

SOUNDINGS

October 2016

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Oct. 2** *World Communion Sunday*
Karen Nickels, preaching
Donna Van Norman, liturgist
- Oct. 9** *Stewardship Dedication Sunday*
Harry Freebairn, preaching
Kim Runnion, liturgist
- Oct. 16** Karen Nickels, preaching
Noralee Manzek, liturgist
- Oct. 23** Maggie Wellert, preaching
Candy Gulotta, liturgist
- Oct. 30** *All Saints Sunday*
Maggie Wellert, preaching
Ellis Finger, liturgist

FELLOWSHIP AND GROWTH

THE SHAWL MINISTRY will meet on **Monday, October 3, from 1-2:30 p.m.** in the Brainerd Gathering Area. Bring a project to work on and share ideas. Call Fran Dean, 610-829-1475, for info.

THE BRUNCH BUNCH will lunch at Longhorn Steakhouse on Dryland Way in Easton on **Sunday, October 9.** Meet in Legacy Hall following worship to carpool or for driving directions. For information about the Brunch Bunch, contact Ruthann Arras at 315-870-0200 or ruthann.arras@gmail.com.

THE BOOK CLUB will meet on **Monday, October 17,** at 1:00 p.m. in the Millheim Room to discuss *The Charm Bracelet* by Viola Shipman.

In November they are planning on reading and discussing *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Frye* by Rachel Joyce.

Next year they are planning on reading *Salt in the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys and possibly *The Aviator's Wife* by Melanie Benjamin.

Book Club meets on the third Monday of the month in the Millheim Room. Everyone is welcome to join them to listen or participate in their lively discussions, even if you haven't read the book. Come and join them! Contact Nancy Pruitt, 610-258-1677, for more information.

SOUP AND STUDY John Heinsohn will be leading a fall book study on Wednesdays, October 26 and November 2 and 9, 12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Community Presbyterian Church in Mt. Bethel. They will discuss *Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan and *The Great Divorce* by C.S. Lewis, two views of the Christian Journey to the Heavenly City. They will start with a simple lunch at noon followed by the study. Contact the church, 570-897-6766, for more information.

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



- 2 Sue Pappas
- 3 Rich Linnell, Gail Owens
- 4 Susan Mackay
- 5 Ginny Ogden
- 7 Gary Lehman, Carol Schroeher
- 8 George Owens
- 9 Lynn Greacen
- 13 Kim Beyer
- 18 Jennifer Rister, Patricia Stanek
- 19 Sarah Moki
- 20 Judith Sample
- 26 Betty Minnich
- 27 John Heinsohn
- 29 B.J. Evans
- 30 Dahlia Opthof-Cordaro
- 31 Kathleen Ramey

FROM THE MODERATOR

Dear Church Family,

My name is Karen Nickels. I have been a member of this Presbytery since 1988 when I came to be the Pastor of the Church of the Mountain in Delaware Water Gap. Over the years I have moderated the Presbytery, served on numerous committees, shepherd many PNC's and congregations in transition. I chaired the Committee on Ministry. I also volunteered many hours as an Associate Chaplain at Pocono Medical Center. I have been active in mission work all my life. After retirement, I served the Wyoming Valley Presbyterian Church as Stated Supply while they looked for a new Pastor.

Bob and I have been married for over 50 years and enjoy two children and four grandchildren.

I want to clear up any confusion you may have during this transition time about what is happening at First Easton. While your PNC searches for a new pastor, Committee on Ministry asked me to serve as your Moderator, to moderate your Session and hopefully help keep things running smoothly. Normally this is all a Moderator does, since normally they are working Pastors with their own congregations and duties. However, since I am retired I have more time to give to you. For that reason, I offered the Session the option of my becoming a Moderator Plus.

As your Moderator Plus, I will be preaching two to three times a month and helping your Worship Team to fill the other Sundays with a variety of preachers so that you can experience a range of preaching styles. Preaching two or three times a month will hopefully give you some continuity and it will give me a chance to get to know you and your church, thus enabling me to be a better Moderator for your Session.

In addition, I have offered to meet with your committees when needed, connect you to the surrounding community, and to be available for some Pastoral Care. I have asked only for mileage for those extra activities. I have already met with the Deacons so that they will contact me if they think I am needed, but you may also contact the Church Office if you have a Pastoral Care need. Office time when you may come in and see me will be announced in the bulletin.

The main reason for going with a Moderator Plus is to save the congregation a great deal of money while you are searching for your new Pastor. Hiring an interim Pastor, part time, or a stated supply Pastor would increase your costs considerably. Your Session is hopeful, and I am hopeful, that his arrangement will enable the congregation to assure the success of your next Pastorate long after the grant from the Presbytery is used up.

So that is who I am and what I am doing here. My hope is that our time together will keep you the strong, healthy church family that you are, while you search for your new Pastor. My ears and my heart are open to you so don't hesitate to speak to me if something is on your mind.

Yours in Christ's love and peace,

Karen Nickels



Dear Friends,

My heart is filled with gratitude for your outpouring of sympathy to me and my family in the passing of Brad. Your calls, your cards, your visits and your presence at his funeral service filled me with a deep sense of peace and love. May you each know the depth of love and appreciation I have for each of you.

