ministry leader. The Youth Group raised \$423 at the car wash, which will go toward the Mission Trip in August. We have been able to donate some of the children's preschool furniture in the basement to a school in need.

**Cemetery:** Further tree work will be done. Other needed repairs will be carried out in July. The area around the memorial garden is deeply shaded, so pruning may be necessary to let some sun in.

Congregational Life: The Annual Church Picnic drew close to 60 people. Hamburgers and potluck sides supplied by church members made for a delicious dinner. Barbara Gill kept everyone smiling by treating us to her delicious homemade strawberry shortcake. Everyone had a great time! A big Thank-You to Ann and Tom Ewig for allowing us the use of their beautiful property for this special event.

Finance: Finance: Phase I of the Sanctuary restoration is essentially complete and is estimated, subject to further review at completion date, to be under budget by about \$25k. Application to the County for a Grant for Phase II has been filed and a reply expected in early July. Thereafter, actual bids will be sought and a firm financial plan can be constructed. Adequate "Matching Funds " by the Church appear available in the Sure Foundation and loans from other Church investment accounts to fulfill our commitment to Phase II. Pledge revenues over the next four years will restore these accounts as the revenue is received. A financing plan for restoring the basement in the Sanctuary awaits an evaluation by Buildings and Grounds. Operating results for the full year are projected now at a modest deficit vs a small surplus owing to sluggish receipts to date and an increase in personnel costs approved by Session. Budgeting for 2016 is under way.

**Administration/Communication:** The sound system in the sanctuary has recently been presenting some problems. Caroline Ford will investigate possible solutions.

**Buildings & Grounds:** Masonry repairs are at the top of the project list for this year. The stairs to the upstairs conference room in the CE Building must be repaired, as they are unsightly and possibly unsafe. The contract has been reviewed for our soon-to-be tenants, CME, for the Fellowship Hall basement area. Tony will continue to maintain the space for them. The excess furniture will be stored in the basement of the manse.

Mission & Outreach: The Committee is currently reviewing grant-funding applications.

Nominating: The Committee will meet in July to begin the process of nominating a PNC.

Personnel: We are in need of a Sunday morning nursery attendant.

Pastor's Report: Robert will conduct a graveside service for David Williams's aunt, Joan Williams from Scotch Plains. David grew up in the Church. Robert and Yulia will be in Ukraine from August 6-24. The Mission Study draft was completed and distributed to the Committee on Ministry (COM) for review. Mickey McDonnell is our COM representative. We expect them to approve our Mission Study in July. Once we receive approval, we can elect a Pastor Nominating Committee. EMT training – Robert and Yulia have begun training and will soon be members of our volunteer first aid squad. They now have CPR training and have already been riding on the ambulance. All Committee Night is scheduled for June 23. All Church committees will gather for dinner at 6 with meeting time to follow. Kathy Sheeleigh generously offered to supply the food.

Communion will be served on Sunday, September 13, 2015.

The next meeting of Session will be on Tuesday, September 15 at 7pm.

Dr. Gamble adjourned the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Coyle, Clerk of Session

# Adult Education Calendar 2015-2016

The Adult Education Committee is working on a number of informative and engaging activities and events in the coming months. Here are the discussions and topics that are confirmed:

#### **SEPTEMBER**



# Advances in Heart Health Treatment Dr. Leonard Lee and Dr. John Brown Sunday, September 20, 11:30 am

Our members, Dr. Leonard Lee and Dr. John Brown, will be present an informative talk and discussion on the current advances in Heart Health Treatment. To learn more about these two distinguished members of our congregation, see the next page.

## A Slide Celebration of the Church Building Project Sunday, September 27 at 11:30 am

Don Vellekamp and John Thomas will show slides on the work that was performed on the foundation and discuss the process as it unfolded. They will also talk about plans to finish the basement and to work on the roof and the bell tower. This will be an informal presentation designed to share with the congregation many of the interesting details of this immense undertaking.



