

MAY 2011



A Stephen Series Congregation
TIME DATED MATERIAL



**The newsletter of Wallingford
Presbyterian Church**

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Rev. J. Barrie Shepherd
<i>Director of Music</i>
Elizabeth Braden
<i>Administrative Secretary</i>
Susan Schwarz



May 2011

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Spirit Song—MAY

Dear Friends,

There are so many rules in the Bible, 617 in the Old Testament alone, and Jesus' word in the New Testament that the "greatest" law is to "love God with heart, mind, soul and strength and the second like unto it, to love your neighbor as yourself." The sheer number of the many and the deep complexity of the one could cause one to feel that our faith is about "rule following." It doesn't sound fun, and it even seems to promote a fierce competition among us about who is closest to obedience and truth. There are arguments in our families, in our church judicatories and even between nations about who is closest to having, doing or being "the Right Way."

It's troubling to me because it actually seems that the deeper our strictness and rigidness about written laws is, the harder we are on ourselves and on each other. Comparisons to the laws we think are most important and how people are doing in relation to those, seem to generate judgment, and judgment to produce enmity, and enmity can often bear the fruit of disdain, hatred and even violence. The "fruit" our attention to keeping the laws seems to bear is not at all like the practices of loving that Jesus seemed to teach in his living and his dying. The more right we feel we are, the more unkind and intolerant we can become.

I do understand that feeling "right" can be very centering and comforting. Being on the "right path" doing the "right thing", all of that, breeds a sense of security in a rapidly changing and sometimes frightening world. Even so, and I'm not sure I'm right about this (!), I believe that Christ's call to the Christian church was to be "salt" in the world in ways that seasoned human relationships and creation care with mercy and broad gentleness. What else would "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" mean?

I saw a bumper sticker the other day that has stuck in my mind. It said, "Separate Church and Hate." Read that again. Separate Church and Hate. I resonated with that admonition so much that I'm sure there is a sermon coming from it. I believe that there should be an enormous divide, and a huge distinction between the Church, in all its denominational variety, and the experience or distribution of hate in this world, a huge divide.

Let's ponder that. Let's practice that here at Wallingford Presbyterian Church and in all the communities we are sent to.

See you on Sunday!

Pastor Suzan

Summer Worship and Sunday School to begin on May 29th

On Sunday, May 29th, we begin our summer worship and education schedule:

8:45 am: Adult Sunday School and Breakfast

10 am: Worship Celebration

10 am: nursery care for children birth-2 years old

10 am: Summer Sunday School for children 2-11 years old

11 am: Coffee hour

At 10 am, all children, two years old and older, begin in the sanctuary with their parents. After the "Time with Young Disciples," children, two to eleven years old, leave the service for Bible stories and crafts. Let this laid-back learning be a blessing to your children! Parents can pick their children up after the worship service in the Reception Room.

Opportunities for Growth & Service

Presbyterian Women of Wallingford Working on Wholeness— WOW

All the women of the church are welcome and encouraged to participate in PWW activities. Circle Meetings are a great place to meet other women from the church for a time of fellowship. Here is the schedule of meetings for May.

Sarah Wednesday, May 11 at 6:30pm for a potluck dinner at the home of Chris Dearnaley.

Miriam & Martha Thursday, May 12 for the meeting and lunch at the home of Dolores Thomas. Members should meet at the Church at 10:30 to carpool.



Missions Project for the Spring – We are asking individuals or groups to make monetary contributions to purchase

items to assemble Baby, Health, and School kits for Church World Service. Kits are valued as follows: Baby Kits are \$39; Health Kits are \$10; and School Kits are \$15. Checks should be made out to PWW and marked “Church World Service Kits.” Contributions can be sent to the Office to the attention of PWW. The deadline for contributions is May 15.

Caregivers Support Group First Tuesdays, 7:00 PM May 3

This month Barry Jacobs, will be sharing with our group from his personal and professional perspective about the life of caregiving. Barry is a clinical psychologist, family therapist, and the Director of Behavioral Science for the Crozer-Keystone Family Medicine Residency Program in Springfield, PA. Please join us for good discussion and a chance to see if this support group might be a blessing to you! Please call the church office if you need help with ‘respite care’ in order to be able to attend.

