



Branches

Alexandria First Presbyterian Church

"I am the vine, you are the branches."

September 2015

141 Little York-Mount Pleasant Road
Milford, New Jersey 08848
908-996-4333

Web: www.alexpres.org

Facebook: Alexandria First Presbyterian Church of Mount Pleasant

Dear Friends,

With the month of August coming quickly to an end, it means one thing: summer is ending! And with the end of summer kids and teachers are getting ready to go back to school. College students are packing their bags and heading back to campus. And yes, our church program year is about to begin!

But before we think about what the fall might bring, we need to look back on an awesome summer. This past summer we again had a terrific Vacation Bible School program! Frenchtown Presbyterian was our host this year as we joined together with them and Milford for a fun and exciting week of VBS! Our theme this year was a beach/island theme and each day was another adventure of singing, dancing, crafts, games, and Bible stories, as we learned together about the depth of God's love. I was especially impressed this year with our many teen leaders. As I said in worship, not only did our teen leaders do a great job fulfilling their responsibilities, but they were energetic, enthusiastic, and terrific role models for our younger participants! I want to thank each of our many volunteers, and special thanks go out to our VBS director, Shari Norgard, our craft leader, Laura Strangfeld, our game leader, Julie Lyons, and our snack coordinator, Carol Van Norman.



A Note from Nick



In early July our youth group and their leaders headed out to Millersville, Maryland for a week of service. After a year of preparation and fundraising the youth set out for their mission trip, where they again had a terrific time serving God! Many thanks to their leaders, Renee Skibinski, Marty Gunderman, Jim Hansen, and Joan Lentine! And also, thank you to all who helped support the mission trip through your financial gifts, prayers and love!

During the summer we continued to experience Spirit-filled, joyful worship each Sunday. In between summer outings, and trips we gathered together as the body of Christ to be the Church. When we weren't in church we took Flat Jesus with us as a reminder of Christ's presence in our lives, wherever we may be! Please be sure to check out the church's facebook page or the bulletin board outside the choir room to see all of the fun Flat Jesus pictures we accumulated over the summer.

continued p. 2

A Note from Nick *con't.*



As much fun as summer was, it is with much excitement and anticipation that we will begin our program year together on September 13th for Rally Day. I hope everyone will make plans to be in worship on the 13th so that we can joyfully kick-off our year together! During worship on Rally Day we will be led by our youth mission team as they share their experience with the congregation. We will also distribute the “Gifts of Ministry” survey, which is a great way to help us know your interests and gifts and how you might be willing to serve. Rally Day also marks the beginning of our choir’s participation in worship and is a day to sign up your children for Sunday school. Following worship on Rally Day we will have a time of fellowship that will feature goodies, a slide show from the mission trip, and a brief meeting with the Visioning Team during which you will have an opportunity to hear more about the vision document and ask your questions.

Yes, summer is ending . . . but much is just beginning! Please come

and be a part of all the exciting ways that we embody the Church of Jesus Christ together!

Peace,

Pastor Nick

Tending the Flock

Baptism

We rejoice with those who are celebrating their baptism anniversary. It was in September that Keith Mitchell Ferdinando, John Leslie McDowall, Tanner Ike McGuire, Matthew Joseph Pardonner, and Jenna Rose Schostkewitz became children of God through the sacrament of baptism. Congratulations and blessings to you all!

Data Update for 2015-2016 Program Year

As we do every Rally Day, we ask that you complete your Gifts for Ministry checklist during worship on September 13. We know that personal contact info can change from year to year with new email addresses and phone numbers. We also know areas of interest from last year may be different from this year. You may update all this and more by completing the brief form in the bulletin, the narthex, and Fellowship Hall. We ask that every adult and every teen of each family complete their own form. Forms are on the church’s website on the *Forms and Downloads* page if you want to take an early look. We thank you in advance for your help in considering how you may joyfully respond to all God has blessed us with.

Deaths

Christian sympathy and prayers are extended to Chris Stagg and his family upon the death of his father Richard Stagg who passed away July 14, 2015.

