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Simple Gifts

Joseph Brackett, 1848,
a Shaker from Maine

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Simple Gifts". It consists of four staves of music in G major and 3/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "To the gift to be simple, to the gift to be free, to the gift to come down where you ought to be, And when you find yourself in the place just right, 'Till be in the valley of love and delight. When true art is put to use, to be simple, to be free, to be down to earth, to be a part of the world that is so full of grace, to be a part of the world that is so full of grace." The score is attributed to Joseph Brackett, 1848, a Shaker from Maine.

Christmas Gifts- Editor's Message

Dec. 31, 2018, I put away the ornaments. The lights are gone, the tree is packed up, gifts are in use, "thank yous" are in process- another Christmas over. We started our preparations this year at the end of November for the celebration of the coming birth of the baby that will save us and the world from our sinful ways.

I, like you, received many nice gifts; sweets from my brothers, jewelry and handmade things from my sisters, needed things from my husband and smart-home things from a son that is trying to drag me into the 21st century. My dog got the best gifts of all- squeaky balls to play with, a BIG bone to chew on and yummy biscuits and treats.

But now that the celebration is over, what happens? Being the humans we are do we revert to our old ways within days of the celebration? Or, do we embrace the good news that because of the birth of a little baby in a manger in an animal's stall, despite our shortcomings, we are all part of God's family? This is the real, true and best Christmas gift!

I so enjoyed Pastor Debbie's sermon on Dec. 30. Elena Van Schaack read the long list of Jesus's birth line. I admit to skipping over the list when I have gotten to it in the Bible (Matthew 1:1-17). The names are hard to pronounce and many are meaningless to me. But Pastor Debbie's point was that God has used imperfect people from imperfect families to get his message out—and that it is our job to continue this. And, to continue feeling the joy of Christmas all year long. Not through gifts but through caring actions. We have many opportunities within our church and our community to show we belong to God's family. Another Christmas Gift!

As the saying goes, "Just Do It"! Let's go into 2019 with renewed energy and with the hope that God will soon provide the Pastor to take us into our future. With that in mind, please pray for the search committee who has been working diligently to uncover the person or persons our Lord has in mind for us. Pray for Consistory and the folks that keep us moving forward every week and for the new elders and deacons that will be installed soon.

Maybe that is my message- pray- and everything else will follow God's plan; his gift to us!

Happy 2019!



Intergenerational Christmas Pageant 2018



New Year New Start

By Elaine Peacock

Well, 2019 is knocking on the door and 2018 is waiting to retire. Do you have an agenda for The New Year? A bad habit you want to correct? A relationship you would like to mend? Now is the time to make a new start and fix all the little things that are hanging around from 2018. Every January 1st God gives us a new start to fix old hurts, fix the little things about ourselves we would like to change, call that friend we have been neglecting or get involved in a community project that could use extra hands. We have 365 days to make a difference and guaranteed by the time next year rolls around we will see not only did we make the world around us a better place but we have become the loving caring people God wants us to be. Happy New Year!

Thank
you

ROUNDTABLE OF THANKS

A HUGE THANK YOU TO PASTOR NATHAN BUSKER AND PASTOR DEBBIE PIERCE FOR THEIR COUNTLESS HOURS OF DEDICATION AND CARE FOR PRC; WE CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE AND ARE CONTINUING TO DO IN HELPING US THROUGH THIS TIME OF TRANSITION.

ANOTHER HUGE THANK YOU TO MARK WARNER WHO HAS SPENT TIRELESS HOURS OF DEDICATION, CARE, CONCERN AND LEADERSHIP OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS. THANK YOU MARK FOR YOUR UNSELFISH SERVICE.

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR THESE FAITHFUL SERVANTS OF THE LORD!!



In Loving Memory



Memorials

From

In Memory Of

Designation

Caroline Winter

Barbara Buckman

Capital Campaign

Birthdays



Moira Willard

Annabelle Willard

A gift in memory of Wilma McKechnie on what would have been her 98th birthday

A gift in memory of Jeannette Struble on what would have been her 87th birthday

Pompton People- News of Friends

Thanks from Corinne Tyndall to her friends and church family for all the prayers, calls, cards and support after her recent fall.

Dear Pompton Reformed Family,

I want to thank all of my church family who sent get well cards and called me during a very difficult time.

My doctor has assured me that my bladder cancer problem and my cracked ribs from a fall are now finally resolved.

Also thanks to Jack Tice who helped me with my computer. Now I can hear and see our church service very well from home.

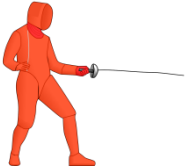
Love to All,

Helen Wisbauer



From Helen & Chuck Gioia

We are so very proud to announce that our granddaughter, Heather Gioia, tried out and was selected to "The Virginia All Star Roller Derby!!" Heather is only five foot two inches tall. She lives in Virginia, has a wonderful office job and loves to roller skate.



Congratulations to Jenna Waibel on her amazing accomplishment for the PLHS Fencing Team. Jenna reached 100 Wins for combined Foil and Epee with more matches to come! There was a wonderful article about Jenna in the 12/22 edition of the Herald News.

Consistory News

New Consistory Members: Consistory approved a new slate of deacons and elders to serve three year terms and these willing servants were approved at our congregational meeting on December 9th. Our newest consistory members are as follows:

Deacon

Dan Douma
Bill Wyckoff

Elder

Bruce Davis
Terry Terhune
Elena Van Schaack

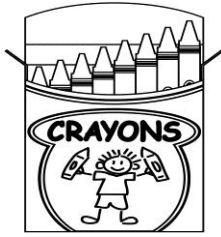


These members will be installed or ordained into their respective offices at our worship service on January 13th. Off going consistory members are deacons George Buckman, Barbara Chickey and Carolee Quant and elders Nancy Begin, Eva Terhune and Mark Warner.

Deacons News

February 3rd is Superbowl Sunday. Our Deacons will once again be offering hoagies and salads for your enjoyment during the Superbowl or whatever you choose to do that day. Delicious hoagies and salads are only \$8 each and can be pre-ordered now. See a deacon for the order form or after service in Fellowship Hall.





Sunday School News

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND THE CRAYON INITIATIVE

The Education Committee is looking to team up with The Crayon Initiative to recycle old and unwanted crayons.

The Crayon Initiative began with Bryan Ware's life-changing trip to a family restaurant. While his boys were coloring with crayons Bryan wondered what happens to these crayons after they leave. Bryan learned that many restaurants discard crayons after one sitting, even if they are untouched. That was in 2011.

The Crayon Initiative collects used and unwanted crayons donated from restaurants school and homes across the country, then melts them down and remanufactures them, reducing environmental waste.

The recycled crayons are distributed to art programs at children's hospitals across the US, brightening the lives of young patients during their stay.

Do you have old, broken or unwanted crayons.....look for the box in Fellowship Hall in early 2019!

Nursery News

PRC is once again going to be using volunteer nursery attendants.
Sign-up sheets are in Fellowship hall.

New Year- New You!

Corinthians 5:16-18

¹⁶So from now on we regard no one according to the flesh. Although we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away. Behold, the new has come! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:...

February Newsletter submissions are due to
by Jan. 27, 2019 to khuyzers@msn.com
or may be placed in the workroom mailbox.