Fun! Fellowship! Food! Friendship! Family in the Spirit!

Would you like to be on a small group team that creates events for the “soul – purpose” of nurturing friendship and friendliness in our congregation? Such a small group is forming now! This team, which will be “umbrelled” under the Care Council of Session will—

- *Create a calendar of events that involve food, fun and fellowship throughout the year
- *Support and supply the needs for such a rich fellowship life
- *Learn about what Christian fellowship is and help to nurture the spirit of God’s family in this congregation!

Would you help? Please contact the church office!

New Members Inquiry Class May 1 & 8, 3:00PM

Perhaps you’ve been visiting WPC and you’d like to know how to move from visitor to member. A 2 session class, where you can explore these questions is offered. Childcare is available by reservation, just call the church office now to reserve a spot. ??? Call Pastor Hawkins at 610-566-1644, ext. 16.

Calling all Grandparents (and Great-Grandparents)!

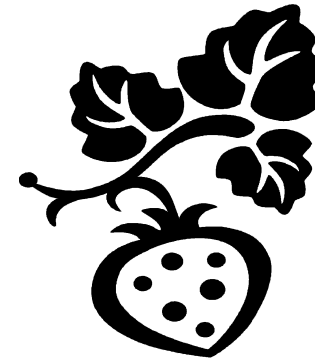
When: May 15th, 6-8 pm

Where: The Youth Room (downstairs) at WPC

What: A Youth Group session where we will talk about memories and history. Our students learn about historical events like the lunar landing or JFK’s assassination in school. During this youth group, they’ll tell the grandparents what they know of the event, and then the grandparents will tell them what they remember, having been alive then.

Why: Last year, the High School Youth Group met with 8 members of WPC who were over 60. The youth had a blast! (Seriously, as soon as the adults left, the kids asked when they could have them back again!) Not only did the youth enjoy meeting the adult members, but they found that they had a great deal to learn from them. So, we now gather twice a year, and whether or not you have attended before, we’d love to have you this time!

What to do: If you are interested in being a part of this event, or if you have questions, please call Rob at the church at 610-566-1644 ext. 13. He’d love to talk with you about the event and sign you up!



STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL MONDAY, JUNE 6 5PM TO 8PM

Hard to believe, but it’s just weeks until the **Strawberry Festival on June 6th**. The kick-off of the Church’s summer season is here and we need everyone’s help to make it a success!! The Festival will raise funds for various missions and it is a wonderful way to introduce your neighbors, friends or co-workers to our church’s fellowship.

VOLUNTEERS Sign up during the Fellowship Hour or contact Pat Tillson (610-447-8661 or ptillson@gmail.com) or Angela Waltman (610-891-8816 or angela.waltman@verizon.net). The Festival is held from 5 - 8 p.m., but volunteers are also needed for preparation before and clean-up after the event. If you have the time, your service will be a blessing! Please join us!

THE BOOK NOOK Fiction and non-fiction for adults and children. Drop them off in Room 1 **after May 1**. Please, only books in good condition and no textbooks or encyclopedias!

PLANTS Demonstrate your green thumb and please note the plant’s name, growing conditions (*shade or sun, etc.*) and suggested price. Drop them off **after services June 5 or the morning of June 6**.

ATTIC TREASURES One of the festival’s perennially popular booths. Items may be dropped off in Room 1 **after May 1st**.

CAKES Bake your favorite cake and help us feed the crowds. Please drop cakes off in the kitchen **after services June 5 or the morning of June 6**.

ICE CHESTS, CARD TABLES & EXTENSION CORDS Please put your name on them and drop off **after services June 5 or the morning of June 6**.

**BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!
BE HERE EARLY!
EAT, BUY, PLAY, WELCOME THE COMMUNITY INTO OUR
FELLOWSHIP!
LET’S MAKE MERRY TOGETHER!**

VBC—Galactic Blast!!

