Return Service Requested:

First Baptist Church at Pedricktown

P.O. Box 117

89 West Mill Street

Pedricktown, NJ 08067

-2020 Church Leaders-

Moderator **OPEN**

Church Clerk Eleanor Clemente Bruce Lindle Treasurer Missionary Treasurer Ruthann Moore

Financial Secretary OPEN

Adult Discipleship Team (5)

Esther Jackson – chair Joy Suiters Loraine Young Bill Keating OPEN

Stewardship Team (7)

John Egan-chair Lisa Rudderow-Secretary

Harry Moore OPEŃ

Don Perry John Cobin– Vice Chair

OPEN

Worship Team (5)

OPEN

Christine Cobin Brian Heintzelman Connie Clark-Chair

Lou Panichelli

Pastoral Care Team (5)

Tina Nipe-chair Marion Crawford Melby Hite Patty Ferrell Kathie Panichelli

Children & Youth Discipleship Team (5)

Jaclyn Minguez-chair JoAnne Taylor JoAnn Mulligan Gary Minguez Chrissy Cox

Mission Team (9)

Nancy Kohler-chair Josephine Pedrick

Eleanor Clemente OPEN Betty Egan Claire Kohler Ruthann Moore Gretchen Biermann

Warren Shiffer

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

July 2020

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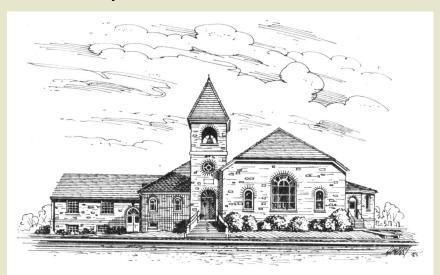
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FBC Community

The First Baptist Church at Pedricktown



P.O. Box 117 89 West Mill Street Pedricktown, NJ 08067 (856) 299-2123 fbcop@comcast.net www.fbcpedricktown.org

Pastor: Paul Melson 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

INSERT:

Birthday Calendar

MISSION NEWS

In late April Glad Tidings India assigned First Baptist our second church planter. Our church planter for the next 18 months is Hemant Fulwary. Mr. Fulwary will be working in Rajasthan, a state bordering Pakistan. Jaipar is the capital city with a population of 3.7 million with only 22,000 Christians. There is much persecution of Christians by Hindu extremists in this state.

Our financial support for Hemant will help him to be trained and equipped to plant a church in a village where no Christian church already exists. In addition, our support will go towards Bibles being printed, an adult literacy class, and Glad Tidings two week Vacation Bible School.

The congregation received a plaque with a photo of Mr. Fulwary, and additional facts concerning the area he will be working in. The plaque will be hung next to our first church planter, J. Ramesh, in the hallway outside of our sanctuary. The Mission Team asks that all of us keep Hemant Fulwary in our prayers for strength, safety, and the Holy Spirit's direction.

Adult Discipleship Team News

The Mary Elizabeth Pedrick Scholarship is available to all FBC Pedricktown members to support their pursuits in higher education. The scholarship is open by application to members in good standing who are attending full-time higher education programs in the coming school year (2020-2021). Scholarship applications are available through the Adult Discipleship Team. Please contact any member of the ADT for an application. Scholarships are generally awarded as they come in, and applicants will be notified.

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS:

Emergency Prayer Chain: Josephine Pedrick (299-3229) & Evelyn Shiffer (299-4874)

Service Personnel- Isaac Hernandez, Sue Springsteen, Kyle Hennessey, Michael Kacer, Melissa Smith, Brad Hyatt, Mark Lindle, Tammy Hunt, Micah Warren, Sam Baker, Kyle Frankenfield, Frank Servais V, Matthew Suiters, Arturo Hernandez-Cruz Lois Nipe-Merion Gardens 1021, Frieda Bennett, Lindsay Place, Rm. 133 Missionary for the Month—Janet & Jud Lamos ((Belguim)

K.C. Biermann Jessie Kite Bill Goss—MS Mary Ann Culletto Helen & Bill Keating Jonathan Rizzo Charles Jackson Meghan Cox-migraines

David Warren Jo Pedrick Pat Heppel Helen Tunstill Christopher Sandone

Patty Jitima Ruth Jordan Jim Ludlam Luis Santiago

Brian Smith—missionary Gretchen Biermann

Tom Strong **Brent Hathaway** Martha Dennis **Greyson Peck** Naomi Trostel Kathy McDonald

Mr. & Mrs. Payon Teagan Rudderow Kathy Kane & family Debbie Booker

Joel Musselman-fall

Holly Eckert Lynn Nixon Family of Nick Gold

Jeff Perry

Family of Mike Sheridan

Brian McFarland & Family

Nikki-Addiction Bill Doughten Mike Seders-MS Eric Jacobson Carol Blithe Dick Dennis Barbara Baber Alma Lawson Joseph-speech Nancy Hocknell Kelly McIlvaine Maribeth Glynn Vic Pritchett-heart Borelli Family

Bill Huber Wayne Niebauer Medical Personnel First Responders

Patty Suiters

People with COVID-19

Debbie Booker Michael George Linda Eller Debbie Booker Carrie Cunningham

John Taylor Family of Norm LaLiberte

John

Family of Amy Oliver Harr Family of Naomi Trostel Family of Carl Ottinger Family of Russell Drabold III

Melissa Sparks

Cancer:

Jack Mulligan Kevin Jordan Carol McFarland Dawn Asher Karl Biermann **Donald Shiffer** Ed Ryan Joe Curiale Linda Stearley Tom Freeman Jesse Barreras Deanna Sakaguchi

Gina Grasso David Smith Bernie Lodge Anita Delvechio Barbara McBride Patty Kosky

James Boyer—Leukemia

Maggie Matt Schaeffer John Harvey Barb Snyder

Rev. Kevin Lowe

Len

Duff Wheeler Matthew Bunsa Andy Cook Bo Griever Sarah Scala Marie Adams Randy Tyler Debbie Tomaso

Leadership Community News

As promised, the Leadership Community at FBC continues to monitor the changes occurring all around us during the pandemic. We have met online each month using the Zoom Meeting service and communicate frequently about church business using texts and emails. There is weekly communication between our Church Treasurer, Bruce Lindle, and the LC, and we are tracking how our giving and expenses are going. We are so grateful for the faithfulness of our church member's giving during this time, and praise God for His goodness.

The leaders of this church have stepped up in big ways to consider the needs of our church family and the community. Pastoral Care Team is busy helping those who have need, including sponsoring the food collection on Mother's Day. Youth activities, including weekly Zoom meetings for the kids and Pastor Paul's kid's sermons, are being offered by the Children & Youth Team. The ADT is processing scholarship applications for our college students as they come in. Mission Team continues to meet our pledges to our missionaries. Stewardship Team provides faithful maintenance and repairs around the building, oversees the ongoing septic system upgrade application, and now is seeing to the deep cleaning of the building for a safe environment for future days. The Worship Team is supporting our technology-based services and is planning a drive-up setting for communion and other drive-up events. And there will continue to be changes, at least for a time.

The LC met on Tuesday, May 26th, to walk through some of those changes for when we reenter the church building. There is no planned date for our church to open the building until it is legal to do so and the church leadership agrees we are prepared to keep people safe. You will be informed well in advance of when services will be held on site and what the plans and practices for healthy and safe attendance will be. We will continue to offer online worship services for those who choose to remain in their homes for health considerations. We ask for your prayerful patience as these days play out. Remember that our God is mighty and hears our prayers. Please pray for our whole church family as the days pass by. May God bless you richly.



Spring into Summer

Dear church family just a short note to let you know that the Worship Team is working and praying for our "coming out" plans, whenever they may be. I know from the Clark house that we have missed seeing everyone in our church home, but we have found a new depth of Christian worship in this time of isolation. Merrit's sermons, music, You Tubes recordings, TV shows (yep, surprised us too) and the many phone calls, Zoom meetings and points of contact in the community have all taken on such meaning. God is so good and so present. This is a little reminder that Christ's church is not a building but US.

In light of the continuing concerns we are thinking that we will need some changes when we are able to reunite in our sanctuary. To maintain some social distancing as it may be recommended, the greeting time will be a lot less of a "moving event" physically. As the need may continue for less possibility for spreading germs, it's likely that there will be no hugs, hand shaking etc., but we will make some suggestions for other greeting choices.

Communion will be different in nature. We are working on the details, but Communion by Intinction will be put on hold for the foreseeable future, as it presents far too much possibility for cross contamination. As the team in conjunction with the Leadership community works on this, please keep us in your prayers and know that we all are safe in God's care, but part of that care includes us using our common sense and caution to keep everyone safe as the weeks go by. This too shall pass. Thank you for your support, prayers and patience. In Christ, Connie Clark, Worship Team Chair

Pastoral Care Team

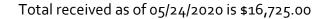
The Pastoral Care team is here for anyone that needs anything. Please reach out to one of its members if you are in need, they are ready to jump into action when they are called. Listed are their phone numbers below.

Tina Nipe 856.299.7015 Melby Hite 609.617.8794 Kathy Panichelli 856.981.0193 Patty Ferrell 856.299.6799 Marion Crawford 856.628.5750

Vacation Bible School—VBS will suspended this summer due to the current state restrictions.

CEDARS OF LEBANON

There has been \$11,630.00 pledged as of 05/24/2020





Camp Lebanon Update

It is good of you to not forget the Cedars Campaign during our Pandemic. We do appreciate your help. THANKS!

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

Stay safe, God Bless you!

Discernment Retreat

The Church Leadership Community has scheduled an online, virtual Discernment Retreat for Saturday, June 6th. This will be led by the American Baptist Churches of New Jersey Area Minister, David Van Brakle and other ABCNJ staff. The purpose is to ready our church for the meaningful task of finding and selecting our next full-time Pastor. Our leaders will be helped to begin evaluating the pastoral needs of the church, its members, and the community. We will be focusing on how God will use the church in years to come and how we discern God's will for the church.

Those participating will be Leadership Community members, some of our Church Officers, and those who have volunteered to be a part of the Pastoral Search Committee. While that committee has not been elected formally, due to the Covid-19 closure at church, we anticipate that when able to hold a church business session again, those folks will be considered for the committee and elected. As the training is available now, the LC determined it was appropriate to go ahead with the retreat.

As things proceed following the retreat, the members will continue to be informed as the process for pastoral search moves forward. If there are any questions, or if anyone not on the list of retreat attendees would like to attend online, please let Esther know and she will provide more information for June 6th. Your prayers and thoughts are so valuable at this time. The process is definitely affected by the current pandemic restrictions, but all can be accomplished as we seek God's will and direction for our church.