



The FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
in PHILADELPHIA

est. 1698

LECTIONARY

JUNE 4 DAY OF PENTECOST



Numbers 11:24-30
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
Acts 2:1-21

JUNE 11 TRINITY SUNDAY



Genesis 1:1-2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

JUNE 18
Genesis 18:1-15
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35-10: 23

JUNE 25
Genesis 21:8-21
Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
Romans 6:1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39

the Messenger

Remembering the Past

**"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."
—George Santayana**

I recently joined our "Band of Boomers" group here at First on a tour of the brand new Museum of the American Revolution, an experience I would highly recommend to all. The museum is well laid out and full of interactive exhibits that tell the complex story of the events both before and during the war. After our tour, the museum staff led a special presentation for us on the revolution in Philadelphia, which began with the projection of a large map of the city at that time. And right there in the center of everything was First Presbyterian Church! Another reminder of just how intimately this congregation was involved in the events that gave birth to the nation.

I also had the good fortune in May to attend the opening of a special exhibit at the Presbyterian Historical Society in Society Hill of documents and artifacts from a number of Presbyterian churches pertaining to the revolution. I would even more highly recommend that you stop by the PHS to see this exhibit which includes several documents from both First and Second Churches, some of which I had seen but most

had not. For example, there was a list of all the damage done by the British to Old Buttonwood, the original home of First Church, which they used as a stable!

But if you can't get to PHS this month, we'll bring PHS to you! On Sunday, June 18, Beth Hessel, the Executive Director of PHS will visit First Church. She will speak at the 11:00 A.M. service that day about the very important work of the historical society in preserving the documentary history of Presbyterianism in this country, the only such denominational archive that exists in the U.S. Among the oldest artifacts in the collection is the wedding and baptismal register of the Rev. Jedediah Andrews, the first pastor of this church.

In addition, Ms. Hessel will also speak that morning during the adult education hour (9:45 A.M.) in the MacColl Room on the subject of her own scholarly research. The title of her talk is "What's Enough Witness? Presbyterians and the Internment of Japanese Americans during World War II." Given the events of our own day, it would be well for us to remember what our Presbyterian ancestors did in a similar situation earlier in our history. Lest we be condemned to repeat it. Join us on June 18.

—Jesse Garner



**THIS WEEK
AT FIRST
CHURCH**

STAY INFORMED THIS SUMMER!

The June issue of the Messenger is the last issue published until September.

Our email "THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH" is sent every Monday and lists events for the week. Don't miss out! Join our mailing list to stay connected! [Subscribe at fpcphila.org/maillinglist](http://fpcphila.org/maillinglist).

June 2017 at a Glance

Thursday, June 1

- 6:30 pm Trustees Meeting
6:45 pm Deacons Meeting

Saturday, June 3

- 8:30 am UCHC Casserole Blitz (First Church kitchen)
9:00 am Men's Bible Study (Cafe @ DiBruno's)

Sunday, June 4 - Day of Pentecost

- 9:00 am Celebration! Worship (Old Buttonwood Hall)
9:45 am Christian Education
 • Adults: Lectionary Study (MacColl Room)
 • Children & Youth (Cochran Room)
11:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
12:15 pm Church Picnic! (Old Buttonwood Hall)
12:30 pm Personnel Committee

Monday, June 5

- 11:00 am Congregational Care Team
5:30 pm Church Nominating Committee

Tuesday, June 6

- 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, June 7

- 7:30 pm Young Adult Group

Thursday, June 8

- 5:30 pm Budget Committee

Saturday, June 10

- 9:00 am Men's Bible Study (Cafe @ DiBruno's)
9:30 am Volunteering: GLC/Bartram's Garden
9:30 am Session Retreat

Sunday, June 11

- 9:00 am Celebration! Worship (Old Buttonwood Hall)
9:50 am *Make a Joyful Noise* (Old Buttonwood Hall)
11:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
12:15 pm Fellowship (Old Buttonwood Hall)
12:30 pm Young Adult "First Sunday" Brunch (Irish Pub)
4:00 pm *Songs Overseas* Concert & Reception

Tuesday, June 13

- 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, June 14

- 10:00 am Planned Giving Team

- 7:00 pm Young Adults at Phillies Game

Thursday, June 15

- 5:30 pm Membership & Evangelism Committee

Saturday, June 17

- 9:00 am Men's Bible Study (Cafe @ DiBruno's)
10:00 am First Church Families Cookout

