

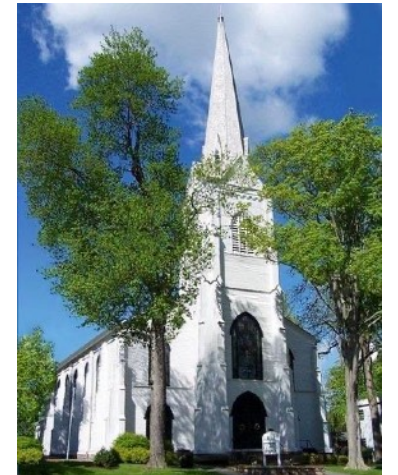
**First Presbyterian
Church
298 Main Street**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
298 MAIN STREET
HACKETTSTOWN, NJ 07840
REV. ERIN HAYES-COOK
OFFICE: 908-852-4011
e-mail: fpchnj@gmail.com
Church website,
<http://www.fpchackettstown.org>
Editor: MaryAnn Simmons
maryann.simmons3@verizon.net**

**JUNE
2026**



*Light
from the*



Steeple

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HACKETTSTOWN, NJ
CHURCH OFFICE: (908) 852-4011**

Pastor: Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook
Choir Director/Organist: Lorinda Ravo
Treasurer: Jackie Hammel
Financial Secretary: Deborah Gulick-Shepherd
Head Usher: Kim Newton
Church Secretary: Pattie Huff

2025 SESSION

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Bill Cors	Michele Cameron	Gilbert Anyangwe
Geof Gohlich	Pete Miller	Della Irby
Sharon Heil	MaryAnn Simmons	

Clerk of Session: Donna Erickson

2025 BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Jackie Hammel	Dennis Huff	Patricia Butts
Kathy Maier	Jose Irby	Karen Cramer
Lorinda Ravo	Jean Zetterberg	James Tischler

Moderator: Lorinda Ravo

2025 HEAVEN SENT NURSERY SCHOOL

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OFFICE: 852-2006

Director: Jen Bujno

Pat Butts	- 2026	Pam Venturini	- 2027
Meghan DeCree	- HS Parent	Toni Fryer	- HS Parent
Sharon Heil - Session Rep			
Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook - Ex-Officio			

A NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR

Hello, FPCH Members!

May at FPCH has been exciting and fun. The Holy Spirit was alive and well in all that we encountered throughout the month.

Our music is always a delightful addition to our worship services because Lorinda Ravo clearly has a theme aligned for each Sunday. We heard our confirmation students sing in three different anthems as part of the Pentecost service. We all witnessed the Holy Spirit alive in those seven young ladies as their mentors introduced them to the congregation. The girls then presented to the congregation their faith statements and revealed their commitment to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our congregation has gathered together to assist in reaching a goal of financial need to repair and repave our parking lot and to correct the flooding issue regarding our drainage problems. Finally, we enjoyed much camaraderie during the celebration of the Memorial Day parade.

As Pastor Erin has so aptly indicated, all of the activities we experienced this month have been anchored in love - a love that is felt throughout the congregation not just this month, but each time we gather together in or around our sanctuary.

Please know that we are truly blessed to witness such love and warmth and I believe we can continue to demonstrate this faith and love as we journey through our lives together as members of First Presbyterian Church of Hackettstown.

As June approaches, I wish you a relaxing summer and I hope to see you all in church each Sunday.

Yours in Christ,

MaryAnn Simmons



DATES TO REMEMBER - JUNE 2026

- 02: Election Day - remember to vote today between 6AM and 8PM
- 02: Celebration of Life of Chuck Potter - 10 AM in the Sanctuary
- 02: PLEFF Dinner - 6:00 PM at Panther Valley Pub, Allamuchy, NJ
- 03: Yarn Girls - 1 PM in the Conference Room
- 07: Worship and communion - 10 AM; livestream through Facebook; Sunday School
- 09: Deacon's Meeting - 6:30 PM in the Conference Room
- 13: Men's Breakfast - 8:15 AM - at the Chapel; Ladies' Breakfast - 9 AM - at the River Star Diner
- 13: Community Dinner - 5-7 PM at the Chapel
- 14: Worship - 10 AM; livestream through Facebook; Celebration of Teachers and students
- 14: Second Sunday - 11AM - beaded crafts
- 16: Session Meeting - 6:30 PM, in the Conference Room
- 21: Worship - 10 AM; livestream through Facebook; Gift Sunday for Building on Generosity Campaign 2026
- 21: Happy Father's Day!
- 28: Worship - 10 AM; livestream through Facebook
- 23: Ladies Who Lunch - 12 PM at Polo's Bar and Grill, Netcong, NJ
- 28: Worship - 10 AM; livestream through Facebook
- 28: Stone Soup Symphony Concert - 3 PM in the Sanctuary



