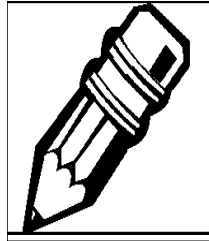


January 2017

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of the CITY OF CAPE MAY

THE VISITORS' CHURCH FOR OVER A CENTURY

THE OPEN DOOR



From the Interim Pastor -

One of the books I've held onto over the years is a book of prayers delivered before Congress by Rev. Peter Marshall who was Senate chaplain from 1947 until his untimely death in 1949. What's impressed me most about this little book is how relevant the prayers are for today, nearly 70 years later. The Senate still has a chaplain and prayers are delivered before each session. I'm not sure what the prayer will be as the Senate begins 2017, but listen to the prayer that Rev. Marshall delivered on January 6, 1947.

"O Lord our God, if ever we needed Thy wisdom and Thy guidance, it is now—as the Congress begins a new session, standing upon the threshold of a new year, fraught with so many dangerous opportunities. We pray that Thou wilt bless these men (and women) chosen by the people of this Nation, for Thou knowest them, their needs, their motives, their hopes and their fears. Lord Jesus, put Thine arm around them to give them strength and speak to them to give them wisdom greater than their own. May they hear Thy voice and seek Thy guidance. May they remember that Thou art concerned



about what is said and done here and may they have clear conscience before Thee. Bless each of us according to our deepest need, and use us for Thy glory, we humbly ask in Jesus' name. Amen."

I think we can all agree that such a prayer is needed as our leaders face the many challenges that 2017 will bring. Let's continue to pay attention to what's happening as decisions are being made that will effect the lives of millions here and around the world. Amen!

*Regards and Peace,
Rev. Tim Hines*

**Obedient in faith we intend to work
together to touch the lives of others
and be disciples of the Lord.**

CELEBRATIONS!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO...

January 5th Sara Jeffries-Fox
6th Janet Westcott
8th Joan Barta
12th Jane Sbarra
27th Annie Szulczewski

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO...

January 25th Jane & Oak Gandy

IN OUR PRAYERS



Ray Szulczewski
Angela
Family & friends of Audrey Conant
Our Stephen Ministers
All serving in the Military.

NEED PRAYER?

Do you or someone you know need prayer? If so, please email

PrayerChain@FirstPresbyCapeMay.com.

Unless specifically asked for, full names and detailed information will not be mentioned. If you would like to become part of the prayer chain, email that address as well with your request...or see/call Jane Senico (609-425-7355).

SPIRITUALITY IN PRACTICE (SIP)

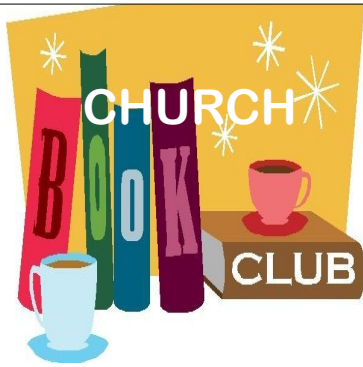
The SIP's for December are as follows:

- Jan. 1 Hug a friend (ask permission first).
- Jan. 8 Leave an encouraging note in a random place eg. Library book, post office, etc.
- Jan. 15 Write a local government official about something that's important to you.
- Jan. 22 Donate to the Food Closet.
- Jan. 29 Send a cheerful note to a college student.

ARE YOU GOING THROUGH A DIFFICULT TIME?

Did you know that our church has a Stephen Ministry? A Stephen Minister can help. Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who listen, care, encourage and provide emotional and spiritual support to people going through a crisis or a difficult time.

To learn how you can receive a Stephen Minister's confidential care, contact Pastor Tim or Veronica Scutaro (609-770-8512).



Our Church Book Club will meet on Sunday, January 8th in the church lounge at 6:00 PM to discuss *In Our Time* by Ernest Hemingway.

Amazon's summary: When *In Our Time* was published in 1925, it was praised by Ford Madox Ford, John Dos Passos, and F. Scott Fitzgerald for its simple and precise use of language to convey a wide range of complex emotions, and it earned Hemingway a place beside Sherwood Anderson and Gertrude Stein among the most promising American writers of that period. *In Our Time* contains several early Hemingway classics, including the famous Nick Adams stories "Indian Camp," "The Doctor and the Doctor's Wife," "The Three Day Blow," and "The Battler," and introduces readers to the hallmarks of the Hemingway style: a lean, tough prose -- enlivened by an ear for the colloquial and an eye for the realistic that suggests, through the simplest of statements, a sense of moral value and a clarity of heart. Now recognized as one of the most original short story collections in twentieth-century literature, *In Our Time* provides a key to Hemingway's later works.