Our love is also conveyed to the family of Lee Smith whose father Robert L. Smith passed away on July 16, 2015. May the Lord comfort them all.



CELEBRATE!

Rally Day

Sunday, September 13, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Worship in the sanctuary, Anthem by our talented Men's Choir,
Youth mission presentation, Minute for mission,
Children's Message

11:00 a.m.



Rally Day Celebration in Fellowship Hall
Sunday school 2015-2016 sign up for new families
Carnegie Hall/Altino Brothers tickets on sale
Slide show by summer mission participants
Visioning Team Presentation
Bus tickets available
Great food
Fellowship

And on the Following Sunday

September 20, 2015

Worship at 10:00 a.m.

Teachers and youth leaders commissioned

Sunday school classes for two year olds through high school resume at 10:15 a.m.

Concert and bus tickets available



Presbyterian Signs and Symbols

Clerical Garments

Most liturgical vestments have their origins in the street clothes of an earlier era. The oldest is the **Alb** (from the Latin *albus* for “white”), a long white garment derived from the ancient Roman tunic. The **Geneva gown** is a black robe once commonly worn in public by those with academic credentials. It symbolizes scholarly training, learned preaching, and the strength of the Reformed tradition. Sometimes three chevrons are added to the sleeves to signify a doctoral degree. The **Chasuble** is a poncho-like vestment that has its origins as a warm raincoat. In the middle ages, it came to be associated with the priestly administration of the Eucharist. A **Stole** is a long band of cloth, generally color-coordinated with the liturgical seasons. Its practical origin was as a scarf and has come to be associated with ordained ministry and the yoke of service to Christ. Continuing in the tradition of the Reformers, some pastors choose to wear contemporary **Street clothes** such as a business suit to downplay the impression of clericalism and to emphasize the ministry of all believers.

Presbytery News

An opportunity for learning and spiritual renewal

The Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville in partnership with leaders of the Presbytery’s Mission Coordination and Social Witness Committee are hosting a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, departing late December of this year. The trip will be both a Christian pilgrimage—exposing participants to sites of religious and spiritual significance for Christians—as well as an opportunity to learn about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict from multiple points of view. All-inclusive cost: \$3,900. For more information contact jvamos@pclawrenceville.org or janeverett68@gmail.com.



Classifieds

There is a new category on Presbytery’s website called “Classified.” It can be used to list any items that your ministry team may have for sale or need to get rid of. It will also list special needs or requests such as for temporary housing, etc. Email Ilene Black in Presbytery’s office at iblackpnb@gmail.com for details.

From Our Community

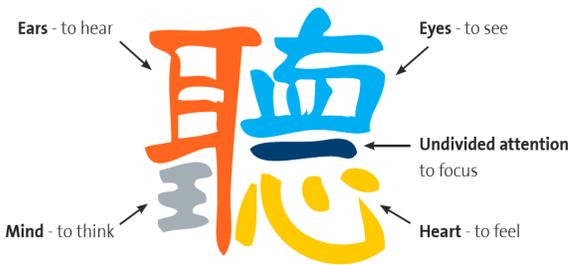
Hunterdon County Mr. Fix It Program

Operating for more than 25 years, this program uses the strengths of volunteers to make home repairs for seniors and people with disabilities. A need has arisen for more volunteers to keep this program afloat. Look for the flyer on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board for more information or contact the coordinator Sabrina Baarda at 788-1358.

Coffee Hour

Our time together is always enhanced during coffee hour after the morning worship. So we invite you to stay and have fellowship each Sunday at 11 a.m. There’s always lots of good beverages, conversation, and occasionally a snack or two. We thank the Evangelism and Membership Team for the drinks; the rest of us take care of the lively conversation!

Listen



“Be quick to listen and slow to speak” (James 1:19). The intricate Chinese character for the word “listen” offers insight on how to listen to people so they feel heard. The symbol is a combination of characters for ears, eyes, and an open heart. Basically it reads “I give you my ears, my eyes, and my undivided attention.” Practicing the skill of active listening is a much-needed way to minister to others, serving as Jesus’ ears in a hurting world.