A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

This past month has been full of life. During this season of Pentecost I want to share the places that I have seen the Holy Spirit alive amongst us. According to scripture the Holy Spirit is the source of wisdom and imparts to us gifts to use for the edification of Christ's body, the church. You can find spiritual gifts as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control from Galatians.

I saw the spirit alive in joy when we witnessed the faith of our confirmation students during worship and welcomed them to the church family. I heard the voice of wisdom and faith in their statements. I pray that their "yes" might be an inspiration to us all.

I saw the spirit as a comforter to us. We are saddened by our beloved brother Chuck Potter who joined the company of saints this past month. I will always remember his kind nature, his passion for the church and his willing hands and heart to serve. We look forward to celebrating his life and witness on June 2.

I saw the Spirit alive in our effort and prayerful plans. Thanks to three years of inquiry, planning, and a grant from the New Jersey Department of Homeland Security, we have already begun an amazing journey to update our buildings to continue to ensure we have a beautiful and secure place to worship and serve God. I appreciate all the leaders who have taken the roles of project managers. In addition, I can see it alive in the imagination captured for our Building on Generosity 2026. Your prayerful consideration regarding how you might give to fix our parking lot and drainage has been a blessing. I can see the animating spirit alive in your generosity.

The anchor of each of these gifts is love. Love is the force behind all of our relationships and work. I pray that as we go into this season of the Spirit and the summer that you might be anchored in love!

Pastor Erin

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

June has arrived and so too has the end of our Sunday School endeavors here at FPCH until the Fall.

Our students have one more session of classes with their teachers on June 7th. We are pleased to acknowledge that our teachers, Emily Tischler (grades PreK - 1), Betsy and Nadia Hanson (grades 2-4), John Mark Wojcicki (grades 5-6), have held the interest of our students throughout the year. All students followed a curriculum that was selected for each age group and enjoyed learning about the teachings of the Bible from both the Old and New Testaments.

Our seven confirmation students finished their last day of classes on May 17th under the direction of instructor Jan Courtright, and were confirmed at the church on Pentecost Sunday. Pastor Erin Hayes-Cook officiated the ceremony. (See the separate article on the later pages of the newsletter for information regarding their ceremony).

We would like to honor our children and their teachers on June 14th. Please plan to join us in the celebration of our youth and adults at that time. We look forward to hearing about our students' favorite part of Sunday School on that morning during worship.

We want to wish everyone a wonderful summer break and look forward to seeing you all in September in the classroom.

CALLING ALL EDUCATORS

What a blessing to know that our Children's program is growing! We are in need of another teacher for our PreK-1 grade class. We will provide the curriculum. You would spend one-two hours per week prepping for a 45 minute Sunday School lesson for grades PreK-1. We would love to have someone join current teacher Emily Tischler to teach two weeks per month. If you are compassionate, flexible, understanding, creative and patient, then we hope to connect with you. Please respond to fpchnj@gmail.com or reach out to Pastor Erin or MaryAnn Simmons.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

BY: MARYANN SIMMONS

As May leaves us and June begins, FPCH wishes to congratulate all students who are moving on to the next level of their education. Won't you join me in congratulating them for this milestone in their lives?

Anabeth Fernandez is the daughter of Ricardo and Vedanira Fernandez and recently graduated from Emerson College in Boston, MA. Anabeth is now en route to California where she is pursuing her dream job.

Tyler Gohlich is the grandson of Geof and Pat Gohlich and graduated Summa Cum Laude from West Point on May 23rd. His dad, Retired LTC David Gohlich, then commissioned his son as Second LT in the US Army.

