



Pompton Reformed Church

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Change is in the air; Change is good!; the only constant is change; the winds of change are upon us.....So many platitudes to help us accept change.

Change is unsettling, upsetting and unnerving and something we all resist. We like what we are comfortable with, but change can bring about growth and new vigor.

I was a member here when we changed from two services; 9am and 11am to 10 am. No one was happy. The 9am people said it was too late; the 11 am people said it was too early. And we have been Happily meeting at 10 am for years. Now we are in a new situation- Pastor Mel is recouping at home from a long 28 month interim position and we are meeting at 11 am with wonderful pastors from Ponds Reformed to lead us. We are a flexible group- anyone that remembers the move from two services to one, knows that we found new seats (oh my), welcomed people we did not know well before and became a single congregation instead of two separate ones. Growth!

Growth is painful. Change is painful.
But, nothing is as painful as staying stuck where you do not belong.
N. R. Narayana Murthy

This is another step in the journey to find our new pastor- someone that will lead us into the future. God is our leader into the desert and through the Red Sea and he will bring us through unscathed. Have faith! It is easy to be discouraged...the search for our pastor is taking longer than we hoped but the right person to lead PRC is out there and the way is being made ready for him or her. Pray for our church and our search team

Deuteronomy 31:6 *Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."*

Isiah 43:19 *See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.*

Phillippians 4:6 *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Yours in Christ,
Karen Huysers,
Editor

Oct. 6, 2018
11 AM Service
Begins



Dear Members and Friends of PRC,

Our consistory recently voted not to renew the contract of interim Pastor Mel Van Hattem beyond the end of September.

After much prayerful consideration, we believe it is in the best interest of the spiritual health of our church family to move in a different direction for the remainder of our pastoral transition.

This was a very difficult decision and we will always remain grateful to Pastor Mel for his devotion to ministry among us for these past twenty-eight months.

In a cooperative arrangement with our sister church at Ponds Reformed, pulpit supply will be provided each and every Sunday beginning on October 14th by either Pastor Nathan Busker or Pastor Debbie Pierce. Worship leadership will remain as always a joint effort of our preacher, liturgist, music staff and elders.

In order for this temporary arrangement to work, we will be moving our worship time to 11:00 am. This time change to 11:00 begins on Sunday, October 7th when Reverend Andy Rienstra will be our guest preacher.

As stated this will be a temporary arrangement for the duration of the pastoral search process and can be re-assessed along with our new pastor when he or she arrives.

Although we are aware that this is a change for all of us, we ask that as a loving church family we move forward with the love and grace that our Lord has bestowed upon all of us.

Please know that our elders are always available for any concerns, questions or for needed prayers.

Thank you for your ongoing care, concern and support for our church family. We would also like to thank you for your patience during a longer than expected pastoral search process. Our search team continues to do an amazing job. The length of this search is not in any way a reflection of their tremendous hard work, devotion and determination for seeking THE pastor God is calling to us at this critical time. Please thank and encourage these good folks when you get a chance. To refresh your memory, the members of this hard working and faithful group are: Classis Supervisor Rev. Nathan Busker, Chairman Jack Tice, Drew Altorfer; Doreen Apgar; Cristina Earle; Keith Hanisch; Kim Hollar; Vince Iraggi; Sue Kuebler; Terry Terhune; Elena Van Schaack; Joanie Warner and Kristin Widdowson.

Also, please join us in thanking Pastor Mel, a wonderful Christian man and indeed a good and faithful servant; for all that he has done for our Lord and PRC during his time with us.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

PRC Consistory

Fall in Love with October

By Elaine Peacock



October, the month I wait for all year long, is finally here. Everything I love about the fall is wrapped up into the 31 days of this month; changing leaves, sweater weather, beautiful clear blue skies and of course all those spooky Halloween displays. I love taking long walks shuffling through the leaves in my favorite sweater. The humidity is finally gone and the days are crisp and the skies are a beautiful deep blue. As far as the Halloween displays my very favorite is the Tunnel of Terror at Fairfield Gardens and of course I have to check out at least one Spirit store before Halloween arrives. I invite you to put on your favorite sweater and take a walk shuffling through the leaves it will make you feel like a kid again. Even if Halloween is not your thing you can always buy your favorite sweet for trick or treat.

