

STIRLING STUFF AND THE MESSENGER

Newsletter

October 2024



CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PASTOR

I am so thrilled to have had time at Graze and Praise dinners, September breakfasts and at fellowship hour just to have conversations with members of our two churches. These are just casual chats where I learn about your grandchildren or your favorite ice cream. But sometimes, conversations on Sundays are hard to have. So I would like to make time to have get to know you, our two church members and friends, better. Just to chat. No agenda.

So would you consider having a cup of coffee (or tea) with me?

We could meet at the church or out somewhere. No need for lunch or sweets. If we are meeting at church, I'd love to have a few folks gathered. I have looked at my October schedule and have some openings set aside in my calendar, I'll have a "sign-up" sheet on Sunday, Oct 6th. But I can also schedule time with you over the phone, call or text me at 973 722 2304. I would so enjoy these times of connection. I hope you might too.

Pastor Stefanie

"For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them." Matthew 18:20

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, AFTER WORSHIP

- **CONGREGATIONAL PRESENTATION FOR BOTH CHURCHES**
- **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOR THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Stirling calls a brief congregational meeting on Sunday October 27th for the elections of officers.

GATHER *“Worship the Lord with gladness and joyful song.” — Psalm 100:2*

Sunday worship is held at The First Presbyterian Church in Stirling in October.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 6th

10:00 AM Worship and Communion
11:00 AM Break Bread Fellowship!
11:30 AM Bible Study



SUNDAY OCTOBER 13th

10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Fellowship Hour
11:15 AM Joint Worship Committee

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

World Communion Sunday began in 1936 in the Presbyterian Church.

Today it is an international, ecumenical celebration.

We remember that around the globe—in different languages, with different traditions and customs, and in various forms of liturgy—the Lord’s Supper is celebrated.

Come taste different breads for communion and more delicious breads at a special coffee hour hosted by the joint worship committee.



SUNDAY OCTOBER 20th

10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Fellowship Hour
11:30 AM-12:15PM Bible Study

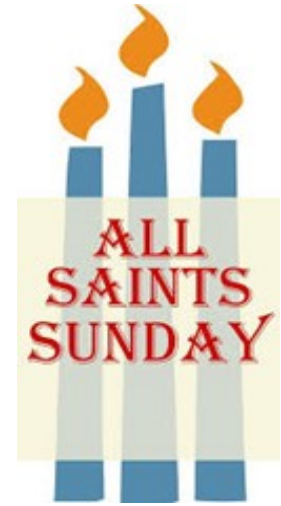
SUNDAY OCTOBER 27th

8:45 AM Fourth Sunday Focus
10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Fellowship and Joint Presentation
Meyersville and First Stirling.
11:45 AM Congregational meeting of
The First Presbyterian Church of
Stirling for the election of
officers.

Our **online services** are accessible through a link delivered by email and are also posted on social media and on both church websites.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD

We will be observing All Saints Sunday on November 3rd. This is a day when Christians give thanks for all the good people God has placed in their lives. During this service, we will take time to remember those special people we have lost during the past year, and a candle will be lit as each name is read aloud.



A form can be found in the weekly bulletin throughout October. Please fill out the form and leave it in the offering plate on Sundays. A sample is shared below. Or call either church office to leave a message with your information. You can also email your information to fpcschurchsecretary@gmail.com by Sunday, October 27th. Please include your name, the person who has passed into the Church Triumphant whom you would like to have remembered in our worship service, and your relationship to him or her.

Lastly, if you have a photo of your loved one, please email it to Rev. Muntzel (stefanieminfaith@gmail.com) or Laura Zijdel (directeur@klokhuis.com) – It will be included in the worship service in person and on-line.

All Saints' Sunday, Nov. 3rd

Please list anyone special you have lost during the past year and would like to have remembered during the service:

Your Name: _____

Person's Name: _____ Relationship to You: _____

Your Name: _____

Person's Name: _____ Relationship to You: _____

Your Name: _____

Person's Name: _____ Relationship to You: _____

If you have a photo of your loved one, please email it to Rev. Muntzel (stefanieminfaith@gmail.com) or Laura Zijdel (directeur@klokhuis.com) – It will be included in the worship service

Please place this form in the offering plate or send it to the church office by October 27 . Thank you.

GROW *in faith.*

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." — Acts 2:42

FOURTH SUNDAY FOCUS— Sunday, October 27

On the fourth Sunday of each month at 8:45 - 9:45 am

In the Meeting Room at The First Presbyterian Church of Stirling

Come for part or all of the time. We discuss a topic of interest, how it relates to the bible and our lives. Tom Parziale leads this monthly event and always brings a Box of Joe and munchkins to enjoy.