Knots of Love

Caring Hands

On the left are the nine caps our church sent to Knots of Love to share with cancer patients. They were submitted under our group’s new name AFPC’s Caring Hands. In November Alice Hansen hopes to send them our next shipment of soft caps and prayers for comfort. New donations can be hung on the bulletin board outside the choir room. Special thanks to all who have contributed! If you have any questions on this loving mission cause, please speak with Alice Hansen.

Summer Flowers

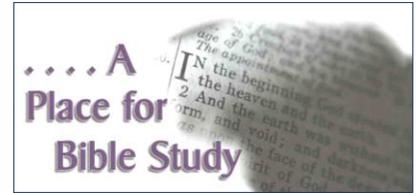
Dedicate Flowers by Signing up in Fellowship Hall!

- July 5** given by Dottie and Keith Erwin in loving memory of their daughter Phylis Kinney
- July 12** given by the Camerons in celebration of the wedding of Leah Cameron and Connor Sonderquis
- July 19** given by Alice and Jim Hansen in celebration of the birthday of their grandsons Harry and Calvin
- July 26** given by Meredith and John Oliver in celebration of the 24th birthday of their son John Jackson
- August 2** given by Cindy and Joe Accardi in celebration of their August family birthdays: children Antoinette and Nick, and grandchildren Wyatt and Riley Rose
- August 9** given by Alice and Jim Hansen in celebration of Grandma Schade’s birthday
- August 16** given by the Strangfeld family in loving memory of Eric’s grandmother Harriet Strangfeld
- August 23** given by Fran and Ken Weider in celebration of their wedding anniversary
- August 30** given by Patti and Craig Bender in celebration of their 35th wedding anniversary



Bible Studies: Time to Jump In

Now that the summer is behind us, it's time to renew our commitment to our Bible studies. Feel free to contact the church office or the group leader with questions about each study offered. All studies are opened-ended so that a missed session is not a problem. New to the Bible study concept? Don't hesitate to stick your toe in the water. Try one and see if it's to your liking. If not, there's no commitment to continue, but we're pretty sure you'll want it to become a regular part of your life!



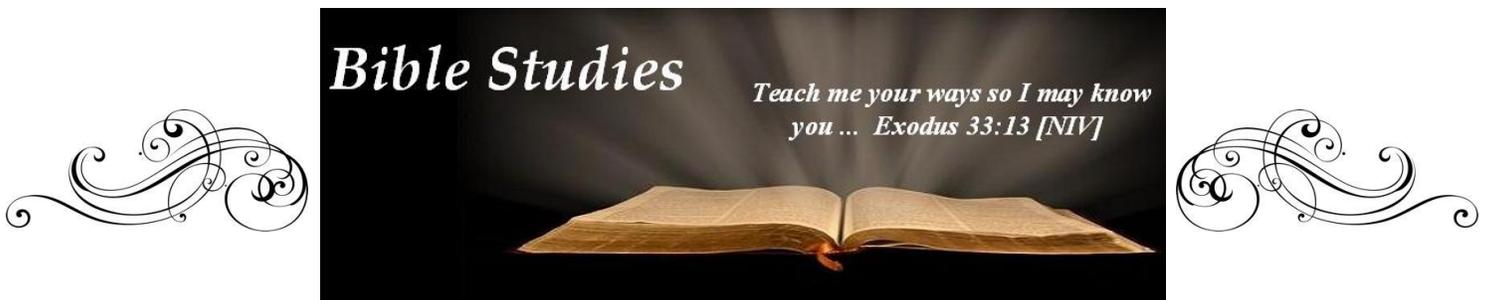
<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Mondays	Skibinski home	7:30 p.m.	Renee Skibinski	<i>The Book of Acts: Be Dynamic series by Warren Wiersbe</i>
Tuesdays	Classroom #7	9:30 a.m.	Nancy Smith	The Book of Psalms; begins September 29
Wednesdays	Fellowship Hall	6:00 a.m.	Charlie Tiedeman	<i>The Books of 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles: Be Distinct series by Warren Wiersbe</i>
Wednesdays	Classroom #5	9:30 a.m.	Nancy Schumann	<i>The Book of 1 Peter: Be Hopeful series by Warren Wiersbe; begins September 9</i>

