



STREAM LINES

A Monthly Publication of the First Presbyterian
Church of Avenel, New Jersey



SEPTEMBER 2009

Pastor
Clerk of Session
Administrative Assistant
Stream Lines Editor and Webmaster
Stream Lines Assistants
Church Office
Church Office Email Address
Stream Lines Email Addresses
Website Address
Newsletter Online Address

Rev. Jason P. Tucker
Mr. Charles Kurowsky
Mrs. Carol Palmer
Mrs. Susan Smolsky
Mrs. Carol Palmer and Mrs. Cathy Shaffer
(Phone): 732-634-1631 (Fax): 732-634-1291
avenelpres@verizon.net
streamlines@comcast.net and avenelpres@verizon.net
<http://avenelpresbyterianchurch.org>
<http://avenelpresbyterianchurch.org/newsletter>



FROM THE PASTOR

"I can't tell you how much I long for you to enter this wide-open, spacious life. We didn't fence you in. The smallness you feel comes from within you. Your lives aren't small, but you're living them in a small way. I'm speaking as plainly as I can and with great affection. Open up your lives. Live openly and expansively!" -- 2 Corinthians 6:11-13 (The Message)

September 2009

There's no easy way to end summer, is there? It just kind of collides into fall with reckless abandon. Summer vacation is a blur, and we are left with nothing but pictures, sandy shoes, peeling skin, and maybe a novelty t-shirt or two. The kids are back to school and we haven't even fully unpacked from vacation. And now, the thoughts of sunshine and hamburgers that occupied our brains for three months have quickly been overtaken by schedules and shopping lists. In fact, people ask us where we went this summer and we struggle to remember—because those memories have already been purged from our minds. Our hectic schedules hurl us from place to place without a moment to spare. And somewhere in the chaos of this everyday living, between the morning coffee and the evening news, we start wondering, "Why am I so exhausted?"

Everyday life is like a storm that rages all around us. And it's exhausting just trying to keep our heads above water. We hear the deafening wind, we see the turbulent waters, and we huddle together like panicked disciples crying out to God, with nothing on our minds but our own fear. Sickness, war, paying the bills, college tuition, SAT scores, a bad alternator, computer viruses, tsunamis, elections, baby on the way, social security, job security, making a bad marriage good, keeping a good marriage good, dating, ministry, car loans, home loans, retirement investments, what to make for dinner...the storm indeed rages. And with its incessant pounding on our brains, we begin to feel confined, restricted

and very, very small.

In this passage from 2 Corinthians, the apostle Paul discusses the “smallness we feel” in this midst of life’s continual storm. Sometimes we may be *alive* but we’re not really *living*. You see, nothing’s going to change the fact that we need to provide for our family, or have a working vehicle, or need to think about the future, health care, retirement, etc. Most of these things we can’t control, but we *can* control our reaction to these needs. We can either curl up in the corner of our boat as the waves spray over the side, or we can faithfully stand tall, trusting that Jesus is on board and will see us safely through these choppy waters.

And therein lies the key to living “openly and expansively” as Paul suggests. It’s trusting that God will navigate us through this stormy life. And it’s being open to *any* direction the boat is steered. By living in this kind of trust, we are free to relax, free to enjoy the adventure, and free to live knowing that anything is possible. We can actually be free enough to live a life that is *wide-open*.

But we are *never* called to do it alone. Christian faith is a faith lived in *community*. It’s how we’re wired. There’s something about fellowship with other Christians that makes things better—that eases our burdens and helps us to grow closer with God. This fall there will be many opportunities to grow in this community of faith.

Two of these opportunities begin in September. First, I will be teaching an adult Sunday school class every week beginning September 13th at 9:00 a.m. in Ken Hunt Lounge. It’s called “Faith Seeking Understanding,” a 13-week class that will cover the major doctrines of the Christian faith. And the second is a weekly bible study I will be teaching on Wednesday nights, beginning September 16th at 7:00 p.m. in Jacob Morgan Hall on Paul’s letter to the “Romans.” Childcare will be provided (please sign up by calling the office).

May God help all of us to look to Him even in the midst of life’s storm—the chaos of everyday living. And may we shed our self-imposed sense of smallness and live in the wide-open spaces of God’s love. Summer vacation may be over, but the freedom Christ brings never ends. Have a blessed month!