Happy Halloween everyone!!

Roundtable of Thanks

- *A huge thank you to Jack Tice and the Search Team for their perseverance and dedication as they continue the search for our new pastor.*
- *Also, grateful and thankful to Michael Earle and the Operations Team for keeping PRC running in good order. Their dedication and hard work is much appreciated.*
- *Thank you to all who helped with Pompton Day which was a very successful event.*
- *Thank you all, we appreciate every one of you!*



**THANK
YOU**

*in loving
memory*

In Memory of: From: Designated for:

Grace Sangle

Eleanor Haling

Capital campaign

Happy Birthday:

Caroline Winter

Bruce Davis



AND Caroline Winter wishes her children, Kimberly Winter Mako and Jeremy Winter,
Very happy birthdays- the end of September!

DEDICATION OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Children in Worship, Age 3 – Kindergarten: Joan Warner, Cindi Petrides

1st – 5th Grades: Wes Witherington

Junior/Senior High: Lucas Spann

Music Coordinator: Janine Maletsky

Support Team: Val Petrides, Elena Van Schaack, Mark Warner



Dear Pompton Reformed Church family,
Many thanks for all the prayers, cards and wishes for a speedy recovery during my recent surgery. It has helped me and continues to help through recovery and treatment.

I have been blessed with a wonderful group of Dr.'s guided by the great physician and many supportive friends at PRC!

God Bless-

Nancy Shimmel

September 30, 2018



Dear congregation of Pompton Reformed Church,

Thank you for the honor of calling me to serve as transitional pastor for the past two years and some months. It has been a blessing for me as I learned more about your Christian commitment, your giftedness, and your Christ-like ministries here at the church and the ways you are doing Christ-like ministry through your individual life situations.

Thank you for encouragement, guiding advice, and partnership in exploring possibilities for the continued development of Pompton Reformed as we sought to live out your mission and vision statements, be a vital body of Christ, and a caring Christian fellowship for each other.

Thank you for the warm farewell my wife Irene and I experienced this past Sunday, September 30. Your kind words, remembrances about ministry together, your notes, and the parting gift reflect again what a blessing this congregation is.

In the sermon I had opportunity to note some outstanding and rather unique traits that make Pompton Reformed a very special congregation. Let me note them again.

Devotionals at committee meetings led by congregational members instead of me, have been impressive spiritual times.

The checking-in time at committee meetings; where you can share your concerns and hopes and joy of accomplishment with other members of the body of Christ--that too is a spiritual enriching valuable time.

The Prayer chain communications within this congregation are the most active I have known.

Prayer requests heard at church services add a caring personal dimension that is an inspiration.

The Healing Prayers ministry on the third Sunday of the month is an inspiration too, and a unique valuable ministry to the congregation and to visitors in need.

You have people who mail cards as their ministry—from the responses I hear, this encouraging endeavor is stronger here and more appreciated than I recall anywhere else.

Your initiatives to reach out to a newcomer at refreshment time on Sunday, and sometimes even in the sanctuary, and of course at the Pancake breakfast are acclaimed by visitors. For some of them, it took courage to come here, and when you simply gave them the blessing of being greeted by a stranger, you opened the door to a warm spiritual feeling. At Autumnfest too visitors describe the friendly atmosphere.

The repasts times you make possible here get high praise from those grieving families.

It has been revitalizing for me to be asked to serve here. Thank you for that blessing. And thank you for your Christ-like spirit.

Pastor Mel Van Hattem



Thank You!