With love

Sue Bennetch and family

Naomi Smith wants to wish a heartfelt thanks to her First Presbyterian family for all her birthday cards and wishes as well as the many get well cards for her fall. She is truly blessed by the members of this congregation.

I want to thank everyone in this wonderful, friendly and caring congregation for thinking of me during my long illness. Your thoughtful cards, flowers, phone calls and especially your kind visits really did cheer me up. With all your prayers I am coming along nicely.

Thank you everyone for all your prayers. They really do work!

- Donna Bradbury



"Can God spread a table in the wilderness?"
(Psalm 78:19)

The Peace and Global Witness Offering supports efforts to inspire, equip and connect Presbyterians engaging in ministries of reconciliation and peace, to help forge a world that's more just. Together, we can help restore communities and bear witness to help bring the peace and love of God to all.

Twenty-five percent of our gifts will stay with our congregation to be used locally. Remember peace begins with us and our generous gifts at work to

support the peacemaking initiatives of Presbyterian Mission. **The offering will be received on Sunday, October 2.**

SHARING AND SERVICE

CROP Walk – This year's annual Easton Area CROP Hunger Walk is on **Sunday, October 16**. Registration begins at 1:00 p.m. at the Riverside Park Amphitheater and the walk begins at 1:30 p.m. The walk follows the beautiful Karl Stirner Arts Trail along the Bushkill Creek. 25% of monies raised will support the Easton Hunger Coalition and 75% will be sent to Church World Service, which has programs to fight hunger in 80 countries worldwide. Join with walkers from 30 area congregations as we take steps to end hunger in Easton and around the world. See Julie DeMotte to sign-up as a walker or sponsor. On-line sponsorship is possible at www.cropwalk.org.

SAFE HARBOR MEALS - Thanks to everyone who has signed up to provide Dinner for Safe Harbor, but we are still in need of help. **December, January, March, May and July are still open for 2016/2017!** Gather a few friends and sign up. Check out the bulletin board for the list and instructions for these dinners. Contact Nancy Udut (610.253.5455) for more information.

THE MISSION TEAM shares a prayer from the **Lehigh Presbytery Worldwide Ministries Monthly Prayer Guide:**

Pleasant Valley Presbyterian Church,
Brodheads ville:

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28

The church has joined other churches in their area in an effort to *Keep Sunday Holy*.

Pray:

- That the importance of a spiritual foundation be realized in families exposed to their message.
- That church attendance grows according to God's will.

PROJECT of EASTON – Thanks to all who contributed pasta on the first Sunday in September we delivered **98 boxes** and canned pasta to ProJeCt!!! Our next opportunity to donate either boxed, canned or microwaveable pasta will be on **Sunday, October 2**. Please help us achieve our monthly goal of at least 50 items per month.

BOSCOV'S "FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS"

First Presbyterian Church will be participating in the 20th anniversary of **Boscov's Friends Helping Friends** event on Tuesday, October 18. For a \$5 donation, you will get a 25% off shopping pass for all purchases made that day. The church keeps the \$5 and you get the savings! Please see Ruthann Arras for passes.

Feel free to take passes and have them in your pocket to sell to friends at golf, card club, book club, etc. You can pay Ruthann once you receive the \$5 – you don't necessarily need to pay ahead of time. For more information, call Ruthann at 315-870-0200.

PRAYER REQUESTS

First Presbyterian Church has a prayer list which is updated and printed weekly. Prayer lists are available on Sunday morning on the back table in the sanctuary, or on the Deacons' information table in Legacy Hall. You may also receive this prayer list weekly by email. Call the Church Office to have a name added to the list. Names will be automatically removed after six weeks unless the office is notified otherwise.

Sanctuary Flowers - The 2016 Flower Chart is posted in Legacy Hall. If you wish to sponsor flowers, please sign the chart or call the church office. For two arrangements the cost is \$35 or more depending on the size of the arrangement. We will take care of placing an order with our florist, *Bloomies*, and the florist will bill you directly for the cost of the arrangements. The flowers

enhance the beauty of our worship and are then delivered by the Deacons to the sick and shut-ins.

If you have any questions, please call the Church Office, 610-253-3579.

SCRIP Program

The "Scrip" gift card program allows you to order gift cards for many merchants in the area, and the church will receive a contribution for every card sold. (Lavona Baatz, program coordinator, submits orders on the first day of each month, and you will receive your gift cards approximately two (2) weeks later. You may place orders on Sunday mornings during coffee hour in Legacy Hall - either see Lavona, or stop by the table where you now purchase Giant gift cards.

You may also mail orders to Lavona at 3782 Orchard Road, Macungie 18062. This is a way to buy gift cards and help the church, too. *Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church of Easton.*

Cash For Causes

We continue to participate in the Giant Food Stores "Cash for Causes" gift card program. Cards are available in \$25, \$50 and \$100 denominations. You can buy them on Sunday during Coffee Hour in Legacy Hall, or during the week from Nancy Penman in the church office. Pay with cash or by check made out to the church with "Giant gift card" in the memo line. The church earns 5%. Let's all participate!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – The deadline for the **November Soundings** is **Monday, October 17**.