In Christ,
Rev. Jason Tucker

STREAM LINES INFORMATION

The deadline for the October 2009 issue of Stream Lines will be Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at 12:00 noon.

Remember to email your articles to:

Susan Smolsky at streamlines@comcast.net
Carol Palmer at avenelpres@verizon.net

**From the
Editor**



The October 2009 issue will be available for online reading and printing on or about Wednesday, September 23, 2009, and will be available to those who have no internet service and pick up their copies in the Sanctuary on Sunday, September 27, 2009.



WORSHIP LEADERS NEEDED

The Worship Committee and Rev. Tucker are seeking members who are willing to be worship leaders or to assist in worship. This would entail the reading of scripture, prayer or a brief testimony.

If you feel you would like to participate, please call the Church Office at 732-634-1631.

Kick-Off Sunday

Sunday School classes will begin on Sunday, September 13, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

The Sunday morning worship service returns to a 10:30 a.m. start beginning Sunday, September 13, 2009 in the Sanctuary.

Communion for September will be on Kick-Off Sunday, September 13, 2009, and **not** on the customary first Sunday of the month.



Church Office Hours

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2009 for the Labor Day holiday.



From the Choir Loft

Fall is just around the corner and that means the music program will soon be kicking off again for another year.

The Chancel Choir, under the direction of Francesco Santelli, is our adult choir. You are cordially invited to join us by coming to our rehearsals on Thursday nights from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the Choir Room.

Our first rehearsal is Thursday, September 10, 2009. Hope to see you there!

Please join us for the installation of our new pastor, the Rev. Jason P. Tucker, on Sunday, September 20, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



MISSION PROJECT



Mission Possible...from Frenchtown

In June, when I found out that the mission group was coming from Frenchtown, I approached Property Care and offered to coordinate the meals for the group.

They would need 3 meals a day, and snacks and drinks in between, for the week they were with us. There were 27 from Frenchtown and about 10 from our church.

I asked Bobbie, Shirley and Wayne for help. We had a few meetings, and with our agendas in hand, we took off. I don't think I ever made so many phone calls in my life! The response by everyone was a blessing.

We would like to thank everyone who got up VERY early to make breakfast each day, who brought grocery items in preparation for the arrival, who donated money, who arranged bowling and chaperoned, who opened their pool, who invited them over for a bonfire, who provided a movie night in Ken Hunt Lounge, who made phone calls and wrote letters for donations, who hosted and ate with them (and drove long distances to do so), who prepared meals, who brought a Jell-O mold on a day when I was going to leave church at **10:30 p.m.** and go home to make a Jell-O mold (needless to say I didn't have to), who prepared desserts, who delivered baked goods from Pathmark and who worked and

fellowshipped with them during the day.

The work the mission group did was a real gift to our church. But an evener bigger gift was felt by all of us working TOGETHER that week. God has Great plans for our church! Everyone who helped with this effort was a part of the plan, and they knew it. Thank you all.

In Christ, Cindy Culton

Sunday School Wish List

If you donate any of the supplies listed below, the Sunday School would greatly appreciate it.



Computer Paper
Masking Tape
Dry Eraser Markers
Dry Erasers
Permanent Markers
Scotch Tape
Felt
AA Batteries
Hot Glue
One-Hole Punch

Card Stock Paper
Poster Board
Tissues
Colored Pencils
Crayons
Colored Tissue Paper
Adult Scissors
Children's Paint
Staple Removers

Fun Tack
Laminating Paper
Laminating Machine
Markers
Glitter Glue
Pipe Cleaners
Children's Scissors
Paintbrushes
Rulers



"Time is passing. Yet, for the United States of America, there will be no forgetting September the 11th. We will remember every rescuer who died in honor. We will remember every family that lives in grief. We will remember the fire and ash, the last phone calls, the funerals of the children." – Former President George W. Bush

The World Trade Center, The Pentagon, American Flight 11, United Flight 175,
American Flight 77, United Flight 93

Believe in God – Believe in Prayer – Believe in America

41st Annual Holiday Fair

Saturday, October 24, 2009
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



The Committee is in need of the following:

1. New items for the Silent Auction table.
2. Clean, new or used toys, puzzles, stuffed animals.
3. Jewelry and jewelry gift boxes
4. Books, audio, CD's and DVD's
5. White Elephant items -- cleaned, not broken and in working order
6. A Break Down person, in charge of room break down at 2:45, the day of the Fair

Starting September 27, 2009, you may leave your donations on the stage in Jacob Morgan Hall. Please make sure all items are clean and not broken. Also, it would be a BIG help to the volunteers if you could sort the items into the categories listed above, and label your boxes or bags. Please let your neighbors and people that you work with know that we are taking donations for the above items. If you have any questions, please call Cindy Culton at home or through the Church Office.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANYTHING TO JACOB MORGAN HALL BEFORE SEPTEMBER 27, 2009. The stage is used by other people until that time.