Brynn McDonagh is the daughter of Mike and Jess McDonagh and the grand-daughter of June Bartolick and Ira Kirschner. She currently attends Great Meadows Middle School where she will be entering the eighth grade in September. She is an avid athlete, participating in Volleyball, Cheerleading, Wrestling, Flag Football, and Track. She received "Defensive Player of the Year" in the 2025 flag football season, participated in the NJ state wrestling Tournament this past winter, and won all of her shot put meets this year in her bracket during track season.

Dylan Maier is the grandson of Kathy Maier. He recently graduated from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas (Cum Laude) and will begin his career with the Dallas, Texas Police Academy on June 3rd.

Harper Ravo is the daughter of Torey Ravo and the granddaughter of Al and Lorinda Ravo. She is graduating from Hackettstown Middle School where she was enrolled in the Tiered Enrichment Program and accelerated math courses. She was a member of the Jazz Band, Tiger Tunes, HackettsTones, and was nominated and accepted into the All Stars Music Honor Band which will allow her to travel to Hawaii in the Summer of 2027. Harper will move into Hackettstown High School where she will continue to participate in the music and color guard programs there.

Sophie Russell is the daughter of Elise Bates Russell and Richard Russell and will graduate from Hackettstown High School on June 16th. There, she played Lacrosse and kept stats for the Field Hockey team. She enjoys volunteering with the Pet Adoption League. She also likes traveling to NYC and experimenting with new recipes in her spare time. She will spend her summer preparing for her move-in at Delaware University where she will begin taking general education classes since she has not yet declared her major.

Lucas Spranger is the son of Boe and Tammy Spranger and the grandson of Michele Cameron. He is graduating from sixth grade at Knowlton Elementary School and moving up to North Warren Middle School. He is an avid basketball player.

Congratulations to all on this milestone in your academic career.

We wish you the best of luck on your new journey.



JUNE 2026 FINANCIAL \$NAPSHOT

BY: JACKIE HAMMEL

Treasurer's Report May 2026

Below is a quick overview of our income and expenses in May.

Income:		Expenses:	
Plate Collections	\$ 661.00	Direct Waste	\$ 158.37
Pledges	\$15,431.53	JCP&L	\$ 404.31
Building Fund	\$ 1,252.90	Lawn Care	\$ 1,400.00
Community Dinner	\$ 93.00	Elizabeth Town Gas	\$ 2,173.61
General Donations	\$ 155.00	HMUA	\$ 267.95
Total	\$17,593.43	Comcast	\$ 386.56
		Repairs &	
		Maintenance	\$ 952.56
		Office Expenses	\$ 420.52
		Payroll	\$ 8,236.27
		Pension	\$ 2,927.13
		Total	\$17,300.28

If you have any questions, suggestions or need clarification, please contact me at your convenience.

Email treas.fpchnj@gmail.com Cell 908.656.4225

Respectfully Submitted
Jackie Hammel
Treasurer



SUNDAY SCHOOL LEARNS THE BIBLE THROUGH MUSIC

In September 2025, our Sunday School students began learning Bible verses through song. We also learned about the books of the Bible in which our verses were found. This year, we used the books of Numbers, Ephesians, Psalms, John, and Matthew for our inspiration.

Each month, the kids sang their Bible verse inspired song, and we enjoyed having the congregation sing with us. Look for more Bible verses in music beginning in September.



JUNE GREETERS

- June 7:** Jose and Della Irby
- June 14:** Bruce and Ellen Bergman
- June 21:** Jan Courtright and Pam Venturini
- June 28:** Dennis and Pattie Huff



FPCH MAY HIGHLIGHTS

May was a fun month of wonderful celebrations: music events, Pentecost Sunday, a baptism, and the Memorial Day Parade. Photos courtesy of Lorinda Ravo and MaryAnn Simmons



NEWS FROM THE DEACONS

By PAT BUTTS

In almost every newsletter, the Deacons keep you informed about the Little Pantry. It has become such an important ongoing mission to our community, and the support of our church and the community helps so many with food insecurity. We put all your donations, including monetary ones, to good use. Recently some of the Deacons went shopping and were able to add a car load of food to our Pantry. Thank you again for all your help!

Our clothing drive on May 2nd was very successful. We collected 276 bags of clothes, 35 bags of shoes, 2 bags of toys, 4 bikes and 2 strollers. Our next clothing drive will be in October.

