



Pompton Reformed Church  
59 Hamburg Tpk  
Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442  
973-835-0541  
[www.pomptonreformed.org](http://www.pomptonreformed.org)



## OCTOBER

**Pastor Mel is "digging into" the life of PRC! Have you seen the pictures of our members and their meaningful Bible verses? Pastor Mel would love to have that bulletin board overfilled with pictures and verses. And who is that man on the motorcycle? You'll have to take a look to find out! Here are some other areas Pastor Mel is working on.....**

**Sermon themes: World Communion Sunday reminds us that people around the world are finding a more fulfilling life in learning and living by Christian practices and a prayerful relationship with Christ. During October we will be examining some basic Christian teachings that enrich the lives of people worldwide, in changing cultures, and generation after generation.**

**God's vision of my potential At this stage in my life, what does God see as fulfilling ways for life ventures? Enjoy dialogue with a small group, guided by nationally tested curriculum to discover how to enjoy your giftedness to the full at this life stage. Groups meet Sunday about 11:30 am and Wednesday at 1:30. Explore at any sessions as they progress throughout all of October.**

**Parents, Grandparents, and Intergenerational Mentors A packet of helpful information and a description of resources available through your church is now available. If you did not get one, you'll find one for you by the Heemstra Plaque and library display. If you are not able to get to church soon, you can phone and we will mail it to you. Through support of the Christian Education and Discipleship Team you will discover enrichment material to make your role as parent or mentor more enjoyable and fulfilling.**

**Pastoral Care You can reach Pastor Mel 24/7 on his cell phone 201-881-9431. He is becoming aware of the many congregational care and development resource people volunteering to enrich our church family also. He is usually at church Tuesday – Thursday, setting times to meet with individuals as well as groups. Monday and Friday he is usually at home preparing for Sunday worship, sermons, and in-depth planning.**

**We look forward to seeing you at Sunday service!**



## Smiling Pumpkins

By Elaine Peacock

My favorite time of the year is finally here October. This is the time of the year for smiling pumpkins, beautiful leaves of all colors, crispy air, visits to local farms, hayrides and of course spooky thrills. One thing that I look forward to each year is *The Tunnel of Terror* at Fairfield Gardens if you have never been there put it on your to do list you'll be glad you did. This is the time of the year that God does his best work with all those reds, oranges, yellows and browns. The air is cool just right for long walks shuffling through the leaves under beautiful blue skies. So put on your favorite sweater or sweatshirt and take some time to enjoy God's handiwork. While you're at it check out some of the Halloween stores that have popped up you just may find your perfect costume for trick or treating. Get out there and enjoy!



## Round Table of Thanks

Thank you to all the people involved in our wonderful church picnic. It was a great success under difficult circumstances and everyone who attended was so appreciative. Thank you for good food and fellowship.

Thank you to Elyse Kacsik for volunteering to get the Go Fund Me page up and running and also for all her updates via e-mail regarding the roof repair. We appreciate all your energy and enthusiasm in getting all this accomplished

Thank you to our Newsletter, editor, Karen Huysers, who puts a wonderful newsletter together every month. She keeps our congregation and those outside informed of all happenings at PRC. We appreciate all your dedication, hard work and informative newsletter. Great Job!



***Jeanette Struble would like to thank her church family for all the cards, prayers and visits she received while in the hospital, rehab and now at home. Jeannette and her husband Walt both appreciate the special visits they received from Jo Ann Sisco and Elaine Peacock.***

***Jeanette is doing much better but still needs more rehab to get her strength back. Jeanette had good news from her last doctor's visit and her new leg braces are finally here and fit well.***

August 13, 2016

Dear Pompton Reformed Church Family,

Thank you so much for the generous scholarship to help me cover the cost of attending Western Theological Seminary. The money is greatly appreciated and is being used to cover my textbooks as well as some of my tuition. What I appreciate even more than the money is the unconditional support of my church family as I return to school to begin my mDiv.