Your Fair Committee



The Kudos Korner is intended to celebrate the life and accomplishments of members young and old, and is open all year round.

CHARLES CAPOUET, grandson of Arleen Schreiber, graduated from McGill University in Montreal, Canada on May 31, 2009 with a Bachelor of Science degree. He is changing direction, however, from a career in medicine to a career in law and will be attending Seton Hall University School of Law on a full scholarship.

Congratulations and best wishes to Charles and his entire family.

The Bell Has Moved!

The white doorbell for the Church Office has been removed from the double glass doors on the Kirk Street entrance to the Christian Education Building. It is now located on the **brown door** which is next to the double glass doors. The brown door is the outside entrance to the Church Office.



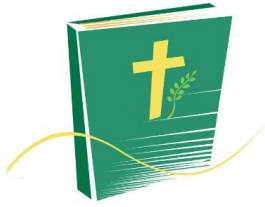
A big thank you goes to Frank Battito, who fixed our garden tractor. Frank donated his time and purchased the parts for the repairs. Considering this has been one of the wettest and fastest grass-growing seasons in memory, I don't know how we would have managed our lawn maintenance without our tractor. Thank you Frank for all you did.

Rich Culton, Property Care Committee

The Joyful Ringers

The Joyful Ringers, under the direction of Randy Hunt, will hold a brief organizational meeting on Kick-Off Sunday, September 13, immediately following the worship service. Fifth graders through adults are invited to participate – no experience necessary! If you have any questions, please call Randy or Darla Hunt at home or through the Church Office.





September Memory Verse

Matthew 5:5 (NIV)

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.



Transferred to the Church Triumphant

July 2009 – **Bob Harmon**, father of the Harmon family and our former, long-time Church Treasurer



Thought of the Month

When you come to the edge of all the light you know and are about to step off into the darkness of the unknown, FAITH is knowing one of two things will happen: there will be something solid to stand on or you will be taught how to fly.



September Birthdays

If there are any omissions or errors in the September birthday list, please contact the Church Office at 732-634-1631.
Thank you!

- 01 Suzanne Warren, Mackenzie Flowers
- 02 Sean Battito
- 03 Rene Germek, Patrick Lombardi, Sr., Leslie Yuhasz, Lynn Merz, Melissa Kosakowski
- 04 Vilma Ambis
- 07 Dawn Connolly
- 09 Cheryl Mock, David Exantus
- 10 Barbara Morgan, Alexandra Searles
- 12 Jeannie Martuccio, Jacob Manente
- 13 Kiersten Shannon
- 14 Richard Olsen, Sophie Culton
- 15 Gisela Olsen, Kerry Rittenour
- 16 James Englert
- 17 Jenny Holtz
- 18 Joseph Shannon
- 20 Dani Juarez
- 21 Karen Severyn
- 22 Christopher Exantus
- 23 Mildred Kutcher
- 24 Vincent Meehan
- 25 Vic Stulga
- 27 Erika Ferrie
- 28 Frank Battito, Briana Tarby, Aydan Flowers
- 29 Susan Haggerty, Ilene Dodich, Jessica Kaczur
- 30 David Pallas

September days have the warmth of summer in their briefer hours, but in their lengthening evenings a prophetic breath of autumn.