#### **OCTOBER**

## Anne Stewart October 18



Anne Stewart, Director of External Relations at Princeton Theological Seminary (PTS), will talk about life at PTS, the cross-section of the students there, and the kinds of things students do after graduation. She will also discuss what those seeking churches are looking for and the Adult Education programs at PTS. Anne earned the MDiv from Princeton Seminary and the PhD in Old Testament from Emory University. She taught Old Testament at Agnes Scott College and Louisville Presbyterian Seminary and is ordained as a teaching elder in the PC (USA). Anne is the author of Poetic Ethics in Proverbs: Wisdom Literature and the Shaping of the Moral Self.

#### **MARCH**

#### Dr. Brid Nicholson on St Patrick

Sunday, March 13, 2016

Dr Brid Nicholson has agreed to give an Adult Ed presentation on St. Patrick after Coffee Hour. Details to follow.

#### **FPCNV Members To Speak on Advances in Heart Treatments September 20**



#### Leonard Y. Lee, MD

Dr Lee is a board-certified, fellowship-trained cardiothoracic surgeon who was named associate professor of surgery at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and chief of the division of cardiothoracic surgery at Robert Wood University Hospital in 2013. Dr. Lee previously held leadership roles at Hackensack University Medical Center, where he served as chief of the division of cardiothoracic surgery and surgical director of the Heart & Vascular Hospital. While there, Dr. Lee developed new programs involving minimally invasive surgical approaches to heart disease and repairs of complex thoracic aortic aneurysms of all types.

Prior to his position at Hackensack, Dr. Lee was director of the cardiac surgery program and chief of the division of cardiothoracic at New York Methodist Hospital, part of New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Cornell Heart Center. He also served as associate clinical professor of cardiothoracic surgery at Weill Medical College of Cornell University.

A 1992 graduate of RWJMS, Dr. Lee completed his residency in general surgery at St. Vincent's Hospital in New York City, where he served as chief resident. He performed a research fellowship at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center and a clinical cardiothoracic fellowship there and at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. His numerous heart surgery and heart disease clinical research trials included one focused on reprogramming the heart using gene therapy to perform what he calls a "biologic bypass" of the heart.

Dr. Lee has been recognized nationally for his work, having published numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals and contemporary medical textbooks. Dr. Lee was also named one of America's Top Surgeons by the Consumer Research Council of America and a Top Doctor in the New York Metro Area by Castle Connolly. He is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology, American College of Chest Physicians, and American College of Surgeons, as well as a member of all major cardiothoracic and cardiological societies.

#### John Brown, III, MD

Dr. John Brown joined Mid Atlantic Surgical Associates in July of 1993. He came to MASA from New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center where he earned his doctorate of medicine degree and was a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha honor society. He remained at Cornell to complete his general surgery internship and residency as well as a fellowship in cardiothoracic surgery.



In his last two years at Cornell University Medical College, Dr. Brown served as Instructor in Surgery. His professional expertise includes all aspects of adult cardiac surgery.

Dr. Brown has been active in the development of minimally invasive surgical techniques as they apply to adult heart surgery at Morristown Medical Center. He has a special interest in minimally invasive valvular heart techniques and the MIDCAB procedure. He helped to found and develop the Cardiac Classroom at the <u>Liberty Science Center</u>. This is an ongoing interactive experience for students to gain insight into health science careers and bring attention to cardiac risk factors in their formative years.

Dr. Brown has been actively involved in a number of clinical research projects. He is the Principal Investigator in the pivotal CoreValve Trial as well as the Magna Ease Trial. He is a sub-investigatgor in the Everest II Trial. His extensive professional associations include membership in the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, American College of Surgery, American College of Chest Physicians, American College of Cardiology and both the New Jersey and New York Societies of Thoracic Surgery. He is board certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery as well as the American Board of Surgery. He has been chosen consecutively for more than a decade as one of the New Jersey's Top Doctors by the New Jersey Monthly magazine.

The inception of the New Jersey Cardiac Report Card (1994-95) found Dr. Brown to have the lowest risk adjusted and raw surgical mortality in the State for coronary artery bypass. His surgical mortality continues to be among the lowest in the State.

As an undergraduate at Colgate University, Dr. Brown was both a scholar and an athlete. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the Academic All-American Football team in 1980 and 1981. He is a member of the New York State Section Four Hall of Fame.

## June Events: Youth Car Wash & Church Picnic













Youth Flag Day Car Wash proceeds benefited their Adirondack Mission Trip (more about trip on pgs. 15-17)









Our Church Picnic was presented by the Congregational Life Committee and hosted by Ann & Tom Ewig.