Bible Studies: Tuesday's Topic

Stop! Did you pray today? As the summer draws to a close, we are eager to reconnect with each other. The Tuesday Bible study group will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 29. This fall, the group has chosen to study the Book of Psalms. The Book of Psalms covers the wide range of human emotion and experience. What they all have in common is prayer, a reaching out to God from every imaginable experience—for peace in the midst of turmoil, for thankful hearts, for lessons in praise. You need no prior Bible study experience to join this group. We study the word of God with emphasis on its application to our daily lives as we share our thoughts and experiences. We welcome everyone to come whenever they are able for fun and friendship.

Bible Studies: Wednesday's Wisdom

The women's Bible study group will resume sessions on Wednesday, September 9 at 9:30 a.m. We'll study the Book of 1 Peter using Warren W. Wiersbe's study guide *Be Hopeful*. Anyone who would like to join the group for the first time is welcome to contact Nancy Schumann as soon as possible.



Our Facility Is at Your Disposal

Requesting the Use of the Building for Your Next Gathering?

Building-use requests for members and non-members alike are processed and approved by Session. Session meets on the second Wednesday of each month except during July and August. All requests will be considered by Session once a month at their regularly scheduled meeting. To request the use of our facilities for your group, print the building-use form and building-use policy from the church's website, fill it out, and send it to the church office. Please allow a minimum of 5 weeks for your event to be considered by Session.

Three Renderings / One Subject



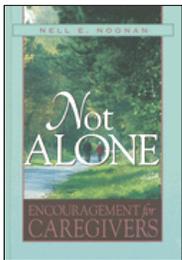
This oil painting which hangs in Fellowship Hall was rendered in 1947 by Frenchtown artist Ethel Drake Hoffman. It was a farewell gift to student pastor John Alton Cressman. Of particular note are the red roof and large pine trees. The original steeple is striking.



This painting hangs prominently in former AFPC pastor Jack Van Ens' home study. It was commissioned by the congregation as his farewell gift on 1976. The artist was Little York parishioner James R. Hunt. Note the replaced steeple. The manse is in the background.



Painted by Little York artist Friedrich Heimerdinger, this original oil was commissioned by former member and deacon moderator Marjorie Rockafellow in 1987. It now hangs in Fellowship Hall. Note the red front doors and the simplified landscaping.



You Are Not Alone

Not Alone

Copies of the book *Not Alone: Encouragement for Caregivers* are available to own at not cost to anyone who has a need. *Not Alone* provides honest daily devotions for those involved in long-term care for loved ones. Please stop by Fellowship Hall to look over a copy on display and to take one home with you if you so desire.

Bus and Concert Tickets

Sunday, October 4, 2015 | 7:30 p.m.

www.TheAltinoBrothers.com

A bus has been hired to attend the Altino Brothers upcoming Carnegie Hall concert but you need to buy your ticket in advance. Please see Meredith Oliver with questions and to reserve your place.

Joan Lentine is coordinating the sale of concert tickets, so please contact her for arrangements. Ticket prices for the concert are \$90, 60, 40, and 30. To purchase concert tickets via credit card please visit the Carnegie Hall website.

Both bus and concert tickets will be available at the church Sundays, September 13, 20, and 27 and you may contact Joan and Meredith by phone as well. Our website has further details.



Peacemaking and Global Witness

What you've known as the Peacemaking Offering has been transformed into the Peace and Global Witness Offering. This new offering has a greater global reach and more significant impact while continuing to bring peace to people through Christ. The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be

received on World Communion Sunday which is October 4 this year. A gift to the Peace and Global Witness Offering enables us to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Here at Alexandria Church, we will retain 25% of this offering for our local peacemaking ministries. Look for giving envelopes and bulletin inserts at the end of September and thank you for your commitment to global peace.