Our Military Servicemen, Servicewomen and Their Families

Donna Palmer, Bryan Palmer, Carson Severyn, Jason Bone, Amy Updike, Kevin Barnes, David Sturtz, Edward Merz, Michael Barany, Justin Kitchen, Robert Bart, Daniel Hedner, Brian Williams, Adam Barnes, Brian Ragas, Michael Warren

**FREEDOM ISN'T FREE.
SOMEBODY PAID.**



Jolan Farkas, Robert Lucas, Eleanor Smith, Toni Anderson, Elizabeth Price and Linda Bisgaard

Prayer Requests

To add someone to this list, please call the Church Office at 732-634-1631



Recent Concerns

Kathy Sullivan (friend of Perry Morgan), Brian (friend of Frank Dodich), Brooke Boland (friend of Donna Palmer), Jessica Smith (friend of Donna Palmer), Ben Kitsko (son of Jill and Steve Kitsko), Marjory Speath (sister of Barbara Morgan), Mary Corigliano (cousin of Carol Palmer), Keren Clauberg (relative of Cheryl Mock), Bryan Palmer, Bill Horhay (co-worker of Pat Battito), George Terebush, Sr. (George's father), Rose Szymanski (neighbor of Joan Benkert)

Those with On-Going Long-Term Concerns

Edward and Betty Dobson, Jennifer Perez, Tyler Rich and Family (cousin of Carol Palmer), Betty Price, Dorothy Piperi (mother of Carolyn Gilligan's co-worker), Diana Dydak, Marlene Sian (friend of Carolyn Gilligan), Jeremy Hogan, Don Gilligan, Leo and Lucille Webber (friends of Carolyn Gilligan), Esther Nielsen, Phil Prasser



Clay Balls

A man was exploring caves by the seashore. In one of the caves he found a canvas bag with a bunch of hardened clay balls. It was like someone had rolled clay balls and left them out in the sun to bake.

They didn't look like much, but they intrigued the man, so he took the bag out of the cave with him. As he strolled along the beach, he would throw the clay balls one at a time out into the ocean as far as he could.

He thought little about it until he dropped one of the clay balls and it cracked open on a rock. Inside was a beautiful, precious stone!

Excited, the man started breaking open the remaining clay balls. Each contained a similar treasure. He found thousands of dollars worth of jewels in the 20 or so clay balls he had left. Then it struck him.

He had been on the beach a long time. He had thrown maybe 50 or 60 of the clay balls with their hidden treasure into the ocean waves. Instead of thousands of dollars in treasure, he could have taken home tens of thousands, but he had just thrown it away!

And so it is like that with people. We look at someone, maybe even ourselves, and we see the external clay vessel. It doesn't look like much from the outside. It isn't always beautiful or sparkling, so we discount it. We see that person as less important than someone more beautiful or stylish or well-known or wealthy, but we have not taken the time to find the treasure hidden inside that person.

There is a treasure in each and every one of us. If we take the time to get to know that person, and ask God to show us that person the way He sees them, then the clay begins to peel away and the

brilliant gem begins to shine forth.

May we not come to the end of our lives and find out that we have thrown away a fortune in friendships because the gems were hidden in bits of clay.

Comic Relief



A boy was watching his father, a pastor, write a sermon. "How do you know what to say?" he asked. "Why, God tells me." "Oh, then why do you keep crossing things out?"

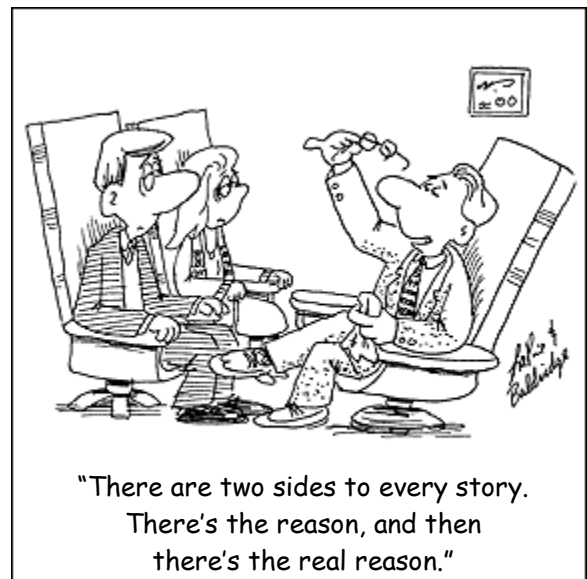
This minister is hunting in the woods when all of a sudden a huge bear comes out of nowhere and begins to chase him. The frightened minister trips over a small cliff. When he comes to, he sees the bear standing over him. The minister begins to pray, "Oh Lord, please make this bear into a Christian." Just then the bear drops to his knees and begins to pray, "Bless us, oh Lord, for this food which we are about to receive."

