



From the Pastor's Desk **Anniversary**

First, let me say *thank you* to everyone in the congregation for your prayers and well wishes. I had my appendix out the day after we returned from Work Camp, and despite its unexpectedness, we caught it before it burst, so I am recovering rapidly. Since then I've received flowers, gift certificates, calls and lots of cards. Thank you so much for your care and concern – it has been a real boost through my recovery.

But the theme of this page is not me, it's about Kay. Today (7/11) is our 25th wedding anniversary, and I just wanted to state publicly what a lucky man I have been during that time. We met back in college, and she was engaged to someone else at the time. I didn't let that deter me as I knew instantly that she was a one-of-a-kind on so many levels. Her smile melted me. Her laughter made my heart soar. Her beauty was as vibrant on the inside as it was on the outside.

Nearly a year later I was asking her parents for permission to marry her, and their reticence, due to her previous engagement, turned into a 4-hour discussion. We finally agreed that if she accepted my proposal that we would wait until she was graduated from college before the wedding, which was a year later than I had originally suggested, but I knew she was worth the wait.

Her musical talents landed her a job teaching music when I got my first call to a church, and so we began our partnership. She had grown up playing the organ for her home church and then for a Methodist church, and she knew the roles of a pastor's wife almost instinctively. Her sensitivity and memory have urged me to do pastoral care much more deeply and tenderly than I would have coarsely done them over the years. She does not like the limelight, and actually prefers to work behind the scenes, so I have been the front-man for many of her caring gestures over the years.

Two boys came along to fill out our family, and she has been a wonderful partner in that process. We seem to naturally agree on how much discipline to give, and in what ways, and the process has been a joyful one, even with the natural bumps along the way that face any parent.

Here in Branchville she has participated behind the scenes in areas I could not (women's groups), in the music program, and in uncountable ways over the years. I said above that I am a lucky man, but more accurate would be to say that I am a blessed man to have Kay as my wife. The writer of Proverbs says, *"A capable wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her; and he will have no lack of gain."* (31:10-11) For 25 years I have lived those verses, and know that I am a very lucky and very blessed person. May the next 25 years continue to deepen my appreciation of and love for my beautiful wife.

See you in church soon.

Your pastor,

Jeff Hatch

OUR PRAYER CONCERN LIST:



- Ray Conners
- Mimi Philips
- Mike Howey
- Richard Brown
- Cayla
- Camille Bischoff
- Cathy
- Al & Jean Corbett
- Bart Winship
- Graham Smith
- Jeffrey Braun
- Fred Braun
- Shirley Ottie
- Joanne & George Daneke
- Sherry Kinney Marcheselli
- Dave
- Claire
- Ralph
- Cayla
- Casey Warner
- Lacy Wood
- James Charlene
- Desiree'
- Family of Chuck Hughes
- Eric Dunne
- Alex Rebu
- Liam Mathes
- Ryan Hughes
- Florence-Smack Shingler
- Norman Schultz
- Sara Day
- Joanne Danike
- Melanie Gercher
- Cookie Crangle
- Terry Karl
- Joe Boltis
- Joe Rizzlo
- Dick Mitchell
- Pipkin & Beverly Pack
- Melinda Crowder
- Kevin
- David Davitaden
- Sandra
- Fran Young
- Lourdes Ramirez
- Suzanne Hunt
- Casey Warner
- Lacey Wood
- Laura & Mackensie Family
- James
- Charlene
- Gwen Scott
- Jim Kenny
- Dave
- Claire
- Sandra

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL UPDATE - This year's VBS will be July 24th - 28th from 9:30 - 12pm. If you are planning on having your child attend please fill out a registration form. They are available in Fellowship Hall. I would like to get an idea how many children will be coming so I can make sure I have enough help and materials. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions please let me know.

Thank you, Leza Pullis



THANK YOU'S

Thank you so much for the care box this past month. It came just in time for finals week too. I know everyone around also enjoyed packing all our rooms up with a box of cookies we carried around. Thanks again for everything, it's such a nice reminder to know that we've all got our supporters back home. See you soon!

Alyssa Sheldon

Dear Jefferson, Youth Group and First Presbyterian Members,

Our Scarc Walk -a – Thon was a great success, thank you!

To our members than you so much for your financial support, support you gave our group home, our girls are blessed to have such a great church family.

To our Youth Group (and advisors) a great bunch of people – you make the world a better place and you have made a difference – Thank You for walking and raising money.

Also a shout out to the Mcauliffe family and the Block family. Thank You.

Frankford Group Home Staff

Dear Members of the Church Family,

Thank you very much for the care package! Everything came in handy during finals week as I ha plenty of snacks and pens and pencils to study with. I really appreciate your kindness and care, and thanks again for all your support.