First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon
Sunday School
2015-2016

## Building a Foundation of Faith

# Sunday School to Begin on September 13

Sunday School classes will begin on Sunday, September 13 for all children in Kindergarten through Grade 7. Children will depart after the Time with Children and participating in the beginning of the worship Service. Sunday School will be held in the basement of Fellowship Hall, where children will meet their parents after the Worship Service concludes.

If you have a child entering Kindergarten this year, please email Katherine Newburg at <a href="mailto:kat.newburg@gmail.com">kat.newburg@gmail.com</a> prior to October 1st so that your child can be celebrated during an upcoming Worship Service.



## Mental Health Association of Morris County

To Honor FPCNV with Community Partner Award Monday, October 5, 6-9 pm

The Mental Health Association of Morris County (MHA) is celebrating their 13th annual "Food for Thought" recognition event on MONDAY October 5<sup>th</sup> from 6-9 pm at the Birchwood Manor, 111 North Jefferson Road, Whippany.

Our church has been selected as one of two organizations being honored with a "Community Partner Award" that evening. Over the past few years we have provided the volunteers, talent, and financial support MHA needs to sustain their outstanding County-wide support programs, including their social club dinners at our Fellowship Hall. Other services include mental health first aid training, the faith-based resource support network, and continuing outreach to the homeless with self-help services.

There will be two parts to the evening: a VIP Business Networking Reception with special Hors d'Oeuvres and a craft beer tasting from 5–6 pm, followed by the main 'Tasting Event' from 6-9 pm with more than 20 area restaurants presenting their delicious favorites, and a wine tasting. The awards ceremony will be held at 7:30 pm, along with live and silent auctions, a 50/50 raffle, and a tricky tray. The Mental Health Players will perform. Congressman Leonard Lance as the keynote speaker this year.

The VIP Business Reception ticket costs \$100 and includes both events. The ticket for the Main Event is \$65, with a table of 8 at \$450. We hope we can get a group of members to attend to represent FPCNV!

We hope you will be able to join us on October 5<sup>th</sup>!



# Welcome Home Sunday September 13

Sunday, September 13 we will be welcoming our members back after the summer vacation months. Please be sure to attend this special service and the Coffee Hour that

follows, which will be hosted by Karen Gobo, the owner of the Village Bistro. Come and catch up on the news and events for this coming season and visit with your friends and neighbors.

# Congregational Life Events New Fall Plans and Returning Favorites

#### **OCTOBER**

October 18: Fall Festival at Aimee Bloom's

This year our theme for the festival will be a chili cook-off for those who want to participate. The Congregational Life Committee is working on special entertainment; details will follow as soon as they are confirmed. This is going to be a delightful occasion so be sure to attend.

#### **DECEMBER**

December 6: Christmas Luncheon

Please save the date for this year's Christmas Luncheon in Fellowship Hall. Look for details in the months to come.

#### MARCH

March 13: St Patrick's Day-themed Coffee Hour.

Please note: Adult Education is also hosting Dr. Brid Nicholson who will give an informative presentation on *St Patrick* immediately following Coffee Hour.

#### MAY

May 1: Cinco De Mayo-themed Coffee Hour. A returning favorite you will not want to miss.

#### JUNE

June 12: Annual Church Picnic

Host to be determined. Details will follow.

## **Autumn Gatherings**

In the month of October look for gatherings that will take place in the homes of our members. These are a bit of a mid-fall check-in with conversation on where the Pastor Nominating Committee is at the time and program ideas for the year to come.

There will also be a reminder that we are in Stewardship Season, but the main purpose of these events will be a time to look ahead and celebrate our congregational life together.

October 14: Hosted by Candace and Rich Weeks

October 21: Hosted by Ann and Tom Ewig

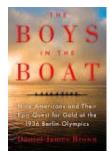
October 22: Hosted by Kathy and Matt Sheeleigh

Gatherings on each date will begin at 7:00 pm.

## FPCNV Book Club

## 2015-16 Books & Meeting Dates

Sept: The Boys in the Boat, Daniel James Brown



...Out of the depths of the Depression comes an irresistible story about beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times—the improbable, intimate account of how nine working-class boys from the American West showed the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit really meant.

