

**Return Service Requested:**

First Baptist Church at Pedricktown  
P.O. Box 117  
89 West Mill Street  
Pedricktown, NJ 08067

**-2019 Church Leaders-**

Moderator	John Jordan
Church Clerk	Eleanor Clemente
Treasurer	Bruce Lindle
Missionary Treasurer	Ruthann Moore
Financial Secretary	Patty Ferrell

**Adult Discipleship Team (5)**

Esther Jackson— chair  
Lois Jordan  
Loraine Young  
Bill Keating  
OPEN

**Stewardship Team (7)**

John Egan—chair  
Lisa Rudderow—Secretary  
Harry Moore  
OPEN  
Kelley Piel  
John Cobin  
Don Brickner—Vice Chair

**Worship Team (5)**

Dede Marsango  
Christine Cobin  
Brian Heintzelman  
Connie Clark—Chair  
OPEN

**Pastoral Care Team (5)**

Tina Nipe— chair  
Marion Crawford  
Melby Hite  
Patty Ferrell  
Charlotte Carty

**Children & Youth Discipleship Team (5)**

Jaclyn Minguez—chair  
JoAnne Taylor  
Laura Brickner  
Gary Minguez  
Chrissy Cox

**Mission Team (9)**

Nancy Kohler—chair	Josephine Pedrick
Eleanor Clemente	OPEN
Betty Egan	Claire Kohler
Ruthann Moore	OPEN
Warren Shiffer	

Please submit information to the office (299-2123) or email ([fbcop@comcast.net](mailto:fbcop@comcast.net)) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month, to be considered for publication in this newsletter.

October  
2019

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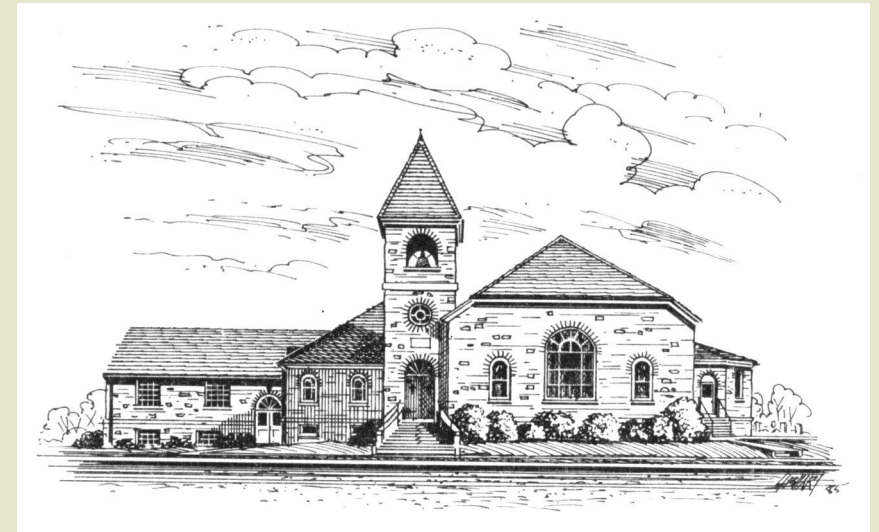


October 2019

**INSERT:**  
Calendars & Mission  
News

# FBC Community

The First Baptist Church at Pedricktown



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**Pastor:**  
Merrit Marsango  
**Editor:**  
Michele Wallin

*Our Mission... "to birth and develop mature disciples of Jesus Christ who are characterized by faith, hope and love."*

**PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11).*

This is a very familiar and comforting promise from the Lord. I recently preached on it! It was part of the Lord's letter to the exiles who were facing a very uncertain future, and He wanted them to know that He was already setting in motion the plans for their future.

For several years Dede and I have been seeking the Lord's plans for us following my retirement. We knew for certain that we wanted to move closer to the Camden area to eliminate Dede's commute and give her back 90 minutes of each workday. But the "where" and the "when" of that plan were uncertain. All along, we prayed for the Lord to guide every detail of the plan. We asked Him to open and close doors as appropriate, so our plan would be in perfect harmony with His plan.

Several years ago we met Pastor Brent Miller and his family, of First Baptist Church of Collingswood. We have developed a close friendship and have visited the congregation many times since then. We felt strongly that this was God's way of helping us find our next church home after I retire. Finding a new church home was the top priority for us, so we feel at peace now that God has supplied it.

After much thought and prayer we decided to look for an apartment and found a complex we liked near Collingswood. We settled on a particular apartment model with a loft, and began praying for one to become available at the right time. Next it was time to consult our real estate agent to plan for selling our home.

Initially, we planned to list our home next spring, but we soon found that the Lord had a different plan. Our agent asked us to consider listing the house this fall but I told her we had no place to go. Within a few days I called the apartment complex and found that an apartment with the exact model we prefer was going to be available on November 15th. Hearing this, Dede and I both felt the Lord was providing a place for us to go—and that we should put the house on the market as soon as possible.

For us this has been a reminder that if we leave the plan and the timing up to the Lord, He will guide us and provide all that is needed. We need to let the Lord devise and implement the plan. So, 9 Hylton Road is now for sale! We had our first open house on September 22nd and several other showings are scheduled. We appreciate your prayers for the sale of our house—in God's timing, of course.

Obviously this means we will be moving sometime before I retire on April 30th. That said, I want to assure you, as I have the Leadership Community, that I will be available to carry out all my present ministry responsibilities. Instead of a 12 minute drive to church it will be about 30 minutes, but I pledge to do whatever is necessary to continue to serve First Baptist Church faithfully until I retire.