Sincerely,

Joey Havelin

My Brothers and Sisters of the First Presbyterian Church of Branchville,

Thank you so much for having me come and share with you last week! I really did feel like I was coming home to a family with open arms! I am so excited that you share the vision I have for reaching lost college students with the amazing Gospel of Christ! May His name be glorified forever-even through us!

By His Grace,

Tom

Dear FPCB family,

Lou wanted me to express our appreciation for all the friendship, time, support and prayers offered during his recent illness and passing. Thank you to Tom and Lois, Dick and Gay, John and Sue for their friendship and transportation for treatment. Lou enjoyed those visits. A special "Thank you" to Pastor Jeff for all his visits, support and prayers. With his guidance Lou wrote a very special letter that I will always cherish.

Thank you to everyone for their calls, visits and, most of all, their prayers. We definitely felt that we were not alone during that difficult time. God bless you all.

In fellowship,

Jean Ransom

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

A big thank you to the following teachers who helped the children prepare for the youth service: Ana Selkow, Leza Pullis, Kay Hatch, Virginia Fielden and our shepherds.

ATTENDANCE PINS: If your child received the incorrect attendance pin please see Kim or Linda.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

We need teachers for September/October. If you are interested in teaching Sunday School, please see the sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall or call Linda (973) 875-5770 or Kim (973) 875-2848.

TO ALL ELDERS & DEACONS OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:

Exciting news from the Long Range Planning Committee.

Mark your calendars we are planning an Elder and Deacon leadership and long range planning retreat for the 13th and 14th of October, 2006. We will meet Friday evening at 6pm, and finish up by Saturday late afternoon. The location is yet to be determined. The primary purpose of the retreat is to find out what God's long range plans are for our church, and to conduct some leadership training. We will look at the following questions:

- Why does our church exist?
- What is our mission statement, and is it accurate?
- What is God's vision for the future of our church?
- What are God's priorities for our church?
- What is our most important ministry? What is 2nd, and 3rd?
- How are we going to fulfill God's plans for our church?

As Elders and Deacons, we have been called by God to lead our church. What an honor and blessing it is to serve God in this capacity. It is also a tremendous responsibility. Please pray, especially between now and the retreat, that God will bless us, and speak to and through us, as we work together to find God's answers to these and other questions.

Look for more details in the coming months.

May God Bless You,
Tom Fuhrmann
Elder Long Range Planning Committee

A TONGUE-IN-CHEEK CHAPTER FROM:

“THE PRESBYTERIAN HANDBOOK”

(written in the same manner as the “_____ for Dummies” books)

WHAT TO BRING TO A CHURCH POTLUCK (BY REGION)

It is a generally followed practice in North American churches to enjoy three courses at potlucks (commonly referred to as “dishes”). Many of these dishes take on the flavor of the regions or cultures they represent. For best results, the preparer should understand the context in which the “dish” is presented.

The Salad: Potluck salads are quite different from regular salads. In preparation for making a potluck salad, ask yourself three questions:

- Is this dish mostly meat-free?
- Can this dish be served with a spoon or salad tongs?
- Can it be served chilled?

If the answer is “yes” to any of these questions, consider the dish a potluck-eligible salad.

The Mixture: This is the foundation of any potluck salad. It gives the salad a sense of direction. If at all possible, use ingredients that is indigenous to your area. For example, broccoli, lettuce, apples, and macaroni are common in more temperate climates.

The Crunchy Stuff: This component gives life and pizzazz to an otherwise bland salad.. Examples: tortilla chips, shoestring potato crisps, onion crisps, and fried pigskins.

The Glue: The glue holds the salad together. The variety of available types is stunning, ranging from a traditional oil based salad dressing to mayonnaise and non-dairy whipped topping. Use your imagination. Consult regional recipes for exact ingredients.

Note: Some salads are best when made well in advance and allowed to sit overnight. This is called marinating, or “controlled decomposition.” Do not use actual glue adhesive. Other salads are best prepared immediately before serving.

The Casserole: A three layered dish, typically. In order to make each casserole as culturally relevant as possible, use the following guidelines. Consult local restaurants for ideas, when in doubt.

Starch:

East Coast: pasta or rice pilaf

Midwest: rice, potatoes, noodles, or more rice

South: grits

Southwest: black, red, or pinto beans

West Coast: tofu

Meat:

East Coast: sausage or pheasant

Midwest: ground beef-in a pinch, SPAM luncheon meat

South: crawdad or marlin

Southwest: pulled pork

West Coast: tofu

Cereal:

East Coast: corn flakes

Midwest: corn flakes

South: corn flakes

Southwest: corn flakes

West Coast: tofu flakes

The Dessert:

The most highly valued dish at a potluck, this can be the simplest and most fun to make. There are two key ingredients:

- 1) flour
- 2) fudge

Regional influences can be quite profound. The following are examples of typical desserts around the country. Consult our church’s seniors for the nuances of our region.

