

The Spire Peapack Reformed Church

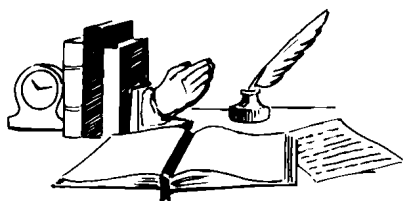
July/August 2016



...the Lord watches over the way of the righteous...
They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their
fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.

In all they do, they prosper.

from Psalm 1



A Letter from ...

Our Pastor, Kathryn Henry

July 2016

Dear good friends,

On Wednesday, June 22, I attended the Bernards High School graduation exercises, 191 young men and women (three from Peapack Reformed) embarking upon a new stage in their life journeys. As one student speaker declared, from among them will come diplomats and dancers, artists and scientists, engineers and lawyers, doctors and business leaders. What potential!

There's an old Pennsylvania Dutch saying: "We grow too soon old and too late smart." But from what I heard on Wednesday, these graduates seem to be smart while they are still young. The list of colleges they're going to attend in the fall, the AP courses passed perfectly, the community service given, the quality of the concert choir singing - all that was impressive. These are men and women already quite accomplished.

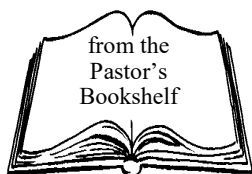
And yet, there is a difference between smart/accomplished and wise. Only life experience will yield wisdom, and they have so much life experience ahead of them.

Some of the wisdom that comes from experience and aging is how interconnected are the elements of intelligence - brain power, emotional maturity, spiritual sensitivity. Read this that I came across recently in *Christian Century*, addressing the matter of science vs. religion:

Whereas reason's ability to grasp the workings of the world
is astonishing and mysterious;
And whereas all forms of reasoning are embedded in assumptions about a world
that cannot be proved by reason;
And whereas reason is understood by many religious traditions as
a gift of God to be exercised in coordination with faith;
Therefore we call on citizens to bring critical reason to their religious faith
and to draw on the deepest resources of their religious faith as they exercise reason,
so that humanity and truth may flourish.

With prayers for a summer of blessings,

Kathy



Summer reading from the pastor's library:

Cure: a Journey into the Science of Mind Over Body by Jo Marchant. "...a vivid, compassionate, generous exploration of the role of the human mind in both health and illness.

Becoming Wise: An Inquiry into the Mystery and Art of Living by Krista Tippett. "I listen for a living," Tippet writes. "I listen for wisdom and beauty, and for voices not shouting to be heard." Here she chronicles what she has learned in conversations across time and generations, across disciplines and denominations.

Mission News



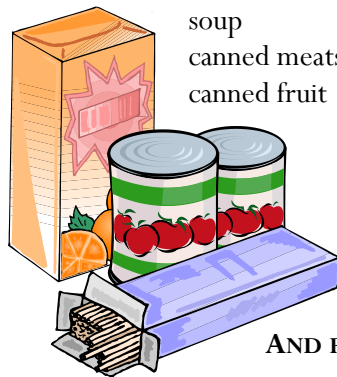
Summer Stock-Up

Proverbs 22:9 *"A generous man will himself be blessed for he shares his food with the poor."*

Once again, Peapack Reformed Church is helping to replenish the shelves of the Food Bank Network of Somerset County. While during the fall many faith communities fill the Food Bank to overflowing, at the beginning of the summer the pantry is in great need.

Delivery to the Food Bank is planned for Monday, July 25th.

Especially needed food items are these:



soup
canned meats and fish
canned fruit

pasta (canned and dry)
spaghetti sauce
jelly and peanut butter
(in plastic jars)

Parmalat milk
macaroni and cheese
canned vegetables

Please plan to be a part of this very important food drive.

Financial gifts are also greatly appreciated.

Checks may be made payable to
Food Bank Network of Somerset County.

AND REMEMBER: HUNGER NEVER TAKES A VACATION.



'Stuff the Bus' Project Will Provide School Supplies for County Children

Imagine not being able to send your children to school because you have to choose between providing them with the required school supplies or feeding them. That's the dilemma faced by many families in our area.

The "Stuff the Bus" program of the Somerset County United Way provides new school supplies for children from low-income families to assist them with their studies and help build self-esteem. While many children look forward to arriving on the first day of school with new notebooks, backpacks, and lunch boxes, it's a different story for children whose families cannot afford to buy these items.

How can you help? Read on.