Knowing that I have the prayers and encouragement of my church family at home are so important to me. School begins in just over a week and I am unbelievably excited to start. I have already begun to read my required textbooks and they are fascinating! I know that God is leading me in the right direction and I cannot wait to come back and share more of the adventure with you.

God is Good! Anna Gordon



POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH  
Sunday School Teachers  
2016-2017

Nursery	Chrissy Warner Abigail Wyckoff
Children in Worship Kindergarten / 1 <sup>st</sup> grade	Joanie Warner Tina Iraggi Loryanna Shand Sue Kuebler Mikey Hart
2 <sup>nd</sup> / 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	Maryann Waibel Michele DeJesus
4 <sup>th</sup> / 5 <sup>th</sup> grade	Bruce Davis Mark Warner
Jr. High/Sr. High	Janine Maletsky
Music Coordinator	
Substitutes	Drew Altorfer Kim Hollar Vince Iraggi Elena VanSchaack
Support Team	Cindi Petrides Val Petrides



Thank you to all our teachers, substitutes and support team members for guiding our littlest disciples! They request your prayers as they work to teach our youngsters of Jesus's all-encompassing love.

## Pompton Reformed Church Sanctuary Repair Update



On Saturday Sept. 10 the Operations met with contractors to review bids for repair of the sanctuary. Seven contractors placed qualified bids. Sunday Operations met with Consistory and recommended Visbeen Construction to immediately commence repairs. Visbeen comes highly recommended, having worked on numerous houses of worship as well as major projects at the Christian Healthcare Center. Visbeen is the right company to restore our worship sanctuary. Permits are being applied for and all necessary materials and supplies lined up.

The structural trusses supporting the roof will be repaired. It became apparent after meeting with engineers and contractors that complete removal and replacement brought an unacceptable level of risk to the masonry walls of the building. Visbeen has started work and in the next few days you will start seeing construction begin. Most noticeable will be the stained glass windows being covered with heavy plywood. After all protective measures are in place demolition will begin so expect to see dumpsters in front the building. Eventually scaffolding will go up and the slate will be removed from the roof.

The estimated timeframe puts completion into the first quarter of 2017. There are too many variables to put a date on it – weather being a major factor.

The cost for Visbeen's portion of the work is \$503,200. Other significant expenses will bring the estimated total cost for the project to approximately \$700,000.

At the end of the project we will once again have a beautiful worship space. Numerous things, which have been affected by construction, will be updated and improved on. We are truly excited about returning to a refreshed space.

Finally, while the Operations Team has been hard at work with everything you've just read, others have been working hard too. Fundraising is underway to help pay for the repairs. Please share the information with those you know as it comes out. The support we have already seen is wonderful. Thank you for your support, help and patience as we work through this together.

Thank you,  
The Operations Team

*(Editor's note: if anyone would like to share pictures of the work in progress, I would love to include pictures in the following newsletters. Please email to me with your name for proper acknowledgment. )*

## **Pompton Reformed Church - Historic Neighborhood Church is feeling it's age and needs your HELP!!!**



"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" - Joshua 24.15

Whether you are a member of Pompton Reformed Church or just know us by being the big white church with the big steeple and cemetery on the corner of Hamburg Turnpike and Ringwood Ave, we've actively supported our community for the past 200 years. Whether it be our free Pancake Breakfast, food pantry, hosting girl/boy scouts, Toys for Tots, hosting homeless families, flood relief center or anything needed to support our amazing community, Pompton Reformed Church has been there and will continue to be there. Now we need your support.

Shortly after celebrating Easter services this past Spring, we became aware of a serious and potentially dangerous structural problem with the supporting structures of the roof of our sanctuary building. These hand-hewn timbers, constructed over two centuries ago, have become compromised and must be replaced in order to avoid collapse. We immediately in the interest of safety vacated our beloved sanctuary and have been worshipping in our Fellowship Hall while continuing to serve our communities needs and awaiting repair plans to be finalized.