Cleveland: fudge brownies with fudge frosting

Kansas City: triple-fudge fudge with fudge sauce and a side of fudge

Los Angeles: tofu fudge

Miami: fudge

New York City: cheesecake with fudge drizzle

Be Aware:

- Use caution when preparing a dish. Adding local ingredients to any meat, salad, or dessert can increase the fellowship factor exponentially. It also raises the risk of a “flop.”
- Always follow safe food- handling guidelines.
- Any combination of flavored gelatin, shredded carrots, mini-marshmallows, and canned pears is an acceptable “utility” dish, should you be unable to prepare one from the above categories.

SIGN UP SHEETS FOR THE FAIR GROUNDS BOOTH

Look in the Fellowship Hall after worship for the sign-up sheets. Please sign-up for one or more shifts! This is our big project for the summer that we can all be involved in (ages 14 and up), so please help us run our coffee booth at the Fair.

SPECIAL MUSIC NEEDED.



Most of you know that the Chancel Choir does not sing throughout the summer. Therefore, we are asking **YOU** to help us out by sharing your talent with the congregation during the “Special Music” part of the service. We all know there is a large amount of talent in our congregation, so don’t be shy – sign up to share it with your church family. Please see Kay Hatch to sign up or call her at 973-579-0079. Thanks for your help!

RECIPE OF THE MONTH:

Smoothie Sailing!



Makes 4 (6-ounce) servings
Prep: 15 minutes
Freeze: bananas 2 hours ahead



Ingredients

- 1 medium banana
- 1 8-ounce can crushed pineapple (juice pack)
- 1 8-ounce carton vanilla yogurt
- 1 cup orange juice
- Orange wedges, if you like

Directions

1. Remove peel from banana. Place banana on cutting board. Use the table knife to cut the banana into chunks. Wrap banana chunks in plastic wrap or place in a small plastic bag. Freeze banana chunks for at least 2 hours.
2. Use can opener to open the can of pineapple. Put the undrained pineapple, frozen banana chunks, yogurt, and orange juice into the blender container.
3. Cover blender with the lid and blend on high speed about 1 minute or until mixture is smooth. Turn off blender. Pour drink into 4 glasses. Use the rubber scraper to get all of the drink out of the blender. If you like, place an orange wedge on the edge of each glass for decoration. Makes 4 (6-ounce) servings.

CHILDRENS COLORING ACTIVITY!



Happy Birthday – JULY !

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|------|
| Jake | Henningsen | 7/2 |
| Mahala | Hobbs | 7/2 |
| Jean | Harrington | 7/3 |
| Harley | Henningsen | 7/3 |
| Kimberly | Layton | 7/3 |
| Brigid | Block | 7/5 |
| Bonnie | Schroeder | 7/5 |
| Danielle | Decker | 7/6 |
| Anne | Mcauliffe | 7/6 |
| Ryan | Hughes | 7/7 |
| Heather | Yaden | 7/8 |
| Deborah | Seo | 7/10 |
| Cheryl | Braun | 7/11 |
| Chloe | Crothers | 7/11 |
| Miranda | Crothers | 7/11 |
| Shane | Crothers | 7/13 |
| Emilie | Koszoru | 7/15 |
| Amy | Hobbs | 7/16 |
| Cassidy | Preste | 7/16 |
| John | Preste | 7/17 |
| Maureen | Block | 7/18 |
| Michael | Sprick | 7/18 |
| Jacob | Pullis | 7/18 |
| Casey | Leenheer | 7/19 |
| Kelly | Katzenstein | 7/20 |
| Corbin | Opilla | 7/21 |
| Douglas | Kilpatrick | 7/22 |
| Charles | Krug | 7/24 |
| Christopher | Loos | 7/24 |
| Cameron | Gardner | 7/25 |
| Corie | Hlavaty | 7/25 |
| Courtney | Baldwin | 7/26 |



Happy Birthday – AUGUST !

| | | |
|---------|-----------|------|
| TARA | HUGHES | 8/1 |
| MARK | CLARK | 8/1 |
| SUZANNE | HANSEN | 8/2 |
| ELIZA | OSBORNE | 8/4 |
| JENNA | HAVELIN | 8/5 |
| NICOLE | MACCALLUM | 8/9 |
| ROBERT | SELKOW | 8/12 |
| KATIE | HANSEN | 8/13 |
| LAURA | SMITH | 8/15 |



| | | |
|---------|------------|------|
| JAMES | SWISTACK | 8/15 |
| HERBERT | LAWSON | 8/22 |
| COLTON | MACGLASHAN | 8/23 |
| JOE | ULCHINSKY | 8/25 |
| DEBORAH | STICKNEY | 8/26 |
| GARY | BURLEW | 8/30 |

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