Is SUMMER on your mind already? Well, if so, then VACATION BIBLE CAMP should be, too! This year, our **ReNew Vacation Bible Camp experience will run from 6:00 to 8pm during the week of July 24th to July 29th.**

Mark your calendars!

We want to get as many volunteers as possible involved in preparing for the week, helping with our sowing and planting as the children create their own miniature gardens, and most importantly—praying for the spiritual growth of the children of our church and community this summer. We need YOUR support to make this happen!

We are looking for volunteers to assist as shepherds, activity site leaders, preschool leaders, snack helpers, game leaders, and decorators. Interested?! Then contact Michelle Grunseich at medgrunseich@yahoo.com to find out how you can get involved. Our volunteer orientation and training workshop will be held on **Wednesday, May 25th at the church at 7pm.**

In preparation for our big week, we need donations to help make our recycling and environmentally-conscious week a success. ***Please save any small tomato paste cans or baby food jars you have to help us make seed starters. We also need all kinds of wacky items that we can recycle to make our decorations and use during the week! If you have small wheels; springs; chicken wire; old t-shirts (particularly ones that are green!); maps of Pennsylvania, the United States, or the world; pictures of people from different parts of the world (either from your own travels or magazines); seed catalogs; magazines with pictures of plants in them; old games/game pieces that you no longer want and can be re-purposed for the games activities; egg cartons; old greeting cards; string; yarn; spray/mist bottles; extra craft supplies (ric-rack, pompoms, googly eyes, ribbon, sequins; yogurt or margarine containers; old pillowcases or gift bags that you don't use—we want them!!*** Let's challenge ourselves as a congregation to see how much we can REUSE to make the week learning about the Parable of the Sower a green, renewing experience! Please bring your donations to the narthex beginning June 7 or call Michelle Grunseich at 610-892-5282. Thank you!

Concerns/Celebrations of our Church Family

We are one body in Christ...related to each other by the love of God between us. One of the ways that we celebrate our unity is by continuing to hold each other, especially those of us struggling, in daily prayer.

This month we prayed for:

- ♥ Gail Sheridan
- ♥ Don & Alice Oetinger
- ♥ Patti Bonanno's sister, Jackie Brennan
- ♥ Teresa Ahern-Sawyer's brother, Jerry Ahern
- ♥ Nazaret, Alawa's sister and her family
- ♥ Virgil Huff, Sally Bloch's father
- ♥ Bud Turner
- ♥ Betty MacMillan, after back surgery
- ♥ Jane Mygatt's friend, Gwendolyn
- ♥ The Sass family
- ♥ Mark Morton's father
- ♥ Russ Kaminski as he recovers from burns
- ♥ Wayne Brown, complications after surgery

Our sympathy as a church family to:

- ♥ Irv Morris and family on the loss of Irv's son, Jim Morris who died 3/17.
- ♥ Lois Van Cleve and family on the loss of her husband, Rev. Allen Van Cleve in March.
- ♥ The family and friends of Pat Maisano who died on 4/17.



Blessings of love and joy on the birth of:

- Matthew Ryan Abate, to Daniel and Lauri Abate on 3/25. The proud grandfather is Rick Sakers.
- Huck Benjamin Emmons, to Ben and Carey Emmons on 4/14. The proud grandparents are Jeff and Karen Emmons.



FYI—FOR YOUR INFORMATION

THE SUNDAY SERVICES are now recorded on an MP3 player, which means that tapes are no longer available for anyone who wants to borrow them. All music and sermons are available on the web, usually within 24 hours after the service. If anyone needs a personal copy of the service, we can make a CD or DVD and provide it. If anyone needs a copy on tape, they will need to leave a message with Walt Kaminski or Susan Schwarz in the office no later than Wednesday of the week prior to the date they want recorded. This lead time is necessary to buy the tape, as we no longer stock them.

Save the Date: Men's Retreat

Calling All Men of Faith! Please mark your calendar for the WPC's Men's Retreat - November 5 and 6 (Saturday morning until Sunday noon) at Kirkwood Camp and Conference Center in Stroudsburg, PA. This will be an amazing

opportunity to spend some time with other men of faith, exploring both the great outdoors and talking about what it means to be a Christian man in today's world. We expect the cost to be around \$75 per person, and if money is a problem, let us know and we can help. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact any member of the planning team: Bob Foley, Frank Grunseich, Tom Halley, Jerry Rafter or Pastor Rob Ross.