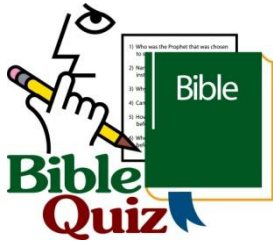
My granddaughter came to spend a few weeks with me, and I decided to teach her to sew. After I had gone through a lengthy explanation of how to thread and operate the machine, she stepped back, put her hands on her hips and said in disbelief, "You mean you can do all that, but you can't operate my Game Boy?"

Taxiing down the tarmac, the jetliner abruptly stopped, turned around, and returned to the gate. After an hour-long wait, it finally took off. A concerned passenger asked the flight attendant, "What was the problem?" "The pilot was bothered by a noise he heard in the engine," explained the flight attendant, "and it took us a while to find a new pilot."

A teacher was finishing up a lesson on the joys of discovery and the importance of curiosity. "Where would we be today," she asked, "if no one had ever been curious?"

One child quietly spoke up from the back of the room. "In the Garden of Eden?"





Monthly Bible Trivia Quiz

See how well you did by finding the answers elsewhere in this newsletter

Category: Jesus
Quiz Title: Sayings of Jesus

-
- Why did Jesus say, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick."
 - Because the Pharisees criticized him for eating with tax collectors and sinners.
 - Because the Pharisees criticized him for healing a blind man.
 - Because one of his disciples fell ill.
 - Because he refused to eat at the house of a Pharisee.
 - What commission did Jesus initially give his disciples?
 - Go forth and preach throughout the whole land.
 - Go ye into Jerusalem.
 - Go into the cities of the Samaritans.
 - Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
 - Which bird does Jesus say we have more value than?
 - Turtle Dove
 - Raven
 - Sparrow
 - Eagle
 - What sin did Jesus say cannot be forgiven?
 - Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.
 - Blasphemy against the Son of man.
 - Taking God's name in vain.
 - Murder
 - What did Jesus say when the disciples asked him, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
 - He who takes the lowest place.
 - He who humbles himself as a little child.
 - He who is a perfect and upright man.
 - He who keeps all the commandments of the law.
 - What does Jesus say someone who wants to follow him must do?
 - Deny himself, take up his cross and follow him.
 - Have a righteous heart and mind, and do the will of his Father.
 - Leave friends and family behind and sell all their possessions.
 - Read the scriptures daily and apply them to your life.
 - What was Jesus teaching about when he said, "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder?"
 - New cloth sewn on a new garment
 - The Law and the Prophets
 - Families
 - Marriage
 - Complete the saying: "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than...."
 - It is to find water in the desert.
 - For an ant to climb a mountain.
 - For a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.
 - For a poor man to receive honor.
 - What phrase did Jesus illustrate with parables?
 - Many are called but few are chosen.
 - He that is least shall be made great.
 - I desire mercy not sacrifice.
 - Give unto God the things that are God's.
 - What is Jesus' final commission to his disciples?
 - Preach the gospel to the lost sheep of Israel.
 - Shout and praise God the Father.
 - Teach all nations, baptizing them.
 - Heal the people in mind and body and prepare them for my return.
-



Bible Verse QuoteFall Puzzle

The object of QuoteFalls is to construct a quotation by selecting from available letters in the vertical columns. The letters in each column of the puzzle will go into the squares immediately below them, but not necessarily in the order they appear. Do not take letters from other columns. Each letter is used only once, so cross it out after you use it so you don't try to use it again. A word broken at the end of a line will continue on the next line. A black square indicates the end of a word. When you have placed all the letters in their correct squares, you will be able to read a bible verse across the grid from left to right. Hint: Try to fill in the little words first.

Romans 1:22 (KJV)

H	R	E	S	B	T	O	A	M	G		W	O	O	E	S	T
P	E	O	F	E	S	C	I	B	E		F	H	S	L	S	E
L	V	Y			E	S		N	E		T	I	E	M		

(Free sample puzzle from <http://biblewordgames.com>)

IN OUR DENOMINATION

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2009
CHRISTIAN VOCATION SUNDAY



Christian Vocation – Living into our Baptismal Identity

Christian Vocation? What does that mean? Vocation – that's related to our career, right? After all, we are familiar with the vocational high school downtown where students learn a trade. So, why are we using this word in the church?

