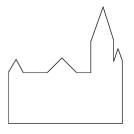
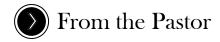
January 2017

# First Press

A publication of the First Presbyterian Church of Englewood, NJ





#### Dream

2016 was an interesting year. I looked at what my newsletter message was for last January, and it turns out the theme was "Perseverance". Well, that turned out to be something we needed as a congregation after the fire.

In the fire, I saw an opportunity to rediscover the truth that a church is a community centered in Christ and focused on mission and evangelism. A building is useful to a church, but it is not the church. So through the fire recovery, my foremost goal was that we would not focus on the task of construction – rather, I wanted us to continue to focus on being church and doing the things that would help us continue to grow, continue to spread the Gospel, continue to be a community where people discover and deepen their faith. We aren't in a holding pattern; we are in a time of opportunity.

The first of our core values is to **Live Boldly**. This means doing more than just existing. It means that as persons created in the image of God we are to live into all of the potential that God placed within us. We are to be led by courage, not stymied by fear.

In that spirit, we are going to start 2017 with a special service on Sunday, January 1 at 11 am. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper together. The bulk of the message will be a special video presentation that I guarantee will inspire you to **dream**. You should be there. Our verse for the day is the classic verse that is one of those many verses we all need to commit to memory: "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

As you think about the New Year, don't think in terms of the customary resolutions. Your life is too important to set a goal as mundane as losing a few pounds. Instead, as you think about 2017, dream. Dream big. Dream for the world. Remember that you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you – and Christ gives you that strength not for selfish purposes, but for the good of all.

Let 2017 be your **boldest** year yet.

Peace and blessings,

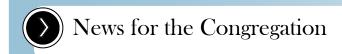


can do
all things through
him who
strengthens me."

- Philippians 4:13

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# FPC LIVE BOLDLY ESSENTIALS

FPC programming to equip you on your Christ-filled journey to Live Boldly

#### Daytime Bible Study

Join us the first Wednesday of each month for a Lunch & Learn Bible Study. This month we'll meet January 4th from 12 – 1 pm in the Meeting Room. Bring your lunch and enjoy the conversation with Pastor Kellie.



#### Sunday Morning Bible Study

The 10 am Bible Study has resumed in the East Room. Rev. Hong leads a discussion centered around the sermon text for the day from 10 - 10:45 am.

#### Evening Bible Study: Presbyterian 101

Wednesday, January 25 | 7 - 8:30 pm in the East Room

Join Pastor Rich and Pastor Kellie as we share 5 things we want you to know about being a Presbyterian. This class is meant for everyone, both new church members and longtime Presbyterian friends who are seeking a refresher. Join us for a great evening as we "think like Calvin." A note that during this discussion Pastor Rich will cover the Presbyterian understanding of Double Predestination.

## **CROSSROADS**



Our 5:30 pm contemporary service, Crossroads, has resumed! The band sounds great in Elmore Hall! Crossroads features the same sermon as the morning service, backed by an excellent band in a casual environment. Check it out and invite a friend!



# FPC WOMEN'S CONNECT GROUP

January 16 - April 10 | Monday, 7 pm in the East Room

FPC women are invited to join this weekly gathering to grow spiritually, support and encourage one another and share our experiences. We are very excited to start our third DVD study session, "Twelve Women of the Bible" by Lysa TerKeurst, about the lives of 12 women of the bible (six from the Old Testament and six from New Testament) and how their struggles and faith are similar to ours.

On January 16th Pastor Kellie will visit and share an introduction of the strength of woman's voices in the Bible and what to look for in these stories. Please contact: <a href="mailto:caryschweizer@gmail.com">caryschweizer@gmail.com</a> or 201.780.3655 for more information.

\*Please note there is no available childcare.



# ADULT ART CLASS: DRAWING, SEEING AND THINKING

Adult Art Class: Drawing, Seeing and Thinking FPC is excited that this adult Art Class returns to the upstairs Art Loft in 2017, first with an afternoon class in the winter followed by an evening class in the spring. Join artist Elaine Van Ost on Wednesday afternoons 3 – 5:15 pm on 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 3/1 and 3/8. There is no fee for this class. Register and receive the art supply list through the FPC Main Office or email Elaine at elainevo@verizon.net.

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#### FPC COFFEE & CONVERSATION

FPC will now be serving Coffee & Conversation (and cookies!) each Sunday in the Chapel following 11 am Worship. Hope you'll join us each week and enjoy this ministry of food and friendship.

Are you celebrating a special event or special occasion? Consider coordinating a Coffee & Conversation and be in touch with Pastor Kellie to plan an upcoming Sunday.

Thanks to our December C&C hosts for their great help and ministry!

Diane Christian Elena Sepulveda Benny Baez Jacqueline Jenore



#### THE UPSIDE DOWN BUDGET

Hopefully one of your New Year's resolutions will be to do a household budget and then hopefully you will actually do it. The one mistake people make when doing budgets is not setting the correct financial priorities. During the Financial Peace University class, Dave Ramsey tells a story of a fellow member of his church who shows him his budget and tells him that he would love to give more to the church, but he doesn't have enough left over at the end of the month. Upon hearing that Dave takes the paper from him, turns it upside down and says that's because your budget is upside down, giving should be the first line, not the last. Is your budget upside down? If you're not giving as much as you would like, turn your budget upside down. Give 10% of your income to the church and I promise you will figure out a way to live on the remaining 90%.