Last year, local businesses, community groups and individuals donated thousands of dollars to provide new supplies to children in need at 51 schools and nonprofit agencies throughout Somerset County. The school nurses, teachers, and administrators who confidentially distribute these items to the children are first-hand witnesses to the effect that new school supplies can have on a child's feeling of self-worth and academic preparedness.

All members and friends of Peapack Reformed are invited to help make a positive impact on a child's life come September, and you can do that during the summer by supporting this special summer mission project. We will be collecting ***notebooks, pens, pencils, markers, backpacks, lunch boxes, crayons, and other items that a child might need in school.***

Another important need is for shoes. Local school nurses have reported that many children arrive at school on the first day without appropriate shoes. Gift cards to local Somerville area shoe stores are greatly appreciated.

If you can help, please place your donation of NEW school supplies in the school bus in Fellowship Hall. Our collection will continue through Sunday August 14th. Delivery on Monday August 15th



Mission News



In this picture the freezer is
EMPTY.

SO IS THE ONE HERE IN THE PRC
KITCHEN

Casseroles are desperately and
immediately needed to re-stock the
freezers at SHIP. Pans and recipes are
available in the church kitchen.

If you don't have time to put together a
casserole, then please pick one up at the
grocery store on your next trip and put it in
the church freezer.

*The need is great and immediate.
Please help!*

August Date
for
S.H.I.P.
delivery is
August 29th



July 13
August 17
September 14
are the Next
Chances to Help at
Bound Brook
Soup Kitchen

Chef Extraordinaire Dan O'Connell
is again looking for
volunteers to help prepare and
serve the evening meal.
Sign up on the hall bulletin board.

Next Date
for
S.H.I.P.
delivery is
July 25th

transforming lives in Zimbabwe Lance and Elizabeth Edwards



Ashton, Elizabeth, Lance and Katie



Lance trying to access ground water using the Baptist well drilling method

One computer, four people.
One computer, four busy
people, frequent power
outages and poor internet
service. These, combined
with both of us being
technologically challenged,
have led to letters being
written in our heads, but
not getting sent. Days turn
to weeks, weeks become
months, months become
years!

Please accept our
apology for being poor
communicators, and for
not adequately expressing
our gratitude to you for
partnering with us in ministry
in Zimbabwe. We are in
the process of making
changes to facilitate better
communication, including
more regular posting on

Facebook and initiating
Instagram and MailChimp to
communicate!

Lance continues in his
agricultural ministry,
consulting with individuals
and other ministries who
want to start sustainable
agricultural projects. He's
been teaching Foundations
for Farming (Farming God's
Way) which is conservation
agriculture based on Biblical
principles. This is great as it
gives Lance a platform while
teaching to share the Gospel.

Lance covers a number of
topics such as small home
gardens for the urban
poor, sustainable cooking
methods, food preservation
and water solutions. As
Zimbabwe's plummeting

economy has caused a 90%
rate of unemployment, it is
vital that people learn ways
to feed their families.

Elizabeth is a nurse and
recently started focusing
on wound care in cases
where lack of knowledge
and lack of resources are the
main factors. Government
hospitals are poorly
resourced and access to
health care is cash based.
This makes it unavailable to
many. Elizabeth is working
on board certification in
this field, and hopes to be
a resource to doctors and
nurses who are dealing with
difficult wounds. She is also
on the board of Sizolwethu
Health Trust, a mobile
health clinic which serves
underserved communities in

Bulawayo.

Our whole family is very
involved in King's City
Church, a church planted four
years ago in Bulawayo. Lance
is on the core leadership
team, leads two discipleship
groups, and together we
lead the family ministry. Both
our children, Katie (17) and
Ashton (18) are leaders in the
youth program. Ashton is the
sound technician for Sunday
morning worship, and Katie
sings in the worship band
and teaches Sunday School.

Thank you for your love,
support and partnership!
**The Edwards,
Lance, Elizabeth,
Katie and Ashton**