Vocation actually refers to a calling, a word packed with religious significance. Basically, God has given each of us gifts and "calls" us to use them in a way that pleases and glorifies God. Our vocation is the way in which we respond to the many gifts God has given us; how we live our life.

It may be helpful to think of it this way: in baptism we receive our traveling orders; in the Lord's Supper we receive our food for the journey. Christian Vocation is about living into our baptismal identity, answering the call to demonstrate the gospel in all that we do and say.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2009
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE ("PEACE DAY")

The International Day of Peace, observed each year on September 21, brings a global call for a day of ceasefire and non-violence. It is a time to reflect on the benefits of peacefully resolving disputes.

The International Day of Peace provides an opportunity for individuals, organizations and nations to create practical acts of peace on a shared date. It was established by a United Nations resolution in 1981 to coincide with the opening of the General Assembly. The first Peace Day was celebrated in September 1982.

Anyone, anywhere can celebrate Peace Day. It can be as simple as lighting a candle at noon, or just sitting in silent meditation. Or it can involve getting your co-workers, organization, community or

government engaged in a large event. The impact of millions of people in all parts of the world coming together for one day of peace is immense.

This year, consider that gun violence claims some 30,000 lives annually in the United States. What might it look like to observe a day of ceasefire in our country? How might we work to address the tragedy of gun violence? What will you do?

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2009 NATIVE AMERICAN DAY

Native American Day appears on the Presbyterian Calendar as the day to recognize and celebrate the contributions of Native Americans/American Indians to the life of the church and community. The date of September 22 or 23 is selected and established as the date for Native American Day. The fall equinox is noted on one or the other of these dates. The equinox marks harvest time for many Native tribes and is a time of celebration and preparation for winter.

Did you know?

- There are 562 federally recognized tribes located on reservations, in rural areas on allotment lands, and in the cities.
- U.S. Census data reported a Native American population of 2,475,959 with the largest number residing in urban areas vs. reservations.
- There are 110 Native American churches and chapels in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Each congregation maintains their culture, language and traditions in varying degrees.
- The Grand Canyon Presbytery supports 23 churches and chapels with the largest number of churches on the Pima and Navajo Reservations.
- The Dakota Presbytery, Synod of Lakes and Prairies, is the oldest and only Native American non-geographic presbytery within the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Celebrate Native American Day by giving recognition to the presence of Native Americans in our society today.

August 4, 2009

Letters from Friends

Dear Friends,

I decided to send out this group email to update you all on Ben's condition. Sorry if some of you get it twice.

As most of you know, our son Ben was in a terrible car accident a week ago today. He was on his way back to my sister's home from Hershey Park where he worked. He was a mile from their home in Lancaster when he drifted over the line on a back road and was hit by a box truck. He has been in Lancaster General Hospital ever since.

It has been a roller coaster ride of setbacks and recovery. He had surgery on a very badly broken femur (his femur was in front of his knee cap! – loooooong recovery on that one!) and then started having difficulty with heart rate, oxygen levels and pain. He was in so much pain that he didn't move enough, his oxygen levels were so low and heart rate so high that they pumped him full of fluids, which contributed to fluid in his lungs and blood clots. Like me, he doesn't seem to tolerate narcotics at all well. They kept him so sedated that he didn't move, which was not good. On Sunday we almost lost him, but they took him off the narcotics and gave him diuretics, blood thinners, etc., and he started coming around. He had gained nearly 40 pounds in fluid from his time of admission! I actually came back to my sister's last night to sleep for the whole night for the first time in a week. He is now in a neuro-trauma unit and I cannot use my phone in there. If he keeps improving today, they may move him to another unit. He has now been in at least 7 different rooms and 4 units of the hospital!

We are hoping to move him to New Jersey by ambulance to a rehab facility in the next few days if he gets the breathing and clots under control, and if insurance will pay for and approve the move and the



rehab. There is no way we can care for him at home right away. He cannot put any weight on his leg for at least two months!

Please keep us in prayer. Steve is at home with work and the dog right now. He is also still looking for full-time work (waiting to hear on one good job!). Dan is at camp until Saturday. I will stay in Lancaster until Ben is moved. He is at Lancaster General Hospital and the address is 555 North Duke Street, Lancaster, PA, 17602. As long as he stays in the Trauma Unit, I can't use my cell phone, but feel free to leave messages and I will check email.