Kids and Social Media

Many of us have a very negative image of kids using social media such as Facebook, Twitter, or even the internet in general. Contrary to popular myth, there are good ways that these tools can be used to help children grow. Come hear a talk to be given by Dr. Amy Franzini, Assistant Professor of Communication Studies at Widener University on Sunday, May 1 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. The title of the presentation is "How to use social media as tools". Parents are urged to stay after the presentation for dessert and a chance to talk about what they have heard. Child care will be available by reservation. Please call the church office (610-566-1644, ext. 0) if you need childcare.

Music Ministry & Celebrations

Thank you! Thank you to everyone who helped make WPC's production of GODSPELL such a huge success. I am incredibly thankful for the 16 amazing folks who worked very hard to prepare the show – what a great cast we had! But thank you also everyone who came, who invited someone, who told someone about this show.

Not only was it a great show, but it was a wonderful way to share the story of Christ with our friends, neighbors, and community. We had a full house all three performances, and I know we offered a wonderful experience to the community of Wallingford and WPC. So thank you for coming, for sharing, for helping!

Taizé Prayer Service

Wednesday May 11, 7:30 PM

During May we celebrate the National Day of Prayer and what better way to acknowledge this than to attend this month's Taizé Prayer Service. If you have never experienced the calming nature of a Taizé Service, now is the time to try it! Come and enjoy beautiful music, hear scripture, and have time to sit and listen and talk with God. All are welcome to this beautiful service in our sanctuary.

Summer Music

The Chancel Choir and Bell Choir will finish the program year with a celebration of Psalms in Music on Sunday May 15. From May 22 through Labor Day, we will feature special music each week. Would you like to share your music with

your church family? All ages and experience levels are invited to consider being part of this ministry. We are looking for singers AND instrumentalists. If you are interested, please email me at music@wallingfordpres.org or talk to me at church. If you'd like to sing or play with a group, I can help you find some brave souls to perform with, and I'm happy to help select music and practice with you to prepare. We'd love to have a lot of new faces (and voices!) this summer, so please consider if you would share your music with us.

Sunday School Teacher Appreciation May 22nd

The Christian Education Council wishes to express our deepest appreciation for the amazing job that our Sunday School Teachers have done this year. Please join us in thanking them during worship and coffee hour on Sunday, May 22nd.

This year's teachers were:

Pre-k: Carol Maryon, Cathy Kilpatrick, Pat Bartusik, and Donna Halley

K-2nd grade: Colleen Borden, Michelle Grunseich, Kristine Mulhorne, Russ Kinder, Laura Albany (teacher's aid) and Deanna Nanni (teacher's aid)

3rd-5th grade: Gary Klein, Suzanne Quinn, Tom Erickson, Kathleen Mongon and Pat Whitaker

Adult: Frank Noyes, Walter Heindl, Barrie Shepherd, Suzan Hawkinson

Calling ALL Graduates We want to celebrate with you:

If you or a member of your family is due to graduate from high school, college, or graduate school, and you have not already informed us, please call or email the church office with the following information:

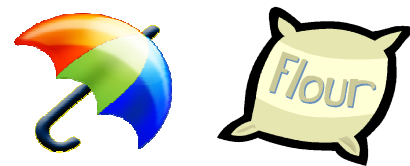
- ♥ Name of graduate
- ♥ Date of graduation
- ♥ Name of school
- ♥ Degree to be received

For those continuing their education, please send us the additional information below:

- ♥ Name of school
- ♥ City and state address

office@wallingfordpres.org or 610-566-1644, ext. 0.

APRIL SHOWERS HAVE BROUGHT MAY FLOURS!



The WPC Pantry Brigade will be collecting Flour items in May (pasta, breads, rice, cereals, etc.), following April's Shower collection of toiletry items. The items collected will be delivered to the City Team Ministry and Chester Eastside Ministries food pantries in Chester. Please deposit your contributions in the bin by the Christian Education wing entrance.