BIBLE STUDY — 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, after worship!

Sunday, October 6th and 20th

Topics: Symbols of Faith.

November and December

Luke for Everyone :

Renowned Bible scholar N. T. Wright

presents Luke's gospel through an accessible translation and profound commentary, revealing its brilliance and historical importance.



Our denomination's "seal" (aka a logo) has visual symbols embedded in it which represent core values of our theology and our practices. Can you also find the FISH?



BAPTISM

Congratulation to baby Connor Fredrick Bruno- and his mother Cheryl, father Jon and big brother Jason.

Connor was baptized on Sept 15, 2024.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST, SEPTEMBER 8th



PRAYERS

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Steven Augen | Hubinette Family | Pat Mancinelli | Sally |
| Justin Byrnes | Ann Hurlock | Mike Mascola | Fred Schaan |
| Deb Colombo | Jennie Lynn | George Masatis | Israel Sierra, Jr. |
| Christy Witlox 'Aprix | Susan Johnstonbaugh | Morris | Evelyn Smith |
| Lori Engler & Family | Kristin, Karin, Steve | Melody | Katie Stroebel |
| Art Fletcher | Rick Krueger | Frank Perlzak | John Taylor Thryss |
| Sandy Francis | Dorothy Malfatone | Bill Richter | Kim Wermuth |
| | | | |
| Jill Abeln | Holly Graham | Jimmy Mauro | Katie Strobel |
| Alice | Litty & Dennis Hado | Roseanne McGraw | Dianne Thorn |
| Charlie Aulicky | Nancy Hall | and William McCoy | James Thorn |
| George Barker | Roberta Keller | Joan McCloskey | Roy and Georgine |
| Anne Berman | Regina Klemens | Jaxon Nguyen | Weiland |
| Russell Boyle | A. Geschwinder- | Gina Rocco | Zoe Williford |
| Ymkje Broersma | Linder | Lee Riser | Ellen Winter |
| Tom Gamon | Jan LaBerty | Joanne Smith | |

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| Rich Pateman | 4-Oct | Lucca Noury | 6-Oct |
| Kimberly Ridway | 5-Oct | Marco Zijdel | 8-Oct |
| Garrett Blakeslee | 13-Oct | Barbara Moody | 14-Oct |
| Pat Elmi | 13-Oct | Nicholas Beyer | 19-Oct |
| Owen Alongi | 17-Oct | | |
| Trevor Dalin-Peters | 24-Oct | | |
| Joanne Sama | 27-Oct | | |
| Lynn Blakeslee | 28-Oct | | |

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Kelly and Guy Roshto | 12-Oct |
| Jody and Bill Carbone | 28-Oct |
| Marcie and John Skrobacz | 30-Oct |
| Melissa and Brandon Hilf | 31-Oct |



Help me grow. Not in inches or feet, not by height or width. **Lord** be with me as I pray my way to spiritual growth. **Amen**

GIVE gifts of time, talents and treasure.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." — Acts 20:35b

PERSONNEL UPDATE

ANNUAL REVIEWS OF STAFF COMPLETED

The First Presbyterian Church of Stirling and Meyersville Presbyterian Church are partnering together in many ways. This includes around matters of staffing.

Our Personal Team consists of FPCS Elder Ed Gerecht and MPC Elder Sue Hahn. They have been busy. They have conducted annual reviews of both the office manager and pastor. The process was very thoughtful and thorough. They shared the annual review of the pastor at the joint meeting of both sessions on September 25. They are happy to report that Rev. Muntzel's favorite part of her job is the people. She has a positive and productive working relationship with both sessions as well as with Linda Murphy, our Office Manager. Rev. Muntzel is going to continue to encourage our congregations to focus on a shared mission and deepening our partnership along with trying new outreach efforts.

ORGANIST SEARCH ON-GOING

Elders Sue and Ed are also actively guiding the joint Session's search for a new Music Director/Organist. If you know any musicians with the skills to lead our congregations, please let Rev. Muntzel, Ed or Sue know. Much thanks to the Personnel Team for sharing their time and energy on behalf of our churches.



NEWSLETTER

The Messenger & Stirling Stuff is the combined **newsletter** of Meyersville Presbyterian Church and The First Presbyterian Church of Stirling. Could YOU suggest a name?