The Church Book Club would love to have you join this discussion — all are welcome. If you have any questions, call Linda Linhares at 884-2646 or Connie Blocher at 884-7817.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE CITY OF CAPE MAY MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Balances as of November 30, 2016

Endowment Fund:

Wells Fargo Advisors **\$142,533.34**

Manse Fund (Principal 80,000.00):

Wells Fargo Advisors **\$ 87,100.00**

Total income for Nov. \$11,815.32

Total expenses for Nov. \$19,029.39

Net income for Nov. - \$7,214.07



Consolidated Operating Checking Account Cape Bank, Cape May, NJ: **\$17,673.50**

Includes the following sub-accounts:

Capital Building Fund	\$23,840.00
Parking Lot Receipts	\$37,122.75

Submitted by:

- Annie Szulczewski

COMMUNITY FOOD CLOSET REPORT

For December 2016

VOLUNTEERS HONORED—The newly elected Board of Directors honored the Volunteers of the Food Closet at a Christmas Party held at the home of Hugh and Barbara Blair on Thursday, December 15. The Volunteers are the backbone of the Food Closet operation. Twenty persons attended with ten additional volunteers thanking the Board but unable to attend.

NOVEMBER STATISTICS—During November, food distributions were made to: 156 adults, 40 children, 107 families

THANK YOU ALL—We had a great response to our call for help for filling the Thanksgiving dinner fixin' bags. Thank you to all who helped. Our cupboards are full! We've had many donations from 1st Presby and other local churches, as well as, our community. Collections done by MAC, Congress Hall and the Post Office and Annika Marks (during the WCM Christmas Parade for paper goods), provided lots of opportunities for members of the community to help the Cape May Community Food Closet. We are so blessed. Jesus calls us to "Love one another" and together we are doing just that.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS—The Board of Directors spent the past month on organizational matters. Of first importance is applying for 501c3 tax exempt

status. This required obtaining insurance including liability insurance for all directors and for our volunteer drivers. At a special Executive Committee meeting all the papers were signed by the officers. They will now be sent to the Internal Revenue Service.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on January 5, 7:00 PM, at the church.

PLEASE REMEMBER

The first Sunday of each month is Food Closet Sunday. This month the food closet needs the following items: Boxed spaghetti, shampoo, jelly, napkins, Kleenex, canned veggies, coffee and toilet tissue. There is a box in the narthex for your donations.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, make your check payable to **The Community Food Closet of Cape May**, or place cash in a separate envelope marked "Food Closet Donation". Thank you.

OPEN DOOR DEADLINE

Please have any news, pictures, celebration announcements, etc. in by

Monday, January 16th.

Email information to:

office@FirstPresbyCapeMay.com

or place information on the office desk. Thank you.

*Here's to a
Healthy,
Safe,
Joyous
2017*



JANUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2 PNC Mtg AA 7:30	3 Alanon 10:00 Mission Mtg 2:00 Eve Alanon 7:30	4	5 Bell Choir 4:00 F.C. Bd mtg 7:00	6 Choir 9:00	7 AA 7:30
8 Church Book Club 6:00	9 Deacons Mtg 6:00 AA 7:30	10 Alanon 10:00 Eve Alanon 7:30	11	12 Bell Choir 4:00 S. Ministries 6:00	13 Choir 9:00 Food Closet 9:00	14 AA 7:30
15	16 ML King Day AA 7:30	17 Alanon 10:00 CM Book Club 11:30 Eve Alanon 7:30	18	19 Bell Choir 4:00 Session Mtg 6:00	20 Choir 9:00	21 AA 7:30
22	23 AA 7:30	24 Alanon 10:00 Eve Alanon 7:30	25	26 Bell Choir 4:00	27 Choir 9:00 Food Closet 9:00	28 Chinese New Year AA 7:30
29	30 AA 7:30	31 Alanon 10:00 Eve Alanon 7:30	1	2	3	4