The Deacons were also thankful that we were able to purchase a new Blackstone grill for the church. It was first used for the Memorial Day Parade sale of breakfast sandwiches which was a huge success. It will now be available for any church activity.

To add to our community outreach, the Deacons voted to purchase Carter Kits designed to provide first responders with tools that can help them interact with autistic and other special needs citizens during high stress situations. These will be provided to the Hackettstown Police Department (6 kits) and the Hackettstown Rescue Squad (1 kit).



During the summer months, we will be collecting diapers and baby wipes to be distributed to the public at our Free Market which will be held in September. Please consider donating toward this cause. We will provide more information in the next newsletter.

As always, the Deacons thank you for all of your generous support of our missions.

CONFIRMATION HIGHLIGHTS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF
MARYANN SIMMONS

SEVEN YOUNG LADIES CONFIRMED ON PENTECOST SUNDAY

BY: MARYANN SIMMONS

Pentecost Sunday is celebrated 50 days after Easter and traditionally, FPCH has designated this day as Confirmation Sunday. This year was no exception. We commenced this day with the sacrament of baptism for one of our confirmands, Harper Suze Ravo, as she was surrounded by her family and Godparents. Harper was then welcomed into the church with joy and thanksgiving. During Pastor Erin's sermon based on Acts 2:1-11, she reminded the young ladies, "[This is] a beginning of your life in the church. You and Moses have common ground - The Holy Spirit is forming your identity." She also encouraged each girl to "be yourself and be

challenged by the spirit within you." Afterwards, the confirmands' mentors - Pam Venturini, Diane Hull, Della Irby, Erin Roguso, Carol Miller, Jayne Lambo, and Pattie Huff - introduced each girl, who then presented her faith statement to the congregation.



Upon completion of the faith statements, teacher Jan Courtright addressed the girls. "I am very proud of all of you. You each have grown tremendously over these past two years. It has been a joy and a privilege to help you go through this process to become members of our church. You are each wonderfully gifted and talented young women."

Congratulations Angel Anyangwe, Veronica Aquino, Makayla Chetangie, Brynn McDonagh, Amari Melendez, Harper Ravo, and Lila Roguso. In the words of Pastor Erin, "Know that the fire of the Holy Spirit is in you," and that "you have the limitless power of God in your life."

FPCH IS SEEKING SECOND SUNDAY COORDINATOR

BY: MARYANN SIMMONS

As you see through the article revealed about our Summer Second Sundays, Lorinda Ravo is regrettably stepping down from her position as Director of our Second Sunday Program. She held this position for the past four years since we did not have enough people to run our Vacation Bible School program in 2022. As a result, we are in search of a dedicated individual who can continue this highly successful program starting September, 2026.

Job Description and responsibilities:

The Second Sunday Coordinator designs, leads, oversees faith-based programs for the youth of the FPCH - typically ages 4-12. This individual will foster a Christ-centered or faith-focused community for children to be held on the Second Sunday of each month. He or she will recruit and/or solicit volunteers, develop age-appropriate curriculum for approximately a 2-hour time frame and ensure a safe and welcoming environment, while equipping parents to support their child's/children's spiritual growth at home.

This role acts as a bridge between the church, the children, and their families, ensuring that religious education outside of the Sunday School sessions is engaging, spiritually enriching, and aligned with the missions of the congregation. This is a position designed for someone who is passionate about nurturing the spiritual growth of children and guiding them in their early faith journey.

Key Responsibilities:

1. **Program/curriculum development** - for the one day a month (not necessarily taken from a lesson plan (rather, created from your own knowledge base, but is engaging and inspiring spiritual growth)
2. **Volunteer management** - recruit and/or solicit volunteers to work with you each Second Sunday, either to teach the lesson or assist you with the lesson
3. **Family engagement and support** - encourage parents to be supportive of the activities conducted during Second Sunday and support spiritual growth of their child/children based on the lessons covered on the day of the program
4. **Administration and child safety** - the individual will need to maintain safe conditions for all children during the activity/activities conducted

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE: SEE SECOND SUNDAY COORDINATOR

FPCH IS SEEKING SECOND SUNDAY COORDINATOR

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Qualifications and Competencies:

1. **Faith and calling** - the individual selected will demonstrate a faith in God and His teachings and have a love of children
2. **Experience** - no need to have a teaching degree; just a love of children and a desire to encourage them to be inquisitive about the Bible and its teachings
3. **Leadership** - this person must be 21 years or older and be a committed leader who demonstrates authority and serves as a role model for all children
4. **Personal attributes** - creative, compassionate, caring, nurturing, enthusiastic, dedicated, good with children of all ages, is willing to work to develop a lesson/activity centered around a biblical theme or message once a month
5. **Background check** - the individual selected will need to have a background check conducted through the Presbytery of the Highlands (at no cost to you)

NOTE: This is a volunteer position

If interested, please see MaryAnn Simmons or Pastor Erin, or contact Pattie Huff in the church office by calling (908) 852-4011 or emailing at fpchnj@gmail.com Thank you.

Second Sunday Program is designed for kids and their families



CALLING ALL SUMMER MUSICIANS

As you know, our next issue of the *Light from the Steeple* will be a joint summer edition. As a result, we are in the process of determining our summer music schedule.

During June, July, and August, we welcome soloists or small ensembles to provide special music for our Sunday morning worship services.

If you would like to volunteer, please see Lorinda. She'll be very happy to help you out in any way that you need!

FUN, FELLOWSHIP, FUNDS GAINED AT MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Memorial Day is a time of celebration of our fallen soldiers who sacrificed their lives for this country. This year at the Hackettstown celebration, FPCH was honored that Janette Hendershot served as Grand Marshall this year.



Many members of FPCH gathered in front of the church to support those who marched, including a number of our youth and adults who carried the banners to represent the congregation (see photo in May highlights).

Before the parade began, our organist Lorinda Ravo played within the sanctuary and entertained tours for those who wished to visit. In addition, members of our congregation served breakfast sandwiches, coffee, tea, lemonade, and baked goods to the public. These efforts raised \$332.00 for the church coffers.

Thank you to all who participated on this day. We look forward to this yearly event next May.



PHOTOS COURTESY
OF LORINDA RAVO

MUSIC NOTES

BY: LORINDA RAVO

Our thanks to all of the musicians who have provided music for our services from September through Pentecost. We are so grateful to all for sharing their time and talents to enhance worship, and the choirs are equally grateful for the support of the congregation for our efforts.

Our music for Sunday services in the summer will be provided by soloists and guest musicians as our vocal and instrumental ensembles enjoy a well-deserved break! We're especially excited to be welcoming several of the kids in our congregation as they provide anthems for the summer. I often told my private music students that the very best place to begin performing is in your church, where you'll be loved and supported, and we look forward to nurturing these talented kids.

All of our ensembles will be back in September, and anyone interested in being part of the Senior Choir or the FPCH Ringers Chime choir are welcome to join in the fun.

Our Children's ensembles - The Joyful Noise Bell Choir, the Unity Chime Choir and the Little Lights Sunday School - will also be taking a break for the summer, but they will begin rehearsals again in September, and we welcome having both returning and new kids be part of each group.

See Lorinda if you'd like to volunteer to be part of our summer musicians or if you have questions about any part of our music program.



MEET YOUR DEACONS AND ELDERS

BY: MARYANN SIMMONS

This month, meet **James Tischler** (Board of Deacons), Class of 2028 and **Pete Miller** (Session Elder), Class of 2027.



James Tischler was born in Coaldale, Pennsylvania and grew up in Mahanoy City, PA. His father was the minister at the First Presbyterian Church of Mahanoy City. At age 6 he moved with his family to Findlay, Ohio where they stayed until 1999. His family attended the First Presbyterian Church of Findlay where James was active in the youth group and children's choir. He played several sports including baseball, basketball and soccer.

James was always interested in art and attended the University of Cincinnati, majoring in graphic design. He held several internships with companies in Columbus, Ohio, Boston, and San Francisco. Upon graduation he accepted a role at Abercrombie and Fitch. A year later he accepted a role at the Gap in New York and has been working there creating apparel graphics ever since. James relocated to the Hackettstown area a few years ago and currently lives in Budd Lake. He enjoys cooking, the outdoors, rec softball, volunteering with "God's Love We Deliver" in New York, and spending time with his family.