Education

Summer Worship

Themes Include:

“To Live is Christ: The Life and Ministry of Paul”

Travel with the Apostle in the early days of the Church and learn through text and story what faithfulness to Christ looks like when it “hits the road!”

Adult Sunday School will follow the themes of worship and be an opportunity to share and talk together about the details of Paul's journey as recorded in the book of Acts.

Adult Sunday School and Breakfast at 8:45AM every Sunday starting May 29th.

Adult Bible Class Wednesday Evenings

We will be finishing the year with a series on Proverbs, Job and Ecclesiastes. These three books together present a debate on some of the central questions that humankind has been asking for centuries: What does it take to have a right relationship with God? Does God take care of those who love him? How do we deal with the seeming incongruities of life: why do bad things happen to good people, and why does evil so often go unpunished? And what is the purpose of our existence, and how do we make the most of what has been given to us?

This series will take place on Wednesdays in May, at 7:30 in the church library. For more information, contact Walter Heindl, wheindl@comcast.net.

Field Trip for Adults!! Tuesday, May 10th, 10am-1pm

Explore the African American Museum of Philadelphia! Exhibits we will visit include “Audacious Americans”...the history of African Americans in Philadelphia 1776-1876, “Free to Be” –presenting some of the amazing stories of African Americans who immigrated to Europe to be free, and “381”—an exhibit about the 361days that African Americans and others refused to pay bus fare on buses that segregated blacks to the back of the bus in Selma, AL. Cost is \$7.00 for Seniors, \$10.00 for Adults and we'll share lunch at a downtown restaurant as well. We'll car pool from the church parking lot departing at 10AM. Please let us know you plan to attend by calling or emailing the church office, 610-566-1644 or office@wallingfordpres.org!

Stewards of God's House --

The Trustees together with multiple other servants have accomplished and inordinate amount of important maintenance, repair and improvement on our nearly 120 year old building! Consider these efforts toward caring for the building that houses our church's ministry—

The Bell Tower, which has been showing signs of wear and allowing water to come in though the

chancel ceiling in the sanctuary, has been repointed, secured and made waterproof. Both tower and chimney have been fitted with cap and wash for additional water protection.

The Brookhaven Manse, where the Hawkinson's live has received remodeling in both bathrooms. More than cosmetic, this remodel has repaired ancient plumbing and corrected a significant failure in the upstairs shower floor that had caused water damage to ceiling and wall below.

The Avondale Manse has been fitted with a new water heater and repairs to the sewer line from the house. The Trustees anticipate a significant repair to the sewer lines beyond the current repair.

Two wonderful “Work Days” in April have weeded and mulched the gardens all around the church. All rain gutters have been cleared and assessed for free water drainage.

In the Church office, responding to the activity and work of the Session on strategic plans, Trustees have updated software and installed a new membership module program that will assist us in better communication and connection.

Whew! Many and special thanks to all who have labored to make these accomplishments so. We give thanks for our Trustees and all who have volunteered in these extensive efforts! We love our church and want her to stand for ages more!

Please make sure to thank a Trustee when you see one...AND don't forget to keep your pledges up to date!!

Children, Youth & Family Ministries

Sprouts: End of Year Picnic at Tyler Arboretum **May 20, 6-8:00PM**



For our end-of-the-year Sprouts, we'll take a trip to the Tyler Arboretum. We'll have a picnic dinner, go on a hike, and learn about the Native Americans that lived in this area before we did. Parents can drop their kids off and pick their kids up at the church. It will be a great way to end the year!

Sprouts is a monthly fellowship group for 1st-5th grade students. All students are welcome to attend. There is no charge for Sprouts, and dinner and other needed supplies are always included in the evening. To RSVP or ask questions, please contact Pastor Rob by e-mail (rob@wallingfordpres.org) or phone (610-566-1644 ext 13).