It was an unlikely quest from the start. With a team composed of the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the University of Washington's eight-oar crew team was never expected to defeat the elite teams of the East Coast and Great Britain, yet they did, going on to shock the world by defeating the German team rowing for Adolf Hitler. The emotional heart of the tale lies with Joe Rantz, a teen-ager without family or prospects, who rows not only to regain his shattered self-regard but also to find a real place for himself in the world. Drawing on the boys' own journals and vivid memories of a once-in-a-lifetime shared dream, Brown has created an unforgettable portrait of an era, a celebration of a remarkable achievement, and a chronicle of one extraordinary young man's personal quest.—Barnes&Noble.com

#### Book Club Meeting Dates & Book Selections

Where: Library When: 7:30 pm

SEP 8 The Boys in the Boat - Daniel James Brown

**OCT 13** The Sellout by Paul Beatty

NOV 10 Me Before You by Jojo Moyes

**DEC TBA** Café Beethoven Dinner

JAN 12 The First Salute by Barbara Tuchman

FEB 9 Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania by Erik Larson

MAR TBD Spies Among Friends by Kim Philby

APR TBD The Wright Brothers by David McCullough

MAY TBD All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

JUN TBD Bach by Tim Dowlay (?)

## Recognizing Our Flower Donors

Each week throughout the year flowers grace the pulpit during the Sunday Worship Service and are then delivered by our Deacons to members who may be ill, shut-in, or in need of a little tender loving care. We want to take a moment to thank those who have done so over the last year:

Elaine Britcher
Isabel Broshek
Gwenn and Todd Claytor
The Conine Family
Edna Conway
Jane Coyle
Caroline and Roger Ford

Caroline and Roger Ford MJ and Olin Friant

Sally Gernert
Beth and George Gibson
Barbara Gill
Pam Kerschner

Min Kwon and Lenny Lee

Kay Lyall David Mitchell Suzie Morris Sue Nobleman

Bobbi and Mike Phillips

June Poppele

The Sheeleigh Family

Ann Talcott Anne Thomas Eileen Urban

Thank you for making our Worship Services more beautiful each week throughout the year.

## ROOF AND TOWER PRESERVATION PROJECT REPORT

On August 21, we signed a contract with our prime contractor, Alden Bailly Preservation Co. to repair, replace and preserve the roof and tower of the Sanctuary. The contract calls for the work to be completed by December 18, 2015, and the Church will remain open during this time.

The controlling factor in scheduling is the availability of high quality, hand-split cedar shingles that have been fire retardant treated. The lead time for this product is eight weeks, putting delivery around the middle of November. Therefore you will not see a lot of activity until the middle of October.

Alden Bailly is a highly qualified contractor and was low bidder in the recent round of bidding. The contract is for approximately \$390,000. The preservation is being paid in part by a grant of \$300,000 from the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust and the balance from the Sure Foundation Fund.

Don Vellekamp



# Save the Date Piano Celebration Saturday, October 10 3:00 pm

Min Kwon and musicians of CME and CME Academy will provide a concert in celebration of the Steinway piano that we received in December, 2014 while we were still meeting in Fellowship Hall. This concert will be an official acknowledgement and jubilant celebration of this wondrous gift. Please plan to attend, as it is sure to be a treat. Admission is Free.

## September Movie Night

#### Lawrence of Arabia

Wednesday, September 16, 6 pm at the Chaneys'

This Oscar-winning epic tells the true story of T.E. Lawrence, who helped unite warring Arab tribes to strike back against the Turks in World War I. This lush, timeless classic underscores the clash between cultures that changed the tide of war. It is especially relevant in view of events in the middle east today. We are starting an hour earlier than our usual time because it is almost a four-hour movie.



Cast: Peter O'Toole, Alec Guinness, Anthony Quinn, Jack Hawkins, Omar Sharif, José Ferrer, Anthony Quayle, Claude Rains, Arthur Kennedy, Donald Wolfit, I.S. Johar, Gamil Ratib, Michel Ray, John Dimech, Zia Mohyeddin.

## Thursday Morning Bible Study

Thursday Morning Bible Study: 9:00-10:00 am

On September 17 we will begin a twelve-week study of the Old Testament book of *Psalms*. Each week we will look at a new type of psalm including: a prayer of an individual, an introductory hymn, a thanksgiving song of an individual, a corporate prayer for help, a hymn of prayer, and songs of ascent to Jerusalem.