Dear Pompton Reformed Scholarship Committee:

I would like to start off by apologizing for an incredibly belated thank you. These past months have been incredibly busy with buying school supplies for Virginia Military Institute(VMI) and making sure I am as prepared as possible for the arduous journey that lies ahead.

That being said, I owe all of you a very big thank you. As many of you know, college is not cheap, especially if you are attending an out of state school, like myself. The money that was gifted to me through this scholarship will not be used in vain. It will be used to purchase school books and extra supplies as the need arises.

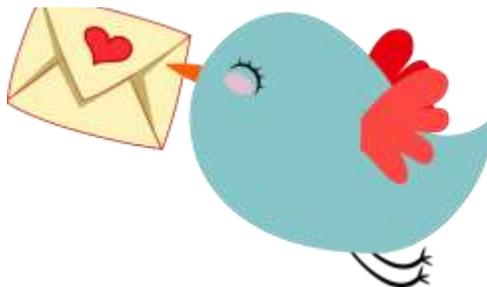
In a way, this money has given me the opportunity to shed Christ's grace on those down at VMI. The months that lie ahead of me will challenge me mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually. I am confident that my eighteen years of worship at PRC will ensure that my faith will not only remain strong within me, but my faith will serve as a rock and lighthouse for those who are struggling. As Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." No matter how hard the training at VMI gets, or how challenging my classes are, I will understand that this is God's plan and I will not yield from these challenges.

Thank you once again for graciously gifting me this money, and thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Yours in Christ,
Thomas C. Hanisch

Editor's Note: If you would like to lift Thomas up as he makes his way through the VMI experience, his address is:

Cadet Hanisch, Thomas C
Virginia Military Institute
VMI box 80568
Lexington VA 24450-0304





Prayer Quilt Ministry

The Prayer Quilt Ministry has truly been a blessing to so many who have received the quilts whether they were received because of a medical issue, for someone going through another type of trial, to celebrate a baptism or a life transition such as high school graduation.

It has again been brought to our attention that some may not remember or understand the process for the distribution of these quilts so it seemed a good time to republish this information. The Prayer Quilt Ministry Team as group does not choose the recipients. So just to review:

First - when you identify a person you believe would benefit from receiving a quilt, ask them if they would be open to receiving one. Perhaps you might want to ask what they would like us to pray for and it is important that you ask what information about their situation may be shared with others. It may seem strange that someone might not want a quilt but some might not feel comfortable being a “prayer focus” for a congregation and there is the issue of confidentiality. There was a time in this past year when a quilt was declined. You may also request a quilt for yourself.

Second – contact Nancy Begin and request the quilt. It is helpful to provide the name in writing and any specific prayer request (email is a good option - nbjoyful1@gmail.com). If there is one ready, it will be put out the following Sunday or as soon as one is completed.

Finally, it is a gift of love and prayer that cannot be bought or sold so we never accept any form of payment for a prayer quilt.



As a team, we have also been incredibly blessed to be part of the creation of these quilts. New members are welcome any time, no previous experience or skills needed.

Pledge Drive Kickoff!

Annual Pledge Drive Kickoff/Appetizer Social – October 28, 2018

The Deacons, in conjunction with the Fellowship Committee, will be hosting an Appetizer Social on Sunday, October 28th. Come and enjoy great company, food and drinks. Afterwards, you will be able to pick-up your Annual Pledge Drive packets. Pledges are due by November 18, 2018.

Autumnfest, Oct. 20, 2018

Autumnfest will soon be here! This is a major fundraiser for our church.

Still needed:

Prayers for good weather, a good turn out and a chance to show Christ in all we meet

Volunteers

Baked goods for the Dot Ploch Bake table- always a hit!

Cans of Coke and Sprite- diet and regular- for the luncheon

Bottled water

More volunteers

Holiday items and accessories for the This 'n That room

Help needed on Oct. 19 to set up Fellowship Hall

Any questions contact Jo-Anne Sisco @ joanngiant@optimum.net



November newsletter submissions

are due by

October 26

To khuysers@msn.com