Pre-K and Elementary Sunday School

In pre-school and elementary Sunday School this year, we are focusing on the story of Jesus' ministry found in the gospels and the story of the early church found in Acts. In May, we'll cover the following stories:

- May 1** – Heart Opened: The conversion of Lydia.
- May 8** – Jailhouse Rocked: Paul is thrown in jail for healing a slave girl, and ministers to his fellow inmates.
- May 15** – Magic, Money and the Mob: Paul gets in trouble for teaching idols aren't real (the silversmith's who make their living crafting idols were not amused.)
- May 22** – Be Aware: Paul is again in trouble with the authorities – this

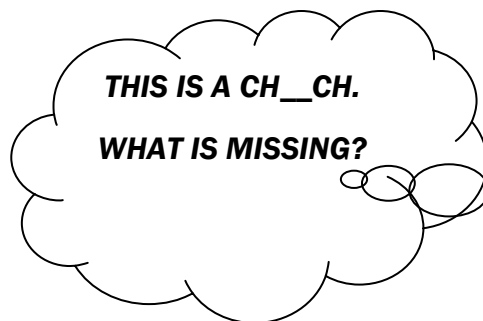
time, he is sent to Rome to face charges.

MS LIVE Time

Our final LIVE Time took place Wed, April 27th. We have reached the end of what was the first year for LIVE Time, and I would like to mention the people who made it a great year. Anna Schwarz and Holly Harrison, our two youth interns, were completely indispensable to this ministry. Megan Floyd, James Condon and Liv Mansfield volunteered as helpers with the kids. Sally Bloch, Jess Trout and Susan Schwarz brought snack all year. Finally, thanks go to the students, who made every Wednesday an adventure and to the parents, who supported this ministry by letting their kids participate.



LIVE Time will resume in September, and I am already looking for volunteers to help. Anna, Holly and Megan are all off to the next chapters of their lives next year, and I am eager to find the next group of adult and youth helpers for LIVE Time. If you think you might be able to help out – by preparing a snack, by driving kids to LIVE Time from school, or by helping with the kids during LIVE Time, please call or e-mail me. I would LOVE to tell you the great stories from the year and consider with you how you might help out next year. Thanks! Pastor Rob



Cupcake Decorating

We will be hosting a cupcake decorating for parents and children through 5th grade. This event will be held Friday evening, May 13 from 6:30 to 8 pm. The evening will begin with pizza and an explanation of Sprouts for all non-sprouts families. Following the pizza and explanations, we will be led in the fine art of cupcake decorating by Sharon Kaminski. At the end of the evening, each child will have completed enough cupcakes to take some home and also to donate some to the recovering addicts and homeless who eat at CityTeam ministries. During the evening, we will be assisted by several men who have graduated from CityTeam, so people will have a chance to do something for the homeless and also get a chance to meet several who have recovered from their addiction. Registration is required so we know how many cupcakes to make for the event. Please call Walt Kaminski (610-334-2025) or the church office (610-566-1644, ext 0) to register or for more information. The limit is 20 children.

HS Youth Group in May

- May 1, 6-9 pm** – Mural Painting in the Youth Room (Anna and Holly's last night)
- May 8**– No Youth Group (Mother's Day)
- May 15, 6-8 pm** – Grandparent's Day: Remember when?
- May 22, 6-8 pm** – Games night (especially kickball!!)
- May 29** – No Youth Group (Memorial Day Weekend)

The Outreach Council

The Outreach Council continues to search for ways to engage the community around the church in ways that let them know what we have to offer in hopes that they will be drawn here to find out more about God. In order for them to feel welcome here, they will need to make connections to current members, so we encourage everyone to join these activities and reach out to visitors. Following are the events that are scheduled or in the planning stages:

- ♥ Easter egg hunt for those age birth through 5th grade, to be held Saturday, April 23 at 10 AM
 - ♥ Those attending the Easter egg hunt will be invited back to the following events
 - ♥ Parenting class on kids and the use of social media led by Dr Amy Franzini of Widener University. Date: May 1. If there is significant interest we will develop a parenting class to be conducted in the fall.
 - ♥ Cupcake decorating class to make food for residents of CityTeam Ministries, led by Sharon Kaminski. We will use this event to introduce parents and children to Sprouts. Date: May 13
 - ♥ An 8-week class on the Palestinian-Israeli dispute conducted by four outside leaders (two Presbyterian, two Jewish) based on the documentary Steadfast Hope. This class will be held on Wednesday evenings beginning September 21.
 - ♥ Other ideas that have not been fully developed
 - ♥ Small group study in individual's homes
 - ♥ Restarting a care group for divorced/separated people
 - ♥ Increase visibility throughout the church complex of what we do so that visitors can better connect
- Any additional outreach ideas are welcome. Please forward comments to Walt Kaminski (kaminsww@gmail.com) or Liv Mansfield (livonthenet@aol.com).

Talent & Care Booth

Talent & Care Booth And Profiles

One of the newest councils appointed by the church Session is the Care Council who has the purpose of organizing and coordinating




some of our ministries that provide care for our church and surrounding community members. We ask the questions:
How can we be a place where our gifts are utilized and helpful to others?
Are there ways we can help each other find our passions and put them to service?
As the Care Council explores these questions we want to discover you and your talents. Some time in May there will be a Talent Table available to assist you after services in the Fellowship Hall with your Talent Profiles and provide information. Give some thought to what you might want to share with others—and step up to the Talent and Care Table to tell your tale.

Bloodmobile Wednesday, May 4 2:00-8:00PM

Here is a wonderful way to serve our community. Sign up at coffee hour any Sunday or see a Deacon. If you want to sign up online do the following: go to www.pleasegiveblood.org, click on "make a blood donation appointment" enter a sponsor code 2076, click on find>, then click on "click here to schedule an appointment to donate" at WPC, and follow instructions.



Stewardship reminder

 As the summer months approach and our minds and hearts turn to the joys of travel and repose...let us all be sure to bring and keep our pledges up to date so that the Church will still be in good "working order" when we all return to the fall schedule! Don't forget that your pledge of support is part of what hold up the pillars of the presence of our church in Wallingford, PA!

**Contact Info:**

Clerk of Session
Barbara Meahl
610-876-3029
rpmeahl@aol.com

Moderator
Suzan K. Hawkinson
610-566-1644 X16
suzan@wallingfordpres.org



Currently serving on
Session:

Class of 2012: Chris Darr,
Harold Floyd, Chris Macy, Liv
Mansfield, Henrik Oetinger,
Helene Wastler

Class of 2013: Dan Glenn,
Walter Kaminski, Andrew
McAdoo, Barbara Meahl,
Kenneth Rose

Class of 2014: Judy
Kenworthy, Mike Meloy, Rick
Miller, Holly Renegar, Julia
Winton

From the Clerk of Session

At the April 4 meeting the session:

Approved the marriage of Sallie Anderson to Evan Ernst to be held on September 10 with Suzan Hawkinson conducting the service.

Learned Henrik Oetinger will be leading the Easter sunrise service. Heard progress reports from each council as they pursue the tactics from the strategic planning steering committee.

Noted a special meeting of the Philadelphia Presbytery will be held on April 12 at the Church on the Mall to debate and vote on the new Form of Government (nFOG). Elders Walt Kaminski and Barbara Meahl will be commissioners at this meeting.

FROM the PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERY

Elders Alva Hayes, Walt Kaminski and Barbara Meahl were commissioners at the Presbytery meeting held on March 22, 2011. At this meeting 8 different amendments to the Book of Order were approved. Some were minor changes such as the requirement that each church have a Sexual Misconduct Policy (a member of the personnel committee is writing ours) Another was the process to remove a stated clerk or clerk of session before the completion of his/her term. The amendment that has had the most discussion and publicity is a modification of G-6.0106b which addresses the requirements for ordination as a pastor, elder, or deacon.

The current language states "Those who are called to office in the church are called to lead a life in obedience to Scripture and in conformity to the historic confessional standards of the church. Among these standards is the requirement to live either in fidelity within the covenant of marriage between a man or woman or chastity in singleness. Persons refusing to repent of any self acknowledged practice which the confessions call sin shall not be ordained and/or installed as deacons, elders, or ministers of Word and Sacrament."