Paul Platek, Stewardship Chair

#### **GRIEFSHARE 2017**



February 1 – April 26th Have you or a friend suffered the loss of someone you love?

Join us Wednesday nights from 7 – 8:30 pm from February 1 – April 26th in the East Room. GriefShare is open to FPC and friends from across the community. Please contact Pastor Kellie for any information at Kellie@englewoodpres.org.



#### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Stop by and say hello to Beth and Danielle in the church office! New hours are as follows:

Monday: 10 am - 3 pm
Tuesday: 10 am - 3 pm
Wednesday: 8:45 am - 2:45 pm
Thursday: 8:45 am - 3 pm
Friday: 8:45 am - 3 pm



#### **SPARK HOPE**

Spark Hope is FPC's campaign to raise money and grow community partnerships for fire recovery. Many thanks to everyone who

contributed to the Spark Hope Bake Sale and ornament sale which raised more than \$450 and for coordinators Sara Lee and Elena Sepulveda. Many thanks to everyone whose hands created the Origami Christmas cards and a very big thank you to Yvonne Crichton for her vision of these beautiful works of art to benefit FPC.

## Save the Date for the FPC Spark Hope Gala Fall 2017

FPC is excited to announce we will celebrate the legacy of our church and the rebuilding ahead at a fundraising Gala in Fall 2017. We are grateful for co-chairs Kyung Lee, Karen Neus and Mercedes Zuluaga. Look for more details in the February newsletter about the Spark Hope Gala in Fall 2017 and how you can become involved.

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## Mark Your Calendars for Game Night

Our next Game Night is Friday, January 20th, 6 - 8 pm in the Art Loft (pizza, salad, dessert & fun

will be served!) Take the time to reconnect as a family & meet other FPC families! *Bring your favorite game or play one of ours!* (RSVP to <a href="felicia@englewoodpres.org">felicia@englewoodpres.org</a> is requested, so we know how much food to provide).



#### Save the Date!

It is time to play together once more at Camp Johnsonburg!
Their Winter Family Day is on Feb. 4, 2017 from 10 am - 4 pm Join old & new friends for some fun

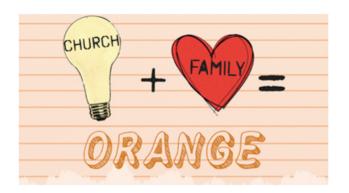
wintry activities, lunch and then sit by a cozy fire & cherish the peacefulness winter can provide. End your stay with an inspirational worship service, before your ride home. RSVP to felicia@englewoodpres.org.



#### Faith & Finance

Keep an eye out for an upcoming series for our middle and high school youth! Using curriculum

from Dave Ramsey (Financial Peace University) this course provides the tools needed for youth to equip themselves to succeed financially in high school, college and beyond! Details to follow!





#### Scribble Art Workshop MINI SCRIBBLERS

Art Class for 18 mo - 3 yr with parent Tuesdays @ 9:30 am in the Art Loft For more information: www.scribbleartworkshop.com



#### Souper Bowl of Caring

Beginning on January 15th and culminating on Super Bowl Sunday, February 5th - we are asking for donations of soup cans to benefit the Center for Food Action. Our goal is a minimum of 5 cans per family - but any donation will benefit the CFA. We also need about 6 youth to help transport the cans to the CFA, please let us know if you can help! Thank you in advance!



# Parents of 8th & 9th graders... it is time to think Confirmation!

Please join Pastor Rich with your child for an

informational meeting on January 27th at 7 pm in the East Room to learn more about the process. Please RSVP: <a href="mailto:felicia@englewoodpres.org">felicia@englewoodpres.org</a>.

Nursery & Pre-K (First Look) - This month our smallest friends are learning Jesus is always there when we need Him and that He wants to be our friend forever!

K-5 (252) - Our 252 group is learning that when we discover God's words, we begin to know how God would want us to live. Discovering what God says, helps us to know & follow lesus and make wiser choices.

**Middle School (XP3)** Middle schoolers will be going on a "Road Trip" with the story of Paul on his journey to Damascus.

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#### FPC Mobilize for Mission: Help Build God's World

The FPC Mission Committee works to create opportunities for FPC to be the hands and feet of Jesus. From Center for Food Action to Bergen County's Habitat for Humanity to strategic partnerships such as NYC's Food and Homeless ministry at Jan Hus Presbyterian Church, thank you for all you do to build God's World.



#### 2017 FPC CLOTHING DRIVE

More details soon for our 2017 FPC clothing drive to help clothe the homeless at our NYC partner church Jan Hus Presbyterian Church.