Sept 3	2 Thessalonians 2	Oct 8	Psalm 80
•			
Sept 10	2 Thessalonians 3	Oct 15	Psalm 33
Sept 17	Psalm 13	Oct 22	Psalm 121
Sept 24	Psalm 100	Oct 29	Psalm 122
Oct 1	Psalm 107		

# Stewardship Campaign 2015-2016 NOW BUILD FAITH

The Theme of the 2015 Stewardship Campaign is Now Build Faith, and it invites us to remember the good work of the past year and then to imagine what our future in faith and commitment could be. The Book of Matthew advises us to build our house upon a rock for strength and longevity, and now our beautiful sanctuary rests upon a "sure foundation." For that, we can all be thankful and feel secure. The Church at the Crossroads reminds us of our many blessings, yet also asks how are we called to manage these blessings and share our gifts.

The Stewardship Committee would like all members to think deeply of their faith and their financial ability to support the Church. Please do what you can, perhaps raise your pledge from last year by 5% if possible. Jesus said, "Give and it will be given to you." To continue the good work, fellowship, and outreach of the First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon, we need your pledge. Respond as soon as you can with the pledge cards that are in the mail, or more directly on the website at pcnv.org. God bless you, and may God continue to bless our church.

Jonathan Shelby Stewardship Chair

# Community Soup Kitchen News Ready to work in the kitchen?

## **Next Kitchen Training Is:**

September 15 from 9:00 am until noon. Morristown United Methodist Church 50 South Park Place, Morristown, NJ 07960

Email Nancy <u>nancy@cskmorristown.org</u> if you would like to attend.

Want to volunteer to serve? No training necessary. Please contact:

Jane Coyle: <u>janeacoyle@gmail.com</u>or 973-301-0810



## Pastor Nominating Process Update

he search for a new pastor is a multi-step process. We have completed the first step and pulled together, with significant congregational input, a Mission Study. With the Mission Study approved, the next step is to formally search for a new pastor, which will officially commence with the election of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) at a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, 9/13.

For those of you who don't know how this process works, the PNC will prepare a document with a list of those skills and interests we are looking for in a pastor and our hopes for future ministry. Some of that information will be in boxes checked, the rest in paragraph form. This document, called the Ministry Information Form (MIF), will be The First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon on paper. Pastors looking for churches read many of these. Your PNC will read many of the forms pastors write, called Pastor Information Forms (PIF).

How many times have you picked up a book on the shelf at the store and read the first page and thought, "Am I interested?" The narrative section of all

these forms works that way. For example, how about the first paragraph of this article, "With The Mission Study approved..." Did that grab your attention? What if, instead, I began with, "How many times have you picked up a book..." And for those who get past the documents, there will be phone calls, Skype calls, and in-person interviews. There is much to do.

The PNC will need energy and encouragement to maintain the momentum. You can give that to them. They won't be telling you about candidates; that's Top Secret. They will have some moments of disappointment and moments of great hope and promise. Along the way, find a way to assure them of your trust in them and your support. This is a great church; you will find a great pastor.

# Congregational Meeting

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) Election

Sunday, September 13 After Worship Service

## Adirondacks Youth Mission Trip

As part of our Senior High Youth Ministry here at the First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon, we hosted a mission trip for high school students from August 2-7 to the Adirondack Mountains through an organization called YouthWorks.

Don Richardson served as our trip leader. Don and three young men headed north on Sunday, August 2 to Warrensburg (very near the Village of Lake George), NY, the eastern portion of the Adirondacks. Grant Claytor, Noah French, and Peter Hamel (Noah's cousin from Pittsburgh) joined Don for a week of service, worship, and fun activities. The group stayed at the First United Methodist Church and the Holy Cross Episcopal Church of Warrensburg and were joined by approximately 50 youth from churches in New York state and New Jersey who worked alongside them.