Sunday, June 18

- 9:00 am Celebration! Worship (Old Buttonwood Hall)
9:45 am Christian Education
 • Adults: Beth Hessel, Presbyterian Historical Society
 • Children & Youth (Cochran Room)
11:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
12:15 pm Fellowship (Old Buttonwood Hall)

Monday, June 19

- 6:00 pm Worship Committee

Tuesday, June 20

- 9:30 am WiseRetirees
7:00 pm Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, June 21

- 7:30 pm Young Adult Group

Saturday, June 24

- 9:00 am New Member Workshop
9:00 am Men's Bible Study (Cafe @ DiBruno's)
10:00 am Urban Tree Volunteer Day
10:00 am Planned Giving Brunch: Columbarium

Sunday, June 25

- 9:00 am Celebration! Worship (Old Buttonwood Hall)
9:45 am Christian Education
 • Adults: Lectionary Study (MacColl Room)
 • Children & Youth (Cochran Room)
9:45 am Spiritual Direction Group (Whitefield Room)
11:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
12:15 pm Fellowship (Outdoors on Walnut Street)

Tuesday, June 27

- 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, June 28

- 7:30 pm Young Adult Group



Songs Overseas

Concert & Reception

Sunday, June 11th @ 4 p.m.

Please join us for the Chancel Choir's final concert of the year! This is also the final fundraiser for the choir's trip to Truro Cathedral in August. Music by Rheinberger, de Victoria, Neswick, and a large selection of spirituals. The cost is \$20 at the door.

Following the concert will be an elegant reception with bubbly and hors d'oeuvres. There will be a silent auction and live jazz.

We hope you will come and take part in not only helping us finish our fundraiser and wishing the choir godspeed and good luck on tour, but also to thank them and celebrate another tremendous year of glorious music.

Ladies' Spring Tea

As Henry James said in *The Portrait of a Lady*: "There are few hours in life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as afternoon tea." On May 20th many women from First Presbyterian gathered for exactly that beautiful ceremony.

Each table in Old Buttonwood Hall was set with gorgeous china and silver brought from the homes of our hostesses; therefore, each table looked unique and elegant. The rich English tea was accompanied by fresh homemade scones, creme fraiche, strawberry preserves and lemon curd. Tiny tea sandwiches were traditional English fare: cucumber, smoked salmon and curried egg salad. Sweet desserts included lemon squares, macaroons, fruit tarts and petit fours.



Our wonderful guest speaker this year was our own former Associate Pastor, Mindy Campbell. She caught us up on her new congregation and gave us a very moving talk about "connections," and the differences and similarities in our churches and missions. Lovely piano and violin music accompanied the afternoon, played by Monique Canniere, Jennifer Hsiung, and Jessica Halili.



A special thank you goes to our table hostesses: Jacquelyn DeLombard, Jean Witmer, Allen Garner, and Gini Isaacson. Jean Witmer was our fabulous scone baker, Cynthia Decrucq and Gini Isaacson helped with food preparation and Irene Walker was the master of garnishing and decorating plates. Patti Sassoli did the lovely artwork for the invitations and Sue Riemann answered countless phone calls and questions! The tea would have been impossible without my wonderful co-hostess, Jacquelyn DeLombard.

—Fran Bjorneby Kraemer

PROGRESS UPDATE:

First Church Sidewalk Project

As almost everyone in the congregation (and beyond) has noticed through the years, the sidewalks at First Presbyterian, particularly 21st Street, are in need of significant repair. In addition, due to recent work by PECO, Comcast, and the Philadelphia Streets Department to install handicapped access curb cuts at the corner of 21st & Walnut, our sidewalks have been torn up, replaced, torn up again, with the resulting patchwork of concrete work leaving the sidewalks in even more need of major attention.

The First Presbyterian Sidewalk Committee (Gary Christiansen, Craig Boddorff, Mike Carl, Tom Lever, Bob Linck, Jesse Garner, and Susan Davis) has been meeting, discussing, working on multiple aspects of this issue, and is now glad to report that sidewalk repair work is expected to begin this autumn. The work will include new concrete sidewalks which have been planned to connect to the new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) curb ramps on both sides of the Walnut & 21st corner, as well as at 21st & Chancellor; replacement of the existing trees on 21st Street with new American Serviceberry trees, selected for their deep roots, autumn color and spring flowers; and new tree pits and grates (required by the Water Department), providing additional rainwater retention and drainage. Additional improvements include painting the railings at the front and sides of the church and installation of a bicycle rack on 21st Street.