We are in the process of reviewing the bids and choosing a Construction firm. We hope to start construction to repair our beloved Sanctuary very soon.

We are kicking off a Go Fund Me campaign to help with the extensive cost to repair the roof and would appreciate your support in making a donation, spreading the word and telling our story. Throughout the construction, we will continue to be here to serve our Community like we've been doing the past 200 years.

The Go Fund Me link is below.

<https://www.gofundme.com/2n28qnes>

Sincerely,

Friends of Pompton Reformed Church  
email: [Fundraising@PomptonReformed.org](mailto:Fundraising@PomptonReformed.org)  
<http://pomptonreformed.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/PomptonReformedChurch>



Birthdays

Kim (Winter) Mako  
 Jeremy Winter  
 Bruce Davis  
 Emily Davis  
 JoAnn Sisco



Memorials

<u>From</u>	<u>In Memory Of</u>	<u>Designated</u>
George & Barbara Buckman	Betty Sisco	Roof Fund
Carolyn Stevens	Betty Sisco	Roof Fund
Cas & Jean Stark	Betty Sisco	Roof Fund
Michael & Gail Freeland	Betty Sisco	Roof Fund
Jackie Bush	Betty Sisco	Rood Fund
Marilyn Grimes	Betty Sisco	Roof Fund
Marcella Boyle	Betty Sisco	Roof Fund
Marie Ricci	Betty Sisco	Roof Fund
Shirley Montanari	Betty Sisco	Roof Fund
Shirley Montanari	Ray Snover	Roof Fund
Shirley Montanari	Martin Peters	Roof Fund
Michael Soojian	Scott Bryne	Undesignated

**Pompton Reformed Church  
 Search Team Update  
 September 20, 2016**

The PRC Search Team continues to meet every other Monday. We continue to use The Pastoral Search Handbook as our guide.

1. We have received and reviewed profiles from 14 candidates.
2. We held a “practice interview” on September 6, 2016.
3. We interviewed “candidate #1” on September 11, 2016 and “candidate #2” on September 19, 2016. We will be scheduling a follow-up interview with “candidate #1” in the near future.
4. The PRC “Church Packet” is in the final proofreading stage. It will be given to the candidates who have passed the team screening process prior to their interview.



Dear Pompton Reformed Church Family,

Thank you so much for your faithful support! Many of you have been with us since we started out 10 years ago.

In the last 5 months since we returned from Uruguay, we have spent a lot of time praying and asking for godly guidance about the next ministry God would have for us. We have been at High Point Camp near Reading, PA since April to help them with summer camps. A few weeks ago, they offered Bruno a full time paid ministry position split between the High Point Camp and High Point Academy. The job is mostly working with computers and a little bit of everything during the summer camp season. We have accepted this position and we are excited to see how God will use us in the camp and Christian school!

As Paul writes in Philippians 4:16-18, everything done in Uruguay it was all, "fruit that increases to your credit". Thank you for your prayers and generous support over the last 10 years! We were talking about how much we will miss your prayers! We could always count on you to bring us before the Lord. We write this news with mixed emotions, but we are excited about our new ministry at High Point. Our prayer is that you would not cease to pray for us, but that you would continue to bring us before the Lord as we will for you.

As of August 31, we will no longer be needing missionary support. Though, the camp in Uruguay has a great Uruguayan couple, Stephanie and Joni, there to run the ministry alongside of the local pastors. We have worked with them the last few years and they are dear friends with a huge heart for the ministry. We felt confident to leave the camp in their hands because of that. If you would like to continue your support of the camp ministry in Uruguay, just change the memo on the checks from our name to "Uruguay Camp." If you would like we would be able to come and share on their behalf at your church to update you on the ministry.

Also, please let us know if you would like to come share with you about our last year in Uruguay and our new ministry at High Point Camp and Academy.