Be Part of a World Record

Trenton Rescue Mission Clothing Drive

It's time to start setting aside in your home all the items you want to contribute to the Trenton Clothing Drive this fall. Although the date isn't set yet for actual pick up by TRM we wanted you to know they are going for a Guinness World Record for the biggest clothing drive of all time. And you can be a part of it! Start now by culling through your closets, drawers, attic, and basement for any "soft goods" you would like to donate. These items are clothing, linens, blankets, towels, coats, etc. (worn and torn are OK, but they should be clean). Even shoes, belts, handbags or other "wearables" that can be sold in TRM's thrift store are good to include. No stuffed animals, house wares, or bric-a-brac, please. Watch for further details in *The Weekly Wrap* and the Sunday bulletin.



"For I know the plans I have for you,"
declares the Lord, "plans to prosper
you and not to harm you, plans to give
you hope and a future."
Jeremiah 29:11

Giving to AFPC in a New Way

New Program

The Stewardship and Finance Team has been busy this summer with a new project!

This Fall we will launch a program where you will have the ability to pledge or donate monies to the church via these means:

- Cash or check - nothing new here
- On-line using:
 - Credit card
 - Debit card
 - Electronic check linked to a checking account

There will be a link on the church's website where you can set up a one-time or a recurring donation to the church. The team feels this brings advantages to both you and the church.

- You don't have to remember to bring your check on Sunday
- If you are out of town, the church will receive your donation
- You can make your normal donation or create a one-time donation for a special giving opportunity

If you donate on-line, there will be cards in the pew racks that you can place in the collection plate. The cards state that you give to the church through on-line giving. It eliminates the feeling that you aren't donating when the plate is passed.

Save the Date

September 13, 2015

Hopefully by now you have had a chance to read the letter sent out to each family detailing the results of the Visioning Team's work over the last several months.

As mentioned in the letter, the full document presented to Session can be found on our website www.alexpres.org and we invite everyone to read it. We also strongly encourage you to meet with the team and members of Session after the service on September 13 so any questions can be asked and answered. We're looking forward to seeing you there.



Sunday School Returns!

Sunday school classes are available for children ages three through high school as an opportunity to grow in their own faith journey. Classes begin after the Children's Sermon (10:15 a.m.). Special care has been taken to coordinate the curriculum with a scope and sequence that follows the church calendar so conversations can continue at home with children and their parents. On the first Sunday of the month, we celebrate "Family Worship" where children remain in the sanctuary with their parents. Nursery care is available. Our youngest children are in the loving care of a dedicated nursery staff where toys and books are abundant. Speakers in the nursery allow parents visiting their children to hear the worship service too. Volunteers for our programs are always welcome!

Registration forms will be collected (and shared with you) from new families only. We will not ask families to fill out a new registration form if we already have one on file. FYI, we will make sure our current contact and allergy information is accurate.

College Kids Not Forgotten

Our deacon ministry has for many years provided care packages to our freshmen college students. The last 4 years the Christian Education and Youth Ministry Team joined forces with our deacons in this wonderful ministry. After our deacons fill packages, our Sunday school classes add crafts, cards, and a few treats too.

Our deacons will start filling packages in early October. Each and every one of you is invited to Fellowship Hall on September 27 and October 4, following the worship service to be a part of this loving ministry. Please consider adding your own personal note, signing a card, or adding a small treat to show our youth that we are thinking about them while they are away. Notes and cards will be available both days. If you plan to add a small treat, please be sure they are in Fellowship Hall prior to October 4 to be included in the packages.

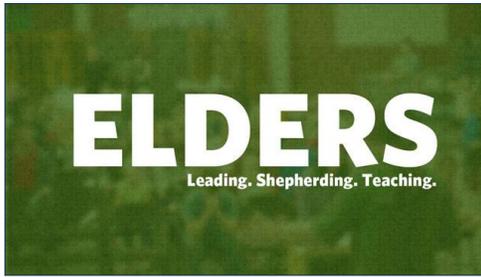
We all love to receive mail. Our youth away at school are going to love receiving mail too. Please consider encouraging our youth in this simple and loving way. If you have any questions, please contact Renee Skibinski.