Poor Ben. Nothing is ever easy for him. He was doing so well in his first real job as a cook at Hershey! He even got a commendation on the day of his accident. Now he can't go back to work for the rest of the summer and probably can't start college until spring. Please continue to uphold him in prayer.

Jill Kitsko (our former Associate Pastor)

Update #2 (August 8, 2009)

Hello friends. I know that some of you have gotten some updates on Ben and his recovery from Steve and others, but I wanted to tell you a little good news myself! After 10 days of bouncing around the hospital from unit to unit, and several days of being quite critical, our son Ben began to improve. They moved him to an orthopedic unit and began to get him off the oxygen. As of Friday, we were feeling rather optimistic about his recovery and began to make plans to move him to in-patient rehab in New Jersey. Early this morning, he began to have some new chest discomfort and became quite agitated. They have put him back on some pain medication and are watching him carefully. I guess the lungs weren't as clear as they led us to believe yesterday. Please continue to keep him in your prayers. Steve is in Lancaster with Ben and I am in Metuchen to pick up Dan and get him ready for Band camp on Monday.

Update #3 (August 17, 2009)

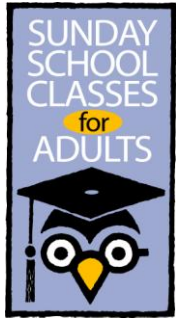
We're home! Rehab didn't keep Ben long, but he will have therapy here at the house and visiting nurses for awhile to monitor the blood thickness and lungs. Hopefully he will be up and ready for college in 3 weeks - at least with a modified schedule, wheelchair and chauffer! Now I just have to get my church up and moving for the fall. Thanks for the prayers!

Answer to Bible Verse QuoteFall Puzzle

Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.
Romans 1:22 (KJV)

Answers to Monthly Bible Trivia Quiz

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. a) Because the Pharisees criticized him for eating with tax collectors and sinners - Matthew 9:12 | 6. a) Deny himself, take up his cross and follow him - Matthew 16:24 |
| 2. d) Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel - Matthew 10:6 | 7. d) Marriage - Matthew 19:6 |
| 3. c) Sparrow - Matthew 10:31 | 8. c) For a rich man to enter the kingdom of God - Matthew 19:24 |
| 4. a) Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit - Matthew 12:31 | 9. a) Many are called but few are chosen - Matthew 20:16 and 22:14 |
| 5. b) He who humbles himself as a little child - Matthew 18:4 | 10. c) Teach all nations, baptizing them - Matthew 28:19 |

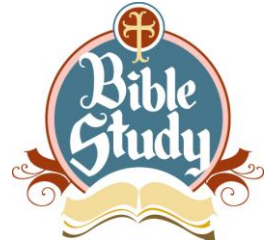


FALL 2009 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS AND BIBLE STUDY

**** NEW ****

Pastor Tucker will be leading a new Adult Sunday School class on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m., beginning on Sunday, September 13, 2009 and continuing through Sunday, December 13, 2009. The planned lesson is "Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Christian Theology."

Pastor Tucker will also be leading a new Bible Study on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., beginning on Wednesday, September 16, 2009 and continuing through Wednesday, November 18, 2009. The topic of study will be the Book of Romans.



Childcare will be provided, but please call the Church Office at 732-634-1631 to register.

To view and/or print the flyer for these new classes, please [click here](#).

SUNDAY MORNING FALL PREACHING SERIES

Join us for our Sunday morning worship service preaching series beginning Sunday, September 13, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Fall Series Schedule

- September 13 - **Blue Prints:** *A plan for my life*
- September 20 - **Foundations:** *What is my life really built on?*
- September 27 - **Framing:** *How I manage my time*
- October 4 - **Plumbing:** *Getting rid of the junk*
- October 11 - **Electrical:** *Getting plugged into the power*
- October 18 - **Roofing:** *Preparing for storms and temptations*
- October 25 - **Drywall:** *Building integrity into every room*



To view and/or print the flyer for the Fall Preaching Series, please [click here](#).



Youth Mission Trip Informational Meeting

Youth Mission Trip – July 18-24, 2010

There will be an informational meeting in the Sanctuary for parents and youth (current 8th graders to current 12th graders) on Sunday, September 20, 2009 immediately following the morning worship service to discuss the planning of the July 18-24, 2010 Youth Mission Trip.

