

Week of May 14, 2017

Fitting In

At First Pres

Where can I belong?

Prayer Ministries

Need Prayer? For emergencies in your family call the office (610-375-3389). We will start the PRAYER CHAIN that will go to a wide section of the congregation. (Want to be part of the Prayer Chain? Tell Rosemary Barrell). For on-going, confidential prayer, fill in a prayer card at worship and drop it in the plate. The PRAYER & HEALING TEAM will pray over your request for two weeks. They also, on request, will come to the hospital, your home, or anywhere to pray with you. For in-person prayer on a Sunday morning, two HOUSE OF PRAYER TEAM members will meet you in the Prayer Room, listen, and pray.

PH.inisheD.!



Dr. Chris DiVietro, his wife, Liz, and their children, Judah and Aletheia

He did it! Our new senior pastor, Chris DiVietro, has added more initials after his name with a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership from Johnson University in Knoxville, TN conferred on April 29th. This degree is just his latest. He also holds a Master of Arts in Religion from Reformed Theological Seminary, a BA in Religious Studies and BS in Neuroscience from Allegheny College. We are looking forward to his first sermon here with us on June 11.

Chris writes: Dear brothers and sisters, these last few weeks have brought much joy, excitement, and upheaval to our family. Preparing to sell a home, buy a home, move our family, finish my PhD, conclude relationships & projects in South Carolina, and undertake new relationships & projects in Reading has left us eager to join you all. I recently spent a day and a half with some of you, and rejoice over the faithfulness of the Lord as He has continued to guide this congregation into the future. Thank you for giving of your time, energy, gifts, and talents to help prepare the way for this new season of ministry. I pray for our church family daily and joyfully anticipate many years of partnership in the gospel. Join me in praying God will continue to work in us and through us to move the gospel outward and onward. Soli Deo Gloria!

Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

- Philippians 2:17-18

June Birthdays

- 1 Abigail Sensenig
- 2 Shari Lorish
- 3 Betty Hamilton
- 5 Dave Wagner
- 8 Paul Eisenhuth
- 9 Marcus DeVos
- 15 Keanue Carter
- 17 Dean Taylor



- 26 Don Roupe
- 27 Becky Bauman
- Charlie Lutz
- 29 Ray Kirkner

Marsdale, Alan Marsdale, International Man of Missions

Alan recently became the Session's representative on the Missions Committee. That also means he is the new chairperson. Alan loves supporting missionaries and projects, but had never really thought about what the process was. He says it is a lot more involved than he anticipated. We have a dynamic program and he is excited about how we are partnering with so many Kingdom worthy people and organizations.



What's Up with this Building, you Ask?

On April 24th Alan Marsdale provided a thorough tour of the church and the inner city of Reading to a Philadelphia developer, Brad. He is a Christian and has found renewed purpose for other buildings in the Philly area. He is a professional and Alan was interested to see his systematic approach to a process like this. Before they left the church Brad prayed for our congregation and God's will for our building. Alan assured him that we are corporately praying for the same. Please include Brad in those prayers and let's see how God answers.

Greet the DiVietros!



Please join us after worship on Sunday June 11th to welcome Pastor Chris, his wife Liz, and their children Aletheia and Judah to the First Pres family. Light refreshments will be served in the parlor.

With a Little Help from Her Friends

By Alan Marsdale

Ethel Kinkaid and Pat Hummel have been friends for many years. I remember meeting Pat at the farmer's market shopping for herself and Ethel who was house bound. Now after Ethel had to leave her home to have more personal care for herself, Pat has since moved into action to prepare Ethel's home for sale. I was able to be a small part of one day's work with about six others from FPC to sort and separate a life's assortment of belongings. The process continues to recycle, donate and salvage what can be in preparing for the home sale process. Pat is undaunting in support of her friend and that is so right.

God's word tells us in James 1:27 "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress..." It is encouraging and worth notice to see Christianity in action by friends and other volunteers quietly meeting another's needs in this way. So be it.



The smiling people grouped around Ethel, plus a few not pictured, initiated the first "First Friday with Ethel." Lisa Geyer organized the party at ManorCare, Laureldale, for friends to come for lunch with Ethel. It's now a standing date: the first Friday of every month. Ann Wenrich, hostess extraordinaire for Young in Heart, provides decorations from her vast supply to suit the theme of the month-- Easter, Chinese, and Pizza party so far. Anyone who'd like to join the party is welcome. Just say the word to Lisa, Ann, Louise, or Pat, and you'll be in the loop.