Our group worked on area homes, doing yard work, painting, and cleaning. They were teamed with a Korean Presbyterian Church from Englewood, NJ. This forged an interesting cultural exchange, while we served a variety of work sites over about a 40-square mile area. An example of two projects included: demolition and property cleanup that assisted a woman desperately in need of selling her home, and property cleanup and repair for an elderly man who personally supported Martin Luther King in Selma, AL leading up to and during the famous 1960s civil rights protests. He regaled us with some fascinating stories of working with youth later in his life struggling to transition out of the NYS juvenile detention system, while we played with his two pet llamas, two dogs, two ferrets, and two cats... quite an experience.

Our evening activities included: hiking, swimming in Lake George, and eating a delicious variety of soft and hard ice cream. Special thanks to the congregation for helping us raise funds by attending our June 6 Car Wash. The car wash raised \$423 to help offset the costs of the trip!

## Monday Women's Bible Study

Resumes October 5 9:30-11 am

We will be finishing up the Questions of Faith series in September and will start a new study in October, based on Amy-Jill Levine's video series on the parables of Jesus.

# From the Deacons Thank you to July and August Coffee Hour Hosts

Janet Bruns
Susie Morris
Andrea DiRuggiero
Jane Coyle
The Chaneys
Isobel Broshek
Barbara Gill
Lisa Chapman

## Youth Group Adirondack Mission Trip

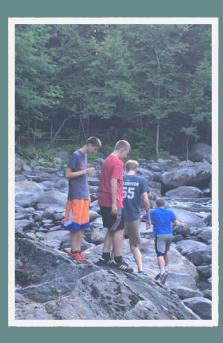














## Youth Group Adirondack Mission Trip



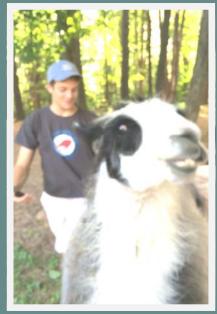












September 2015

		Optoi		<u> </u>		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	AA Meeting noon	5
6 Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am	7 Church Office closed	8 Book Club	9 Adult Ed	10 Bible Study 9:00-10:00 am	AA Meeting noon	12
13	14	7:30 pm	5:00 pm	Choir 7:30 p	18	19
Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am Communion		10	10	<b>Bible Study</b> 9:00-10:00 am	10	13
Choir Is Back Sunday School		Women's AA Step Meeting noon			AA Meeting noon	
Begins  Welcome Back Sunday!	Finance Committee 7:00 pm	Session Mtg. 7:00 pm	Movie Night 7:00 pm	<b>Choir</b> 7:30 p		
Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am Adult Ed: Advances in Heart	21 Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am	Women's AA Step Meeting noon	23	24 Bible Study 9:00-10:00 am	AA Meeting noon	26 NVVFD Auction
Treatment 11:30 am		All Committees Meeting Dinner 6 pm Meetings 7 pm		<b>Choir</b> 7:30 p		
Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am Adult Ed Church Building Project Slideshow 11:30 am	28 Women's Bible Study 9:30-11 am	29	30			

## Worship at FPCNV ~ September 2015

## Sunday, September 6

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Robert Gamble Liturgist: Olin Friant

## Sunday, September 13

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Communion

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Robert Gamble Liturgist: Carol Conger Vellekamp

## Sunday, September 20

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Robert Gamble

Liturgist: TBA

## Sunday, September 27

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Robert Gamble

Liturgist: TBA

## All Committees Meeting September 22

Dinner at 6 pm Meetings begin at 7 pm

On Tuesday, September 22, we will have another All Committee Meeting Night. We will start with an informal dinner at 6 pm and then Committees will meet at 7 pm. Even if you are not on a Committee, you are welcome. Join us for a meal, sit in on a committee if you like, and see how things work behind the scenes. Hope to see you then.

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

Pastor Nominating Committee
Election
Sunday, September 20
Following the Worship Service

## **Highlights This Month:**

Sunday, September 13 Welcome Back Sunday!

Sunday School Begins Choir Is Back

**Congregational Election of PNC** 

Sunday, September 20

Adult Ed: Advances in Heart Health Treatment

Sunday, September 27

Adult Ed: Building Project Slide Presentation

#### E-mail Addresses

Have you sent us your e-mail address? If you want to stay current on what's going on at the Crossroads, please e-mail officeadmin@pcnv.org or call 973-538-8394.

## **CHURCH OFFICE**

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEW VERNON, NJ 07976-0218

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