Carol and **Pete Miller** have lived in Independence Township for the past 44 years. They both grew-up in the area and Carol's family were members of the church starting in the 1930s. Together, they have one daughter, Amy, who lives in NYC. Carol and Pete have been members of the church since 2008. They enjoy travel and learning about new places. Pete was an educator for 35 years and retired as a school district superintendent. He is currently a member of Session, chair of the Security Committee, a member of the building and grounds, personnel and nominating committees.

Thank you, **James and Pete**, for your dedication to our church.



MEET YOUR DEACONS AND ELDERS

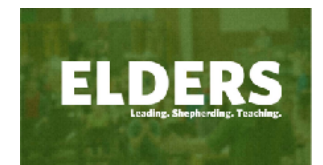
BY: MARYANN SIMMONS

This month, meet **Jean Zetterberg** (Board of Deacons) and **MaryAnn Simmons** (Session Elder), members of the Class of 2027.

Since joining in 2021 with her son, Maddox, Jean Zetterberg believes this church has become their sanctuary and a true source of support. Jean is currently in her second year as a Deacon, and while a recent job shift has kept her away from Sunday services more than she'd like, she is hopeful to be back in the pews regularly soon! Jean and Maddox live in Liberty Township—just two miles from Island Dragway—where they spend their summer days racing for points with their racing family.



MaryAnn Simmons has been a member of FPCH since 2016. She is an ordained Elder and is currently in her second term. A former high school English teacher, she is the liaison to the session leading our Christian Education program. Under her guidance, the children of the church have gained access to multiple curricula for the various age levels served in our congregation, including PreK-grade 1, grades 2-4, grades 5-6, and the confirmation class (grades 7-9). MaryAnn currently serves as an adjunct professor at Centenary University teaching Composition and Rhetoric. She is happily married to Jim (33 years in July) and together they have a son, Justin. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, baking, and spending time with Jim.



Thank you, **Jean and MaryAnn**, for your dedication to our church.

Sharing God's Bounty

What's on God's Refrigerator Door?

If you are a parent or grandparent or even just an admirer of a young child, your refrigerator door may be the showcase of one or more paintings or drawings. To a visitor, that work of art may be just a mass of scribbles, but to the one who loves the child it is a masterpiece. We love the gift because of the person who made it and gave it to us. It is precious to us because it was a gift from the heart. The motive of the child was pure and loving.

Perhaps our gifts to God are similar. We're such amateurs, such babies. God could accomplish His work so much more efficiently by Himself. Our works, even if monumental by human standards, are just scribbles if God would judge them in relation to His ability. Because He loves us, though – and loves us far more than a parent or grandparent loves a child – He looks at our works with eyes of love. He sees our hearts and knows we are motivated by love and faith, and He is pleased. He is so pleased that, if He had a refrigerator, He'd use it to display our works done for His glory.

God has given us gifts to use for this purpose – to glorify Him by serving others. In 1 Peter 4:10 we read, *“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.”* God has seen to it that each of us has something to offer. He gives us the privilege of serving and then provides all that we need to do so.

Just as the budding art student improves with the help of a teacher and with appropriate tools to create his work, so does God teach us through His Word how to fulfill our purpose and how to improve our service. So also He gives gifts of time and money and talents and then His Word and Sacrament to strengthen us for service.

G.R.O.W. TEAM NEWS

BY: BILL CORS

BUILDING ON GENEROSITY 2026 (BOG26) UPDATE

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO FIX OUR DRAINAGE CHALLENGE, TO STOP OUR CHURCH ANNEX LOWER LEVEL FROM FLOODING, AND TO FIX OUR PARKING LOT (THEY ARE ALL RELATED). DONATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED. PLEASE INDICATE “BUILDING ON GENEROSITY 2026” ON YOUR DONATION. TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$79,500.00

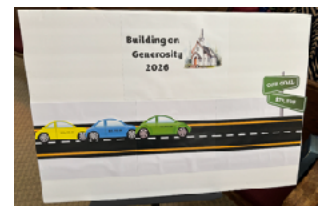
IMPORTANT DATES

June 6:	Priority urgent drainage correction work begins
June 21:	Gift Sunday to bless all gifts to BOG26. It is our goal to raise the total amount required by this date; however, if necessary, campaign will continue until such time as that goal is realized.
August 3-22:	Parking lot milled, paved and re-stripped (exact date will be weather dependent). Need at least one week for everything to harden and settle.
September 6:	Labor Day weekend will welcome us all back to improved and safer spaces for the ongoing mission(s) of FPCH.