Our Youth Say Thank You

Thank you to our entire congregation for your love and support of our youth mission trip. Twenty teens and four adults headed to Millersville, Maryland on Saturday, July 4 where we experienced a Jesus-centered mission trip. Our week was high in energy and focused on the amazing power of community in accomplishing God's work as we served people in need through home repair and basic construction. This year's camp consisted of 311 campers in all from 18 different churches and from 8 different states. There were 53 crews that worked on 37 job sites. We painted inside and out, repaired homes, and built porches and wheelchair ramps. Most of all we built relationships; with each other, new friends, and with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Please join us on Rally Day on Sunday, September 13 when we will share stories and pictures from our amazing week.





Session Highlights

Meeting of the Congregation | June 7, 2015

The annual spring meeting of the congregation of the Alexandria First Presbyterian Church of Mount Pleasant, New Jersey was called to order by the moderator Rev. Nicholas Hatch at 11:15 a.m. in the sanctuary following morning service. This was Ministry Appreciation Sunday and during the service the contributions and efforts of all those responsible for the many and varied

activities of our church were recognized and thanked. Various ministry teams and the deacons reported on their activities during the past year

Speaking for the Nominating Committee, Elder Shari Norgard presented Brad Bondor, Lois Bondor, Laura Navarro, and Karen Pardonner for 3-year terms as elders; Shari Norgard for a 1-year term as elder; and Debbie Cortelyou, Helen Jones, Pat Keefe, and Cathy Torrey for 3-year terms as deacons. All candidates were elected unanimously

Joan Carroll, Keith Erwin, Barbara Pederson, and Nancy Smith were presented for a 1-year term on the Nominating Committee. All candidates were elected unanimously

Rev. Hatch then thanked the members of the committee for their dedication and tireless efforts in fulfilling their duties

Speaking on behalf of the Auditing Committee Craig Norgard reported that the committee had met with the treasurer and had reviewed the church's financial records and books. They found them to be in good order with no deficiencies. He stated that the financial accounting was accurate, timely, and well maintained. There were three recommendations from the committee to amend the testing parameters to address the following:

- Church credit card charges: currently there is not a procedure approving expenses by the respective committees/team chairs charged to the credit card
- Committee/team chairs: a list of the committee/team chairs along with the respective dates they held their positions should be made available to validate authorized individuals who approved the payment of expenses
- Email authorization: consideration should be made to allow email to replace hard copy vouchers. If approved, email addresses should be provided with the list of committee/team chairs

Craig complimented the financial record keeping and reporting in the church

The report of the Auditing Committee was received on motion and by voice vote

There was no further business

Session Highlights *con't.*

Regular Meeting | June 10, 2015

- Rev. Hatch opened with prayer
- The deacons reported they sent congratulatory cards to all our new confirmands which were very much appreciated
- A period of study was held on A Call to Worship and a discussion on and reflection of “Grace and Gratitude.” The time concluded with an Affirmation of Faith in unison
- Approved by electronic vote to move communion from June 7 to June 14, 2015
- Approved by voice vote:
 - to hold a church picnic on July 26 immediately following morning worship
 - to removed the following from the active rolls: Dave Armstrong, Carol Force, Samantha Mitlitsky, Lexi Armstrong, Rachel Groogan, Kevin Pearce, Taylor Armstrong, Keith Groogan, Lilly Pearce, William Armstrong, Colleen Jones, Pam Pearce, Ed Blair, Daniel Matuska, Luke Schostkewitz, Kristin Blair, David Matuska, Vivian Blair, Joe Matuska, Alexander Carlson, Sandra Matuska, Ken Carlson, Amy Mitlitsky, Lisa Carlson, and Michael Mitlitsky
 - to sell tickets to the congregation for the Altino Brothers upcoming concert at Carnegie Hall on October 4, 2015
 - to accept the proposed church calendar for the 2015-2016 year (September thru August)
- Reviewed ordination/installation vows for elders and deacons which will be administered at worship on June 14, 2015
 - Lois Bondor will be ordained and installed as an elder
 - Brad Bondor, Laura Navarro, Shari Norgard, and Karen Pardonner will be installed as elders
 - Debbie Cortelyou and Helen Jones will be ordained and installed as deacons
 - Pat Keefe and Cathy Torrey will be installed as deacons
- Rev. Hatch then welcomed our new elders and thanked them for accepting the responsibilities and duties of the office. He then gave thanks to Rick Carroll and Renee Skibinski, whose terms had expired, for their loyal and faithful service
- Elder training will take place in September 2015. The joint session/deacon meeting will take place in October and will be coordinated by the Clerk
- The Capital Campaign Team to be formed this summer