Hunt Engineers (including their landscape architect) has been working with the Committee. After much discussion with City agencies as well as PECO and Comcast, Hunt has submitted drawings to the Streets Department for approval, which is expected sometime this summer. We will keep everyone posted about progress and plans for the work. Those of us on the Sidewalk Committee are excited about progress, and look forward to celebrating our beautiful new sidewalks, trees, bike rack, newly painted railings, and curb cuts with everyone soon.

—Susan Davis

Columbarium Construction Set to Begin—Completion by Mid-Summer

Informational program to be held June 24th

The Columbarium Committee is pleased to report that completion of the columbarium of First Church is anticipated by mid-summer.

The columbarium, which is being fabricated by Eickhoff Columbaria Inc. in Crookston, Minnesota, is scheduled to arrive at First Church by the end of June. In preparation, the construction work for the installation of the columbarium, in the space that currently serves as the library, will begin by the second or third week of June. The construction work is being performed by M.J. Settelen Construction.

The Planned Giving Team, of which the Columbarium Committee is formed, will host an informational program on

Saturday, June 24th at 10:00 AM. This program is being held in conjunction with our Annual Buttonwood Circle brunch, which honors those who have made a planned gift to First Church. Anyone who is interested in the columbarium should plan to attend. Please RSVP to the church office (office@fpcphila.org or 215-567-0532) by June 16th.

To learn more about Planned Giving and the Buttonwood Circle, visit www.fpcphila.org/planned-giving, or speak with a member of the Planned Giving Team. Members of the Planned Giving Team are Joann Bailey, Sheila Ferguson, Bill Leonard, Pat Quigg, Patti Sassoli, Phil Steinberg, and Herb Valentine.

—Patti Sassoli

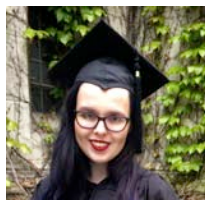
MEMBER NEWS

Baptism

CAMPBELL RILEY HAMPTON, daughter of **Kimberly** and **Devin Hampton**, was baptized on May 14, 2017 at the 11:00 service. She is welcomed by her parents, siblings Brooklyn and Jeramie, and the First Church family.

Graduates

KATE CHRISTENSEN will graduate from the University of Chicago on June 10th. She will be getting her B.A. in Linguistics. Kate fell in love with Chicago and will be spending her gap year there and also hopes to travel to Europe in 2018. She plans to continue studying Linguistics on a graduate level after taking a break from academics.



MARGARET SOMERVILLE graduated from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia on Tuesday May 23rd. The ceremony took place at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church with a few First Church members in attendance. Margaret received a Master of Divinity with Honors. She plans to continue teaching at Friends Central School, where she has been teaching Latin for 18 years. Margaret has also accepted the position of Assistant Pastor for Family Ministries and Outreach at Gladwyne Presbyterian Church.



NEW MEMBER CLASS

If you would like to learn more about First Church and how you can be a part of the life and ministry of the church, you're invited to attend our New Member class on Saturday, June 24th at 9:00 AM in the MacColl Room. Classes are informal and will explore what Presbyterians believe, what membership means, and how to get involved at First Church. Contact Drew (drew.harrison@fpcphila.org) or Jesse (jesse.garner@fpcphila.org) for more information.

Outdoor Coffee Hours Planned for Summer

The Membership and Evangelism Committee will be sponsoring outdoor fellowship hours on June 25th and August 27th! We're going to take advantage of the June weather by moving our fellowship time to the front steps. After the 11:00 service, come out the front door and join us on Walnut Street for cool drinks, coffee, and conversation!

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

The Young Adults are gearing up for summer and getting out into the community of Philadelphia. Starting in June the Young Adults will break from the normal Wednesday night gathering and will join at different locations throughout the city--beer gardens, hikes in the Wissahickon, volunteering at *Books Through Bars*, a Phillies game, Young Adults houses, etc. Along with our weekly night gatherings we have brunch on a Sunday (usually the first) of the month. Our goal is to grow closer together as a young adult group, fostering friendships, building trust, and creating a community of support and love for one another. For more information, contact: youngadults@fpcphila.org.



Coupon Update: The Young Adults have enjoyed receiving and cutting all the coupons that have been brought to the church office. We have sent in three large shipments and are in the process of getting a fourth ready to be sent. Thank you to all who have brought in coupons thus far! Continue to bring them throughout the summer so that we can keep sending them in!

