

† POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH LIFE †

Today we welcome Reverend Debbie Pierce, gracing the pulpit in the church where she grew up. Debbie currently is serving as Associate Pastor and Director of Christian Education at Ponds Reformed in Oakland

Next Sunday their Senior Pastor, Reverend Nathan Busker, will be with us. Pastor Nate is also serving PRC as an advisor to both our consistory and our Pastoral Search Team during our transitional period.

Our Autumnfest craft fair, community outreach and biggest fundraising event of the year, once again expertly organized and executed by JoAnn Sisco and the Fellowship team, will be held next Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm. This is of course a church-wide effort and there are PLENTY of opportunities for EVERYONE to help in one way or another. Please contact Jo-Ann with your availability to pitch in starting on Thursday evening, and be sure to pray for this to be a blessed event for everyone involved.

Autumnfest Bakery Items can be dropped off in Fellowship Hall on Friday, October 20th between 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. or before 10:00 a.m. on Saturday.

For Newcomers--Children Are Always Joyfully Welcome -- Children are invited to participate in the worship service. In addition, the nursery for age 0 -3 is staffed by a trained adult starting at 9:50 am.

For Parents-- Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you must suppress it here. Sit toward the front so they can see what is happening. Help your child find the printed parts. Children learn by copying you in singing and praying. Ask an usher for a children's worship service packet to give their hands something to do.

Guests-- Guests are invited to fill out the welcome card so we can send you a thank you for coming, and keep you posted on what may benefit you. Plan to stay for refreshments, ask questions, and help us learn how we might be supportive to you in your ministries, hopes and concerns.

Connect Online-- Visit our website, www.pomptonreformed.org, for more information about what we offer that may be enriching for you. You can also "like" us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PomptonReformed for more news and more photos.

Pompton Reformed Church is accepting donations to aid those affected by the hurricanes. Donations can be made by check payable to Pompton Reformed Church and indicate "Hurricane Relief" on the memo.

Discovery Group--Every Wednesday, 1:30-3 pm, refreshments-Life Opportunities Discussions and Discoveries, advice time for our Pastor on relevant sermon applications to future Bible Passages. Come and check it out any Wednesday.

Pastoral Care - You can reach Pastor Mel 24/7 on his cell phone 201-881-9431. He is 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.

FYI - PRC leadership has recently secured the services of a cleaning service (Capital Cleaning Contractors) to maintain the cleanliness of our facilities. If there are any comments or suggestions, please contact the operations team at operations@pomptonreformed.org or place a note in their mailbox. Thank you.

The Food Pantry is in need of spaghetti sauce, jelly, fruit, macaroni & cheese, tuna fish, tooth paste, deodorant and clothes detergent. Thank you to all who so generously continue to give.

We are Thankful for our Present Christian Education staff:

Nursery staff: Abigail Wyckoff and Christin Warner
Children and Worship (age 3 – Kindergarten) Joanie Warner and Cindi Petrides
Grades 1-5 Wesley Witherington, Crystal Ghiraldi, Gail Marie Stewart
Grades 6 -12 Bruce Davis, Mark Warner

Assisting with curriculum development: Linda Hufschmid & Maryann Waibel
Parent ministry: Linda Hufschmid, Helen Gioia, Crystal Ghiraldi
Adult Education: Elena Van Schaack
Music Coordinator - Janine Maletsky
Substitutes - Drew Altorfer, Kim Hollar, Vince Iraggi, Elena VanSchaack, Gail Marie Stewart, Tom & Marianne Wall
Team support: Val Petrides, Wayne Haussler

Volunteer to be a Storyteller on one Sunday - Your only qualification is a desire to impact the lives of children. You need not be a biblical expert. We can provide you with a Bible story to read. You plan to tell them about a personal spiritual experience—a Bible verse you like and why, a church experience that you loved and

how it was helpful, a church person you admired and why, a prayer you like, or a personal experience for which you are thankful to God. You can make a lasting difference in a child's faith life.

**This Week at PRC
(10/16 -10/22/17)**

Monday	9:00 a.m.	Highlands Family Success Ctr.–ESL class – Rm. 108
	7:00 p.m.	Search Team
	7:00 p.m.	“The Case for Christ” film discussion time – Rm. 103
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Knitters – Rm. 108
Wednesday	1:30 p.m.	Life Opportunities Discovery Group – Rm. 108
	7:00 p.m.	Consistory
Thursday	5:30 p.m.	Pizza & Meltaways then Autumnfest preparation
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir rehearsal – Sanctuary
Friday	9:30 am – 6:30 pm	Autumnfest Bake-table drop-off
Saturday	10:00am – 4:00 pm	Autumnfest
Sunday	10:300 a.m.	Worship with Rev. Nathan Busker

Looking Ahead:

Next Sunday, October 22nd, our guest preacher will be Rev. Nathan Busker, Senior Pastor at the Ponds Reformed Church in Oakland. Pastor Busker has also been faithfully serving this congregation as supervisor to both our Consistory and The Pastoral Search Team.

We will also welcome some special guest musicians next week. “Beyond The Walls” is a contemporary Christian band with a simple mission: To minister through music to connect people to God, to heal, and to bring joy. These friends of PRC will be visiting from their home church, Clinton United Methodist in Clinton, NJ.

† Prayer Requests from Last Sunday †

- Prayers for Kathy having a heart test in the next few weeks to determine what can be done next
- Prayers for Bernice facing a difficult choice of more surgery or keep fighting the infection that is not responding to medication
- Prayers for my son to feel the hope of Christ in his life
- Prayers for John Di Pasquale, Kathryn Marvel, Michelle Hunt, Kevin Brown and Michelle Fraser
- Prayers for my friend Sue and her family who lost her nephew suddenly yesterday
- Healing prayers for Bobi Cockefair who fell Friday night – no broken bones, only a sprain
- Prayers for my sister suffering from a bad fall and broken hand plus severe financial problems; and her son, suffering from cluster headaches and chronic migraines
- Continued prayers for Wayne Gurr as he battles a brain tumor

Today’s Scripture Lesson: Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21

You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. ¹⁴ I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. ¹⁵ But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased ¹⁶ to reveal his Son to me,^[a] so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being, ¹⁷ nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus.

But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood self-condemned; ¹² for until certain people came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But after they came, he drew back and kept himself separate for fear of the circumcision faction. ¹³ And the other Jews joined him in this hypocrisy, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. ¹⁴ But when I saw that they were not acting consistently with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, “If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?”^[a]

¹⁵ We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; ¹⁶ yet we know that a person is justified^[b] not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ.^[c] And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ,^[d] and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. ¹⁷ But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸ But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. ¹⁹ For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; ²⁰ and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God,^[e] who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification^[f] comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.