## CEDARS OF LEBANON

There has been \$11,630.00 pledged as of 09/22/2019

Those with pledges have given \$11,440.00

Others (no pledges) have given \$4,865.00

Total received as of 9/22/2019 is \$16,305.00

We really do appreciate all who have given to help children attend Camp Lebanon.

Thank you so very much.

Don't forget to earmark the contribution for CEDARS OF LEBANON to make sure that it is applied to the right account.

## Youth Sunday School and Fall Ministry Updates

- Sunday School will be back in session starting October 6th. Ms. Nancy will be teaching our elementary class (K-5th) and Ms. Jaclyn will be teaching the Jr. & Sr. High Class (6-12).
- Youth Group and Kids Choir for our Elementary and Middle School kids has moved to a new day and starts Thursday September 26th. Youth Group runs from 6:00pm to 7:00pm and Kids Choir from 7:00 pm – 7:30pm.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to Jaclyn or any member of the C&Y Discipleship Team.



Operation Christmas Child

Believe it or not, you have approximately 40 days (DUE: Sunday, November 10th) to purchase items and pack your Operation Christmas Child shoebox before the Mission Team needs to deliver them! REMEMBER CANDY, FOOD, LIQUIDS, TOOTHPASTE and BREAKABLE ITEMS are NOT ALLOWED. In the coming weeks shoeboxes and plastic shoeboxes will be available for you to use. Also, see suggestions in future bulletins. "This is a powerful tool for evangelism and discipleship...to grow the Kingdom of God even in places where the Gospel has never been heard" (Samaritan's Purse website).



Why \$9 Shipping Cost?

The \$9 per shoebox gift is critical for Operation Christmas Child. It covers the cost of transporting the shoeboxes to eight different processing centers. At the eight processing center warehouses the shoeboxes are secured and prepared for international shipment. Millions of shoeboxes are transported by ships, trucks, and airplanes to the countries where they will be distributed. Also, the fee helps to train and equip local churches to use a Ministry Partner Guide which shows churches how to share the Good News in a child-friendly way. Your donation also provides The Greatest Gift Gospel booklets which are written in the children's native language.

(Condensed from Samaritan's Purse website)

**ALL SHOEBOXES NEED TO BE BROUGHT INTO CHURCH BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10th.**

The timing of this plan was a bit of a surprise but we trust it is the Lord's timing, even if we don't yet fully understand it. What we do know is that He is always trustworthy and faithful. Praise the Lord for that fact!

Sincerely in Christ,  
*Pastor Merrit*

GOD'S SERVANTS October

Greeters:

- 6th Nancy Kohler
  - 13th Marjorie Drabold
  - 20th OPEN
  - 27th OPEN
- If you would like to serve as a greeter, please contact Charlotte Carty at (856) 299-3815.

Nursery/Toddler Room Volunteers:

- 6th Vicki Justice & Valerie Rinnier
  - 13th Eleanor Clemente & John Cobin
  - 20th Kelley & Sarah Piel
  - 27th Jaclyn & Gary Minguez
- Please report to the nursery/toddler rooms by 9:30 a.m. If you are unable to volunteer on your scheduled week, please arrange for a substitute and let the church office know by Thursday morning of that week.

Scheduled Scripture Readers:

- 6th Don Brickner
  - 13th Marion Crawford
  - 20th Erik Biermann
  - 27th Johnny Cobin
- If you wish to have your name added to our reader's list, please contact Michele Wallin at (856) 299-2123.

Junior Church Volunteers:

- 6th Pam Golt
  - 13th Patty Ferrell
  - 20th Lisa & Joel Rudderow
  - 27th Nancy Kohler
- If you feel led to help with Junior Church or the nursery, please contact Jaclyn Minguez at (609) 202-8491.



**Men's Fellowship Breakfast**  
**Saturday, October 19th at 9:00 AM**  
 With the Women's Group Included  
 Talk of the Towne Restaurant  
 See Bill Clark for any questions



### Unimaginable Impact

You don't know how many people have been strengthened because you asked God to encourage them; how many people have been healed because you prayed for their bodies; how many spiritual runaways have come home because you prayed for their souls. None of us may ever know the true effects of our prayers this side of death. But we do know this: History belongs to the intercessors.

—John Ortberg, *The Life You've Always Wanted*

### Aw-fall!

Share some laughs — or groans — with these autumn-themed jokes:

- What did the tree say to autumn? "Leaf me alone!"
- What did one autumn leaf say to another? "I'm falling for you."
- How do you fix a broken pumpkin? With a pumpkin patch.
- Why are trees very forgiving? Because in the fall they "let it go" and in the spring they "turn over a new leaf."
- How do leaves get from place to place? With autumn-mobiles.
- What's the ratio of a pumpkin's circumference to its diameter? Pumpkin pi.



**Fellowship/Donut time** – We are going to try something different starting in October. We will no longer have our "donut teams" bringing us donuts every Sunday. Instead, there will be a calendar on the board in the hall by the kitchen where everyone can sign up to bring a snack for the congregation. Whatever you want!

You will also be responsible for making the coffee and tea that day. I will be happy to show you how to set up, just let me know. You will not be responsible for buying the creamer, coffee or tea. The hospitality team will still be responsible for any receptions or special occasions.



Here's to yummy new treats! Tina

\* A big thank you to the folks that were faithful in bringing donuts in the past!

Once again the Lord has blessed us with the opportunity to serve Him at Amazing Grace Early Education Center. We started our school year on September 5th with 48 students and now presently have 53 students.



We are off to a good start and can't wait to report how the rest of our year is going each month. Coming up in October we have our field trip to the G&G Farm Market for a hayride and pumpkin picking. We also have a school picture day.

Happy Fall!

Shelley McFarland