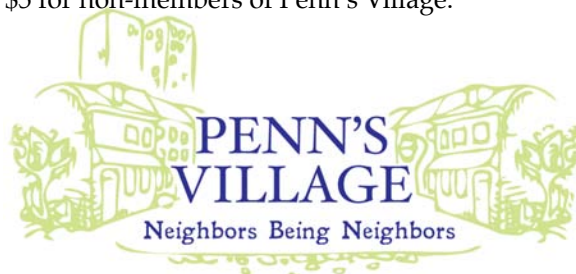
—Annie LeCluyse

Penn's Village is Busy in June

We invite you to take part in the record number of programs that Penn's Village is running in June:

- ▶ June 7 at 10:00 AM – Boathouse Row Tour
- ▶ June 13 at 2:00 PM – Communicating with Legislators Effectively
- ▶ June 17 at 10:00 AM – Individual Balance Assessment with Excel Physical Therapy and Fitness
- ▶ June 22 at 7:00 PM – Foreign Policy Today with Trudy Rubin of the Inquirer in conjunction with Congregation Rodeph Shalom

Please check our website (www.pennsvillage.org) for details and note that registration is required for each program at info@pennsvillage.org or 215-925-7333. There is a fee of \$5 for non-members of Penn's Village.



CELEBRATION! A WORSHIP SERVICE



Sundays 9 am in Old Buttonwood Hall
(enter at 21st Street)

NEW CHILDREN'S LIBRARY COMING THIS MONTH!

The Celebration! service had 15 kids in worship on Memorial Day weekend! We are invested in helping our kids grow in their faith, and hope you will help us. Starting this month, there will be a library in Old Buttonwood Hall with children's books on subjects around faith and the Bible that our kids can check books out from. We've built up a small base, but hope you'll help the library continue to grow! Check out our Amazon Wishlist: <http://a.co/hgifyOU>. Contact Megan LeCluyse (megan.lecluyse@fpcphila.org) with any questions!

--Megan LeCluyse

FIRST CHURCH FAMILIES W/ YOUNG CHILDREN

We had great turnout for Team First Church for the 5th Annual Sojourner Truth Walk to benefit Camp Sojourner Girls' Leadership Camp! The rain held out just long enough for us to enjoy a great march led by the young campers; the little ones loved watching all of the people and eating pizza and snacks at the end.



Make a Joyful Noise continues to grow noisier and noisier! In May we had our biggest gathering yet, and young and old are getting better and

better at singing praise to God. We'll get together again on June 11th for songs, joy, and percussion instruments—everyone is invited to come sing with us!



We're looking forward to lots of summer fun this year. Robbie and Rosie Romano have invited Families with Young Children out to their house in Lower Merion in June. Contact Robbie and Rosie or Drew Harrison (drew.harrison@fpcphila.org) for more details.

—Drew Harrison

BAND OF BOOMERS

The Band of Boomers, First Church's newest fellowship group for the Baby Boomers in the congregation, had its initial outing on Sunday, May 7th visiting the new Museum of the American Revolution. About 25 church members and guests ate brunch at the Little Lion, followed by a tour of the new museum. Our tour culminated in a special presentation called "Philadelphia, a Revolutionary City." Several of the maps presented showed the original First Presbyterian Church, Old Buttonwood, on what is now Market Street. The group anticipates that its next outing will be on Sunday, September 9, with the likely destination being Winterthur. Contact Drew Harrison (drew.harrison@fpcphila.org) for information.

—Shellie Unger



It's spring! Summer will soon follow, and that means it's time to garden. On Saturday June 24th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM a group from First Presbyterian will be working in the garden at 4159 W Girard Avenue, about one mile west of the Philadelphia Zoo. The farms are located near the First African Presbyterian Church and have been providing the neighborhood and several Philadelphia area markets with fresh produce. We will work in the beautiful green spaces between row homes along and behind Girard Avenue.

Please also keep us in mind for Saturday July 15th when will return to the same location. For information please contact Bruce Rapsher (bruce.rapsher@fpcphila.org).