Heartfelt Thanks

Vacation Bible School

Everyone went bananas for this year's SonTreasure Island Vacation Bible School! Alexandria, Frenchtown, and Milford Presbyterian churches once again offered a joint program for all of the children in the surrounding community. Throughout the week of treasure-hunting adventure in the Caribbean Islands, the children discovered that God's Love is Giving, God's Love is Kind, God's Love is Caring, God's Love is Forgiving, and God's Love is Forever! Thanks to all the families for donating food to the Frenchtown food pantry. Our deepest gratitude goes out to all those who worked behind the scenes and on-site before and during this blessed week. The tropical decorations, lively stories, colorful crafts, rockin' songs, island games, and delicious snacks made the week fun and helped the children learn about God's amazing LOVE through the life of Jesus.



Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday school was a fun time for all! We had up to 12 kids at a time learning about our "Tools of Faith." We explored the ways that God gives us tools for our lives, learned Bible verses, played games, went on a nature walk, and did a craft. Thanks to all the families for sharing their children with us and allowing us the privilege to teach them about God's love. We will finish up our summer with a talk from the youth about their summer mission trip.

The last Summer Sunday school class will be held August 30. Regular Sunday school classes will resume on September 20. Registration forms for Sunday school for new families can be found on our website and paper copies are in the narthex.

September Birthdays

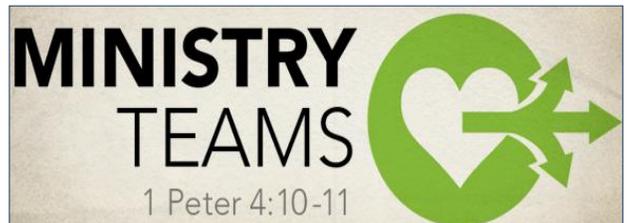
May God's awesome blessings be upon you
this day and on the future years ahead.

2 Emily Fennell	10 Rom Fleming	20 Meredith Oliver	27 Tyler Bender
Alice Hansen	11 Arianna Scurti	23 Holland Fritsche	Joseph Bercaw
Ed Muztafago	13 LuAnn Keefe	24 Barbara McLaren	28 Johanna Schooff
3 Scott Moran	14 Chris Vogel	Chris Stagg	30 Abby Ferdinando
10 Gillian Cascio	19 Roger Schneider	25 Grant MacWilliam	

Getting to Know our Teams

This month:
Personnel Team

**"If anyone serves, they should do
so with the strength God provides."**



The Personnel Committee sets needed policies, offers support, undertakes annual evaluations, and nurtures communication with members of the church staff.

They are committed to creating an open, efficient, and structured environment for those who are employed by Alexandria Church. The Personnel Committee assists employees through leadership, encouragement, empowerment, and recognition for their dedication and outstanding contributions to our church family and the community at large.

Worship Assistants

- September 6** Laura Navarro
September 13 Rick Carroll
September 20 Tammy Sassaman
September 27 Nancy Serrone

Ushers

- September 6** Moran family
September 13 Norgard family
September 20 Schostkewitz family
September 27 Sue Lawson, Carol Van Norman

Communion Servers

- September 6** Lainey Johns, Julie Lyons,
 Nancy Schumann, Cathy Torrey

Special Dates

Also see the main calendar on page 14

- September 6** Communion, refreshments
September 13 Rally Day, mission and visioning presentations
September 20 Sunday school begins

Coming Up

- October 4** World Communion Sunday
October 25 Reformation Sunday

Welcome
SEPTEMBER
 be sweet!