Consistory Highlights from the regular meeting on June 8, 2016

- **New mission outreach: working with Church World Service in Jersey City in their efforts to resettle Syrian refugees.** Mahmoud Mahmoud , director, will be coming to Peapack Reformed on October 8, World Communion Sunday to present information and field questions how churches get involved – donating funds; collecting household goods, including food; greeting arriving refugee families. The congregation of St. Luke's will join with us for this post-worship discussion.
 - **Elders** approved some new wording to the Baptismal liturgy and the use of a large glass bowl on the font.
 - **Vacation Bible Camp** will be a two-day affair this year, Wednesday, July 20 and Thursday, July 21, with the possibility of a pizza dinner and movie on Wednesday evening.
 - Planning for **Live Nativity** has begun and will be continued via email. Congregational involvement sought.
 - Report on meeting with Laura Soulages of the **Cottage School**. Representatives from Consistory will speak at school orientation with parents, welcoming them to the church facility and explaining the no-rent and scholarship arrangements with the School. Consistory wants that scholarship to be for pre-school students only.
 - Voted on the **Worship and Music budget** lines for 2017. Reaffirmed the excellence of the music. Consistory wants a limit of 8 singers who are paid. Would love to see more choir members from the congregation.
-

Peapack Reformed Church Needs You!!!! **Don't wait to be asked – speak up now!** **Openings for important work!**

- Liaison with the Cottage School
 - Building and Grounds Committee – some great major projects coming up
 - Assist with Live Nativity in December
 - refurbish costumes
 - new recording of the Christmas story
 - set up the stable
 - Join in new mission endeavors - more information coming in September
 - Syrian refugee resettlement with Church World Service
 - Cook and serve at newly organized SHIP soup kitchen
-

Summer Sermon Series

What did Jesus ask? Questions for our own time...

The summer sermon series this year is an extension of our spring Bible study based on the book, *What Did Jesus Ask? Christian Leaders Reflect on His Questions of Faith*, edited by *Time* religion editor Elizabeth Dias.

Throughout his life, Jesus engaged his followers, and his skeptics, in dialogue, posing powerful questions to guide them to examine their personal faith, to reveal who he was and to teach them how to think after his own heart.

Jesus' questions are provocative and challenging – and timeless.



MUSIC IN REVIEW & IN THE FUTURE

The purpose of music in the worship service is to spread the story of Christ through song, to strengthen the Saints of God, and to allow the Servants to share the gifts that God has given them. Music is one of God's greatest gifts. "O come, let us sing to the

LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! (Ps. 95:1-2, NRSV) During the 2015-16 choir season, the adult and children/youth choirs at Peapack Reformed provided music to spread, strengthen and share the love, power and grace of God and his Son Jesus the Christ to all who have come here for worship.

In the fall, the Adult Choir started each month with a setting of the *Kyrie*, such as Schubert's *Mass in E flat major* and the *Introit and Kyrie* from *Requiem* by Faure, to bring us closer to the Lamb of God as we approach the Lord's table for Holy Communion. A wide variety of musical styles were sung during the season so that, hopefully, each member of the congregation could be personally touched: "The Pilgrim's Hymn", a contemporary anthem by Stephen Paulus; "My Faith Looks Up to Thee", a standard hymn setting by Crocker; and "Dream On, Dream On" by Lee and Burkhardt, a beautiful prayer that someday there may be peace on earth. And let's not forget the upbeat, "Bless the Lord" from *Godspell*.

A special event was the benefit concert on Mother's Day that raised over \$1100 for Community Hope/Hope for Veterans in Bernards Township.

The Children's/Youth Choir boasted a membership of 16-18 singers. Fantastic! Their renditions of Christmas songs and triumphant songs for Palm Sunday were delivered with gusto and beauty. This coming year, we hope that this young choir will sing more often during worship and perhaps join with the adult choir from time to time. Quite an exciting possibility!

It was a very special musical season at Peapack Reformed, and we hope it will be further enhanced this coming season. How?

- More singers from the congregation in both choirs.
- Revitalize a handbell choir. Two octaves of Malmark handbells lay idle in the closet except when a few are used as accompaniment to the adult choir.
- Are you an instrumentalist? Consider dusting off your instrument and brushing up on your playing skills to enhance a choir anthem and congregational singing. We'd love some drummers!
- Contribute to the newly established MUSIC FUND to be used for the purchase of rhythm instruments (currently borrowed), paid instrumentalists, and additional music beyond the current budget allotment.

There are so many ways that you and your family can become involved in the music ministry of this congregation. Everyone is welcome! You do not need to be a superstar to spread, strengthen and share the love of God through the power of music.

Larry

Church Family News

Peapack Reformed welcomed four new members into the congregation on Sunday, June 12.



Please meet:

Ronni Armellino-Goodwin. Ronni and her husband Jim have lived in Gladstone since 2009 and are parents of two daughters, Gillian (4) and Amelia (10 mos.) Ronni is an Occupational Therapist at Matheny and is most interested in serving in Missions.