Submit a new name for this combined newsletter!

Submission can be sent to Rev. Muntzel 's email StefanieMinFaith@gmail.com by OCTOBER 20th. Both Sessions will vote on the final name taken from YOUR submissions.

Here are some hints– too long of a name is hard to format (and remember). Too churchy of a name is not friendly for referencing to neighbors and community members.

Deadline for November newsletter is October 22, 2023. Submission can also be sent to Rev. Muntzel 's email StefanieMinFaith@gmail.com.

Mission of the Month:**HEIFER INTERNATIONAL**

This organization is on a mission to end hunger and poverty in a sustainable way.

For more than 75 years, Heifer International has helped more than 36.7 million families build sustainable farming businesses. Our work has always focused on farming, because we believe ending poverty begins with agriculture. Cows, goats, chickens and seeds can provide nutritious milk, meat, eggs, food, fodder and so much more for communities living in hunger and poverty. Our goal is to increase incomes so families can afford nutritious food, shelter, clean water, access to health care and a safe environment to raise their children without worrying when unexpected needs arise. Please make a donation in October, mark your check, on-line gift, or envelope with HEIFER.

Link to [**PUMPKIN STENCILS**](#) : [**Heifer Halloween Stencils | Heifer International**](#)

A GIFT FROM HEIFER CAN CHANGE THE WORLD**Bridges Outreach Lunch Program**, Tuesday October 29, 9:30 a.m.

Won't YOU help provide bag lunches to people who are without housing in Newark, Irvington, and NYC?

The sandwiches, drinks, and non-perishable goodies are delivered to Summit monthly in brown lunch bags. Our next commitment date is: Tuesday, 9:30 a.m., in Pollard Hall. If you are available, speak to Janet Parziale.



2024-2025 Concert Series

Pollard Hall presents...

Jazz with Charu Suri

Charu Suri is an award-winning pianist and composer who treads fearlessly between genres, blending several styles and fusing Indian ragas with more traditional jazz.



OCTOBER 26TH, SATURDAY, 7:00 PM

**2024-25
CONCERT
SERIES**

The First Presbyterian Church Stirling
158 Central Ave. Long Hill, NJ 07980

*MONTHLY CONCERTS
FREE ADMISSION
RECEPTION FOLLOWS*

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

*In memory of the Rev. Tom Peters.
Offering Long Hill, NJ the gift of music.*

The Presbyterian Churches of Long Hill, NJ

Two Churches, One Ministry

OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

First Presbyterian Church, Stirling

158 Central Ave.
Stirling, NJ 07980
908-647-1033
www.fpcstirling.org

Meyersville Presbyterian Church

223 Hickory Tavern Road
Gillette, NJ 07933
908-647-0390
www.meyersvillechurch.com

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel, Pastor

StefanieMinfaith@gmail.com

Wednesday and Thursdays

Office Hours: 11am-3pm

Please feel free to call or text Pastor Stefanie on her cell phone at 973 722 2304 to confirm her location and availability. In case of an emergency please indicate that you need an immediate response.

Linda Murphy, Office Manager

fpcschurchsecretary@gmail.com

FPC Church Office: 908-647-1033

Tues., Wed. 10 AM — 1 PM

Fri. 8:30 AM — 11:30 AM

MPC Church Office: 908-647-0390

Thursdays 10 AM– 1 PM



gather.grow.give.go

OCTOBER CALENDAR— Worship at The First Presbyterian Church of Stirling

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Fri Sat

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---|---|---|------------------------------------|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 Last 12 Baskets Pantry @ FPCS | 4 | 5 |
| 6 FPCS: World Communion Worship , 10am Fellowship, 11am Bible Study , 11:30am | 7 | 8 | 9 Meyersville, Session 7 PM | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 FPCS: Worship , 10am Fellowship, 11am Worship Cmte , 11:30am | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 12 Baskets @ All Saint’s Church | 18 | 19 |
| 20 FPCS: Worship , 10am Fellowship, 11am Bible Study , 11:30am | 21 | 22 | 23 FPC Stirling Session 6:30 PM | 24 | 25 | 26 JAZZ CONCERT! @ FPC @7 PM |
| 27 FPCS: Fourth Sun. Focus, 8:45 am Worship, 10 am Fellowship & Presentation, 11am, 1:15am, Congrega- tional Meeting, FPCS, | 28 | 29 9:30 am Bridges @FPCS Come make lunches for Neighbors! | 30 | 31  | 1 All Saint’s Day | |