For all other members of the congregation, we will supply information on this mission trip in upcoming issues of Stream Lines and the Sunday bulletin as details become available. We want to let everyone know what our youth are doing and the projects in which they are involved.

BENEVOLENCE REPORT – June 2009

	Debits	Credits	Balance
Cash Balance			\$6,912.12
Total Deposits			
10%		\$1,057.70	
Navajo Mission		\$0.00	
Family Promise (\$.02 A Meal)		\$0.00	
Fathers Day (Johnsonburg)		\$145.00	
Total		\$1,202.70	
Total Working Capital			\$8,114.82
Specifics Set Aside			
Emergency Fund	\$750.00		
Emergency Fund Addition	\$250.00		
Emergency Fund Disbursement	\$0.00		
Family Promise	\$1,027.07		
Family Promise Addition	\$0.00		
Family Promise Disbursement	\$0.00		
Fathers Day (Johnsonburg)	\$105.00		
Fathers Day (Johnsonburg) Addition	\$145.00		
Total	\$2,277.07		\$5,837.75
Net Funds Available			\$5,837.75
Disbursements - Denominational			
Unified Mission	\$600.00		
Total	\$600.00		\$5,237.75
Disbursements - Session			
Navajo Mission (Construction)	\$50.00		
Navajo Mission (Sunday School)	\$30.00		
Prison Ministries	\$50.00		
Walter Hoving Home	\$50.00		
Elizabethport Children's Programs	\$50.00		
Sudan Mission	\$50.00		
The Salvation Army	\$50.00		
Gambell Presbyterian Church (Alaska)	\$50.00		
Christian Appalachian Project	\$50.00		
Covenant House	\$50.00		
eape (Tony Campolo Ministries)	\$50.00		
Elijah's Promise (New Brunswick Soup Kitchen)	\$50.00		
Total	\$580.00		\$4,657.75
Disbursements - Committee Recommended (Session Approved)			
Total	\$0.00		\$4,657.75
Cash Balance			\$4,657.75
Money Held in Specifics		\$2,277.07	
Net Funds Available			\$6,934.82

BENEVOLENCE REPORT – July 2009

	Debits	Credits	Balance
Cash Balance			\$6,934.82
Total Deposits			
10%		\$980.25	
Navajo Mission		\$0.00	
Family Promise (\$.02 A Meal)		\$41.47	
Fathers Day (Johnsonburg)		\$20.00	
Total		\$1,041.72	
Total Working Capital			\$7,976.54
Specifics Set Aside			
Emergency Fund	\$1,000.00		
Emergency Fund Addition	\$0.00		
Emergency Fund Disbursement	\$0.00		
Family Promise	\$1,027.07		
Family Promise Addition	\$41.47		
Family Promise Disbursement	\$0.00		
Fathers Day (Johnsonburg)	\$250.00		
Fathers Day (Johnsonburg) Addition	\$20.00		
Fathers Day (Johnsonburg) Disbursement	(\$270.00)		
Total	\$2,068.54		\$5,908.00
Net Funds Available			\$5,908.00
Disbursements - Denominational			
Unified Mission	\$600.00		
Total	\$600.00		\$5,308.00
Disbursements - Session			
Navajo Mission (Construction)	\$50.00		
Navajo Mission (Sunday School)	\$30.00		
Prison Ministries	\$50.00		
Walter Hoving Home	\$50.00		
Elizabethport Children's Programs	\$50.00		
Sudan Mission	\$50.00		
The Salvation Army	\$50.00		
Gambell Presbyterian Church (Alaska)	\$50.00		
Christian Appalachian Project	\$50.00		
Covenant House	\$50.00		
eape (Tony Campolo Ministries)	\$50.00		
Elijah's Promise (New Brunswick Soup Kitchen)	\$50.00		
Total	\$580.00		\$4,728.00
Disbursements - Committee Recommended (Session Approved)			
Fathers Day (Johnsonburg)	\$270.00		
Total	\$270.00		\$4,458.00
Cash Balance			\$4,458.00
Money Held in Specifics		\$2,068.54	
Net Funds Available			\$6,526.54

STREAM LINES



SEPTEMBER 2009

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AVENEL
621 E. WOODBRIDGE AVENUE
AVENEL, NJ 07001

(732) 634-1631

Non-Profit
Organization



STREAM LINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AVENEL

SEPTEMBER 2009