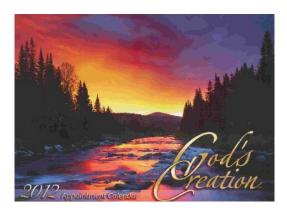
#### "HEALTHY AGING" INFORMATION AVAILABLE

The Care Ministries provide many resources for healthy aging such as the FIVE WISHES in 3 languages, Spanish, Korean, and English. Families can borrow the DVD and *Next Steps* booklet to help prepare this living will document and to assist families with discussions about end-of-life issues. Other resources are the Prescription Discount cards, magnetized Medical Information forms, brochures from Lifeline or ResponseLink, Senior Services in Bergen County, Top 10 Rightsizing Tips, and Autumn Years magazine.



# INDOOR LABYRINTH OPEN DECEMBER 31 & IN FEBRUARY

Our 32 X 32 foot canvass indoor Labyrinth will be open in the Chapel for walking on New Year's Eve from 7 - 11 pm. Enter the labyrinth through the East Room which is hosted by the labyrinth committee. Take time before the new year begins to pray, giving thanks for the year past and praying for peace and hope in 2017. It's a beautiful setting for a time of quiet contemplation with candlelight and Gregorian chant music in the background. In February, the labyrinth will be open for walking on Friday, February 17 at the same previous time, 4 - 7 pm, and on Saturday, the 18th from 12 - 4 pm. Please note the change in schedule from Sunday afternoon to Saturday afternoon instead.



#### "GOD'S CREATION" CALENDARS FOR 2017

There are only 6 beautiful calendars left at \$8.00 each to benefit our Spark Hope Fire Recovery Fund.

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### From the Choir Room

#### THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Music Fund to enable our Candlelight Carol Service to continue with a large compliment of instruments. Our services were especially meaningful this year, the first in Elmore Hall, and the choir and instruments rose to the occasion. Several names were omitted from the list in the program so we are reprinting them here:

- The Winifred M. and George P. Pitkin Foundation
- Natalie Beaumont, in memory of Mary Ferguson
- Nancy Benzel
- Andrea and Larissa Berger, in memory of Mark Berger
- The Brown Family, in memory of Eugenia Mae Johnson
- Paul and Colleen Haus, in memory of our parents Paul & Christine and Herman & Rose
- William and Linda Farrell, in thanksgiving for our grandchildren
- Dorothy Henry, in memory of Ottley Henry and G. Leonard Matthews
- Joan Van Alstyne Johnson, in memory of Janet Graham Van Alstyne
- Pearl and TK Lau, in honor of David Macfarlane
- Nguk Oy Eileen Lin, in thanksgiving for Christmas music
- Olga Mosciaro
- Karen Farris Neus and Family, in memory of Vivian Farris
- Richard and Laura Perry, in memory of Howard & Mayme Smith and Elizabeth Perry
- Peter J. and Elizabeth Puchner
- Carlos Ramos
- · Jean Rohloff, in memory of Albert Rohloff
- Robert and Barbara Ryder
- Elena Sepulveda, in memory of Raul and Maria Sepúlveda and all my family members gone to be with God
- Alan and Bea Von Poznak, in memory of Elena Van Poznak
- The Wilkins Family, in honor of Eva's grandmother Pat Caffey
- Jane Woodside, in memory of Lyndon Woodside

Happy New Year! David Macfarlane

#### ANNUAL MEETING

Notice: the Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2017 at 12:30 pm. Members are encouraged to attend.



#### 90 SECOND SERMON

Check out the 90 Second Sermon – a brief, engaging version of the sermon being produced each week by Rich and Kellie. Well-suited for sharing with friends via email or Facebook, we hope you'll find it interesting not just for yourself but as a way to start faith conversations with friends and family. Access the videos from our preliminary website at www.90secondsermon.com.

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Lunch & Learn Bible Study	4	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Meeting Room
Epiphany Play	8	Sunday	12:15 PM	Chapel
Stewardship Meeting	10	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Meeting Room
Worship & Music Meeting	12	Thursday	7:30 PM	Meeting Room
Deacons' Meeting	15	Sunday	9:30 AM	Meeting Room
Women's Connect Group	16	Monday	7:00 PM	East Room
First Press Deadline	14	Saturday		
Session Meeting	18	Wednesday	7:30 PM	East Room
Game Night	20	Friday	6:00 PM	Art Loft
<b>Church School Group Leaders</b>	22	Sunday	10:00 AM	Meeting Room
Mission Committee Meeting			12:15 PM	Meeting Room
Care Committee Meeting	23	Monday	3:00 PM	Meeting Room
Women's Connect Group			7:00 PM	East Room
Bible Study: Presbyterian 101	25	Wednesday	7:00 PM	East Room
Confirmation Meeting	27	Friday	7:00 PM	Meeting Room
Annual Meeting	29	Sunday	12:30 PM	Elmore Hall
Women's Connect Group	30	Monday	7:00 PM	East Room

## January

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
I	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	П	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	17	18	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## **Every Sunday**

9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
I 0:00 am Bible Study
I I:00 am Worship Service
I2 noon Coffee & Conversation
Nursery/child care available from 10:30 am-12:30 pm
5:30 pm Crossroads Contemporary Worship

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#### Staff Extensions and E-mail Addresses

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A publication of the

First Press

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**REQUESTED** 

ADDRESS CORRECTION