Mary Ellen Coblentz. A registered nurse, Mary Ellen works full time at Shiongogi Pharmaceuticals in Florham Park as a Senior Drug Safety Associate. She and her husband Adrien, a practicing psychiatrist, live in Mendham. Mary Ellen is Ronni's mother; she too is interested in Missions.

Olivia Saez. Raised in Basking Ridge, Olivia is a project manager at Wavelength AV, an audio/video business founded and run by Tim Manning, her husband-to-be (wedding in October). Olivia keeps her French heritage alive as a chef and blogger about French food and healthy eating. Come September, we may see Olivia singing in our choir, joining the Bible Study and serving in Missions.

Kevin Todd. Brought up in the Reformed Church of Westwood (Bergen County), Kevin has been worshiping with us for over a year now. He and his wife Ann have three children, who have become active in our Sunday school. Kevin works in telecommunications sales, but loves outdoor sports, including fly fishing and skiing. He offers his service to the church in Missions, Fellowship and Building and Grounds.



Prayer Luncheon 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Please join our group for delicious hot soup, freshly baked bread, dessert and a beverage. Over lunch we pray for those on our monthly prayer list and have conversation about prayer.

All are welcome, especially senior citizens. Rides provided if needed. Call the church office for more information.

Next luncheon: September 21st

Rev. Henry will be away on vacation beginning Monday, August 15, returning to the church office on Wednesday, September 7 and to the pulpit on September 11.

Rev. Nancy Asbury will be preaching here while Rev. Henry is away.



August Happy Birthday to You!

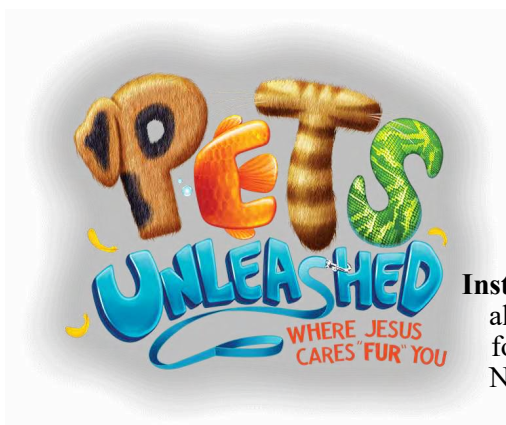
July Happy Birthday to You!

- 6 Pam Hertenstein
- 8 Tim Stewart
- 8 Brenda Zimmerman
- 10 Noah Kleitsch
- 10 Kristin Sonneborn
- 12 Susan Taylor
- 14 Robby Robinson
- 18 Betsy Skillman
- 19 Kathryn DiParisi
- 20 Wiley Downing
- 24 Polly Sumerfield
- 25 Rocco Fasciani
- 28 Griffin Leigh Caro



Please mark on your calendar
**Homecoming Sunday
September 25th**
Choir returns
Church picnic after worship

- 1 Grace Meadows
- 2 Norma Finn
- 7 Barbara Knox
- 7 Maggie Smith
- 12 Laura Simpson
- 12 Merlinson Yardolo
- 13 Lyla Jane Kumpf
- 14 Jake Kleitsch
- 18 Barbara Stewart
- 23 Carol Jegou
- 27 Pat Duncan
- 27 Greg Smith
- 27 Bill VanderBeek
- 28 Jamie Murphy Meadows
- 29 Elaine Helbig
- 30 Randi Fretague



Peapack Reformed Church
VACATION BIBLE CAMP 2016
WEDNESDAY JULY 20 AND THURSDAY JULY 21
4~6:30PM

Instructions: Please complete the form below and bring it, along with a fee of \$5 per child, with you on camp day or send form to Peapack Reformed Church, P.O. Box 253, Gladstone, NJ 07934 Attn: VBC.

Child's Name: _____ DOB _____

Allergies/medical? _____

Child's Name: _____ DOB _____

Allergies/medical? _____

Parent(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Phone/Cell: _____

**Plan to stay on Wednesday evening for pizza dinner and a movie
Kung Fu Panda 3 at no extra charge.**

My child will attend _____ Will not attend _____ # of children _____

I give _____ do not give _____ permission for the Peapack Reformed Church to use any photos of my child, _____ in church literature / for publicity.

(Parent's signature)

(date)



Youth News

Vacation Bible Camp

Wednesday, July 20 & Thursday, July 21

4:00 - 6:30pm

Pets Unleashed

where Jesus Cares “fur” you. The two-day camp will focus on Matthew 5-7 and Luke 23:1-24:12.