## Praises

- We are grateful for the time we were in Uruguay and the things God taught us through that experience in preparation for this new ministry.
- For each of you that has partnered with us in ministry.
- Praise God for Stephanie, Joni, and baby that continue in the camp ministry in Uruguay.

## Prayer

- Please be praying for Callie and Miguel as they transition into school.
- Pray for us as we transition into this new ministry.

In him,

**Bruno, Audrey, Callie and Miguel Couto**

# Autumnfest 2016

Autumnfest is mere weeks away! Have you decided what you are baking for the bake table? If you have not been contacted already, give Lorna Carroll or Nancy Shimmel a call. The bake table is a major attraction of Autumnfest!

Help is needed the day of Autumnfest spelling other volunteers. Can you spare an hour or more?

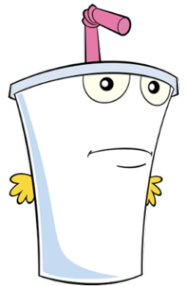
Donations of water, soda, and diet soda are all gratefully accepted.

Any questions, please speak to Jo -Anne Sisco, our marvelous Autumnfest organizer!!



## “Wendy’s Night” Update

Many thanks to the hungry folks who turned out to Wendy’s on Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>! We raised \$318.15 towards our roof repairs.



Please keep **October 12<sup>th</sup>** and **November 16<sup>th</sup>** in mind as our friends at Wendy’s have kindly given us three such nights. 15% of all sales between 5:00 pm and 8:00 pm will be returned to us to help defray costs. Every little bit helps and we all have to eat, so why not?

## Fundraising (Stewardship) Update

Many have been wondering and inquiring about what is going on with fundraising efforts for our roof repair that is now well under way. Our great and loving God knew what was needed and graciously provided it through property sales and bequests before we had any idea there was a problem with the sanctuary roof.

It is very important for the short term and long term future and effectiveness in ministry of PRC for us to do all we can through stewardship campaigns to repay as much as possible and perhaps more than what we have borrowed from ourselves for the roof repair. Our fervent prayer and desire after we return to our beloved sanctuary is to continue to impact our communities for Christ and not to leave ourselves depleted and ineffective. If this is to be accomplished for the benefit of future generations, it will involve much sacrifice on the part of all of us, just as many previous generations have sacrificed for us, and the Gospel!



Our Consistory has recently contracted the services of a professional Christian fundraising consultant to guide us through the process. Ms. Keith Nelsen Stroud was introduced in our worship service on September 25<sup>th</sup> after working with consistory for several hours the previous afternoon. Keith is a member of the Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Middleburg, VA and has worked professionally in the area of stewardship and congregational development for over 30 years. Over this time, she has consulted with many congregations on capital campaigns, annual campaigns and congregational engagement from Florida to New Jersey, including our neighbors at Christ Episcopal Church here in Pompton Lakes a few years ago.

In the few meetings that consistory has had with Keith thus far, it has been apparent that she has a great passion for the Lord and for her work in educating congregations that stewardship is an everyday conversation with God and a daily giving back in grateful thanksgiving for all that has been given to us.

Keith will be guiding us from Virginia as well as periodic face-to-face sessions here. Our initial focus will be an annual campaign, or what we at PRC have long referred to as a pledge campaign, for the year 2017. We will each be challenged to increase our giving to the extent possible. In addition, we will be formulating and launching a three-year capital campaign in which we will all be asked to pledge what the Lord places on our hearts **over and above** our regular weekly giving, which is for our operating budget.

Looking to the future long after this chapter is behind us, our prayer is that through what we learn from our consultation with Keith and the processes that are developed, we will be able to sustain a vibrant and healthy, ongoing stewardship program, which has been lacking at PRC for a number of years.

Please keep these efforts in your prayers as together we continue through these challenging days with total trust in the guiding presence of our Savior. Thank you!

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.  
Proverbs 3:5



Last day for submissions for the Nov.

Newsletter is Oct. 30. Please email

[khuysers@msn.com](mailto:khuysers@msn.com)