—Bruce Rapsher

The First Presbyterian Church

IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

201 South 21st Street • Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-567-0532 fax: 215-567-7697 • fpcphila.org

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Jesse B. Garner, Minister

The Rev. Megan LeClyuse, Celebration Team Leader

**The Rev. Drew Harrison, Membership and
Congregational Care Director**

Mr. Andrew Senn, Director of Music & Organist

Mrs. Patti Sassoli, Director of Communications

Ms. Annie LeClyuse, Young Adult Leader

Ms. Sue Riemann, Interim Church Administrator

Mr. Clark Royle, Seminary Intern

PARISH ASSOCIATES:

**The Rev. Barbara A. Chaapel, The Rev. Kenneth
Ross, The Rev. Herbert D. Valentine**

CHURCH OFFICERS

ELDERS

Class of 2018

Jen Johnson, Rebecca Melley,
Allan Schimmel, George Schneider

Class of 2019

Karen Marsten, Beverly Cowart,
Philip McMunigal, Emily Roan, Patricia Sassoli

Class of 2020

Susy Christensen, Heather Coyne, Cynthia
Decrucq, Jennifer Hsiung, Michael Smith

DEACONS

Class of 2018

Fred Barfoot, Miles Davis, Frances Kraemer,
Cathy Lever, Jean Witmer

Class of 2019

Linda Deis, Edna Dick, Dave Huting,
Anita McLarin, Evelyn Schwartz

Class of 2020

Jack Melvin, Cynthia Olds-Greeley, Courtney
Russ-Friedman, Don Williams, Philip Woehr

TRUSTEES

Class of 2018

Joann Bailey, Jeannie Boehner,
Gary Christensen, Tom Lever, Leila Vaughan

Class of 2019

Craig Boddorff, Andrea Bowman, Mike Carl,
Jennifer Gay, Robert Romano

Class of 2020

Cory Clippinger, Rebekah Horowitz,
Robert Linck, Cade Massey

THE MESSENGER

Patti Sassoli, Executive Editor
Owen Robbins, Layout and Design

Please submit all information for the
September issue of The Messenger to
communications@fpcphila.org by
Friday, August 25th.



Summer Volunteer Opportunities

THE UNIVERSITY CITY HOSPITALITY

COALITION (UCHC) provides hot meals to anyone in need on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and, during the academic year, Sundays, at sites in the University City area. Volunteers to serve meals are needed during the summer and academic breaks, when students are not available. In addition, First Church sponsors quarterly casserole "blitzes," in which we prepare 30-40 casseroles to be served at UCHC meals. Contact Beverly Cowart. **Summer dates are Saturdays, June 3rd & August 26th at 8:30 AM in First Church kitchen.**

GIRLS' LEADERSHIP CAMP program at Bartram's Garden is to help build a new community garden and farm while learning about the environmental impact of growing our own food. Volunteer days are Saturdays, beginning at 9:30 with a brief orientation followed by a work-day in the garden with the young women in the program. Contact Clark Royle for information. **The next date is Saturday, June 10 @ 9:30 AM.**

MANNA, an organization founded by First Church, needs volunteers to help prepare or deliver meals for people battling life-threatening illnesses. Contact Manna's Volunteer Services at 215-496-2662 or volunteers@mannapa.org. **Volunteers are needed for Mon., June 12 from 7-10 AM.**

URBAN TREE CONNECTION (UTC) is a nonprofit organization that engages children and adults from some of Philadelphia's most disadvantaged neighborhoods in community-based, urban-greening projects. Visit urbantreeconnection.org or contact Bruce Rapsher. **Summer dates are Saturdays June 24th & July 15th.**

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY'S WEST

PHILADELPHIA REPAIR INITIATIVE (WPRI) is an urban ministry that assists homeowners in West Philadelphia with repairs to their homes. The organization needs volunteers. Work can involve painting, installing sheetrock, windows, flooring, carpentry, etc. Volunteers do not need any experience. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Clark Royle. **Volunteer dates will be announced.**

NORRIS SQUARE promotes change through youth education, community leadership, green spaces, the arts and the celebration of Latinx cultures. **Summer volunteer dates in the gardens will be announced.**

CAMP KIRKWOOD is a joint mission of the Philadelphia and Lehigh Presbyteries that provides a place for youth and adults to strengthen their relationship with God in the context of nature. Summer work days provide volunteers with the opportunity to help with projects around the camp. **Volunteer dates will be announced.**

HOSTS FOR HOSPITALS provides families in need of lodging when coming from out-of-town to the city for medical care the option of staying at a locally administered volunteer host-home or group facility. **Volunteer opportunities will be announced.**

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR
ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
AND DATES!**

STAY CONNECTED THIS SUMMER!

The June issue of the Messenger is the last issue published until September. Our email "**THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH**" is sent every Monday and lists events for the week. Don't miss out! Join our mailing list to stay informed! [Subscribe at fpcphila.org/maillinglist](http://fpcphila.org/maillinglist).



Like us on our [fan page](#) or join our [fellowship group](#).