Just like camp in the past, the afternoon will be filled with fun crafts, Bible stories, snacks and games.

The cost is \$5 per child and registration can be filled out ahead of time or on the day of camp. Plan to stay Wednesday evening for dinner and a movie *Kung Fu Panda 3* at no extra charge.



We have begun our 10-weeks of Summer Sunday School, dissecting the Apostles' Creed into 10 statements and deciphering their meaning. At the end of 10 weeks, the students should have a good idea of what The Apostles' Creed means and may even have it memorized.

The Apostles' Creed

Part 1, Statements 1-5: The Father and the Son

Part 2, Statements 6-10: The Spirit and the Saints

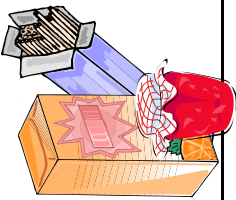

Lezlie Kleitsch

Christian Ed. Director

Children from the
Cottage School
present their end-of-year play
Amanda and George's
(Worldwide) Adventure


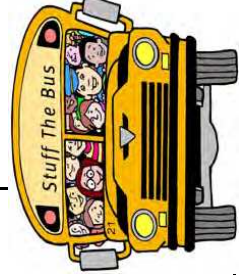


July 2016

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
 3 10am - Worship & Summer Sunday School Sacrament of Holy Communion by Intinction	Month of July-Summer Stock Up for the Food Bank & Stuff the Bus					2 1 Office Closed Independence Day 6:30pm - AA & Alanon
10 10am - Worship & Summer Sunday School	11 10am-2pm - Office open	12 10am-2pm - Office open 8pm - AA	13 10am-2pm - Office open Cook and serve at Bound Brook Soup Kitchen	14 10am-2pm - Office open 6:30 pm - Pastor at Pottersville Consistory	15 Office Closed 6:30pm - AA & Alanon	16
17 10am - Worship & Summer Sunday School	18 10am-2pm - Office open 7pm - Women's Christmas Service meeting at O'Connell's	19 10am-2pm - Office open 8pm - AA	20 10am-2pm - Office open Vacation Bible Camp 4 - 6:30 pm Dinner and movie to follow	21 10am-2pm - Office open Vacation Bible Camp 4 - 6:30 pm	22 Office Closed 10am-2pm - Office open 6:30pm - AA & Alanon	23
24 10am - Worship & Summer Sunday School	25 10am-2pm - Office open 10:00am Ship Delivery Summer Stock Up Food Delivery to Food Bank	26 10am-2pm - Office open 8pm - AA	27 10am-2pm - Office open	28 10am-2pm - Office open 10:30 am - Pastor at Fellowship Village	29 Office Closed 10am-2pm - Office open 6:30pm - AA & Alanon	30
31 10am - Worship & Summer Sunday School						

August 2016

SUN MON TUES WED THURS FRI SAT

	1 10am-2pm - Office open	2 10am-2pm - Office open	3 10am-2pm - Office open	4 10am-2pm - Office open	5 Office Closed	6
7 10am - Worship & Summer Sunday School Sacrament of Holy Communion By Intinction	8 10am-2pm - Office open	9 10am-2pm - Office open 8pm - AA	10 10am-2pm - Office open	11 10am-2pm - Office open	12 Office Closed 6:30 pm - AA & Alanon	13
14 10am - Worship & Summer Sunday School	15 10am-2pm - Office open Stuff the Bus Delivery Pastor Away	16 10am-2pm - Office open 8pm - AA Pastor Away	17 10am-2pm - Office open Cook and serve at Bound Brook Soup Kitchen Pastor Away	18 10am-2pm - Office open Pastor Away	19 Office Closed 6:30pm - AA & Alanon Pastor Away	20
21 10am - Worship & Summer Sunday School Guest Preacher - Rev. Nancy Asbury Pastor Away	22 10am-2pm - Office open Pastor Away	23 10am-2pm - Office open 8pm - AA Pastor Away	24 10am-2pm - Office open Pastor Away	25 10am-2pm - Office open Pastor Away	26 Office Closed 6:30 pm - AA & Alanon Pastor Away	27
28 10am - Worship & Summer Sunday School Guest Preacher - Rev Nancy Asbury Pastor Away	29 10am-2pm - Office open 10:00am Ship Delivery Pastor Away	30 10am-2pm - Office open 8pm - AA Pastor Away	31 10am-2pm - Office open Pastor Away			



The SPIRE

Peapack Reformed Church

Tel: 908-234-2733

www.peapackreformed.org

July ~August 2016

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