The new amendment reads "*Standards for ordained service reflect the church's desire to submit joyfully to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life. The governing body responsible for ordination and/or installation shall examine each candidate's calling, gifts, preparation, and suitability for the responsibilities of office. The examination shall include, but not limited to, a determination of the candidate's ability and commitment to fulfil all requirements as expressed in the constitutional questions for ordination and installation. Governing bodies shall be guided by Scripture and the confessions in applying standards to individual candidates.*"

A majority of all Presbyteries in the US must also approve this amendment by July before this takes effect. Although there are still some Presbyteries who have not voted it appears that a majority will vote to approve this change.

Elders Walt Kaminski and Barbara Meahl were commissioners at a special Presbytery meeting on April 12 to debate and vote on an amendment for a new Form of Government (nFOG). The announcement, following a standing vote count, is the Philadelphia Presbytery is NOT in favour of this amendment. All Presbyteries in the US must vote on this amendment with a majority in favour before it would take effect.

Barbara Meahl, clerk

**Opportunities for
growth & service****Curious about Teaching
Sunday School next fall?**

Each year, a dedicated team of adults teach the stories, values, and practices of the Christian faith to the next generation of Christians. Many of our teachers return to teach the next year. However, every year, we have a few teachers who decide that God is calling them in a different direction. Therefore, every year, we look to you, our congregation, to answer the call to teach.

To be a successful teacher here at WPC, you don't have to be a biblical scholar. We will provide you with training and a curriculum that will help you as you teach. In addition, you will be paired with another teacher (usually a returning teacher) each week, so that you two can work as a team together. The most important things to possess are a heart for kids, a willingness to learn, and an ability to be part of a team. All the rest can (and will) be taught.

There are several different classes that are in need of teachers for the fall. At this time, we are looking for teachers in the: K-2nd Grade class (with children aged 5-7) and 3rd-5th Grade class (with children aged 8-10)

Teaching Sunday school is a powerful way to shape the faith and life of the next generation of Christians. Our kids need to learn what we are teaching in Sunday School – and you could be part of the team that teaches it to them.

If you are considering teaching, or would simply like more information, please contact Pastor Rob at 610-566-1644 ext 13 or rob@wallingfordpres.org. Thank you for your consideration!

**Summer Sunday School
Teacher Sign-up**

Summer Sunday School begins on Sunday, May 29th. During the summer months, children aged 2-11, watch a 30 minute Christian-themed cartoon series called Friends and Heroes. The series is set back in the 1st and 2nd centuries, when Christians in Rome lived under a government which viewed them as outlaws. The action follows two kids Macky and Portia, as they try to live as Christians under Roman Rule. After watching the video, the kids make a craft, play a game, or have a short talk in response to the video.

We are looking for volunteers to teach one or two Sundays out of the summer. If you volunteer to teach, you will begin class after the "time with young disciples," which gives you about 45 minutes of class time, just enough time to introduce the movie, watch the movie, and respond to the movie. As a teacher, you will receive a brief orientation and we will have your materials and lesson plan prepared for you. If you would like to sign up, look for the sign-up poster in Fellowship Hall or contact Pastor Rob (610-566-1644 ext 13 or rob@wallingfordpres.org).

Fellowship

"Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you...; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:34-35

In both Jewish and Christian tradition the practices of hospitality meant opening home, larder and heart to strangers who could as easily bear gifts from heaven as be enemies from the hostile nations about. The soulful tradition of making room for other people because they are also children of God is the reason our church holds the traditional "Fellowship Time" between worship services. Would you have a guest without offering drink and "crumpet", without inquiring to their health and well being? The Lord of the Church thinks not. "You give them something to eat" he once said to his disciples faced with a hungry, tired crowd!

Can you help us answer Christ's request? We need more folks who would be willing to enact hospitality for a brief half hour on Sunday mornings--hosting refreshments, greeting folks who drift to the sidelines, listening and caring in the crowd. Can you help?

Will you contact Pastor Hawkinson if you believe this simple ministry might be for you?
suzan@wallingfordpres.org