Our Ministry Team Officers

Building and Property Craig Bender (E), Marty Gunderman (E),
 Jim Hansen (E), Doug Bondor (D), Eric Strangfeld

Christian Education/Youth Ministry Shari Norgard (E),
 Julie Lyons (D), Karen Pardonner (E)

Evangelism/Membership Lois Bondor (E), Debbie Cortelyou (D),
 Carol Moran (E), Cathy Torrey (D), Carol Van Norman (D)

Mission Interpretation Brad Bondor (E), Jim Bush (E),
 Steve Cameron (D)

Nominating Jim Hansen (D), Karl Nielsen (E)

Personnel Helen Jones (D), Laura Navarro (E)

Stewardship and Finance Denis Goldman (E), Alice Hansen (D),
 Pat Keefe (D), Karl Nielsen (E)

Worship and Music Evelyn Cameron (D), Howard Jones (E),
 Meredith Oliver (D), Ken Wieder (E) (E: Elder, D: Deacon)



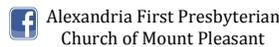
The vision of Alexandria First Presbyterian Church is to gather in God's grace and to be led by the Holy Spirit. We joyfully worship, prayerfully seek, and gratefully share as a loving family growing in Jesus Christ.

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE
 OF BRANCHES IS THE 3rd THURSDAY
 OF THE MONTH**

Branches is a publication of Alexandria First Presbyterian Church (USA), 141 Little York-Mount Pleasant Road, Milford, NJ 08848. The newsletter is published monthly—except during August—to inform members and friends of church programs, news, and events. *Branches* is online in the "News/Our Newsletter" tab at

www.alexpres.org.

Editor: alexpres@embarqmail.com



**ALEXANDRIA FIRST
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**
 141 Little York-Mount Pleasant Road
 Milford, NJ 08848
 Web: www.alexpres.org
 Office: 908-996-4333

THE STAFF of ALEXANDRIA CHURCH
 Reverend Nicholas C. Hatch
 Pastor

Nerva Altino
 Director of Music Ministry

Pati Tiedeman
 Administrative Assistant



How to Reach the Pastor

Rev. Nick Hatch

- Through the church office Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. **908-996-4333**
- By the church's website on the "contact us" link: www.alexpres.org
- Via his email: pastornickhatch@gmail.com

Alexandria Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September		1	2	3	4	5
		9:00 Bulletin deadline 6:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Deacons	6:00 Bible study 9:00 Session materials due	2:30 Staff 7:00 Men's Choir 7:45 Chancel Choir		
6	7	9	9	10	11	12
10:00 Worship, communion, courtyard refreshments	Labor Day Office closed	9:00 Bulletin deadline 6:00 Boy Scouts	6:00 Bible study 9:30 Bible study 7:00 Session	7:00 Men's Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Rally Day 10:00 Worship, mission presentation 11:00 Fellowship, refreshments, Visioning Team update 2:30 Jr and Sr Youth		9:00 Bulletin deadline 6:00 Boy Scouts	6:00 Bible study 9:30 Bible study	2:30 Staff 7:00 Chancel Choir		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:00 Worship, commissioning 10:15 Sunday school		9:00 Bulletin deadline 6:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Building and Property	6:00 Bible study 9:30 Bible study	7:00 Chancel Choir		
27	28	29	30	<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px; background-color: #002060; color: white;"> <p style="margin: 0;"><u>Deacon of the Week</u></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Sept 6 Doug Bondor</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Sept 13 Helen Jones</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Sept 20 Debbie Cortelyou</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Sept 27 Alice Hansen</p> </div>		
10:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday school		9:00 Bulletin deadline 9:30 Bible study 6:00 Boy Scouts	6:00 Bible study 9:30 Bible study			