YOUR GENEROSITY IS SINCERELY APPRECIATED AS WE PROGRESS TO OUR GOAL RAISING THE FULL PROJECT COST!

Ideas, thoughts, observations, are welcomed. Feel free to reach any member of the G.R.O.W. Team (William Cors, Karen Cramer, Geoff Gohlich, and Jackie Hammel).

The G.R.O.W. Team



SUMMER SECOND SUNDAYs

We'll be using all sorts of beads and embroidery floss to make beaded art projects, bracelets, and braided bracelets on June 14. If you have not already pre-registered, please do so that we have plenty of supplies on hand.

We are still exploring our possibilities for our July Second Sunday, but it will be held after church on July 12. Be sure to keep an ear out for more information.

And then.....On August 9, it's our FIFTH ANNUAL SUPER SOAKER SUNDAY, which is always a day filled with fun and laughter.

August 9 will also be Lorinda's last day of serving as the coordinator for Second Sunday, a program that started in June of 2022. It began as an alternative to VBS, and has continued every month since (with the exception of Second Sunday in May).

Over the years, we've welcomed congregation members and friends: Haeja Kim, Ginny Plumbo, Torey Ravo, Ellen Bergman, Winnie Slachetka, Pastor Erin, Deb Shepherd, Pattie Huff, Pete Miller, Erin Roguso, Geof Gohlich, Rob Zetterberg, Sharon Heil, Betsy and Nadia Hanson, Diann Carrajat, Tyler Volkers and members of the Hackettstown First Aid and Rescue Squad, Katy Ratti, our confirmation class, all of whom donated their time and talent to help lead programs. We've also thoroughly enjoyed two paid programs: Eyes of the Wild, and Jungle Dave (a magician) for activities.

We've reveled in art projects, movies, games, Lego building, Winter Olympics, cooking, cookie decorating, handicrafts, candle making, science experiments, yoga, martial arts, and so much more over these 40+ sessions.

We also have to give a shout out to our two devoted "lunch ladies," Bev Saunders and Kathy Maier, who have so faithfully made sure that lunch was set up every month for some very hungry kids! They have also welcomed the help of other church members throughout the years.

And now, it's time for someone else to bring their creativity and ideas to this program that serves the kids of our church. You'll probably find that you get as much or even more out of working with these kids than you give! Please let MaryAnn Simmons or Pastor Erin know if you're able to take over this important and fun program.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 3: Haley DelPlato
- 7: Leo Starks
- 8: Linda Burroughs
- 9: Jennifer Bramley
- 12: Justin Simmons
Arden Cook
- 13: Pat Gohlich
- 14: Jessica McDonagh
- 15: Suzanne Raphaels
Malia Melendez
- 22: Jerre Budd
- 23: Dottie Kappers
- 24: Peter Miller
- 25: Samantha Haar
- 26: Daniel Carpenter
- 28: Justin Sentner
Ginny Plumbo
- 29: Mike Plumbo
Addison Cameron



WE CELEBRATE YOUR DAY WITH YOU!

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 6: Carl & Donna Erickson
- 8: Scott & Michele Cameron
- 11: Otto & Lori Fleischman
- 16: Pat & Geof Gohlich
- 20: Jose & Della Irby
- 23: Richard & Grace Clegg
- 25: Doug & Peg Russack
- 27: Al & Jen Aquino

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Eugenie Chetangie
Churches throughout the U.S.
Our Confirmands
Pam Covert
Shirley DeLoia, sister of Phyllis
Prestopine
FPCH and Friends of FPCH
Our Sunday School
Teachers and assistants
Dan Gardner
Pat Gohlich
Our Graduates
Dick Gregory
Terry Gretchen
Joan Grover
The Hackettstown
Community
The Immigrant Community
Barbara Hall
Maikuu congregation,
Kibwezi Kenya
Members of the Armed Forces
Barbara Pace, niece of the



Prestopines
Alice Phoebus
Debbie Potter
Charlie Prestopine
Jim Simmons
Rayman Sookhoo and the
Sookhoo Family
Carol Spitzer
The food insecure
The homeless
Those struggling with
addictions and mental health
Those recovering from surgery